

**Southern Agricultural Economics Association**  
**Little Rock, AR**  
**February 5-9, 2005**

**Organized Symposia**

**Organizer:** Committee on the Opportunities and Status of Blacks in Agricultural Economics (COSBAE)  
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**Title:** Bridging the gap between 1890 and 1862 institutions agricultural economics programs

**Summary**

The organized symposium will address important issues connected with minorities, particularly African Americans in agricultural economics programs. The 1890 and 1862 land grant institutions are the primary producers of agricultural economics professionals and their joint policies will have a significant impact on the matriculation of minorities, especially African Americans.

**Moderator:** Doris Newton, Economist, Economic Research Service

**Presenters:** Deacue Fields III, Auburn University  
Kenrett Jefferson-Moore, North Carolina A&T University  
Andrew Mohammed, Southern University  
Daniel Whitley educated at an 1890 and 1862 institution  
Dovi Alipoe and Al Parks tenured faculty at an 1890 school

**Descriptions of the presentations follow:**

**Presenter:** Deacue Fields III

Deacue is an Assistant Professor in the Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology Department at Auburn University. He has a unique back ground in that he was educated at both 1890 and 1862 institutions and worked for 1890 and 1862 institutions, also. Deacue will give his perspectives of the adjustments from an educational and academic career.

**Presenter:** Kenrett Jefferson-Moore

Kenrett is the newest faculty in the Agricultural Economics program at North Carolina A&T. She completed undergraduate work at an 1890 institution and graduate work at an 1862 institution. She now works at an 1890 institution. Kenrett will give her views on the adjustments during both her educational and academic career.

Presenter: Andrew Mohammed

Andrew completed undergraduate work at an 1890 institution—Southern University and graduate work at an 1862 institution. He is now on the Faculty at Southern University. Andrew will discuss the keys to a successful transition from an 1890 to and 1862 institution.

Presenter: Dovi Alipoe and Al Parks:

As seasoned tenured professors Dovi and Al will discuss the issues and hurdles associated with motivating students to move on to graduate schools at 1862 and other private institutions.

Presenter: Daniel Whitley

Danny graduated from an 1890 under-graduate program and received a Masters at an 1862 institution in agricultural economics, but did not go on to get a terminal degree. He will discuss the factors that influenced his decision not to complete a terminal degree in agricultural economics.

### **Description of overall plan:**

The overall plan for the 90-105-minutes symposium includes a brief opening statement by the moderator and five 10-minute presentations, a 30-40 minutes open discussion. Presenters will focus on what they consider the forefront of the issues related to making the transition from 1890 institutions undergraduate programs to 1862 institutions and graduate programs.

### **Contribution:**

There is a need for serious dialogue on the state of Agricultural Economics Programs in 1890 institutions. The 1890 institutions serve as the reservoir from which African Americans and other minorities in Agricultural Economics are drawn. But, in the past the number of students matriculating from 1890 institutions agricultural economics programs and continuing in graduate programs has been very small. This is evidenced by the small number of African Americans and other minorities with terminal degrees in agricultural economics and the high level of under-representation of minorities in academic and research professions. The 1890 institutions, 1862 institutions, other research agencies and institutions, and the minority community will benefit from a dialogue on this important issue.

### **Participants contact information:**

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