

Project or Activity Number: SERA-47

Title: Entered automatically by NIMSS after project number is entered.

Period Covered: December 2021 – December 2022

Annual Meeting Dates: December 14– 16, 2022

2022 Leadership

Chair: Marcus Coleman, Tulane University

Co-Chair: Jayesh Samtani, Virginia Tech.

Activities.

Activity 1. SERA-47 Annual Meeting

Overview of the annual meeting

SERA-47 Local & Regional Foods annual meeting allowed extension and research colleagues in the Southern region to come and share the great work they are doing and explore how it might be expanded throughout the region. The 2022 annual meeting 'Best Practices for Local Food Systems' took place virtually via Zoom and was hosted by the Southern Rural Development Center at Mississippi State University.

The objectives of the 2022 Annual Meeting were to:

- Learn what is happening across the nation and region.
- Learn how colleagues can better collaborate across disciplinary and state lines.

The institutions and organizations represented included:

- Alabama A&M University
- Alabama Cooperative Extension System
- Aramark
- Chipco Preserve
- Clemson University
- East Carolina University
- East Orange Sustainable Food Alliance, NJ
- Hometown Foods, LLC.
- Inmed Partnerships for Children
- Johns Hopkins University
- Kentucky State University
- Louisiana State University & LSU AgCenter
- Mississippi State University
- North Carolina State Extension, NC State, & NC A&T State University
- Oklahoma State University
- Petersburg Healthy Options Partnerships
- Tulane University
- Southern Rural Development Center
- University of Florida/IFAS Extension & University of Florida
- University of Kentucky
- University of Maryland Eastern Shore
- University of Mississippi, Medical Center
- University of Puerto Rico, Agricultural Experiment Station
- University of Tennessee Extension
- University of Virgin Islands
- Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Tech, & Virginia State University

Total registered for the conference: 61

Day one attendance: 33

Day two attendance: 25

Day three attendance: 23

The agenda for the annual meeting was as follows:

Day one

Wednesday, December 14	
10:00AM EST	<p>Welcome & SERA-47 Overview Dr. Marcus Coleman, Tulane University, Chair</p> <p>Minutes from 2021 Annual Meeting Drs. Marcus Coleman and Jayesh Samtani</p> <p>Administrative Advisor Updates Dr. Scott Senseman, Oklahoma State University</p>
Welcome & Introductions	<p>Southern Rural Development Center Updates Dr. John Green, Director, SRDC</p>

Dr. Marcus Coleman, Tulane University, Chair	
	Virginia's Community, Local, Regional Food Systems Team French Price, Eric Bendfeldt, & Dr. Jayesh Samtani, Virginia Tech
Minutes from 2021 Annual Meeting	Cultivating Creative Solutions + Partnerships for Local Food Systems Development in Kentucky Dr. Ashton Potter Wright, The Food Connection, University of Kentucky
Drs. Marcus Coleman and Jayesh Samtani	Awareness and Performance for Local Food Systems Attributes in Communities across the South Dr. Tim Woods, University of Kentucky
	Adjourn

Day two

Thursday, December 15	
1:00PM EST	Welcome Dr. Jayesh Samtani, Virginia Tech
Regional Food System Highlights	
1:05PM	Local Food Systems Practice: <i>Strategy & Planning Matter</i> Dr. Brian Raison, The Ohio State University
1:40PM	Southern Heritage Crops initiative Dr. Dave Lamie, Clemson University
2:10PM	The Sustainable Urban Agriculture Certificate Program at Virginia State University Dr. Leonard Githinji, Virginia State University
2:45PM	Adjourn

Day three

Friday, December 16	
9:00AM EST	Welcome Marcus Coleman, Tulane University, Chair

9:15 AM Storytelling, Best Practices for Local Food Systems	Based on the theme of best practices for local food systems, we would like to invite scholars and practitioners to tell their story through pictures, oral presentations or videomaking. Suggested time for each story is 10 minutes.
9:15 a.m.	Practical Guidance for Local Sourcing within Institutional Dining Carolyn Gahn, Aramark
9:30 a.m.	Good Food Connections: Successes, Struggles, and Next Steps Goodiel Yvette, University of Florida, Extension
9:50 a.m.	How to Grow a Local Coffee Brand from Scratch: The Umble Coffee Case Dr. James Barnes, Mississippi State University
10:15AM	The Future of Extension Dr. Edwin Jones, Retired Extension Dean and Professor, Virginia Tech
11:15AM	Word of thanks to Dr. Ed Jones, Dr. Marcus Coleman, Tulane University
11:25AM 2022 SERA-47 Close Out	Reflections Dr. Marcus Coleman, Tulane University, Chair Nomination/Election of a Vice Chair/Secretary Dr. Marcus Coleman, Tulane University, Chair Moving Forward Dr. Jayesh Samtani, Virginia Tech, Chair
11:45 AM EST	Adjourn

Activity 2. The SERA-47 resource platform was highlighted by Dr. Jayesh Samtani in a Local Food Systems Workshop titled “Team Engagement to Foster Local Food Systems Research and Outreach” at the 2022 American Society for Horticultural Science Annual Conference held on August 1, 2022, in Chicago, IL.

Activity 3. Dr. Marcus Comer and Russ Garner presented a 20-minute session “Strengthening the Southern Region Extension and Research System to Support Local & Regional Foods

Needs and Priorities” under Building Partnerships and Collaboration Track at the Agriculture Marketing Summit in Pensacola, FL.

Impact

Through the above activities, over 100 people were informed of the recent activities of SERA-47 group. Stakeholders are more aware of resources and activities that are ongoing in the southern region in the local food systems arena. One attendee commented after the annual conference “Thank you for the opportunity to attend! I made a lot of notes of books to read and new ways of approaching marketing, evaluation, and needs assessments from presenters. It was a very worthwhile program”.

Publications

N/A.