



Cultivating the Future of Organic Agriculture in the Southeastern US: *How Advancing Equity and Inclusion will Strengthen the Organic Movement*

Location: Renaissance Montgomery Hotel & Spa at the Convention Center
201 Tallapoosa Street, Montgomery, Alabama, USA, 36104
Tel: +1 334-481-5000

Travel Day/Arrival: Friday November 15, 2024

4:00 – 5:00pm

Registration

6:00 – 8:00pm

Small Reception/Dinner (Optional)

Location: Renaissance Montgomery Hotel and Spa

Room: Starlight Foyer

Introduction to Endowments

Short Video presentation

Networking Activity

Day 1: Saturday November 16, 2024

Location: Alabama A

8:00 am – 9:00 am

Registration/Coffee/Breakfast

9:00 am – 9:30 am

Welcome,

Dr. Olga Bolden-Tiller, Dean

College of Agriculture, Environment and Nutrition Sciences

Context Setting and Introductions

Dr. K. Kpombrekou-A, Organic Agriculture Institute

Tuskegee University

Dr. LaKisha Odom, Scientific Program Director

Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (FFAR)

9:30 am – 10:00 am

Overview of Outcomes from December 2023 Virtual Event and Lessons Learned

Dr. LaKisha Odom, FFAR and Dr. Amber Sciligo

1) The Role of Consumer Education and Market Development



- 2) Producer Engagement, Communication, Education, and Outreach
- 3) The Need for Cultural Competence
- 4) Resources and Funding to Address Challenges

10:00 am – 12:00 pm Panel Series: Short panel discussions providing an overview of the challenges and opportunities

- 1) The Role of Consumer Education and Market Development

Moderator: Dr. LaKisha Odom, FFAR

a. Panelists

1. Seanicaa Edwards Heron, Freedmen Heirs Foundation
2. Michelle Stearn, Forum for the Future
3. Bill Green, The Common Market

- 2) Producer Engagement, Communication, Education, and Outreach

Moderator: Dr. Amber Sciligo, The Organic Center

a. Panelists:

1. Andre Carter, Farmer & Cooperative Consultant in Texas
2. JC Rodriguez, FOG
3. Briana Bazile, University of Kentucky

- 3) The Need for Cultural Competence

Moderator: Stephanie Jerger, Organic Trade Association

a. Panelists:

1. Seanicaa Edwards Heron, Freedmen Heirs Foundation
2. Bryan "Ibrafall" Wright, Natural Dye Initiative
3. Christa Barfield, FarmerJawn

- 4) Resources and Funding to Address Producer Challenges

Moderator: Philippa Lockwood Mondelez International

a. Panelists:

1. Ruth Canada, Potlikker Capital
2. Konda Mason, Jubilee Justice
3. Allison Vetter, AgFTAP Program

12:00 pm – 1:00pm Lunch with Presentation(s)



Food Access/Food as Medicine

Introductions: Philippa Lockwood Mondelez International

Speakers:

1. Dr. Dana Nettles, Pharmacist, Farmer, Herbalist Dr. Nettles Farms
2. Dr. Kevin Murphy, Professor, WSU Breadlab
3. Washington State University

1:00 pm– 2:00pm

Producer Prospective Panel

Moderator: Dr. Franklin Quarcoo, Tuskegee University

a. Panelists

1. Michael Wall, Georgia Organics
2. Sedrick Rowe, Soil Health Institute
3. Loretta Anderson, Adderson Historic Black Farm
4. Ramkrishnan Balasubramanian CEO of Florida Organic Growers

2:00 pm– 3:45 pm

Breakout Group exercise and discussion

3:45 pm – 4:00 pm

Break

4:00 – 5:00pm

Report Out from Breakout Groups and Discussion of Next Day

6:30-8:30

Optional Hosted Dinner-Please join us for additional networking opportunities. **Location - TBD**

Day 2: Sunday November 17, 2024

Location: Alabama A

8:00 – 9:00 am

Registration/Coffee/Breakfast

9:00 – 9:30 am

Reflections and Overview of the Day (collect W9s)

Dr. Franklin Quarcoo Tuskegee University and Amber Sciligo, The Organic Center

9:30 – 10:15 am

Review Report Out from Day 1:Synthesis of Break-out groups and Discussion

Elias Miller- The Organic Center



10:15 – 10:30 am

Break

10:30 – 11:00 am

Do farmers have access to adapted varieties? Fair competition and innovation in seeds

Dr. Julie Dawson UW–Madison Department of Plant and Agroecosystem Sciences/ Clif Bar and Organic Valley Chair in Plant Breeding for Organic Agriculture.

11:00 – 12:00 pm

Final Reflections, Lunch and Adjourn

12:00pm

Optional Tour -Dr. Kpomblekou-A