

ORLANDO FITZGERALD MCMEANS, Ph.D.

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Southern University AgCenter
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EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

1998	Virginia Polytechnic and State University Post-Doctorate in Plant Molecular Biology	Blacksburg, Virginia
1997	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Ph.D. in Horticulture	Urbana, Illinois
1994	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign M.S. in Horticulture	Urbana, Illinois
1992	Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University B.S. in Horticulture	Normal, Alabama

RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY AREAS OF SPECIALTY

Plant tissue culture; plant molecular biology; fruit crop improvement via somaclonal variation; fruit crop breeding; plant pigment biochemistry; and horticulture.

ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS OF SPECIALTY

1890 research and extension administration; history and function of the land-grant system; federal and state land-grant and research advocacy, legislation, and policy; legislative affairs federal and state relations; Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) administration and advocacy; fiscal management and oversight; community engagement and outreach; strategic planning; philanthropic giving; and alumni engagement.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center (SUAREC) and College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences (CAFCS), Baton Rouge, LA

9/19 – Present **Chancellor of SUAREC and Dean of the CAFCS**

As the Chancellor, the chief executive of the SUAREC, and the academic Dean of the CAFCS, I have the primary responsibility for strategic direction, faculty (as guided by the SU Faculty Handbook) and staff development, budgetary oversight and planning, academic and curricular issues, fundraising, facilities maintenance and development. The responsibilities of Dean are also guided by the Southern University and A&M College Faculty Handbook. In my capacity as Chancellor-Dean, I also oversee the University's experiment station and extension programs, along with providing leadership and oversight to the Center's Medical Marijuana Program.

As Chancellor-Dean, I am responsible for strengthening the University as a national and international leader in areas related to crop and animal agriculture, consumer issues and trends, economic development, environment and natural resources, human nutrition, food production and processing, human development and ecology, and global issues in the area of technology and communications, among other areas.

In this capacity, I also provide leadership for building and enhancing key partnerships locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally. As the chief executive officer of SUAREC, I endeavor to continuously advocate for the 1890 land-grant mission of teaching, research and extension both within the System and with external partners and stakeholders.

West Virginia State University, Institute, West Virginia

2/10 – 8/19 **Vice President for Research and Public Service/Full Tenured Professor**

As Vice President for Research and Public Service, I have administrative oversight of the WVSU Research and Development Corporation, the Gus R. Douglass Land-Grant Institute, the Agricultural and Environmental Research Station, WVSU Extension Service, Sponsored Programs, the Center for the Advancement of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (CASTEM), Title III Programs, Facilities Management, Intellectual Property, and Technology Transfer. I also represent the Research and Public Service administrative area in university-wide initiatives such as assessment, the Vision 2020 strategic plan, and accreditation.

In my role as a member of WVSU's senior leadership team, I work with the internal legislative affairs staffer and the President on matters related

to research, extension, STEM, and other matters related to research and public service with regard to the executive and legislative branches. I also work with the Vice President of Business and Finance regarding University budget planning. Additionally, I work with the Office of the President and University Advancement on the cultivation of donors and monitoring and reporting on programmatic progress under prior agreements and pledges.

In March 2014, I was awarded tenure status and the rank of full Professor. As a faculty member in the Department of Biology housed in the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, I participate in various departmental, college, and academic affairs activities, including, but not limited to: faculty meetings, research activities, administrative functions, and peer-to-peer presentations and workshops.

In February 2015, I was appointed Chair of the WVSU Self-Study Steering Committee. As Chair, I provided coordination, leadership, and oversight for implementation of the 2014 Self-Study for WVSU's reaffirmation of accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). This effort included leading weekly meetings of the self-study team to ensure that the process continued on the timeline set forth was followed; serving as the liaison for the University to the HLC; and providing updates and reports to the HLC and the Board of Governors on the reaffirmation process.

Because of the fact that WVSU's administration wanted to engage the entire campus in the process and the site visit, I developed logistics for the 2014 Mock Site Visit and the 2015 Peer Review Visit with inclusion of faculty, staff, students, alumni, community members, partners, advisory councils, and the Board of Governors. I also provided leadership for the HLC Visit Team, which occurred in the spring of 2015. In November 2015, the HLC sent a letter to the institution confirming full 10-year reaffirmation of WVSU's HLC accreditation with no findings or follow-ups. My role as Chair of the WVSU Self-Study Steering Committee and related process concluded in January 2016 as all post-Site Visit processes were completed.

3/13 – 8/19

Director of WVSU U.S. Department of Education Title III Program

As the Title III Director, I oversee the University's Title III funding, which is provided by the U.S. Department of Education to qualifying HBCUs. I am responsible for the overall direction and effective management of the University's Title III Program and provide leadership and oversight for the daily administration of Title III funding. I adhere to the federal mandate to develop and implement effective administrative

compliance procedures and ensure proper resource allocation, funding drawdown/acquisition, regulatory compliance, recordkeeping, reporting, and accounting system maintenance for Title III funding.

7/12 – 8/19

Executive Director of the WVSU Research and Development Corporation and 1890 Director

The WVSU Research and Development Corporation (hereinafter, the Corporation) is a 501(c)(3) fiscal entity affiliated with the University and holds the majority of grants and contracts for the University. The Corporation employs more than 100 personnel who support the missions of all administrative units at the University. In my capacity as Executive Director, I am responsible for the day-to-day administrative oversight and fiscal management of the Corporation. I supervise more than 15 fiscal and support staff as the Corporation annually engages in more than 200 active grants and contracts on average totaling approximately \$16 million annually. I am also responsible for the annual state OMB A21 audit, as well as all other audits (e.g., USDA, Department of Education, and the National Science Foundation).

As the 1890 Director, I am the Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) for all USDA grants and contracts. I have served in that capacity since January 12, 2000. In fact, I am the AOR for all federal grants and contracts for the University. Since 2000, as the 1890 Director and Executive Director of the Corporation, I have managed more than \$160 million in funding.

3/00 – 8/19

Dean and Director of the Gus R. Douglass Land-Grant Institute

In March 2000, I was named Dean and Director of the Gus R. Douglass Land-Grant Institute. In this capacity, I provide leadership and oversight for agricultural research, extension, and educational outreach programs associated with the University's land-grant mission. Also, I provide supervision of the development, implementation, assessment, and sustainability of land-grant related research and extension programs and activities.

As Dean and Director, I work diligently with the West Virginia Congressional Delegation and other national groups to secure, increase, and/or retain research, public service, and educational funds in order to advance the University's land-grant mission. I participate in 1890 land-grant system-wide strategic planning, engage in federal advocacy, legislation, and policy development, and actively attend national research and extension meetings. In this capacity, I also work collaboratively with West Virginia University for the development of mutually beneficial research and extension programs, which fall under both institutions' land-grant missions.

Furthermore, I communicated with the West Virginia State Legislature regarding the importance of matching federal land-grant formula funds with state or non-federal funds during the 2001 to 2012 legislative sessions in matters and initiatives related to research and outreach programs. In 2006, the University received a new annual funding line totaling \$1.9 million in state matching funds as an 1890 Land-Grant University.

11/98 – 3/00

Director of Land-Grant Programs

Upon arriving at West Virginia State University, I provided input in developing a strategy to regain the University's land-grant status and secure federal land-grant funding as an 1890 Land-Grant University, following a prolonged absence of the institution's historically black land-grant status. In particular, I worked with the late Senator Byrd and his staffers to share the historical significance of land-grant programs nationally and at WVSU. I served as a liaison between Senator Byrd's office and the United States Department of Agriculture, while pursuing redesignation as a land-grant institution.

Additionally, I drafted congressional language to amend WVSU into the 1890 legislation that initiated the 1890 Land-Grant Institutions. In 1999, the University was notified by the office of U.S. Senator Robert C. Byrd and the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture that WVSU was once again designated as an 1890 Land-Grant institution, and thus eligible to receive all funding and entitlements per this designation. Specifically, on October 22, 1999, the appropriations billed passed and was then signed into law to grant WVSU a total of \$2,000,000 in initial land-grant funding from the USDA.

I worked with Congress and the USDA to add West Virginia State University to seven 1890 Land-Grant entitlement funding lines, secured line item in the annual sum of \$500,000 to support environmental remediation studies, and assisted in having the institution added to the Historically Black Graduate Master, which allowed for an annual non-competitive funding line totaling \$500,000.

7/97 – 9/98

Virginia Polytechnic and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia
Postdoctoral Research Associate, Molecular Biology

As a Postdoctoral Research Associate at Virginia Tech, I transitioned from traditional agricultural research to plant molecular biology research. The experience entailed establishing embryogenic peanut cultures, genetically transforming soybeans, and peanuts via particle bombardment and participated in grant seeking opportunities. This position provided an

opportunity for me to learn complicated molecular techniques, thereby resulting in a publication in an international peer molecular journal.

8/92 – 5/97

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, Illinois

Research Assistant, Department of Horticulture

As a Research Assistant, I established and maintained *In Vitro* (in test tubes) apple and pear cultures and pear for laboratory experiments and performed basic apple orchard pomological maintenance (grafting, pruning, fruit harvesting, and crossing) at the University of Illinois' fruit orchard.

8/93 – 5/97

Teaching Assistant, Department of Horticulture

As a Teaching Assistant, I prepared for and presented various lectures of "Introduction to Horticulture" (Hort 100) Fall, 1993; Spring, 1994; Fall, 1994; Spring 1995; Fall, 1995; Spring, 1996; and Fall, 1996) and prepared handouts, taught grafting laboratory, aided students in questions about lecture material, and assisted with grading quizzes and tests.

6/96 – 8/96 and
6/95 – 8/95

Co-Coordinator and Instructor, Research Apprenticeship Program

The Research Apprenticeship Program, or RAP, is a summer math and science program for rising high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors. I worked with research mentors and instructors from various departments (Food Science, Plant Pathology, and Animal Science/Vet Med.) in the School of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences to develop and implement activities for the Research Apprenticeship Program. Such activities included math, science, writing and computer classes, and lab experiments. I also developed and presented a class, titled "Introduction to the Plant Sciences," organized group research projects, and assisted in the development and delivery of both oral and poster presentations.

6/94 – 8/94

Instructor, Young Scholars Apprenticeship Program

The Young Scholars Apprenticeship Program, or YSAP, is a summer program consisting of former RAP participants who are graduating high school seniors and transitioning to college. I developed a curriculum for a class, titled "Introductory to Basic Research." I also assisted students in organizing and presenting their research results in the form of oral and poster presentations.

PUBLICATIONS

- Skirvin, R.M., S. Metoike, M.A. Norton, M. Ozgur, K. Al-Juboory, and O. McMeans. 1999. Workshop on micropropagation establishment of contaminant-free perennial plants *in vitro*. *In Vitro Cell. Dev. Biol. – Plant* 35:278-280.
- McMeans, O., R.M. Skirvin, A. Otterbacher, and G. Mitiku. 1998. Assessment of tissue culture-derived 'Gala' and 'Royal Gala' apples (*Malus x domestica* Borkh.) for somaclonal variation. *Euphytica* 103: 251-257.
- Hegeman, C.E., R.W. Hanlon, O. McMeans, and E.A. Grabau. 1998. Engineering low phytate soybeans. American Society of Agronomy - Crop Science Society of America - Soil Science Society of America Annual Meetings. *Abstract*.
- McMeans, O. 1997. The use of tissue culture to separate apple chimeras into their component genotypes and to induce anthocyanin production. Ph.D. Thesis, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.
- McMeans, O. and R.M. Skirvin. 1994. Segregation of chimeral apples into their component genotypes *in vitro*. *HortScience* 29:561 (*Abstract*).
- Skirvin, R.M., O. McMeans, and W. L. Wang. 1993. Storage water is a source of latent bacterial contamination. *Trends in Agric. Sci.* 1:63-65.

PENDING PUBLICATIONS

- McMeans, O., R.M. Skirvin, and G. Mitiku. *In vitro* segregation from apple (*Malus x domestica* Borkh.) stem segments. *Journal -- In Vitro*.
- McMeans, O., R.M. Skirvin, and G. Mitiku. The role of pH in the maintenance of apple (*Malus x domestica* Borkh.) tissue cultures. *Journal -- Plant Cell, Tissue and Organ Culture*.
- McMeans, O., R.M. Skirvin, and G. Mitiku. The role of carbohydrates in the proliferation of apple (*Malus x domestica* Borkh.) tissue cultures. *Journal -- Plant Cell, Tissue and Organ Culture*.

INSTITUTIONAL PUBLICATIONS

McMeans, O. and R.M. Skirvin. 2002. Chocolate. Land-Grant Quarterly Vol. 2 Issue 1:11-12.

McMeans, O. 2002. WVSC regains full 1890 status. Land-Grant Quarterly Vol. 2 Issue 1:1-2.

McMeans, O. 2001. Fall color. Land-Grant Quarterly Vol. 1 Issue 3:15.

McMeans, O. 2001. Land-grant status returns. Land-Grant Quarterly Vol. 1 Issue 1:1-2.

McMeans, O. 2001. The Hort. Corner. Land-Grant Quarterly Vol. 1 Issue 1:8.

McMeans, O. 2001. West Virginia Association of Land-Grant Institutions. Land-Grant Quarterly Vol. 1 Issue 2:1-2.

McMeans, O. 2001. Stages of Plant Growth. Land-Grant Quarterly Vol. 1 Issue 2:12.

McMeans, O. 2001. Land-grant programs: one year later. Land-Grant Quarterly Vol. 1 Issue 3:1-2.

McMeans, O. 2001. Fall color. Land-Grant Quarterly Vol. 1 Issue 3:15.

CERTIFICATIONS/TRAINING

USDA National Institute for Food and Agriculture (formerly CSREES) Administrative Officer's Conference, April 2004, 2005, 2007, 2008, and 2012.

Institute for Public Policy & Executive Leadership in Higher Education, Nova Southeastern University, Florida, June 2006.

CSREES POW Training, October 2005.

USDA/1890 Workshop, October 2005.

USDA/1890 National Scholars Training, July 2005.

Executive Leadership Summit, Hampton University, November 2003.

George Washington University Higher Education, 2001.

FUNDING ACQUIRED AND MANAGED

- 2019-2021 – Administered \$31,150,000 in Evans Allen, 1890 Extension, 1890 Facilities, statutory state funding, 1890 Scholarship, Louisiana land-grant state matching fund.
- 2013-2019 – Administered \$21,940,000 in Title III, Parts B&F, and HBCU Master’s Program funding from U.S. Department of Education.
- 2003-2019 – Assisted in securing \$25,955,000 in West Virginia land-grant state matching funds.
- 2002-2019 – Managed \$17,100,000 in USDA/1890 Capacity Building Program funding with USDA.
- 2000-2019 – Assisted in securing \$54,000,000 in federal formula funds.
- 2000-2019 – Assisted in securing \$16,468,000 in 1890 facilities funds.
- 1999-2019 – Assisted in securing \$53,500,000 in federal funds from American Electric Power (AEP), HUD, Department of Defense, DOW, CDC, Rural Development, Agricultural Research Service, Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service (now NIFA), NASA, and WV-EPSCoR.
- 1999 – Assisted in securing \$1,900,000 for federal research and extension funds for the reinstatement of the University’s land-grant status after 42 years since its status was transferred.

PRESENTATIONS AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- McMeans, O. (2021). *USDA Debt Relief Fund Rollout*. Partnership Presentation between the Office of the U.S. President, USDA and Southern University Ag Center. St. James, LA.
- McMeans, O. (2021). *Status of the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center*. 2021 HBCU Day at the Capitol. Baton Rouge, LA.
- McMeans, O. (2020). *SU Ag Center Response to COVID 19*. Louisiana HBCU Advisory Committee. Baton Rouge, LA.
- McMeans, O. (2020). *Status of SU Ag Center and College of Ag*. Presented at Southern University Alumni Federation, Baton Rouge, LA.

- McMeans, O. (2020). *The Second Morrill Act*. LSU Course of the History of the Land-Grant System. Baton Rouge, LA.
- McMeans, O. (2019). *Land-Grant Programs at Southern University*. Presentation to Department of Education USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue. Baton Rouge, LA.
- McMeans, O. (2018). *Potential APLU/Mexico Collaborations in Research and Extension*. 2018 Joint COPs Meeting. Guadalajara, Mexico.
- McMeans, O. (2017). (2017). *Best Practices between Agricultural Heads Section (AHS) and Council of Agriculture, Research, Extension and Teaching (CARET) Reps*. Washington, DC.
- McMeans, O. (2016). *WVSU: Then & Now Presentation* for WVSU 125th Anniversary Lecture Series. Institute, WV.
- McMeans, O. (2015). *Family and Consumer Sciences: Mission Mandated Leadership*. National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Annual Meeting. Keynote Speaker. White Sulphur Springs, WV.
- McMeans, O. (2015). *Intensive Series for Accreditation Liaison Officers (ALOs), Part 1: Overview of the ALO Role*. Panel Presentation – Higher Learning Commissioner Annual Conference. Chicago, IL.
- McMeans, O. (2012). *What MANRRS Means to Me*. Presenter. MANRRS Region 5 Cluster Meeting at the University of Illinois. Champaign, IL.
- McMeans, O. (2011). *State is Great*. Commencement Speaker. West Virginia State University Fall/Mid-Year Commencement Exercise. Institute, WV.
- McMeans, O. (2011). *Experiential Hands-On Learning*. Keynote Speaker. Kentucky-West Virginia Louis Stokes Alliance Minority Participation Undergraduate Research Symposium. West Virginia University. Morgantown, WV.
- McMeans, O. (2011) *The 1890 Virtual Strike Team*. Speaker – Presented as part of the USDA/1890 Task Force. The White House. Washington, DC.
- McMeans, O. (2010). *Historically Black Land-Grant Universities*. Panelist Representative – Advisory Committee on Beginning and Disadvantage Farmers and Ranchers meeting. Washington, DC.
- McMeans, O. (2010). *The Importance of Research and Extension Formula Funding to the 1890 Land-Grant Community*. Speaker. Northeast Managing Officers Annual Meeting. Stonewall Jackson Resort. Roanoke, WV.

- McMeans, O. (2009). *Update on 1890 Funding Initiatives*. Council of 1890 Presidents and Chancellors Retreat. Washington, DC.
- McMeans, O. (2009). *The Keys to Success*. Commencement Speaker. Charleston Job Corps. Charleston, WV. July 2009.
- McMeans, O. (2009). Funding Priorities for the 1890s. Council on Agriculture, Research, Education and Teaching (CARET) annual Meeting. Washington, DC.
- McMeans, O. (2008). *1890 Land-Grant Universities*. Northeastern Management Officers (NEMO) Meeting. Washington, DC.
- McMeans, O. (2008). *I Am MANRRS*. MANRRS Chapter, Tuskegee University. Tuskegee, AL.
- McMeans, O. (2008). *Presidential Address*. MANRRS National Conference. Denver, CO.
- McMeans, O. (2008). *What MANRRS Means to Me*. MANRRS Chapter, Kentucky State University. Frankfort, KY.
- McMeans, O. (2007). *Why MANRRS?* MANRRS Chapter, University of Florida. Gainesville, FL.
- McMeans, O. (2007). *I Am MANRRS*. MANRRS Chapter, Michigan State University. East Lansing, MI.
- McMeans, O. (2007). Land-Grant Status at West Virginia State. The Charleston Institute of Links, Incorporated Banquet. Institute, WV.
- McMeans, O. (2006). *What Head Start Means to Me*. Mobile County Head Start Annual Banquet. Mobile, AL.
- McMeans, O. (2006). The Status of Land-Grant and WVSU. "WVSU 18th National Alumni Association Conference. Las Vegas, NV.
- McMeans, O. (2005). *1890 Universities*. USDA/1890 National Scholars Program. Atlanta, GA.
- McMeans, O. (2005). *What Has Head Start Meant to Me?* Head Start 40th Year Celebration & Conference Participated in Opening Ceremonies as Speaker & Award Recipient. Orlando, FL.

- McMeans, O. (2004). *Land-Grant Programs at WVSU*. WVSU 17th National Alumni Conference. Chicago, IL.
- McMeans, O. (2003). *Historically Black Land-Grant Universities*. U.S. Forestry Outreach Coordinators Meeting. Wilmington, NC.
- McMeans, O. (2003). *West Virginia State College and the 1890 System*. Northeast Management Officers Meeting. Wilmington, DE.
- McMeans, O. (2002-2007). *Land-Grant at State*. WVSU's State Today with President Carter. Institute, WV.
- McMeans, O. (2001). *The Land-Grant Status of West Virginia State College*. 2001 Professional Agriculture Workers Conference (PAWC). University, Tuskegee, AL. (Presented). December 2001.
- McMeans, O. (1998-2016). *Research and Extension*. Campus-wide presentations (i.e. WVSU Board of Governors, Land-Grant Advisory, University Council, etc.). Institute, WV.
- McMeans, O. (1998-2012). *Land-Grant Status at State*. Various Congressional Visits. Washington, DC.
- McMeans, O. (1998-2012). *State Match*. Various West Virginia State Legislative Visits and Presentations. Charleston, WV.

HONORS/AWARDS/CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION

Recipient of the of the APLU Experiment Station Section's Award of Excellence in Leadership of the Experiment Station Committee on Organization and Policy (ESCOP), the Experiment Station Section (ESS) and the national Land-grant System with Exemplary distinction, 2017.

Newly Named Beetle Named in Honor of Dr. Orlando F. McMeans by Professor Robert Barney. The name of the Beetle is "*Pachybrachis mcmeansi* Barney", 2017.

Tuskegee University's 1890 Leadership Award, 2017 Professional Agricultural Workers Conference

Tenure and Full Professor Status, 2014.

Distinguished Leadership as Chair of the Association of Research Directors, 2008 -2010, 2010.

25th Anniversary Award of Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS), 2008-2009 National President, 2010.

“Pillar of our Community” Award from the Links Charleston-Institute Chapter, 2007.

National Head Start Success Story Recipient, 2005.

Association of Research Directors (ARD) Service Award for Participation on Executive Committee, Symposium Committees, and Service as ARD Secretary, 2003-2006.

National Dean’s List, 1989-1991.

Association of Extension Administrators 1890 Pioneer Award

Conference Travel Grant from University of Illinois Graduate College Master Gardeners Horticulture Tour of Europe

Distinguished Ronald E. McNair Program Graduate, Participant, and Scholar

Gamma Sigma Delta Fellowship Award

Graduate of the Hampton University Executive Leadership Summit

Patricia Roberts Harris Fellowship

Summer Research Opportunity Program (SROP) Achievement Award

Tuskegee University’s L.A. Potts Success Story Award Recipient

United States Department of Agriculture USDA/1890 Executive Team Member

University of Illinois Department of Horticulture Research and Teaching Assistantships

University of Illinois Graduate Fellowship

WVSU Establishment of the Orlando F. McMeans Youth Fund

MEMBERSHIP/AFFILIATIONS

1890 Budget and Legislative Committee

1890 Deans Council

(2008-2010), Chair of the ARD Biennial Research Symposium (2011-2013) and Founder of the ARD Updates (2008)

Agricultural Head Section (AHS)

Alpha Zeta

American Society for Horticultural Sciences (ASHS)

Association of Extension Administrators (AEA)

Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU)

Association of Research Directors (ARD)

Association of Title III Directors

Board on Advocacy Assembly (BAA) of the APLU, Advocacy Chair for the Budget and Advocacy Committee (2015-2017)

Board on Advocacy Assembly's Budget and Advocacy Committee (BAC, 2017-2018))Board on Advocacy Assembly's Policy Board of Directors (PBD) Chair (2018-2020)

Food System Leadership Institute (FSLI), Commissioner (2018-2020)

Eastern Association of College and University Business Officers (EACUBO)

Experiment Station Committee on Organization and Policy (ESCOP), Chair (2010-2011)

Extension Committee on Organization and Policy (ECOP)

Governor Edwards' Louisiana Health Equity Task Force Executive Committee (2020-2021)

Louisiana Food and Agricultural Task Force (2020-2021)

Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS), National President (2008-2009)

National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO)

National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC)

National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA)

Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.

Resilient Louisiana Commission Rural Development Task Force (2020-2021)

USDA 1890 Task Force Executive Committee, Co-Chair (2007-2010)

Virginia Tech Research Extension/Education and Experiential Learning (REEL) Fellows Program, Advisory Board Member

West Virginia Science and Research Council, Office of the Governor, Member (2012-Present)

**Committee on Agriculture
U.S. House of Representatives
Information Required From Nongovernmental Witnesses**

House rules require nongovernmental witnesses to provide their resume or biographical sketch prior to testifying. If you do not have a resume or biographical sketch available, please complete this form.

1. **Name:** Orlando F. McMeans, PhD
2. **Organization you represent:** The Southern University and A & M College System
3. **Please list any occupational, employment, or work-related experience you have which add to your qualification to provide testimony before the Committee:**

Sept. 2019 - Present, the Chancellor of the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center and the Dean of the College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences, in Baton Rouge, LA.

As the Chancellor, the chief executive of the SUAREC, and the academic Dean of the CAFCS, I have the primary responsibility for strategic direction, faculty (as guided by the SU Faculty Handbook) and staff development, budgetary oversight and planning, academic and curricular issues, fundraising, facilities maintenance and development. The responsibilities of Dean are also guided by the Southern University and A&M College Faculty Handbook. In my capacity as Chancellor-Dean, I also oversee the University's experiment station and extension programs, along with providing leadership and oversight to the Center's Medical Marijuana Program.

As Chancellor-Dean, I am responsible for strengthening the University as a national and international leader in areas related to crop and animal agriculture, consumer issues and trends, economic development, environment and natural resources, human nutrition, food production and processing, human development and ecology, and global issues in the area of technology and communications, among other areas.

In this capacity, I also provide leadership for building and enhancing key partnerships locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally. As the chief executive officer of SUAREC, I endeavor to continuously advocate for the 1890 land-grant mission of teaching, research and extension both within the System and with external partners and stakeholders.

Nov. 1998 – September 2019, served in several administrator capacities at West Virginia State University (WVSU) – Vice President for Research & Public Service, Special Assistant to the President, Executive Director of the WVSU Research &

Development Corporation, Research Director, Extension Administrator, Dean and Director of the WVSU Gus R. Douglass Land-Grant Institute, and research professor. Appointed and served on the West Virginia Governor's Science and Research Council (2012 – 2019) and the Riley Memorial Foundation Board.

During a 23-year span, service in several state and national capacities – recently served in national leadership roles with the Association of Public Land-Grant Universities (APLU): Member of the Board of Directors for the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU), a research, policy and advocacy organization dedicated to strengthening and advancing the work of public universities in the U.S., Canada and Mexico. Served on the board in a commission representative role, by virtue of his elected capacity as Chair of APLU's Board on Agriculture Assembly (BAA) Policy Board of Directors. Also, served as the Liaison to the APLU Council of Agriculture, Research, Extension, and Teaching.

Served in leadership roles and/or as a member of the Experiment Station Committee on Organization and Policy; the Association of 1890 Research Directors; Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences; the USDA/1890 Executive Team; the APLU Board on Agriculture Assembly; APLU's Board on Advocacy Committee; APLU's Council for Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching; and APLU's Council on Governmental Affairs. He also holds memberships in the Association of Extension Administrators, 1890 Deans Council, and the American Society for Horticultural Sciences. He is a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., Prince Hall Freemasonry and The Loyal Order of the Moose.

4. Please list any special training, education, or professional experience you have which add to your qualifications to provide testimony before the Committee:

Bachelor of Science degree in Horticulture from Alabama A&M University and a Master of Science degree in Horticulture from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and earned a Ph.D. in Horticulture also at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. After graduating from the University of Illinois, he went on to do postdoctoral studies at Virginia Tech in the area of genetic engineering.

CERTIFICATIONS/TRAINING

- USDA National Institute for Food and Agriculture (formerly CSREES) Administrative Officer's Conference, April 2004, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2012
- Institute for Public Policy and Executive Leadership in Higher Education, Nova Southeastern University, Florida, June 2006
- CSREES POW Training, October 2005
- USDA/1890 Workshop, October 2005

- USDA/1890 National Scholars Training, July 2005
- Executive Leadership Summit, Hampton University, November 2003
- George Washington University Higher Education, 2001

Administrative Areas of Specialty - 1890 research and extension administration; history and function of the land-grant system; federal and state land-grant and research advocacy, legislation, and policy; legislative affairs federal and state relations; Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) administration and advocacy; fiscal management and oversight; community engagement and outreach; strategic planning; philanthropic giving; and alumni engagement.

5. If you are appearing on behalf of an organization, please list the capacity in which you are representing that organization, including any offices or elected positions you hold:

On behalf of Dr. Ray L. Belton, President-Chancellor of the Southern University and A&M College, I, Dr. Orlando F. McMeans, will appear as the Chancellor of the Chancellor of the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center and the Dean of the College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences

In 2020, appointed to Governor Edwards' Louisiana Health Equity Task Force Executive Committee, the Louisiana Food and Agricultural Task Force, and the Resilient Louisiana Commission Rural Development Task Force.

PLEASE ATTACH THIS FORM OR YOUR BIOGRAPHY TO EACH COPY OF TESTIMONY.