

2023 NCAC4 Horticultural Crops Administrators Group Meeting Report

Program Theme: “FoodU” – strategic partnerships and high-impact student experiences in the Auburn University food system

Date/Location: May 23-25, 2023 @ Auburn University Hotel and Convention Center (AUHCC), Auburn University, Auburn, AL; Dr. Desmond Layne and Auburn Team hosting

Tuesday, May 23

Prior to 6 pm – travel to Auburn and arrival at AUHCC, check in and rest

6:00-8:00 pm – Dinner @ Ariccia Cucina Ristorante, AUHCC

Wednesday, May 24 (Legacy 2, AUHCC)

7:30-8:15 am Buffet Breakfast

8:15 am Program Start

8:15-8:30 am - Welcome and comments – President Chris Roberts

8:30-8:45 am – Welcome and comments – Dean Paul Patterson

8:45-9:00 am – Welcome and comments – Dean Susan Hubbard

9:00-9:20 am – Dr. Art Appel - Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station

9:20-9:40 am – Dr. Amy Wright - College of Agriculture Undergraduate Programs

9:40-10:00 am - Coffee Break

10:00-10:30 am – Dr. Ayanava Majumdar - ACES Commercial Horticulture Team highlights

10:30-11:00 am – Dr. Desmond Layne – AU Transformation Garden

11:00 am – 12:00 pm – Desmond Layne, Daniel Wells and Glenn Loughridge - FoodU Overview

12:00-1:00 pm Buffet Lunch – watch “Roof on the Rane” video

1:00-2:00 pm – FoodU Panel Discussion – Wells, Loughridge, Maruna, Osier, Osborne, Plana, Clendenen, Pennington

2:00-4:15 pm – FoodU Tour – various campus stops (Transformation Garden, the “Edge” Central Dining Facility, etc.

4:15-4:45 pm – Break at hotel

4:45-5:30 pm – Hey Day Market/Rane Culinary Sciences Center (RCSC) tour (Chef Marc Osier)

5:30-7:30 pm – private dinner at 1856 restaurant w/Chef Antony Osborne and Thomas Price

7:30-9:00 pm – RCSC Rooftop Garden sunset social event

Thursday, May 25 (Legacy 2, AUHCC)

7:30-8:15 am - Buffet Breakfast

8:15-9:15 am – state reports

9:15-9:30 am – coffee break

9:30-11:30 am – Guided Session – Dr. Dustin Johnson “Trying to do it all while taking care of yourself: managing personal and professional stresses and avoiding burnout with truly restorative self-care”

11:30am – 12:00 pm – wrap up; host for 2024 (Doug Karcher, Ohio State University)

12:00 – 1:00 pm – box lunch, gift bags, depart (Legacy 1, AUHCC)

Program Speakers:

1. Dr. Chris Roberts – President, Auburn University
2. Dr. Paul Patterson – Dean and Director of Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station (AAES)
3. Dr. Susan Hubbard – Dean, College of Human Sciences
4. Dr. Art Appel – Associate Dean Research/Associate Director of AAES
5. Dr. Amy Wright – Associate Dean for Instruction
6. Dr. Ayanava Majumdar – Extension Professor, State Leader for Program Evaluation, Commercial Horticulture Extension Team Leader
7. Dr. Desmond R. Layne – Head and Professor, Department of Horticulture
8. Dr. Daniel Wells – Associate Professor of Horticulture and “FoodU Director”
9. Mr. Glenn Loughridge – Director of Auburn University Campus Dining and Concessions
10. Mr. Jack Maruna – Project Manager – FoodU
11. Ana Plana – Lecturer – Horst Schulze School of Hospitality Management
12. Chef Marc Osier – Managing Partner – Food Halls and Restaurants
13. Chef Antony Osborne – Director of Culinary Training and Innovations
14. Thomas Price – Master Sommelier in residence, 1856 Restaurant
15. Ms. Beth Clendenen – Administrative III, Academic Programs - Horticulture
16. Mackenzie Pennington – MS Student (RCSC rooftop)
17. Dr. Dustin Johnson – Assistant Director, Outreach and Mental Health Initiatives (other members of his team are: Dr. Aja Davis, Dr. Julie Dodd, Ms. Briana Leavigne, Dr. Christina Newberry)

NCAC4 Administrators Participants:

1. Dean Kopsell, Univ. of FL
2. Erik Ervin, Univ. of Delaware
3. Thayne Montague, Texas Tech
4. Linda Prokopy, Purdue Univ.
5. Jeff Iles, Iowa State
6. Doug Karcher, Ohio State
7. Leo Lombardini, UGA
8. Chris Gunter, Univ. of FL
9. Carlyle Brewster, Clemson Univ.
10. Martha Mamo, Univ. of Nebraska
11. Ryan Contreras, Oregon State
12. Mengmeng Gu, Colorado State
13. Anne Spafford, NC State
14. Desmond Layne, Auburn University