

FY2011 APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Evans-Allen Program

The primary food and agricultural research program at the 1890 land-grant universities needs enhanced federal investment to benefit the unique stakeholders of the 1890 Institutions and the nation as a whole.

America's land-grant university system traces its origins to the Morrill Acts of 1862 and 1890. The First Morrill Act established a land-grant university in every state and the Second Morrill Act extended land-grant status to historically-black public universities in southern and border states where, due to segregation, African-American students were barred from attending the 1862 land-grant universities.

The Evans-Allen Act of 1977 was approved by Congress to provide capacity funding for food and agricultural research at the 1890 land-grant universities and Tuskegee University (the 1890 Institutions) in a manner similar to that provided to the 1862 universities under the Hatch Act of 1887. Research conducted under the Evans-Allen Program has led to hundreds of scientific breakthroughs of benefit to both the unique stakeholders of the 1890 Institutions and the nation as a whole.

The Evans-Allen Program has been extremely important in allowing the 1890 Institutions to attract top-notch scientists to their campuses, conduct high-quality research, and become more fully integrated within the land-grant system.

One agriculture dean described the Evans-Allen Program this way: *"Like the great George Washington Carver before us, we are working to address the issues and challenges of our times... advancing knowledge and practice in areas such as: plant and animal biotechnology; sustainability in food and environmental systems; cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and other nutritional concerns that affect our nation and the world, especially those left behind."*

A·P·L·U appreciates the fact that the House has recognized the significant national value of the Evans-Allen program by recommending a funding level of \$51.000 million in H.R. 1, the FY2011 Full Year Continuing Resolution.



The Evans-Allen program benefits the nation through:

- Improved nutrition and health of urban and rural populations with an emphasis on obesity.
- Development of economically competitive and sustainable small-scale agricultural systems.
- Improved crop diversity and alternative crops and marketing strategies for farmers.
- Increased biobased energy production.
- Greater food safety and improved nutritional quality.
- Better natural resource and environmental stewardship.
- Creation of new value-added plant and animal products.
- A focus on the education of students from minority and economically disadvantaged communities for a strong and diverse agricultural workforce.

A·P·L·U urges members of the Senate and House to support the highest possible FY2011 Evans-Allen appropriation. Since both chambers have instituted an earmark moratorium, we urge the reallocation of these project funds to the Evans-Allen account and our other NIFA priorities.

For additional information, email Hunt Shipman (hshipman@cgagroup.com) or Jim Richards (jrichards@cgagroup.com). Phone: 202.448.9500.

www.land-grant.org