

# CHANCELLOR'S <sup>MC</sup>REPORT

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College of Ag Alum Aspires to become a Public Health Veterinarian, Pg. 4



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## SU Ag Center 2022 AEA System-Wide Conference Recap



“1890s Positioning Extension for the Next Generation,” was the theme of the 2022 Association of Extension Administrators (AEA) System-Wide Conference, which was held July 31 – August 4 in Orlando, Florida.

Southern University Ag Center administrators, extension agents, specialists, and staff members participated in the in-person conference which provided members of the 1890 Cooperative Extension System with the knowledge and skills needed to develop practical, transformative education that addresses current and emerging societal issues and stakeholders’ priorities and shared best practices, strategies, and innovative methods for developing and implementing programs that respond to issues and needs of underserved populations while allowing opportunities for networking and collaborations across disciplines, institutions, and states.

Several SU Ag Center staff members served as presenters during the conference. These staff members included Dr. Tiffany Wilkerson-Franklin, Associate Youth Specialist and Program Leader for Youth Development, who spoke alongside Alcorn University’s Youth Specialist Manola Erby, on “Growing and Promoting 4-H Programs Utilizing Common Measures and Lesson Study.”

Dr. De'Shooin A. York, SU Ag Center Vice Chancellor for Extension and Outreach, presided over the conference’s Impact Writing Panel Discussion, and William Augustine, Enhancing Capacity of Louisiana’s Small Farms and Businesses Project Coordinator, and Dr. Marlin Ford, Urban Agricultural Specialist, presented a session on the Ag Center’s Enhancing Capacity of Louisiana Small Farmers and Businesses Program.

See AEA, Page 2

# SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY IN THE LSU ASPIRE PROGRAM

This summer, students in the College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences participated in the LSU Ag Center sponsored Agricultural Sciences Professional Internships in Research and Extension (ASPIRE) program. This 10-week paid internship allowed undergraduates to develop their skills and knowledge in agricultural research and outreach and to help expand the diversity of the talent pool in the agricultural workforce.

Kennede Thomas, a Southern University Animal Science major, worked under Dr. Jodi Morton, Assistant Professor of Animal Science, at the Poultry and Swine Units along with Louisiana State University student Daja Williams, a senior Animal Science major. Thomas worked with meat rabbits to understand the effects of oregano on rabbits as a dietary additive. Williams, also interned at Southern University in Animal Sciences where she

worked on the potential preference of garden crop residue of pastured pigs. Agricultural Business student Ricky Julien, Jr., worked with LSU professor James Hendrix, Associate Area Agent in Tensas Parish, on the tillage and cover crops effects on infiltration rate in crop production at the LSU Northeast Research Station.

Students presented information related to their project on August 5, 2022, in front of their mentors and other program participants. They also developed scientific posters to discuss their projects and display information to stakeholders.



## AEA, cont. Page 1

The final day of the conference included an informative and powerful session by Dr. Charity Schaffer, Assistant Area Extension Agent for Youth Development 4-H in St. Helena and Tangipahoa Parishes, on the topic of "Teaching the Unreachable: Increasing Engagement Among Youth with Diverse Learning Styles."

The SU Ag Center's staff also participated in the conference's poster contest. The following individuals were selected as winners out of the nineteen 1890 land grant universities: Jasmin Matthews placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Division of Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) for her poster titled, Addressing Tobacco-Related Health Disparities in Communities of Color; Kiyana Kelly placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Division of FCS for her poster titled, Sisters Together: Move More, Eat Better Pilot Program; and Dr. Marlin Ford, placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Ag & Natural Resources Division for his poster titled, "Our Future Farmers Through the Sustainable Urban Agriculture Certification Program."

The Ag Center's Mobile Education & Technology Center also traveled to the conference to provide tours and information on the work that is conducted on the unit to conference participants. For information on the Association of Extension Administrators, visit <http://www.1890aea.org/about-aea>.



# SU College of Ag Undergraduate Summer Presentations

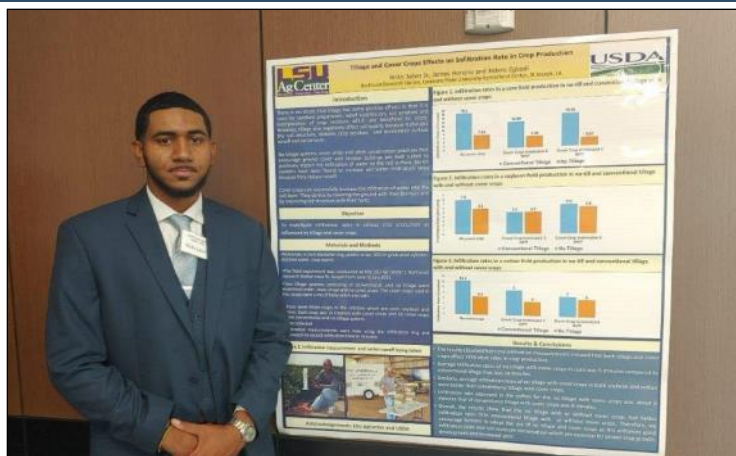


Six undergraduate students from the Southern University College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences (CAFCS) and Louisiana State University (LSU) presented on their summer experiences (internship or work-study) at the SU Ag Center on Thursday, August 4<sup>th</sup>.

Each of these students had the chance to talk about their background, summer experience and/or research project, and next steps following graduation. Students were all upper-level classmen majoring in Animal Science, Plant and Soil Science, and Urban Forestry.

This experience was organized by Dr. Jodi Morton, Assistant Professor of Animal Sciences, with the help of others to assist students in building their scientific presentation skills.

Students and their mentors included Kennede Thomas and Daja Williams (LSU ASPIRE Interns) in Animal Science with Dr. Jodi Morton and Felton DeRouen, Omari Phillips in Entomology/Urban Forestry with Dr. Veronica Manrique, A'Miracle Guidry and Bryce Moore in Plant & Soil Science with



Dr. Devaiah Kambiranda and Dr. James Obuya, and Isaiah White in the 1890 Center of Excellence at the SU Ag Center with Dr. Fatemeh Malekian, Brittany Howard, and Chelsea Triche.

During the presentations, Dr. Kambiranda discussed how summer work-study students get multiple learning experiences that can lead to specialized research projects or internships within his research program. Dr. Renita Marshall, Vice Chancellor for Academics/Associate Dean of CAFCS also commented on how giving students these types of opportunities helps prepare them for their future careers in agriculture.

As a part of their presentation, two students working in the Agricultural Sciences Department prepared lunch including smoked meat (chicken and rabbit) from their summer research project. Special thank you to Dr. Harold Mellieon, Jr., Department Chair of Agricultural Sciences, Felton DeRouen, Research Associate and Mila Berhane, Senior Research Associate, for helping set up and supply the food for the program.

## The 1890 Center of Excellence at the SU Ag Center Educator places during the 1890 AEA System-Wide Conference Poster Competition



Kiyana Kelly, SU Ag Center Associate Agent for FCS and Youth Development, won 3<sup>rd</sup> place at the AEA system-wide conference poster competition. Her poster discussed the work of the 1890 Center of Excellence on Nutrition, Health, Wellness and Quality of Life since May 2021.

Kelly served as one of the educators for the Cooperative Extension program's Sister's Together: Move More, Eat Better Program, which taught nutrition education, physical activities, and provided cooking demonstrations to the community over a six-month period.

"The COE for Nutrition, Health, Wellness and Quality of Life is making an impact in the community and the results are being shared at local, state, and regional level," said Dr. Fatemeh Malekian, COE Director. For additional information on the 1890 Center of Excellence at Southern University, visit <https://www.suagcenter.com/page/center-of-excellence>.

## Urban Forestry Graduate Students publish research papers during Summer-Fall 2022 Journal

The International Archives of Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Sciences Journal has published the research work of Urban Forestry graduate students Matilda Anokye (master's student), Caroline Apraku (master's student), Recheal Armah (master's student), Abena Asare-Ansah (master's student), and Julia Atayi (Ph.D. student).

### The papers are listed below:

**Anokye, M., Y.A. Twumasi, Z.H. Ning, C.Y. Apraku, R.N.D. Armah, D.B. Frimpong, A.B. Asare-Ansah, P.M. Loh, F. Owusu. (2022).** Assessing the Land Cover Change Around Bayou Perot – Little Lake, New Orleans Using Sentinel-2 Satellite Imagery. International Archives of the Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Sciences, XLVI-M-2-2022, 15–20. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5194/isprsarchives-XLVI-M-2-2022-15-2022>

**Armah, R.N.D., Y.A. Twumasi, Z.H. Ning, M. Anokye, C.Y. Apraku, D.B. Frimpong, A.B. Asare-Ansah, P.M. Loh, F. Owusu. (2022).** Application of Remote Sensing in Monitoring Forest Cover Change and Carbon Dioxide Levels at Kisatchie National Forest in Louisiana. International Archives of the Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Sciences, XLVI-M-2-2022, 27–32. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5194/isprs-archives-XLVI-M-2-2022-27-2022>

**Apraku, C.Y., Y.A. Twumasi, Z.H. Ning, F. Owusu, M. Anokye, P.M. Loh, A.B. Asare-Ansah, D.B. Frimpong, R.N.D. Armah, J. Oppong. (2022).** Assessment of Wetland Dynamics and Loss in Terrebonne Parish in Louisiana Using Remote Sensing. International Archives of the Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Sciences, XLVI-M-2-2022, 21–26. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5194/isprsarchives-XLVI-M-2-2022-21-2022>

**Asare-Ansah, A.B., Y.A. Twumasi, Z.H., Ning, D.B. Frimpong, F. Owusu, P.M. Loh, C.Y. Apraku, M. Anokye, R.N.D. Armah, J. Atayi, and J. Oppong. (2022).** Tracking the Godzilla Dust Plume Using Google Earth Engine Platform. International Archives of the Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Sciences, XLVI-M-2-2022, 33–38. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5194/isprs-archives-XLVI-M-2-2022-33-2022>

**Atayi, J., Y.A. Twumasi, Z.H. Ning, A.B. Asare-Ansah. (2022).** A Study on the Shoreline Changes and Land Use/Land Cover Along the Keta Coastal Zone. International Archives of the Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Sciences, XLVI-M-2-2022, 39–45, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5194/isprs-archives-XLVI-M-2-2022-39-2022>



## Alumni Spotlight

### College of Ag Alum Serena Harris aspires to become a Public Health Veterinarian

Serena Harris, a 24-year-old Natchitoches, Louisiana native, earned a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Sciences and an emphasis in Animal Science from Southern University and A&M College in the spring of 2020.



During her matriculation in the College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences, she was an active member of MANRRS and the Pre-veterinary/animal science club. "I am really appreciative for the relationships I have formed with individuals at the Ag Center and within the College of Agriculture," said Harris adding that she will never forget her roots or the people that helped her get to where she is now.

Currently, Harris is a Community Health Educator for a mental health facility. This role allows her to use the love she has for animals and holistic health approaches to assist with interventions to aid in mental health issues in her community.

Harris will receive her Master of Public Health degree from Louisiana State University Health - Shreveport, La. on September 16th, 2022. While attending the master's program, she focused her studies on human-animal bonding, one-health, and zoonotic diseases. As she aspires to one day become a Public Health Veterinarian.

"I would like to give a special thanks to Dr. Harold Mellieon, Dr. Renita Marshall, Dr. C. Reuben Walker, Dr. Marlin Ford, Dr. Janana Snowden, Dr. Gary Simon, and all my SU Ag Family," she expressed.

## *SU Ag Center professor works to increase minority inclusion in the field of Agriculture*



Southern University Ag Center Associate Research Professor Dr. LaShunda Hodges, is working to increase the number of minorities seeking careers in agriculture through a partnership with the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

Hodges, who is also a member of the sorority, services as the national director of Zeta Phi Beta's PearlZ in the Wild program. The program has partnered with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to increase minority community engagement in environmental stewardship and careers in underrepresented communities.

On July 19, 2022, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director Martha Williams joined Dr. Hodges and several members of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., for

a tour of the John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum. The 1,000-acre refuge in Philadelphia, PA is the only national wildlife refuge located in an urban environment. USFWS has provided \$25,000 of sponsorship to Zeta Phi Beta through their partnership over the past two years.

Hodges is currently working with the USFWS to host a career symposium for Southern University students to learn about internships and career opportunities available at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

*Information for this article was provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

### **Join us for a Special Edition of the SU Ag Center's Focus Show, "Focus: Insights on the SU Ag Center"**

Our host, Dexter Newman, Video Production Specialist, has an in-depth interview with Dr. Joseph Kanter, Louisiana Health Officer from the Louisiana Dept. of Health discussing Covid-19/BA.5 variant and the Monkeypox virus' spreading in Louisiana. **Now streaming.**



[YouTube.com/SUAGCENTER](https://www.youtube.com/SUAGCENTER)

# SU AG CENTER NOW ACCEPTING MEAT PRE-SALE ORDERS FOR THE 80TH ANNUAL LIVESTOCK SHOW

The Southern University Ag Center's Livestock Show Office is currently accepting pre-orders for non-processed choice beef, pork, lamb, and goat meats. All proceeds from the meat sale go directly to the youth participants as a reward for their hard work and financial investment. The following meat choices and quantities are now available for pre-order:



- ◆ Whole beef ..... \$2,000
- ◆ Half beef ..... \$1,000
- ◆ Fourth beef ..... \$500
- ◆ Whole pork ..... \$225
- ◆ Whole lamb ..... \$200
- ◆ Whole goat ..... \$175

There is a processing fee that is not included in the original cost of the meat. All purchases must be paid by money order or check and made payable to the Southern University Ag Center Livestock Show, before picking up the meat from the slaughterhouse.

Individuals who don't pre-order their meat are invited to do so during the show's 'Junior Auction Sale' on **Saturday, March 4, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.** The office will deliver the meat to either **Cutrer's Slaughter House in Kentwood, (985) 229.2478** or **Rouchers in Plaquemine, (225) 687.4258.**

**Donations to the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank are also welcome.**

The 80th Annual State Livestock & Poultry Show will be held March 2-4, 2023 at the Maurice A. Edmond Livestock Arena, 14600 Scenic Hwy, in Baton Rouge. Southern University has held an annual Livestock Show since 1943 and is the only 1890 land-grant institution currently continuing the tradition of providing an opportunity for the state's youth to showcase their animals, gain entrepreneurship skills, and receive character and leadership training.

For more information on the SU Ag Center's Livestock Show, information on how to participate in the show, or how to purchase meat, visit <https://www.suagcenter.com/page/80th-annual-livestock-poultry-show-2023> or contact the **Livestock Show Office at (225) 771.6208.**

*Save the Date!*

**80th**  
ANNUAL LIVESTOCK & POULTRY SHOW

Maurice A. Edmond Arena  
14600 Scenic Hwy, Baton Rouge, LA 70807

**MARCH 2-4, 2023**

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# Chancellor-Dean McMeans and Executive Team host SUS BoS during Board Meeting Reception



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Our Southern University Ag Center and SUBR College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences Campaign has reached 110% toward its goal! We thank every donor that has contributed towards this campaign and helping us raise over \$110,000 for SUBR Ag. The Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center is committed to carrying out its tripartite mission of teaching, research, and extension. Through the engagement of highly skilled faculty, the College of Ag prepares its graduates for an array of competitive careers in the federal, public and private sectors.



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