

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2026

Renaissance Montgomery Hotel and Spa | Montgomery, Alabama

AGENDA AT A GLANCE

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	PAWC Registration	Renaissance Montgomery - Convention Center Registration Desk
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	Legacy Museum & national Memorial for Peace Tour (on your own) Your PAWC Badge is your ticket	EJI Historic Sites
7:30 pm – 8:30 pm	Student Competition Informational Meeting	Montgomery 7
9:00 pm – 11:00 pm	PAWC Professional Networking *Professionals only*	PAWC Hospitality Room

draft

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2026

**Renaissance Montgomery Hotel and Spa | Montgomery, Alabama
Tuskegee University | Tuskegee, Alabama**

AGENDA AT A GLANCE

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
6:15 am – 8:00 am	PAWC Registration	Renaissance Montgomery - Convention Center Registration Desk
6:30 am – 7:15 am	Student Competition- Breakfast	Renaissance Montgomery - Alabama A & B
7:30 am	Bus Departs the Renaissance to Tuskegee	Renaissance Montgomery – Tallapoosa Street
8:30 am – 8:45 am	GSD Student Competition Check-In	Tuskegee University- Kenny Hall 🏠
9:00 am – 4:00 pm	Tomorrow's Agricultural Professional Symposium - High School Program	Tuskegee University – Henderson Hall 🏠
9:00 am – 3:00 pm	GSD Student Competition	Tuskegee University Kenny Hall 🏠
9:00 am – 4:00 pm	Legacy Museum & National Memorial for Peace and Justice Tour (on your own) – https://legacysites.eji.org Your PAWC Badge is your ticket.	EJI - Montgomery
11:00 am – 3:00 pm	Tomorrow's Agricultural Professional Symposium – Collegiate	Tuskegee University – Henderson Hall 🏠
12:30 pm – 4:00 pm	PAWC Exhibitor Check -in & Setup *Please check in prior to setting up*	Renaissance Montgomery Exhibitor Registration Desk & Concourse ALL
2:00 pm – 6:00 pm	PAWC Registration Desk	Renaissance Montgomery Convention Center Registration
3:00 pm – 6:00 pm	PAWC Exhibit Hall Opens	Renaissance Montgomery Concourse All
3:30 pm – 4:45 pm	PAWC Student Meet n Greet *Student Presenters & Advisors Only*	Renaissance Montgomery - Alabama A & B
6:00 pm	Doors Open for the 84 th PAWC Opening Banquet	Renaissance Montgomery Exhibit Hall A
6:00 pm – 6:25 pm	Feel the Music with World-Renowned Saxophonist Trey Daniels - Part I	Renaissance Montgomery-Exhibit Hall A
6:30 pm – 8:30 pm	84 th PAWC Opening Banquet	Renaissance Montgomery Exhibit Hall A

8:30 pm – 9:00 pm	Feel the Music with World-Renowned Saxophonist Trey Daniels - Part II	Renaissance Montgomery-Exhibit Hall A
9:30 pm – 11:30 pm	PAWC Professional Meet & Greet	Hospitality Suite

draft

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2026

Renaissance Montgomery Hotel and Spa | Montgomery, Alabama
AGENDA AT A GLANCE

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
7:00 am – 11:45 am	PAWC Registration	Convention Center Registration Booth
7:00 am – 8:00 am	Breakfast *Breakfast will end promptly at 8:00 am	Exhibit Hall A
8:00 am – 9:45 am	84 th PAWC Opening Session	Exhibit Hall A
9:45 am – 10:00 am	Break & Visit with Exhibitors	Exhibit Hall Foyer
10:00 am – 12:00 pm	Concurrent Sessions I	See Below
Session 1	Recent Advances & Useful Strategies for Enhancing Viable Small Ruminant Enterprises	Riverview 1
Session 2	Beyond the Harvest: Connecting Local Producers to Markets and Supply Chain	Riverview 2
Session 3	Artificial Intelligence for Agricultural Applications – Part I	Riverview 3
Session 4	84 th Theme: Deep Roots, Rich Yields: Leadership, Legacy & and the Land – Grant Mission	Riverview 4
Session 5	Rooted in Sustainability: Empowering Communities Through Ecological Education and Urban Forestry	Riverview 5
Session 6	Weather Predictions, Disaster Preparedness and Response: Translating Research into Information that Communities Can Use	Riverview 6
Session 7	Unlocking Local Economic Potential – Building Businesses & Developing Communities	Riverview 7
Session 8	Small Steps, Healthier Lives: Moving, Breathing, and Creating for Diabetes Prevention	Riverview 8
Session 9	Building Your Brand & Social Media Presence with Cowgirl Candance	Montgomery 7
12:15 pm – 1:45 pm	PAWC Advisory Board Meeting (closed session)	Montgomery 4
12:15 pm - 2:00 pm	Lunch on your Own	
12:15 pm – 3:00 pm	PAWC Tour of the EJI Legacy Sites *Your PAWC badge is your ticket*	EJI Legacy Sites
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Special Screening -Harvest X	Montgomery 5

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Concurrent Sessions II	See Below
Session 10	Healthy Plants, Resilient Farms, Managing Disease, Rainfall, and Changing Growing Conditions	Riverview 1
Session 11	Beyond the Farm Gate: Building Profitable Meat Enterprises	Riverview 2
Session 12	Artificial Intelligence for Agricultural Applications – Part II	Riverview 3
Session 13	Cultivating Innovation, Empowering Leaders: Advancing Entrepreneurship Through Mentorship and Community Partnerships	Riverview 4
Session 14	USDA Updates & Review of Programs and Services	Riverview 5
Session 15	Preserving the Legacy: Understanding the Origins of Heirs' Property & Alternative Pathways to Proving Ownership	Riverview 6
Session 16	Beyond the Surface: Advancing Shellfish Restoration and Microbial Diversity Research	Riverview 7
Session 17	Powering the Future: Land-Grant Universities & Regional Economic Transformations	Montgomery 5
4:00 pm – 6:15 pm	PAWC Registration & Help Desk	Renaissance Convention Center Registration Desk
5:00 pm – 6:15 pm	Cultivating Connections: Celebrating New Roots Networking Reception & Small Business/Farmer Showcase Sponsored by National Black Food & Justice Alliance	Alabama A & B
5:00 pm – 6:15 pm	Visit with the Exhibitors	Concourse All
6:00 pm	Doors open for G.W.C. Hall of Fame Banquet	Exhibit Hall A
6:30 pm – 9:00 pm	G.W.C Hall of Fame Banquet	Exhibit Hall A
9:30 pm – 11:30 pm	Networking Session	Hospitality Suite

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2026

Renaissance Montgomery Hotel and Spa | Montgomery, Alabama AGENDA AT A GLANCE

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
7:00 am – 8:00 am	Breakfast *Breakfast ends at 8:00 am*	Exhibit Hall A
7:30 am – 11:00 am	PAWC Registration	CC Registration Booth
8:00 am – 9:30 am	The Owusu Bandele Memorial Plenary Session	Exhibit Hall A
9:30 am – 10:00 am	Break & Visit with the Exhibitors	Exhibit Hall A
10:00 am – 12:00 pm	Concurrent Session III	See Below
Session 18	Advancing Organic Agriculture in the Southeast: Soil, Pest, Human Health Challenges, and Market Opportunities	Riverview 1
Session 19	From Pasture to Plate: Navigating Beef Markets, Processing, and Food Supply Resilience	Riverview 2
Session 20	Small Spaces, Big Opportunities: Adaptable Growing Systems for Food Security	Riverview 3
Session 21	Beyond the Research: Building Community Capacity to Address Heir's Property Challenges	Riverview 4
Session 22	Weathering the Future: Research Innovations in Ozone Exposure, Drought Forecasting and Agricultural Resilience	Riverview 5
Session 23	The Power of Storytelling: Sharing Knowledge, Gathering Insights, and Transforming Food Systems	Montgomery 5
12:15 pm – 2:00 pm	L.A Potts Success Stories Luncheon	Exhibit Hall A
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Exhibit Hall Closes & Breakdown	Exhibit Hall A
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Professional Poster Set up	Alabama A & B
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Concurrent Session IV	See Below
Session 24	Advancing Food and Nutrition Security through Artificial Intelligence	Riverview 1
Session 25	Innovative Agroforestry and Improved Livestock Farming Practices: Voluntary Participation of Farmers and Incentives	Riverview 2
Session 26	Preserving the Land, Protecting the Legacy: Navigating Legal and Cultural Challenges of Heir's Property	Riverview 4
Session 27	Building & Sustaining Our Legacy: Challenges and Future Opportunities on Forested Properties	Riverview 5

Session 28	Environmental Issues	Riverview 6
Session 29	Reconsideration of Value: Three Structural Reforms the 2027 Farm Bill Could Address	Riverview 8
Session 30	From Metabolomics, Cardiovascular Risk Factors, Obesity, and Hypertension Prevention	Montgomery 4
Session 31	Center of Excellence – Emerging Technologies	Montgomery 7
4:15 pm – 5:30 pm	Professional Poster Presentation & 84 th PAWC Sign off Celebration Break	Alabama A & B
7:00 pm – Until	PAWC Networking Session	PAWC Hospitality Room

draft

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Concurrent Session I – See Below

Concurrent Sessions I

SESSION	MEETING ROOM	TITLE
1	Riverview 1	Recent Advances & Useful Strategies for Enhancing Viable Small Ruminant Enterprises
2	Riverview 2	Beyond the Harvest: Connecting Local Producers to Markets and Supply Chain
3	Riverview 3	AI Farms Artificial Intelligence for Agricultural Applications – Part I
4	Riverview 4	84 th Theme: Deep Roots, Rich Yields: Leadership, Legacy & and the Land – Grant Mission (SS)
5	Riverview 5	Rooted in Sustainability: Empowering Communities Through Ecological Education and Urban Forestry
6	Riverview 6	Weather Predictions, Disaster Preparedness and Response: Translating Research into Information that Communities Can Use
7	Riverview 7	Unlocking Local Economic Potential – Building Businesses & Developing Communities
8	Riverview 8	Small Steps, Healthier Lives: Moving, Breathing, and Creating for Diabetes Prevention
9	Montgomery 7	Building Your Brand & Social Media Presence with Cowgirl Candce

Meeting Room - Riverview 1

Session 1: Recent Advances and Useful Strategies for Enhancing Viable Small Ruminant Enterprises

Moderator: Ralph Noble, South Carolina State University

Presenters:

- Integrated Strategies for Viable Small Ruminant Enterprises
Uma Karki, Tuskegee University
- Recent Advances in Controlling Gastrointestinal Nematodes in Goats
Byeng Min, Tuskegee University
- Least-cost Supplemental Strategies for Profitable Year-Round Animal Production
Nar Gurung, Tuskegee University
- Animal Welfare as a Business Strategy: Linking Welfare, Productivity, and Profitability
Chuck Okere, Tuskegee University

- Value-Added Marketing of Small Ruminant Products through Small Processors & Local and Regional Outlets
Derris Burnett, Tuskegee University

Meeting Room - Riverview 2

Session 2: Beyond the Harvest: Connecting Local Producers to Markets & Supply Chains

Moderator: Desmond Mortley, Tuskegee University

Part I: Strengthening Postharvest Education Through Stakeholder-Guided Resource Development

- Kristin Woods, Tuskegee University
- Kenisha Gordon, Tuskegee University
- Shecoya White, Tuskegee University
- Lucy Asare-Baah, Tuskegee University

Part II: Closing the Gap: Aligning Food Production with Consumer & Institution Demands

- Factors Associated with Agrifood Supply-Chain Involvement in West Virginia
Saman Herath Bandara, West Virginia State University
- Demand for Locally Grown Fruits and Vegetables from Small Independent Grocery Stores in Kentucky
Siddhartha Dasgupta, T.G. Shittu, and S. Sarr, Kentucky State University

Meeting Room – Riverview 3

Session 3: AI Farms - Artificial Intelligence for Agricultural Applications – Part I

Moderator: Rui Chen, Tuskegee University

Presenters:

- Lessons from AIFarms
Vikram Adve, AIFarms National AI Institute, and Donald Gillies, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- Structural Sequencing Comparison for Improved Crop Environmental Resilience
Matthew Hudson, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- From Data to Decisions: AI-Enabled Monitoring Systems for Smart Farming
Isabella Condotta, University of Urbana-Champaign
- Developing High-Throughput Phenotyping Tools for Climate-Smart Sweet Potato
Gregory Bernard, Tuskegee University
- Improving Modeling and Forecast Product Delivery in Agricultural Lands
Joseph Quansah, Tuskegee University

Meeting Room - Riverview 4

Session 4: Deep Roots, Rich Yields: G.W.C. Legacy & Creating A Path to A Sustainable Future

Moderator: Zeila Wiley, Kansas State University

Presenters:

- George Washington Carver as an Essential Pathway to a Sustainable Future
Jim Embry & Jennifer Bailey, Systems Transformation Partnership
- Rebuilding the “Tuskegee of the West”
Curtis Pitts, Kansas Industrial and Educational Institute of Topeka
- George Washington Carver’s Legacy: Becoming Imagineers for a Sustainable Future
Jim Embry, Systems Transformation Partnership

Meeting Room - Riverview 5

Session 5: Rooted in Sustainability: Empowering Communities Through Ecological Education and Urban Forestry

Moderator: Iris Cole – Crosby, University of Arkansas Pine Bluff

Presenters:

Part I: Community- Based Environmental Education: Teaching & Learning through Urban Forestry, Gardens, & Sustainable Agriculture

- Christina Hylton, Dominique Lowe, Askia Hylton, and Kelli Floyd, Regenerative Institute of Community Education (R.I.C.E.)

Part II: Reimagining Ecological Education at HBCUs: A “How-To” Approach to Experiential Learning Programming and 4DEE Module Development

- Rashidah Farid-Tilghman, Ashley Wiseman, & Brianna Smith, Tuskegee University

Meeting Room – Riverview 6

Session 6: Weather Predictions, Disaster Preparedness and Response: Translating Research into Information That Communities Can Use

Moderator: Souleymane Fall, Tuskegee University

Presenters:

- (1) Advancing Resilient Agriculture Through Improved Weather Predictions & Extreme Preparedness
Gamal El Afandi, Tuskegee University
Jadwiga Richter, NSF National Center for Atmospheric Research
- (2) Producer Voices in Disaster Recovery: Using Photo Voice to Inform Agricultural Resilience
ChaNae’ Bradley, Fort Valley State University

Meeting Room – Riverview 7

Session 7: Unlocking Local Economic Potential – Building Businesses & Developing Communities

Moderator: Ralph Christy Cornell University

Part I: Advancing Small Business as an Economic Development Strategy

Panelists:

1. Kendy Alvarez, Covation Center, Inc.
2. Ernie Davis, Dimensional Energy
3. Iwan Azis, Cornell University

Part II: The Impact of Pull Factor Metrics on the North Carolina Economic Distress Tier System

- Raymond Thomas, North Carolina A & T State University

Meeting Room – Riverview 8

Session 8: Small Steps, Healthier Lives: Moving, Breathing, and Creating for Diabetes Prevention

Description: This engaging, interactive workshop introduces participants to practical strategies to prevent Type 2 diabetes and promote healthier lifestyles through education, physical activity, stress management, and creative expression. Participants will explore evidence-informed diabetes prevention strategies, engage in accessible movement activities, practice deep breathing techniques, learn about healthier beverage choices, and participate in a therapeutic coloring activity designed to encourage relaxation and mindfulness.

Moderator: Tameka King, Tuskegee University

Presenters:

- Learning Together to Prevent Type 2 Diabetes
Faye Hall Jackson, Tuskegee University
- Move More: Stretching & Deep Breathing Techniques
Fileve Palmer, Southern Tier West & Lauren McCallister, Indiana University
- Sips & Therapeutic Coloring Activity
Fileve Palmer, Southern Tier West
- Healthier Living Commitment
Faye Hall-Jackson, Tuskegee University

Meeting Room – Montgomery 7

Session 9: Building Your Brand & Social Media Presence

Moderator: Tiffani Williams, Tuskegee University

Speaker: Candace Morrow, Tuskegee University

Concurrent Sessions II

SESSION #	ROOM	TITLE
10	Riverview 1	Healthy Plants, Resilient Farms, Managing Disease, Rainfall, and Changing Growing Conditions

11	Riverview 2	Beyond the Farm Gate: Building Profitable Meat Enterprises
12	Riverview 3	Ai Farms - Artificial Intelligence for Agricultural Applications_ Part II
13	Riverview 4	Cultivating Innovation, Empowering Leaders: Advancing Entrepreneurship Through Mentorship and Community Partnerships
14	Riverview 5	USDA Updates & Review of Programs and Services
15	Riverview 6	Preserving the Legacy: Understanding the Origins of Heirs' Property & Alternative Pathways to Proving Ownership
16	Riverview 7	Beyond the Surface: Advancing Shellfish Restoration and Microbial Diversity Research
17	Montgomery 5	Powering the Future: Land-Grant Universities & Regional Economic Transformations

Meeting Room - Riverview 1

Session 10: Healthy Plants, Resilient Farms, Managing Disease, Rainfall, and Changing Growing Conditions

Moderator: George Hunter, Tuskegee University

Presenters:

- Old Foes in a New System: Plant Disease Management for Hemp Growers in the United States
Evan Buckner, The Pennsylvania State University
- Yield Evaluation of Two Parthenocarpic Cucumber (*Cucumis sativus*) Varieties in a Wiregrass Tunnel House
George Hunter, Billie Grant, Victor Khan
, Edward Sparks, Jeffrey Moore, Tuskegee University and J. Currington & J. Currington, III, Currington Associates
- Working with the Land: Rainfall – Only Specialty Crop Production on a Small Alabama Farm
Jacqueline McArthur, Tuskegee Honey LLC
- The Effect of Three Planting Dates on the Yield of Two Varieties of Turnips (*Brassica rapa* L. subsp. *Rapa*) Grown in a Tunnel House

Billie Grant, Victor Khan, George Hunter, Edward Sparks, Jeffrey Moore, J. Currington and J. Currington III, Tuskegee University

- Yield Response of Two Parthenocarpic Zucchini Squash Varieties (*Cucurbita pepo*) Grown in a Wiregrass Tunnel House
Kenisha Gordon, Victor Khan, Billie Grant, George Hunter, Edward Sparks, Jeffrey Moore, Tuskegee University and J. Currington & J. Currington, III, Currington Associates
- Periodic Washing of Tunnel House Roofs
Victor Khan, Justin Tate, George Hunter, Billie Grant, Edward Sparks, Jeffrey Moore, Tuskegee University, J. Currington and J. Currington, III; Currington Associates

Meeting Room: Riverview 2

Session 11: Beyond The Farm Gate: Building Profitable Meat Enterprises

Moderators: Clarissa Harris & Shecoya White, Tuskegee University

Presentations:

- Pastured Poultry: Strengthening Local Food Systems Through Small-Farm Production
Alicia Jordan, Triple J Farm
- Direct-to-Consumer Meat Sales – From Producer to Customer - Turning Livestock into a Brand
RedBib
- Value-Added Meat Products – Making More for the Carcass
Vivian Kanyi and Elise Jackson
- Organic/Grass-Fed Beef – Producing Beef for Specialty Markets
Gregory Smith
- From Vision to Reality: Building and Advancing a Meat Processing Facility
Tyler Pearson
- Pasture Poultry – Building a Profitable Pasture-to-Plate Poultry Enterprise
Alicia Jordan, Triple J Farm

Meeting Room: Riverview 3

Session 12: AI Farms – Artificial Intelligence for Agricultural Applications – Part II

Moderator: Gregory Bernard, Tuskegee University

Presenters:

- Rethinking Horseradish Weed Control- From Hoes to Laser Beams
Sunoj Shajahn, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- AI-Powered Food Pantries: Demand Forecasting and Nutritional Assessment for Food Security in Alabama
Rui Chen, Tuskegee University
- Preparing the Next Generation for AI-Enabled Precision Livestock Farming: Student Training Through the SMART Herd Project
Olga Bolden-Tiller, Tuskegee University

- High-Throughput Extraction of Canopy Traits for Crop Improvement
Andrea Eveland, Donald Danforth Plant Science Center
- Leveraging Recent Biological Findings and Resources into Crop Statistical Genetics
Alexander Lipka, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- Industrial & Enterprise Systems Case Study
Girish Krishnan, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Meeting Room - Riverview 4

Session 13: Cultivating Innovation, Empowering Leaders: Advancing Entrepreneurship Through Mentorship and Community Partnerships

Moderator: David Nii Tackie, Tuskegee University

Presenters:

- Agriculture Business Innovation Center (ABIC): Preliminary Outcomes, Lessons Learned, and Opportunities for Strengthening Agricultural Entrepreneurship through 1890 Land-Grant Collaboration
Alex Meredith, North Carolina A & T State University
- Deep Roots in the Land-Grant Mission: Mentorship, Institution-Building, and Leadership Legacy from MANRRS to the UMES Partnership
Raphael Biassou Herisse, LegaCIA and Capital, PLLC
- From Service to Partnership: Examining Community-Based Organizations' Experiences with Community-Engaged Partnerships
Zelia Wiley, Charles Carpenter, III, & Lonnie Hobbs, Jr. Kansas State University

Meeting Room - Riverview 5

Session 14: USDA Updates & Review of Programs and Services

Moderator: Miles Robinson, Tuskegee University (Retired)

Presenters:

- Monica Carroll, USDA Rural Development

Meeting Room – Riverview 6

Session 15: Preserving the Legacy: Understanding the Origins of Heirs' Property & Alternative Pathways to Proving Ownership

Moderator: Robert Zabawa, Tuskegee University

- Death and Dirt: The Black Agricultural Origins of Heirs' Property Research, 1971-2026
Ryan Thomson, Auburn University
- Unlocking Federal Aid: Are States Accepting Alternative Proof of Ownership for Heirs' Property Forestland Owners?
Presenters:
(1) Cassandra Johnson Gaither, USDA Forest Service
(2) Marvis Gragg, Heir Shares

- (3) Monica Gragg, Heir Shares
- (4) Steve Norman, USDA Forest Service

Meeting Room – Riverview 7

Session 16: Beyond the Surface – Advancing Shellfish Restoration and Microbial Diversity Research

Moderator: Duane Taylor, Tuskegee University

Presenters:

- Shellfish Restoration in Egypt: Investigating the Status of Bivalves in the Mediterranean and the Red Sea
Mostafa Mandour, Suez Canal University- Ismailia, Egypt and Mohamed Sebaq, University of Nebraska- Lincoln
- Biolog-Based Identification And Characterization of Bacterial Diversity In Irrigation Water: Insights into Food Safety Risks.
Abigail Ompong, C. Acheamfour, W. Long, Delaware State University

Meeting Room – Montgomery 5

Session 17: Powering the Future: Land-Grant Universities & Regional Economic Transformations

Moderator: Alex Meredith, North Carolina A & T University

Part I: The Economic Impact of 1890 Land–Grant Universities: Proven Engines of Economic Mobility – Advancing Community Economic Vitality

- Dalal Alkordi, Gloria Bromell Tinubu, Monyai Chavers, Kourtney Sherrod, Baile Braxton, Shirley Brown, Reylan Cook, Veronica Royal, Adelina Rwabilimbo, Keesha St. John and Fatoumata Sidibe, Tuskegee University

Part II: The Impact of Data Centers in the Historic Black Belt Region

- Monyai Chavers, Gloria Bromell Tinubu, and Kourtney Sherrod, Tuskegee University

Concurrent Sessions III

SESSION #	ROOM	TITLE
18	Riverview 1	Advancing Organic Agriculture in the Southeast: Soil, Pest, Human Health Challenges, and Market Opportunities
19	Riverview 2	From Pasture to Plate: Navigating Beef Markets, Processing, and Food Supply Resilience

20	Riverview 3	Small Spaces, Big Opportunities: Adaptable Growing Systems for Food Security
21	Riverview 4	Beyond the Research: Building Community Capacity to Address Heir's Property Challenges
22	Riverview 5	Weathering the Future: Research Innovations in Ozone Exposure, Drought Forecasting and Agricultural Resilience
23	Montgomery 5	The Power of Storytelling: Sharing Knowledge, Gathering Insights, and Transforming Food Systems

Meeting Room – Riverview 1

Session 18: Advancing Organic Agriculture in the Southeast: Soil, Pest, Human Health Challenges, and Market Opportunities

Moderator: Kokoasse Kpombrekou-A

Presenter: Karen Wynne, Rosita's Farm

Meeting Room – Riverview 2

Session 19: From Pasture to Plate: Navigating Beef Markets, Processing, and Food Supply Resilience

Moderator: Clarissa Harris, Tuskegee University

Part I: Policy, Prices, Processing, and Parasites: Challenges and Opportunities in the Contemporary Beef Industry

Presenters:

- Derris Burnett, Tuskegee University
- Ralph Noble, South Carolina State University
- Veronica Royal, Tuskegee University
- Tony Frazier, Animal Industries
- Erin Beasley, Alabama Cattlemen's Association

Part II: Protecting the Herd and the Food Supply: Practical Biosecurity for Small Livestock Producers

Presenters:

- Terrance Bell, Federation of Southern Cooperatives

Meeting Room – Riverview 3

Session 20: Small Spaces, Big Opportunities: Adaptable Growing Systems for Food Security

Moderator: Kavonne Granger, Oklahoma State University

Presenters:

- The Solution to Better Health is Your Backyard: Community-Rooted Urban Food Systems as Preventive Health Infrastructure
JohnElla Holmes Reece, Kansas Black Farmers Association
- From Soil to Wellness: Building a Vertically Integrated Multi-Generational Community Food Business
Erica Turner, Fresh Greens Market & Nourished Reset
David Turner, Trill Farms
- Omnigro – Adapted Growing Modules -Off-Grid Greenhouse
James Brady, Omnigro

Meeting Room – Riverview 4

Session 21: Beyond the Research: Building Community Capacity to Address Heir's Property Challenges

Moderator: Robert Zabawa, Tuskegee University

Meeting Room – Riverview 5

Session 22: Weathering the Future: Research Innovations in Ozone Exposure, Drought Forecasting and Agricultural Resilience

Moderator: Gamal El Afandi, Tuskegee University

Presenters:

- Spatial and Temporal Evaluation of PM2.5 and Ozone Exposure Risks Across Counties in Alabama
Santosh Sapkota, Tuskegee University
- Drought-Based Composite Index System for Informed Decision-Making and Risk Management for Alabama's Farmers
Sara Guterrez Diaz, Joseph Quansah, and Souleymane Fall, Tuskegee University
- Improving Modeling and Forecast Product Delivery in Agricultural Lands
Eniola Olakanmi, Tuskegee University; Ruben Doria, EE SSW, Water and Technology; Souleymane Fall, Tuskegee University, and Joseph Quansah, Tuskegee University
- PPI Meteorological Variability in Alabama and its Relevance to Climate-Smart Forestry: A Statistical and Machine Learning Assessment

Kailash Basnet and Gamal El Afandi, Tuskegee University
- Sensitivity of WRF-ARW Precipitation Forecasts to Planetary Boundary Layer and Microphysics Schemes for the August 2022 Jackson, Mississippi Flash Flood

Reda Algendy and Gamal El Afandi, Tuskegee University

Meeting Room – Montgomery 5

Session 23: The Power of Storytelling: Sharing Knowledge, Gathering Insights, and Transforming Food Systems

Moderator: Kendy Alvarez, Covation

Part I: Story Sharing in Community: Collective Storytelling as a Pathway to Food Systems Transformation

- Lindsey Lunsford, Tuskegee University
- Natilee McGruder Kyle, Growing Green LLC

Part II: Cultivating Stories – Methods To Gather, Record, and Share

- Fileve Pamer, University of Pittsburgh – Bradford
- Lauren McMallister, Three Flock Farm and Indiana University

Concurrent Sessions IV

SESSION #	ROOM	TITLE
24	Riverview 1	Advancing Food and Nutrition Security through Artificial Intelligence
25	Riverview 2	Innovative Agroforestry and Improved Livestock Farming Practices: Voluntary Participation of Farmers and Incentives
26	Riverview 4	Preserving the Land, Protecting the Legacy: Navigating Legal and Cultural Challenges of Heir's Property
27	Riverview 5	Building & Sustaining Our Legacy: Challenges and Future Opportunities on Forested Properties
28	Riverview 6	Environmental Issues
29	Riverview 8	Reconsideration of Value: Three Structural Reforms the 2027 Farm Bill Could Address Thaddaus Dawson, Jr., National Appraisal Policy Resource Center
30	Montgomery 4	From Metabolomics, Cardiovascular Risk Factors, Obesity, and Hypertension Prevention
31	Montgomery 7	Center of Excellence – Emerging Technologies at PAWC

Meeting Room: Riverview 1

Session 24: Advancing Food and Nutrition Security through Artificial Intelligence

Moderator: Gregory Bernard, Tuskegee University

Presenters:

- Data-Driven Food Demand Forecasting for Alabama Food Pantries
Rui Chen, Tuskegee University
- From Photo to Nutrition: An AI Agent for Alabama Food Pantries
Hutama Bramantyo, Auburn University
- Lakeview Baptist Food Pantry Case Study
Brett Coppenger & Megan Coppenger, Lakeview Baptist Food Pantry
- Food Bank of East Alabama Case Study
Martha Henk, Food Bank of East Alabama
- Cowlytics
Fabrice Masumbuko, Cowlytics

Meeting Room: Riverview 2

Session 25: Innovative Agroforestry and Improved Livestock Farming Practices: Voluntary Participation of Farmers and Incentives

Moderator: Uma Karki, Tuskegee University

Presenters:

- Overview of AMP Agroforestry and Livestock Projects
Uma Karki, Tuskegee University
- Voluntary Participation of Alabama Farmers and Incentives for Pasture Improvement, Rotational Grazing, and/or Silvopasture Development
Timothy Sylvester and Uma Karki, Tuskegee University
- Voluntary Participation of Maryland Farmers and Incentives for Alley Cropping of Fruits and Vegetables
Lila Karki and Mamata Koirala, University of Maryland Eastern Shore
- Voluntary Participation and Incentives for Southeast (AL, MS, GA, SC, NC, TN) Farmers Willing to Implement Agroforestry Practices
Suresh Sharma and Uma Karki, Tuskegee University

Part II: Barriers to Cover Crop Adoption and the Role of Hands-on Extension Education in Producer Decision-Making: Evidence from Alabama and Georgia Crop-Livestock Systems

- Rimal Parshuram and Nar Gurung, Tuskegee University

Meeting Room – Riverview 4

Session 26: Preserving the Land, Protecting the Legacy: Navigating Legal and Cultural Challenges of Heir's Property

Moderator: Robert Zabawa, Tuskegee University

Presenters:

- How Do Legal Rules and Culture Impact Rates of Heirs' Property: Alabama v. Vermont?
Jacy Fisher, Gregory Varner & Associates & Francine Miller, Vermont Law School Center for Agriculture & Food Systems

Meeting Room - Riverview 5

Session 27: Building & Sustaining Our Legacy: Challenges and Future Opportunities on Forested Properties

Moderator: Deja Perkins, Tuskegee University

Presenters:

- Deja Perkins and James Jackson, Tuskegee University

Meeting Room – Riverview 6

Session 28: Environmental Issues

Moderator: Gamal El Afandi, Tuskegee University

Presenters:

Part I:

- Monitoring Environmental Pressures on Temporary Wetlands in Tuskegee, AL
Katie Dames, Tuskegee University
- The Effect of Environmental Perceptions on Willingness to Pay for Sustainable Food Attributes and its Variation Across the U.S. Region
- Mitigating Gas Emissions & Promoting Carbon Storage through Biochar Application & Alternative Forage Integration in Grazing Meat Goat Systems
Hossam Ismael, Byeng Min, Mariline Hilaire, Santosh Chaudhary, and Bipana Budha, Tuskegee University
- Machine Learning and Geospatial Modeling of Heavy-Metals Uptake for Phytoremediation in Alabama's Black Belt Region
Muhammad Irfan, Gamal El Afandi, and Kailash Basnet, Tuskegee University

Meeting Room – Riverview 8

Session 29: Reconsideration of Value: Three Structural Reforms the 2027 Farm Bill Could Address

Moderator: Billie Grant Tuskegee University

Part I: Reconsideration of Value: Three Structural Reforms the 2027 Farm Bill Could Address

- Thaddaus Dawson, Jr., National Appraisal Policy Resource Center

Part II: Who will Farm the Land Next?

- Hajjah Lennora Pierrot-Ansari, Tuskegee University
- Gregory Smith, Smith's Farm & Ranch, Tuskegee

Meeting Room – Montgomery 4

Session 30: From Metabolomics, Cardiovascular Risk Factors, Obesity, and Hypertension Prevention

Moderator: Norma Dawkins, Tuskegee University

Presenters:

- Plasma metabolomics profiles reveal distinct metabolite changes in a diabetic mice model fed blueberry powder-supplemented diets
John Onuh, Aishat Adejoh, Jossy Onuoha, Chastity Bradford; Tuskegee University and Christopher Kucha, University of Georgia
- The efficacy of collard green and blueberry diets on cardiovascular risk factors in an obese animal model: The Ozempic Effect.
Jacqueline Yeboah, Fahim Eashat, Chastity Bradford and Norma L. Dawkins, Tuskegee University
- Recruiting Prehypertensive Adults in Alabama Black Counties in a Cardiovascular Prevention Study: Challenges
Isabella Jiminez, Lanisha Hall, Sh'Nese Holmes, Norma L. Dawkins, Anderea Cherrington, Tuskegee University and University of Alabama ,Birmingham

Meeting Room – Montgomery 7

Session 31: Overview of the Center of Excellence – Emerging Technologies

Moderator: Olga Bolden-Tiller, Tuskegee University