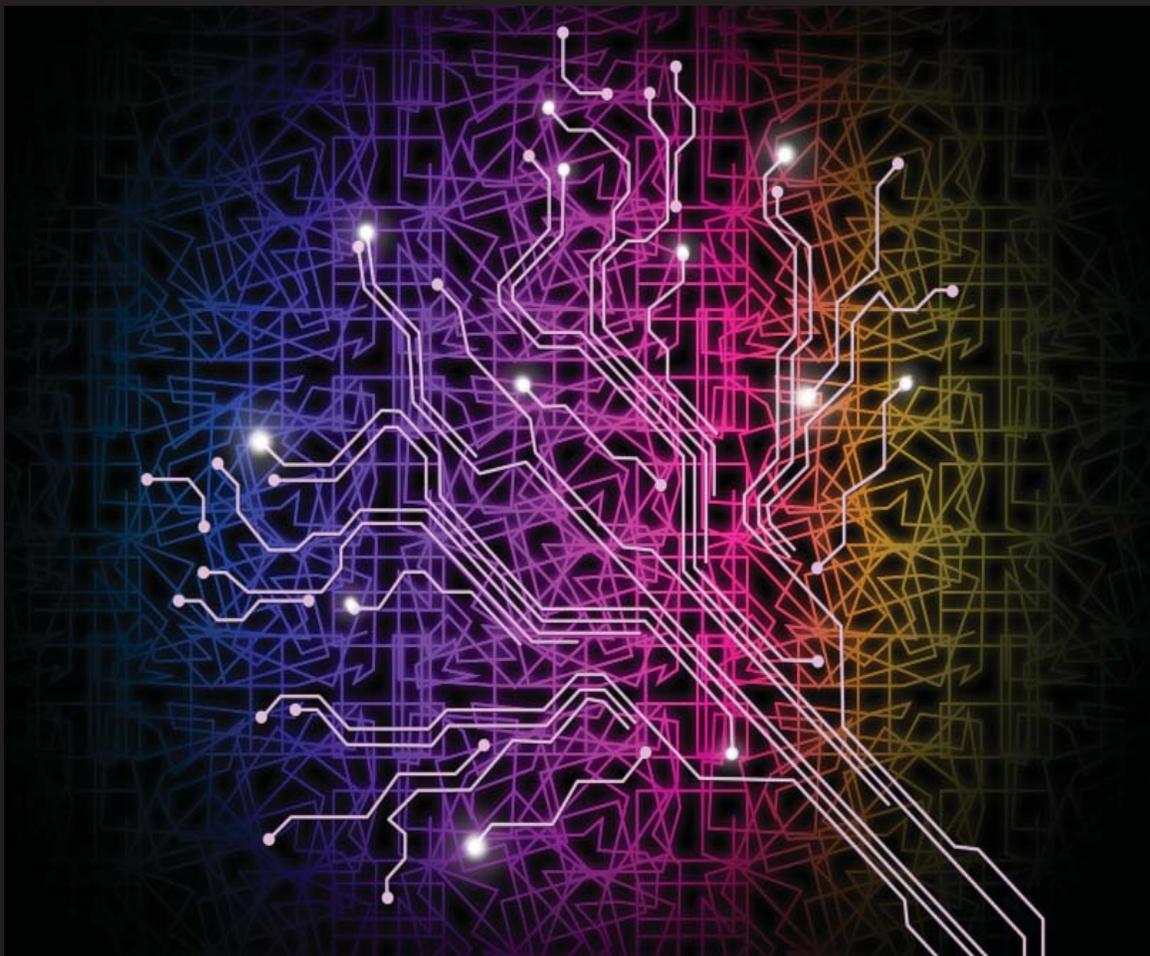




30TH ANNUAL CAREER FAIR AND TRAINING CONFERENCE

THIRTY YEARS OF TRIUMPH: BRANCHING OUT AND
EXCELLING TO GREATER HEIGHTS!



MARCH 26 - 28, 2015
CROWNE PLAZA HOUSTON, HOUSTON, TEXAS

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
FARM CREDIT, PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY, AND
TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM & REGISTRATION GUIDE



WELCOME TO HOUSTON!

MANRRS

30TH CONFERENCE ANNIVERSARY

Houston is the most populous city in Texas, the largest city in the Southern United States, and the fourth most populous city in the United States. According to the 2012 U.S. Census estimates, the city had a population of 2.16 million people within a land area of 600 square miles. Houston is the seat of Harris County, and its metropolitan area is the fifth-most populated in the U.S., with over 6 million people.

Houston was founded in 1836 on land near the banks of Buffalo Bayou (now known as Allen's Landing) and incorporated as a city on June 5, 1837. The city was named after former General Sam Houston, who was president of the Republic of Texas and had commanded and won at the Battle of San Jacinto 25 miles east of where the city was established. The burgeoning port and railroad industry, combined with oil discovery in 1901, has induced continual surges in the city's population. In the mid-twentieth century, Houston became the home of the Texas Medical Center—the world's largest concentration of healthcare and research institutions—and NASA's Johnson Space Center, where the Mission Control Center is located.

Houston's economy has a broad industrial base in energy, manufacturing, aeronautics, and transportation. It is also leading in health care sectors and building oilfield equipment; only New York City is home to more Fortune 500 headquarters. The Port of Houston ranks first in the United States in international waterborne tonnage handled and second in total cargo tonnage handled. The city has a population from various ethnic and religious backgrounds and a large and growing international community. It is home to many cultural institutions and exhibits, which attract more than 7 million visitors a year to the Museum District. Houston has an active visual and performing arts scene in the Theater District and offers year-round resident companies in all major performing arts.

WWW.MANRRS.ORG



THANK YOU TO OUR NATIONAL PARTNERS FOR HELPING US MAKE IT TO THIS WONDERFUL MILESTONE!

DIAMOND LEVEL (\$50,000+)



PLATINUM LEVEL (\$30,000+)



GOLD LEVEL (\$20,000+)

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USDA Forest Service
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Conservation Service

SILVER LEVEL (\$15,000+)

BASF
Cargill
CHS Foundation
Walt Disney World

BRONZE LEVEL (\$10,000+)

Elanco Animal Health
Prairie View A&M University
Texas A&M University
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
USDA Agricultural Research Service

As of January 2015

MANRRS would like to thank our current sponsoring organizations for their support of the 30th Annual Career Fair and Training Conference

Sponsorship, Exhibiting and Advertising Opportunities

Support MANRRS and increase your organization's visibility at the MANRRS 30th Annual Career Fair and Training Conference through sponsorship, exhibiting or advertising. What a great way to get your organization's name in front of a growing MANRRS audience!

FOR COMPLETE DETAILS: Visit the conference website at www.manrrs.org or contact our conference planner.

Lisa Hurly, A Meeting Company
Ph: 877-744-3083
Fax: 877-744-3084
MANRRS@ameetingplace.com

MANRRS NATIONAL SUPPORTERS

MANRRS Conferences Then and Now...

- 1986 Progressive Agriculture in the Eighties
- 1987 Linkages: Uniting to Face the Challenges of the Future
- 1988 Agricultural Sciences: The Place to Be
- 1989 Graduate Education: Your Key to a Secure Future
- 1990 Preparing for Our Future and Building on Our Past
- 1991 Diversity: The Key to Excellence
- 1992 The Changing Face of Agriculture
- 1993 Facing the Challenges of Agriculture Now and in the 21st Century
- 1994 MANRRS: A Mosaic in the Making
- 1995 MANRRS 2000 - A Global Vision
- 1996 Networking in the Information Age
- 1997 MANRRS - The Catalyst for Change: Empowerment for the Future
- 1998 Science and Information Technology for Tomorrow
- 1999 MANRRS: A Diversity of Cultures, A Diversity of Opportunities
- 2000 MANRRS 2000: Making Today's Dreamers Tomorrow's Leaders
- 2001 MANRRS in the Millennium – Remembering Our Past and Embracing Our Future
- 2002 Developing One Nation: Bringing Together Culture, Diversity and Technology
- 2003 MANRRS – Pursuing Excellence in Leadership, Scholarship, and Service
- 2004 Building on the Past, Embracing the Present and Shaping the Future
- 2005 Encouraging Innovation, Promoting Diversity, Achieving Excellence
- 2006 MANRRS: The Signature of Success
- 2007 MANRRS: Innovation, Exploration and Discovery
- 2008 MANRRS: Cultivating Minds for Tomorrow's Leadership
- 2009 MANRRS: Expanding Our Horizons, Embracing the Challenge, and Preparing for the Future
- 2010 MANRRS: 25 Years of History, Excellence and Opportunities... The Best is Yet to Come!
- 2011 MANRRS: Cultivating a Generation of Excellence
- 2012 MANRRS: Planting the Seeds for Global Success
- 2013 MANRRS: Turning Vision into Action
- 2014 Embracing Today's Challenges to Embark on Tomorrow's Opportunities
- 2015 Thirty Years of Triumph: Branching Out and Excelling to Greater Heights**

Office of the President:

Dear Members, Partners, Sponsors, Supporters, Friends, Advocates and Guests:

It is with great enthusiasm that I extend greetings on behalf of the National Society for Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences (MANRRS) and welcome you to Houston, Texas for the 30th Annual Career Fair and Training Conference. We will convene from March 26 to March 28, 2015 and we have aligned conference activities to reflect the following theme: "Thirty Years of Triumph: Branching Out and Excelling to Greater Heights!" It has been my goal to reach greater heights by focusing on the **rededication** of our members to our Society by providing a professional and nurturing environment; **reclamation** of members and sponsors by assuring that our members receive professional growth and development opportunities; and, ushering in a **renaissance** of our Society by establishing new programs with emphasis on graduate students and professionals, thereby making MANRRS "the premiere" agricultural society.

Personally, I look forward to visiting with my MANRRS family, showcasing the wonderful MANRRS brand, creating new memories, and participating in the many planned activities. During this monumental 30th Conference, we will have the opportunity to promote scholarly achievement, professional advancement, and educational excellence among all members; leverage opportunities to support the talent needs of our government and corporate partners; promote career discussions and enhance academic, research, professional and leadership skills among our student members; and, foster the bond of fellowship amongst our MANRRS family.

I would like to sincerely thank the conference hosts, sponsors, partners, supporters, committee members and my Executive Committee members for all of your hard work in planning a fantastic program. The program includes the student contests, enrichment tours, community service project and workshop, health fair, 5K run, professional development workshops, and Junior MANRRS and high school activities. It will be an excellent opportunity to meet many people, grow professionally, and increase your network. Let's make the most of the 30th Annual Conference and branch out and excel to greater heights. I look forward to meeting and greeting each of you in Houston!

Excited to Serve,



Koni A. Patterson
National Professional President 2014-15
MANRRS



2015 CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

As we prepare for Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences' (MANRRS) 30th Annual Career Fair and Training Conference, the 2015 Conference Planning Team and Region IV invite you to join us in this spectacular event in Houston, Texas. Awaiting you are opportunities to network, attend workshops, share ideas, and visit the Career Fair where you will explore various employment opportunities with many world-renowned private agriculture industry leaders, colleges and universities, and federal and state agencies.

We encourage your participation and involvement in this great Society and a great conference. We look forward to seeing you, as we continue to “Branch Out and Excel to Greater Heights” in the fields of Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences for the 21st century and beyond.

Overall Planning

Ebony Y. Webber, MBA, MANRRS

Conference Planning Committee Team Leaders:

Joe Beach, Texas Parks and Wildlife

Andra Collins-Johnson,

Chanda Elbert, Ph.D., Texas A&M University

Marcus Glenn

Carlos Gonzales, Ph.D., Texas A&M University

Horace Hodge, Prairie View A&M University

Wash Jones, Ph.D., Prairie View A&M University

Clarissa Okpaleke, Farm Credit

Manual Pina, Ph.D., Texas A&M University

OVERVIEW OF MINORITIES IN AGRICULTURE, NATURAL RESOURCES AND RELATED SCIENCES (MANRRS)

MANRRS is a national society that welcomes membership of people of all racial and ethnic groups, encouraging participation in agricultural and related sciences careers. MANRRS' goal is to provide its student members, junior high school through doctoral programs, with the support to become productive citizens by engaging them in leadership development activities, educational opportunities, job readiness training and facilitating internship placement and permanent employment, with special emphasis on agriculture, natural resources and related sciences. MANRRS provides professional members opportunities to network as well as serve as mentors to student members. MANRRS promotes interaction between its students, professional members and other organizations and institutions. MANRRS prepares youth for leadership roles through mentoring, networking and the free exchange of ideas among members. Among the objectives of MANRRS are to:

- Increase the number of students studying the agricultural sciences and related fields at both the undergraduate and graduate levels;
- Foster a bond of fellowship among students, faculty, staff and administration in colleges and/or schools of agriculture;
- Encourage scholarly achievement, advancement and excellence among members;
- Promote careers and academic counseling for undergraduate and graduate students; and
- Enhance their academic studies, research skills, professional skills and leadership development.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25th

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Student Officer Bag Stuffing
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Executive Committee Meeting
5:00 PM – 8:00 PM	Registration Opens
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM	Advisory Committee Meeting
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Cocktails and Conversations
8:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Evening Workshop

THURSDAY, MARCH 26th

8:00 AM – 3:00 PM	Mobile Tours
8:00 AM – 6:00 PM	Conference Registration
9:00 AM – 2:00 PM	High School Symposium
8:00 AM – 3:00 PM	Community Service Project
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Professional Workshop
12:00 PM – 2:30 PM	Sponsor Appreciation Luncheon
12:00 PM – 4:00 PM	Resume and Mock Interviewing Power Hour
12:00 PM – 4:00 PM	Linked: Chapter Photos
12:00 PM – 6:00 PM	Career Fair Setup
2:30 PM – 3:20 PM	Student Workshop
3:00 PM – 4:00 PM	New Members' Meeting and Induction Ceremony
3:00 PM – 4:30 PM	Jr. MANRRS Welcome Session
3:30 PM – 4:20 PM	Student Workshop
5:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Opening General Session & Parade of Chapters
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM	Welcome Dinner
8:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Business Card Exchange & Networking Reception
8:30 PM – 9:30 PM	Jr. MANRRS Evening Session
8:30 PM – UNTIL	Contest: Public Speaking
8:30 PM – UNTIL	Contest: Chapter of the Year
8:30 PM – UNTIL	Contest: MANRRS Bowl
9:00 PM – 10:00 PM	Student Workshop and Fashion Show
9:00 PM – 10:00 PM	Workshop
9:30 PM – 11:30 PM	Professional Hospitality

FRIDAY, MARCH 27th

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM	Professional Meeting
7:30 AM – 8:30 AM	Undergraduate Student Meeting
7:30 AM – 8:30 AM	Graduate Student Meeting
8:00 AM – 8:30 AM	Jr. MANRRS Refresher
8:00 AM – 5:30 PM	Conference Registration
8:50 AM – 10:15 AM	General Session – Workshops
10:30 AM - 3:30 PM	Career Fair Opens
10:30 AM – 4:00 PM	Jr. MANRRS Program - Workshops & Contests
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM	Professional Workshop
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Contest: Graduate Research Poster
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Contest: Oral Research Graduate Division I
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Contest: Oral Research Graduate Division II
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Contest: Research Discussion

11:00 AM – 3:00 PM	Health Symposium
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Contest: Graduate Poster Research Contest
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Contest: Oral Research Undergraduate Division I
11:00 AM – 12:30 PM	Professional Morning Workshop
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM	Career Fair Box Lunch
1:30 PM – 2:20 PM	Graduate Student Workshop
1:30 PM – 3:30 PM	Contest: Undergraduate Poster Research Contest
1:30 PM – 3:30 PM	Contest: Oral Research Undergraduate Division II
2:00 PM – 3:30 PM	Professional Afternoon Workshop
2:30 PM – 3:20 PM	Graduate Student Workshop
3:30 PM – 4:00 PM	Ice Cream Social/Raffle Giveaway
4:00 PM – 5:30 PM	Business Meeting
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Presidents' Reception
9:30 PM – 11:00 PM	Talent Show
10:00 PM – 12:30 AM	Professional Hospitality
11:00 PM – 12:30 AM	Student Dance and Mixer

SATURDAY, MARCH 28th

6:00 AM – 7:30 AM	5K Fun Run and Walk
6:00 AM – 7:00 AM	Yoga and Exercise
8:00 AM – 9:00 AM	VIP Scholars' Breakfast
8:00 AM – 9:00 AM	Plenary General Session I
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	Conference Registration
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM	Jr. MANRRS Program
9:10 AM – 10:00 AM	Morning Workshop Session A
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM	Professional Workshop
10:10 AM – 11:00 AM	Morning Workshop Session B
11:15 AM – 1:00 PM	Male and Female Empowerment Luncheon
1:10 PM – 2:00 PM	Afternoon Workshop Session C
1:15 PM – 2:45 PM	Chapter Advisor's Workshop & Meeting
2:10 pm – 3:00 pm	Afternoon Workshop Session D
3:15 PM – 4:15 PM	Plenary General Session II
4:30 PM – 5:00 PM	Contest: MANRRS Bowl Finals
6:30 PM – 9:00 PM	Gala Banquet & Awards Dinner
9:00 PM – 10:00 PM	Gala Dance
10:00 PM – 12:30 AM	Professional Hospitality
10:30 PM – 12:30 AM	Student After Party and Mixer

SUNDAY, MARCH 29th

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM	EC Small Breakfast & Meeting
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ENRICHMENT TOUR

Explore opportunities...both culturally and academically by participating in the mobile workshop tour on Thursday, March 26th from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. Cost for the mobile workshop tour is \$25.00, which includes a day long tour session, admittance into museums, and transportation.

All mobile workshop tours require advance registration and payment with your conference registration. Space on tours is limited and is on a first-come, first-served basis. Register early to reserve your place. Plan to dress casual, with comfortable walking shoes. If additional space is available, you will be able to register on-site. Maximum participation for each activity will be 50 people.

Cancellation Policy

Tours may be cancelled by MANRRS if the minimum number of participants is not met. In the event of a tour cancellation, you will be notified in advance and refunded the cost of the tour.

If you register for a tour and need to cancel, cancellation must be received in writing no later than Friday, March 11th to receive a full refund. If you register, elect not to attend the tour and do not provide a written request for cancellation by March 4th, you will not receive a full refund. Be sure to indicate your choice on the Conference Registration Form. Register early to reserve your place!

Sea Center Texas 8:30 AM – 1:00 PM



Sea Center Texas is a marine aquarium, fish hatchery and nature center operated by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). The site's visitor center educates

through interpretive displays, a "touch tank" and aquariums depicting native Texas habitats including a salt marsh, jetty, reef and open Gulf exhibits. The Gulf aquarium houses nurse sharks, large red drum, gray snapper, Atlantic spadefish, and the state record moray eel. The center offers a variety of educational programs that promote the wise use and conservation of Texas' marine resources. The facility operates one of the three TPWD marine hatcheries located on the Texas coast that produce juvenile red drum and spotted speckled trout to stock in Texas bays. The hatchery has the capability to produce up to 15 million juvenile fish each year. The center's wetland area is part of the Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail.

Over 150 species of birds have been identified at the site. The wetland consists of a one-acre salt marsh and a three-acre freshwater marsh. Damselflies, dragonflies, butterflies and frogs are frequently seen just off the boardwalk. A small outdoor pavilion provides a quiet resting place adjacent to the butterfly and hummingbird gardens.

Houston Museum of Natural Science 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

The mission of the Houston Museum of Natural Science shall be to preserve and advance the general knowledge of natural science; to enhance in individuals the knowledge of and delight in natural science and related subjects, and to maintain and promote a museum of the first class. As one of the most heavily attended museums in the United States, and one of the most attended venues in Houston, the Museum houses the Burke Baker Planetarium, Wortham GIANT Screen Theatre, Cockrell Butterfly Center and a fascinating variety of permanent exhibit areas that examine astronomy, space science, Native American culture, paleontology, energy, chemistry, gems and minerals, seashells, Texas wildlife and much more. In addition, the museum frequently presents traveling exhibitions on a variety of topics.

COMMUNITY SERVICE WORKSHOP AND PROJECT

Sustainable Community Project and Discussion 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM

Bonita Williams provides national leadership for the Vulnerable Populations Program with emphasis on the coordination and integration of programs that address the needs of youth living with social, emotional, physical, developmental and mental vulnerabilities in relation to context, residence and demographics. The program includes management of the Children, Youth, and Families at Risk (CYFAR) grant program. The workshop will be followed by a hands-on service project.

Last Organic Outpost 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

The Last Organic Outpost (LOO) is a community farm based in Houston's 5th Ward community. LOO aims to generate healthy communities and establish a local food economy in Houston through urban farming and education. LOO empowers communities through sustainable agriculture that teaches residents to produce safe, healthy and accessible food for all. LOO also envisions growing "Food Everywhere" and seeding an Urban Agricultural District that cultivates our region's food and supports local farmers to thrive despite economic, environmental, health and social challenges.



The future of agricultural, natural resources, and related sciences lies in the hands of our young people. To assist young people in understanding how agricultural and related sciences permeate their daily lives, it is critical that we start early. MANRRS Executive Committee and Program Committee encourages full participation of the youth in the greater Houston and surrounding area in planned activities and programs geared toward exposing them to the National MANRRS Society and the many opportunities available in agriculture, natural resources, and related sciences. During this celebration of the 30th Annual Career Fair and Training Conference, many components will be devoted to high school students and Junior MANRRS Members.

HIGH SCHOOL SYMPOSIUM – FEE: \$10.00 PER STUDENT INCLUDES LUNCH
9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

The High School Symposium will allow high school students from the Houston area to participate in interactive workshops and discussions on leadership skills, networking, preparing for college, and opportunities in agricultural and natural science fields. Students also will have ample opportunities to visit and interact with MANRRS student officers and members. The Jr. MANRRS Committee would like to help you prepare for college and discover cutting-edge careers available in food, agriculture, bioscience, natural resources, and technology.

Preliminary Agenda at a Glance

9:00 AM	Welcome
9:25 AM	Students' Perspective of Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences (Student Panel): Animal Science; Ag Economics/Business; Ag Communications/ Education
9:45 AM	Jr. MANRRS: An Advisor's Perspective
10:05 AM	Jr. MANRRS Member Perspective
10:15 AM – 11:15AM	Breakout Session I Agricultural Research: Doing the NAE NAE - ARS College Planning and Career Success
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Breakout Session II The World of Veterinary Science Professional and Prepared – workshop focused on importance of appearance and professionalism.
12:30 PM – 1:00 PM	Interactive Box Luncheon
1:00 PM – 1:30PM	Closing Session/Evals/ Q&A
1:30 PM - 2:00 PM	Departure



JR. MANRRS CONFERENCE EVENTS

Several colleges and universities established “Junior” MANRRS chapters to promote agricultural literacy and awareness in their communities. Collegiate MANRRS members serve as mentors to Junior MANRRS members and encourage them to participate in service learning activities, science fairs, and educational programs to help them understand how they can apply their skills in an agricultural discipline. Junior MANRRS chapters from around the country are invited to participate in the celebration of the 30th Annual Career Fair and Training Conference.

Prairie View A&M University and Texas A&M University planned activities for the students that will allow them to discuss leadership skills, problem solve ethical issues, and network with professionals, students and representatives of agricultural industries.

Through the High School Symposium and Junior MANRRS program, MANRRS is doing its part in raising awareness of the importance of including under-represented groups in agricultural and related fields. The conference will serve as a vehicle to help inform students of the many opportunities available to them as they prepare for college and the “Real World.” Our goal is to plant the seed of encouragement through education, thus creating a pipeline of students who will pursue agriculture and natural resources and related sciences as fields of study. The youth are our FUTURE...let us SUPPORT and LEAD them as they become agricultural professionals, scientists and scholars.

JR. MANRRS PRELIMINARY AGENDA AT A GLANCE

MARCH 26, 2015

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM	Jr. MANRRS Opening Session, Roll Call and Overview
8:30 PM – 9:30 PM	Workshop: <i>The Future of Agriculture</i>

MARCH 27, 2015

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM	Jr. MANRRS Refresher - Overview for Friday
9:00 AM - 9:50 AM	Workshop: <i>How Jr. MANRRS Can Start to Target Internship Opportunities while Still in High School</i>
10:05 AM - 11:05 AM	Workshop: <i>College Assurance and Career Success</i>
11:15 AM - 12:15 PM	Workshop: <i>Transitioning from High School to College Academics</i>
12:30 PM - 1:00 PM	Career Fair Box Lunch and Free Time
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Career Fair Challenge
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Workshop: <i>Are You Engaged?</i>
3:30 PM- 4:00 PM	Ice Cream Social and Raffle Giveaway

MARCH 28, 2015

9:00 AM - 10:00AM	Jr. MANRRS Public Speaking Contest
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Jr. MANRRS Impromptu Speaking Contest
12:15 PM - 5:00 PM	Jr. MANRRS Hands on Workshop/ Tour

The regular agenda should be followed except events noted above.

JR. MANRRS WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

THE FUTURE OF AGRICULTURE

The country was 95 percent rural in 1900. Today, 81 percent of Americans live in metropolitan areas. It is predicted that 70% of the entire world will be urban by 2050. How will we feed, clothe, shelter, and educate these steadily swelling urban populations? This workshop will focus on the answers to these questions and explain how urban agriculture empowers people with food self-sufficiency, maintains stewardship over the environment and builds a sense of community.

HOW TO TARGET INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES WHILE STILL IN HIGH SCHOOL

Internships are one of the most important ways students gain experience and start to make contacts within their field. The idea of pursuing an internship probably doesn't cross most high school students' minds, which is an excellent reason to pursue one. It's a great way to stand out from the crowd.

COLLEGE ASSURANCE AND CAREER SUCCESS

The purpose of this session is to turn your academic dreams into reality. We will develop a bridge between your academic and personal goals.

TRANSITIONING FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO COLLEGE ACADEMICS

Even if you were at the top of your class in high school, you might be in for a shock after your first college exam. At the university level, there are fewer assignments, so every grade counts. This workshop will provide pointers to help you smoothly make the transition to college-level work and appearance.

ARE YOU ENGAGED?

Students entering colleges and universities located in less diverse cities and regions often find it difficult to become integrated into on-and-off-campus activities which can impact their retention or time to complete of degrees. Joining student organizations such as MANRRS increases awareness on and off-campus and assists in development of new partnerships and friendships that lead to positive effects on student life experience and retention.

JR. MANRRS STUDENT COMPETITIONS

Jr. MANRRS Contest Deadline is March 1, 2015. All entries must be sent to antomia.farrell@uky.edu. Contest guidelines can be found on the website www.manrrs.org/conference.

JR. MANRRS WRITTEN ESSAY

This contest is for high school students to prepare a clear, concise, and well thought out essay that discusses the theme of the conference. This contest provides an opportunity for students to gain experience in expressing themselves through writing. Essays will be judged and winners selected prior to the conference.

Awards:

1st Place: \$125 and a certificate
 2nd Place: \$75 and a certificate
 3rd Place: \$50 and a certificate

JR. MANRRS PUBLIC SPEAKING

This contest is for high school students who submit and deliver a speech that will be rated on content, style, and clarity of expression, power of expression, voice, stage presence, organization, and logic. Participation in this contest will give students skills in public speaking, written communication, organizing information, leadership, and communicating in an interactive setting.

Awards:

1st Place: \$125 and a certificate
 2nd Place: \$75 and a certificate
 3rd Place: \$50 and a certificate

JR. MANRRS IMPROMPTU SPEAKING

The MANRRS Impromptu Public Speaking Contest is designed to develop the ability of all MANRRS members to express themselves on a given subject without having prepared or rehearsed its content in advance. This gives the MANRRS members an opportunity to formulate their remarks for presentation in a very limited amount of time. The event requires students to think on their feet, state their case quickly and persuasively, and to be able to answer relevant questions based upon their presentation.

Awards:

1st Place: \$125 and a certificate
 2nd Place: \$75 and a certificate
 3rd Place: \$50 and a certificate



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25TH

COCKTAILS AND CONVERSATIONS 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Join MANRRS Professionals and MANRRS Alumni members for networking and conversations in a casual, fun setting. Attendees must be 21 and up.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26TH

PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOP I: EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION AND CRUCIAL CONVERSATIONS 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Have you ever engaged in a conversation with someone in your workplace, your family, or friends, that didn't go as well as you intended? Do you know why it didn't end as you expected? Do you know what you could do better next time? This workshop will give you pointers on how to effectively communicate to get your points across during crucial conversations.

PROFESSIONAL HOSPITALITY 9:30 PM – 11:30 PM

FRIDAY, MARCH 27TH

PROFESSIONAL MEETING 7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOP II – BLOOMING WHERE YOU'RE PLANTED: A DELIBERATE GUIDE TO MOVING ONWARD AND UPWARD IN A CAREER 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

This workshop will focus on the importance of developing and marketing participant's unique skills and talents to navigate successfully upward within an organization. In particular, participants will be strategic in exploring ways to improve the social, communication and relationship skills needed for job success through various resources that already exist within an organization.

PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOP III – THE ART OF ADVISING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

Through interactive exercises, advisors will identify key steps and objectives to advising the next generation of leaders with a focus on writing a collective plan for manageable implementation. Participants will review current practices of advising within the MANRRS organization and begin to

identify key activities and strategies that will lead to developing the next generation of MANRRS' leaders. In addition, participants will discuss ways to build and sustain a strong organizational culture for the future of the National Society for Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences.

PROFESSIONAL HOSPITALITY 10:00 PM – 12:30 AM

SATURDAY, MARCH 28TH

CHAPTER ADVISORS' MEETING 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOP IV – THE ART OF ADVISING: PROMOTING OPPORTUNITIES IN STEM RELATED FIELDS 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Members of the USDA Diversity and Recruitment community will present a workshop detailing opportunities that are available for students from underrepresented populations interested in careers in STEM-related fields. The workshop will provide specific information about various programs, the application and selection processes as well as provide guidance to avoid potential pitfalls and how to mediate challenges that may arise. Chapter advisors and other career development and recruitment professionals are encouraged to attend.

PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOP V – HOW TO MAINTAIN AND RETAIN YOUR CHAPTER 1:15 PM – 3:00 PM

This workshop will assist participants in managing their local chapters more successfully in an ever changing, competitive environment. It takes into consideration financial constraints and competing organizations and focuses on how managing through people can lead to chapter success and overall retention of members. Participants will receive the necessary tools to coach individual members to excel and align individual goals with the chapter's objectives and strategies.

PROFESSIONAL HOSPITALITY 10:00 PM – 12:30 AM



THURSDAY, MARCH 26TH

DO IT FOR THE VINE

2:30 PM – 3:20 PM

Tract: Professional Development

This workshop will focus on personal branding as it relates to using social media to network and make connections. Attendees will be provided proper steps for using social media, Pro Tips, Social Media Apps, and pros and cons of Social Media.

POLISHED, PROFESSIONAL AND PREPARED

3:30 PM – 4:20 PM

Tract: Personal Development

This workshop will focus on professional tips for males and females. Candid advice will include words of wisdom, stress management tips, workplace culture and norms, professional attire, personal elevator speeches, and networking tips.

FROM THE CLASSROOM TO THE BOARDROOM: THE DOS AND DON'TS OF FASHION, HAIR AND MAKEUP

9:00 PM – 10:00 PM

Tract: Personal Development

This workshop will focus on make-up tips for work; proper suit fitting, grooming tips, and a brief fashion show.

DEALING WITH ADVERSITY

9:00 PM – 10:00 PM

Tract: Personal Development

A life without difficulties is a classroom without lessons. This workshop will focus on tips for dealing and managing stress.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27TH

WORKSHOPS FOR RISING SENIORS/GRADUATE STUDENTS

HOW TO SUCCESSFULLY PRESENT RESEARCH AND PUBLISH IN TOP JOURNALS

1:30 PM – 2:20 PM

Tract: Educational Development

This workshop is designed to help prepare graduate students or early career research professionals to excel at research presentations both at conferences and for graduate students, this will also help prepare them for their defense. We will go over what should be on a poster, developing an elevator research speech for a poster presentation, what should go in an oral presentation and how to present your data more effectively. This workshop will also discuss the publication process, timelines, and navigating reviews.

FINANCIAL LITERACY: STEPS TO BUILDING A BUDGET AND MANAGING YOUR CREDIT

2:30 PM – 3:20 PM

Tract: Personal Development

Many students are financial illiterate when it comes to managing their personal funds. Learn how to prepare a successful budget, and how to manage your credit in this interactive workshop.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28TH

SESSION A

9:10 AM – 10:00 AM

Note! Attendance is required at all sessions.

(1A) THE INTROVERTS GUIDE TO CAREER NETWORKING AND THE EXTROVERTS GUIDE ON HOW TO NETWORK WITH INTROVERTS!

Tract: Personal Development

In this workshop, we will show participants the best practice on how to work with both introverts and extroverted personality styles in the work place. Networking and working with teams is key to any career success. However, when the organization or business partners have different personality styles how can we get this done. Learn the Disney approach to working with different personality styles to help boost your career, and continue to network through your organization, school or employment. Learn what makes your personality unique and how to work with all those difficult personality styles

(2A) YOU HAVE A JOB OFFER... DO YOU TAKE IT?

Tract: Professional Development

This presentation will focus on helping the student identify their values and priorities, evaluating the company (ies) they receive an offer from, understanding the role for which they are accepting the offer, and gaining a better understanding of what the actual offer consists of: primary components, evaluating, negotiating and communicating your decision.

(3A) HAVE THE INSIDE SCOOP AND GET AHEAD!

Tract: Career Development

The workshop will help you, students and professionals understand how you can better stand out throughout the selection process. Unlock the mystery of those unanswered emails and declined applications. These tips and best practices will ensure that you too can bring your "A- game" at all times.

(4A) UNDERSTANDING CREDIT AND ESTABLISHING YOUR FINANCES

Tract: Career Development

The workshop will help you, students and professionals understand how you can better stand out throughout the selection process. Unlock the mystery of those unanswered emails and declined applications. These tips and best practices will ensure that you too can bring your “A- game” at all times.

(5A) VETERINARY CARE FOR YOUR PETS – THE AT HOME VETERINARIAN, PART I

Tract: Animal Science/Wildlife

Imagine a future where veterinarians work to solve some of the world’s most perplexing pet problems using integrated approaches and systems-thinking. In an era of evolving technology and changing environments, creative thinking could be the driver for innovations that are affordable. This workshop will explore the challenges the at-home pet owner faces. Be prepared to answer questions and ask your own. Learn about general health care, nutrition and preventative health care measures that should be followed to keep the pets we own as healthy as possible.

(6A) FROM THE YARD TO THE CAMPUS

Tract: Educational Development

This workshop aims to prepare students for applying for graduate school, ways to find funding, and the cultural change from a from a Historically Black College and University (HBCU) as an undergrad to a larger Predominately White Institution (PWI) for graduate school.

(7A) HOW SOCIAL MEDIA CAN HELP (OR HURT) YOU IN YOUR JOB SEARCH/ CURRENT POSITION (GRADUATE)

Tract: Professional Development

Social Media has become a part of our everyday lives. Sites like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, and Google+ allow employers to get a glimpse of who you are outside the confines of a résumé, cover letter, or interview. A Facebook or Twitter profile that demonstrates great communication skills, a passion for your work, and a well-rounded personality that fits with the culture of a potential employer and backs up information on your resume, will work to your advantage; while other information on your profile can work to your disadvantage. When applying for a job, scholarship or educational opportunity, it’s therefore important to understand that content posted on your social media platforms and across the web can help or hurt you. In this workshop, participants will learn the dos and don’ts of social media for active job seekers as well as for what is considered appropriate for people who are already in a professional position.

(1B) THE CONFIDENT AND COMPETENT YOU

Tract: Personal Development

Confidence goes a long way! This session will focus on how you can demonstrate confidence and establish credibility in both your professional and personal life. Behaviors associated with a lack of confidence are immediately recognizable as are those associated with over confidence. Know where you fall on the spectrum and how to get where you want to be.

(2B) INTERNSHIPS AND JOBS: HOW DO I GET THERE?

Tract: Professional Development

In this workshop, you will learn from corporate representatives and college personnel as to how to successfully obtain and keep an internship. Most successful applicants are aware that there is more than academics to obtain an internship. One must have the ability to think critically, effectively communicate with the customers, coworkers, superiors and subordinates as well.

(3B) WORK-LIFE BALANCE: FACT OR FICTION?

Tract: Personal Development

As you transition from school to career, the expression “work-life balance” rapidly begins to represent a mythical ideal where an enviable, fabulous creature can perfectly divide work and personal life into a symmetry of happiness and success. Research has shown that in this age of the millennial generation entering the workplace and social networking, iTech, and rapid change driving the need for constant interconnectedness and diminishing the separation between work and home, work-life balance may not be what real humans want or need after all. This interactive session will explore that research and provide strategies for stress management and emotional intelligence development to enhance your work-life satisfaction as you transition from student-follower to a leader of others.

(4B) THE LAUNCH CODES REQUIRED FOR ADMISSIONS INTO VETERINARY SCHOOL AND BEYOND!

Tract: Educational Development

This professional panel will move beyond just the normal discussions of students having good grades and a competitive GRE score. This panel will discuss the attributes and experiences that are required to help build a firm foundation for launching your professional career in veterinary medicine.

(5B) - YOU’VE BEEN ACCEPTED INTO GRADUATE SCHOOL...NOW WHAT

Tract: Educational Development

The many possible threats or challenges that could sideline a graduate student’s career will be discussed. Students will leave empowered and learn how to navigate and cope in graduate school.

SESSION B
10:10 AM – 11:00 AM

(6B) A PERSPECTIVE FROM "JOHN DEERE TODAY" IN THE AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY

Tract: Professional Development

Come learn more about the many facets in the agriculture industry that we depend on through feeding, sheltering, and clothing the world. This workshop will also provide an overview of John Deere and its businesses in Marketing, Production, Operations, and Agriculture Economics.

(7B) CAREERS IN AGRICULTURE MARKETING

Tract: Career Development

Graduates of agricultural business program are in high demand and their jobs pay well! Agriculture businesses may develop terrific products, but success hinges on persuading customers to select that company's products or services rather than buying from someone else. This is the job of Ag Marketing. Join panelists to learn more.

SESSION C 1:10 PM – 2:00 PM

(1C) EFFECTIVE INTERVIEWING TECHNIQUES

Tract: Professional Development

In this workshop, we will review the different types of interviews, strategies, and how to follow-up with employers. You will also get tips on how to present yourself during the interview.

(2C) NEGOTIATE WITH CONFIDENCE

Tract: Professional Development

What is the first thing that comes to mind when you hear the word "negotiate"? Do you know when it is appropriate to negotiate? Negotiating is a part of everyday life, but in many instances it's absolutely critical to your success. Join a workshop hosted by Dow AgroSciences to explore fundamental concepts for effective negotiation. You will learn when it's appropriate to negotiate, how to prepare yourself, and engage in negotiation with sustainable results. Additionally, it will discuss skills necessary to successfully negotiate goals and objectives in your personal and professional life.

(3C) CONFLICT MANAGEMENT TRAINING

Tract: Diversity & Human Relations

Let's embrace today's workforce that is vast in diversity and learn all we can to ensure positive outcomes when conflict arises. With up to five generations of culturally diverse employees in our workforce today, there are times when conflict is impossible to avoid. Understanding ourselves, diverse conflict response modes and communication styles are the first steps toward

ensuring collaborative resolutions with positive outcomes. Cultural competence is an essential skill for successful work performance. Join Christopher Filmore from the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's Collaborative Resolution Program and gain understanding about the many generational differences, barriers to effective communication, and the dimensions of trust. Don't miss this informative opportunity.

(4C) YOUR BEST PROFESSIONAL SELF - WHAT'S YOUR PERSONAL BRAND

Tract: Professional Development

Every company and organization has a brand and everything they do builds and protects that brand. What is your personal brand? This workshop will provide an overview of how to build YOUR brand. What will make you stand out in today's marketplace, what makes you unique — in person, on paper, and online. Leave with a plan to prepare your very own Personal Brand!

(5C) VETERINARY CARE FOR YOUR PETS – THE AT HOME VETERINARIAN, PART II

Tract: Animal Science/Wildlife

The second session will discuss pet diseases, symptoms, and signs will be covered. Case discussions will be covered. This session will be an open format and questions will be encouraged throughout the presentation. The presenter will ask questions during his presentation to stimulate thought and discussion.

(6C) LEADING ACROSS GENERATIONS

Tract: Diversity & Human Relations

Different generations of people see many aspects of the workplace differently. There are traditionalists, baby boomers, generation crossers, and millennial. Traditionalists work well as a team in the workplace, baby boomers and generation crossers are individualistic, and millennial are focused on making a difference in their workplace. This workshop focuses on building skills that enable you to lead all generations as well as pushing each individual to reach their full potential. We currently have all generations in the workplace and do our future leaders understand how to connect and work with all of them?

(7C) CREATING AND TRANSFERRING TO A WORLD OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Tract: Personal Development

The promotion of youth entrepreneurship should be approached comprehensively, emphasizing sectors with job creation potential and integrating the three components of sustainable enterprises – social, economic and environmental. Business success depend on new ideas and the ability of young and future entrepreneurs to implement these ideas. The only means to bring about sustainable development is through investments in the creativity, innovation and problem solving skills of youth.

SESSION D 2:10 PM – 3:00 PM

(1D) CREATING PARTNERSHIPS TO ENGAGE STUDENTS IN STUDYING ABROAD

Tract: International/Globalization

This is an opportunity to report on funding opportunities to gain access to increasing mechanisms of collaboration for study abroad and learn more about government study abroad support programs with an international focus.

(2D) PREPARATION FOR FINDING AN INTERNSHIP

Tract: Career Development

An internship is a great way for undergraduate students to explore career opportunities and promote career development. Some internships can be for college credits. It's never too late to line up an internship. This workshop provide students insight into the necessary steps to be successful in gaining a career changing experience.

(3D) AGRICULTURE: YOU CAN'T FIT IT IN A BOX

Tract: Agribusiness

Farming is the biggest job on Earth. At BASF Agricultural Solutions, we help growers to make the most of precious resources and produce enough to feed the world. These solutions involve careers as diverse as the people who excel in their roles, from lab scientists to field agronomists, and from marketing and sales to the operations of complex manufacturing plants - all focused on serving the Agro Industry.

(4D) GETTING READY FOR YOUR FIRST INTERNSHIP, FIRST POSITION AFTER GRADUATION, OR AN EARLY CAREER MOVE

Tract: Professional Development

Would you like to learn more about having wide berth of tools to make your career transitions easier? Online, face-to-face or virtually, there is a host of options that are specifically geared to enhance your personal development and help you realize your full career potential. These personalized, programs will help make your career and opportunities at John Deere both rewarding and personally satisfying.

(5D) THE IMPORTANCE OF UNDERSTANDING GENERATIONAL DIFFERENCES IN THE WORKPLACE

Tract: Diversity & Human Relations

There are numerous federal government opportunities for students. We will hold an open discussion with students who have held government internships. We will share experiences about how we secured our internships and provide resources on numerous internships and opportunities.

(6D) SO YOU WANT TO WORK IN STATE GOVERNMENT OR HIGHER EDUCATION?

Tract: Career Development

With 20-40% of government workers in some agencies eligible to retire in next five years, now may be a good time to consider working for the public sector. All interview and hiring decisions made by Texas state universities and government agencies are based on the completed State of Texas Application for Employment. This workshop is designed to show those interested in higher education or government employment in Texas how to complete the State Application to maximize your chances.

(7D) CULTURAL COMPETENCY IN THE CLASSROOM AND WORKPLACE – NAVIGATING THE HIDDEN CURRICULUM (GRADUATE)

Tract: Educational Development

Learn How to Play the Game! Minorities must learn and follow the rules of the Hidden Curriculum concerning academic and corporate culture. Within a perfect Academic and Corporate World, academic achievement and professionalism would be recognized and rewarded regardless of cultural differences concerning age, race, gender etc. Unfortunately the truth is that performance alone will not determine academic and or corporate advancement. Participants will learn the difference between cultural assimilation and transcending cultural barriers. You will learn how to trust your own abilities and potential while managing the ever-present issue of cultural barriers.



*The following contests will begin Thursday evening: Public Speaking, MANRRS Bowl and Chapter of the Year Award (COYA). All students should be prepared to compete upon arrival, there will be no practice time or space available.

Electronic submission is REQUIRED.

Contests are open to all undergraduate or graduate students who are members of MANRRS through chapter or independent membership. Names must appear on the national register in the office of the membership chair before the contest deadline: **January 31, 2015**. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners for each contest will receive a check and framed certificate. All contest participants will receive a certificate for participating in the contest. The winner of the Public Speaking Contest will be given the opportunity to present his/her winning speech at the Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony on Saturday evening.

1. UNDERGRADUATE ORAL RESEARCH
DIVISION I – BIOLOGICAL, CHEMICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES)
2. UNDERGRADUATE ORAL RESEARCH
(DIVISION II – EDUCATION, SOCIAL SCIENCES AND BUSINESS)
3. GRADUATE ORAL RESEARCH
(DIVISION I – BIOLOGICAL, CHEMICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES)
4. GRADUATE ORAL RESEARCH
(DIVISION II – EDUCATION, SOCIAL SCIENCES AND BUSINESS)

These contests are for undergraduate and graduate students to gain experience and exposure by presenting their research project orally before an audience of their peers and professional members. The research presented must be work that the student member has conducted and must be agricultural or in one of the related sciences. The chapter advisor or the student's faculty research advisor (if there is no MANRRS chapter) must certify the research. Each presentation will be limited to 10 minutes.

Participants in the contests are required to be enrolled students at the time of the conference and must be in attendance.

Awards:

1st Place: \$300 and a certificate
2nd Place: \$200 and a certificate
3rd Place: \$150 and a certificate

5. GRADUATE RESEARCH POSTER
6. UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH POSTER

This contest is now open to graduate and undergraduate students to gain experience and exposure before an audience, while highlighting the research work that they are doing. Research presented must be work the student has conducted and be related to agriculture or a related science. The student's faculty research advisor must certify that the research is the work of the presenter. Posters can be entered as competitive or noncompetitive. Entries may not be duplicated and entered in the Graduate Student Oral Research Contest or Undergraduate Student Oral Research Contest.

Presenters are required to be undergraduate or graduate students at the time of the conference and must be in attendance at the conference. Each contest will have a set of winners.

Awards:

1st Place: \$300 and a certificate
2nd Place: \$200 and a certificate
3rd Place: \$150 and a certificate

7. RESEARCH DISCUSSION

This contest is for undergraduate and graduate students who are members of MANRRS through chapter or independent membership and focuses on interactive communication processes using research-based material. The goal is for participants to demonstrate a higher level of competence in oral communications, learn to present research information in an interactive setting, develop critical thinking skills, and show an ability to handle information. Participation in the contest will help undergraduates and graduates prepare for the real world work place, obtain leadership and management activity skills, and learn more about current research issues and topics.

The Research Discussion Contest will involve 5 to 12 participants in a structured group activity; however, participants will be judged on individual performance. Selected research material will be made available to the participants in advance. Discussion participants will be selected through an essay competition as determined by preliminary judges. Three research discussion questions derived from the reading material will be provided to the contestants in advance. Participants are free to do research and study other materials on the topic to prepare them better for discussing the topic.

Awards:

1st Place: \$300 and a certificate
2nd Place: \$200 and a certificate
3rd Place: \$150 and a certificate

8. WRITTEN ESSAY

This contest is for undergraduate students to prepare a clear, concise, and well thought out essay that discusses the theme of the conference. This contest provides an opportunity for students to gain experience in expressing themselves through writing. Essays will be judged and winners selected prior to the conference.

Awards:

1st Place: \$300 and a certificate
2nd Place: \$200 and a certificate
3rd Place: \$150 and a certificate

9. *PUBLIC SPEAKING (EVENING SESSION)

This contest is for undergraduate students who submit and deliver a speech that will be rated on content, style, and clarity of expression, power of expression, voice, stage presence, organization, and logic. Participation in this contest will give students skills in public speaking, written communication, organizing information, leadership, and communicating in an interactive setting. The winner of the Public Speaking Contest will give his/her winning speech at the Closing Gala Dinner to be held on Saturday, March 28, 2015.

Awards:

1st Place: \$300 and a certificate
2nd Place: \$200 and a certificate
3rd Place: \$150 and a certificate

10. *CHAPTER OF THE YEAR

(EVENING SESSION)

The MANRRS Chapter of the Year Award (COYA) competition was designed to promote leadership development among local chapters. Such development should further the goals and objectives of the National Society, as well as promote professional growth among local student members. The chapters will be selected and rated on the following:

- Building chapter membership,
- Leadership development,
- Community service, and
- Promotion of the National Society.

Chapters competing in this contest should develop a Chapter Annual Plan of Work or Calendar of Activities. The winner receives a trophy, and the chapter's name is engraved on the National COYA plaque that is held by the winner until the next conference.

Awards:

Five Regional Winners: \$200 and a certificate
Outstanding New Chapter: \$200 and a certificate
National COYA Winner: \$1,000 and trophy with name engraved on perpetual plaque.

11. THEME

The MANRRS Executive Committee solicits your assistance in seeking suggestions for the MANRRS 2016 Conference theme. Any MANRRS member is encouraged to submit suggestions.

All suggested themes should be related to the goals and objectives of MANRRS as the organization proceeds through the new millennium. Thank you for assisting us in preparing for MANRRS 2016 31st Annual Conference. The theme for the 2016 conference will be announced at the 2015 conference.

Award:

The individual submitting the winning theme will be awarded \$250.

12. IMPROMPTU SPEAKING

The MANRRS Impromptu Public Speaking Contest is designed to develop the ability of all MANRRS members to express himself or herself on a given subject without having prepared or rehearsed its content in advance. This provides the MANRRS members an opportunity to gain public speaking skills and effective quick and critical thinking as they formulate their remarks for presentation in a very limited amount of time. The event requires students to think on their feet, state their case quickly and persuasively, and to be able to answer relevant questions from the audience and judges based upon their presentation. Regional winners have been selected from the regional clusters.

Awards:

1st Place: \$300 and a certificate
2nd Place: \$200 and a certificate
3rd Place: \$150 and a certificate

13. AGRICULTURE AND SCIENCE PHOTOGRAPHY

This contest is open to individuals and chapters. The purpose of the MANRRS Agriculture and Science Photography Contest is to provide MANRRS members and Chapters with the opportunity to express their love for agriculture and science in an artistic fashion.

Awards:

- The overall first place individual winner will have his/her winning photograph published on the front cover of MANRRS 30th Annual Career Fair and Training Conference Magazine.
- The overall first place Chapter winner will have their winning photograph published on the back cover of the MANRRS 30th Annual Career Fair and Training Conference Magazine.
- The first and second runner up photograph will be published within the MANRRS 30th Annual Career Fair and Training Conference Magazine. Winners shall be notified at least two weeks prior to the 30th Annual Career Fair and Training Conference.
- Certificates of excellence will be provided to the winners at the conference.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25TH



WORKSHOP: MAXIMIZING YOUR MANRRS PARTICIPATION
8:00 PM – 9:00 PM

In today's society, there are endless opportunities to make a difference in the lives of others. And more than ever there is a need for people to inspire us to dream, to participate, and to preserve. This workshop led by the incoming National President offers everyone the chance to do just that through making the most of your MANRRS participation. This workshop directs members of MANRRS on how to maximize the potential in others to get extraordinary things accomplished. It's about the practices we can use to transform values into actions, visions into realities, obstacles into innovations, and risks into rewards.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26TH

SPONSOR APPRECIATION LUNCHEON
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

The Sponsor Luncheon is designed to recognize MANRRS Supporters, Partners, and Sponsors. Without the support and good will from our supporters, MANRRS would not be where it is today. Their support has allowed us to accomplish many of our goals which include chapter development activities, underwriting portions of the annual career fair and training conference, and supporting a variety of other MANRRS programs and activities.

RESUME AND MOCK INTERVIEWING POWER HOUR
12:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Need an extra look over your resume? Do you know the proper way to introduce yourself to an employer? The Resume and Mock Interviewing Power Hour will feature professionals from top companies will be on-site to provide invaluable advice. Please bring

two hard copies of your resume as well as saved on a flash drive. Advance sign-up will be required. Available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

LINKED: CHAPTER PHOTOS
12:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Chapters are encouraged to stop by and take a group photo for the official MANRRS Yearbook. Slots will be available. Your regional representative will be responsible for assigning designated times to take pictures. A uniformed look is encouraged.

NEW MEMBERS' MEETING AND INDUCTION CEREMONY
3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

New members are encouraged to attend this session to learn about the benefits of membership, how to maximize participation, and receive their membership pin.



OPENING GENERAL SESSION AND PARADE OF CHAPTERS
5:00 PM – 7:00 PM



Join us as we kick off the celebration of MANRRS' 30th Career Fair and Training Conference, commencing with this year's Opening General Session and Parade of Chapters. This year's Opening Session will feature the 2015

MANRRS Legend and remarks by the Amazing Race 25 Winner and Past National Graduate Student President, Maya M. Warren.



THURSDAY, MARCH 26TH

WELCOME DINNER
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

BUSINESS CARD EXCHANGE AND NETWORKING RECEPTION
8:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Meet with your peers and colleagues, ask questions and interact with outgoing officers, exchange business cards, network, and more during this formal session. Please be sure to have plenty of business cards, now come out and make it happen.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27TH

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT MEETING
GRADUATE STUDENT MEETING
PROFESSIONAL MEETING
7:15 AM – 8:30 AM

GENERAL SESSION DIAMOND SPONSOR PANEL WORKSHOP – MAKING THE TRANSITION FROM COLLEGE TO INDUSTRY
8:50 AM – 10:15 AM

GENERAL SESSION SPONSOR PANEL WORKSHOP – MAKING THE TRANSITION FROM COLLEGE TO INDUSTRY
8:50 AM – 10:15 AM

These two general sessions will reflect on the unique needs and challenges of current 20-somethings, who want to get ahead, but lack the know-how and finesse to make it happen. Panelists will provide fresh tips for effectively managing your online presence, practicing the art of “intrapreneurship,” and planning your next move inside or outside Corporate America.

LINKED: INDIVIDUAL HEADSHOTS
10:30 AM – 2:30 PM

MANRRS members are encouraged to come by and have their headshots taken for their social media profiles.

HEALTH SYMPOSIUM
10:30 AM – 2:30 PM

As another step in giving back to our MANRRS community, we will host a community health symposium. Our hope is to highlight the health concerns minority communities face. Booths and mini workshops will be present in the Career Fair

Exhibit Hall Pre-foyer area from organizations focusing on issues such as diabetes, heart disease, cancer, obesity, and HIV/AIDS.

CAREER FAIR
10:30 AM – 3:30 PM



This event provides the perfect venue for students and professionals to meet with representatives from government, industry, and

higher education. The Career Fair is an excellent opportunity to network and develop contacts for future internships or jobs. Some employers will conduct on-the-spot interviews during the Career Fair. Chapters are encouraged to bring CD-R disks of their chapter members' resumes. Bring several copies of your professional resume, business cards, and plan to attend whether you are a freshman, senior, or professional looking for a change in careers.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
4:10 PM – 5:30 PM

All members are encouraged to attend as official business items will be shared, amenities presented and national officers confirmed. This meeting is for **Members Only**, students and professionals.

PRESIDENTS' RECEPTION: BANDANAS, BOOTS, AND BUCKLES
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Join MANRRS National President Koni Patterson, President-Elect, Quentin Tyler, Ph.D., National Graduate Student President Maurisha Ross, former National Presidents and Student Presidents, and the Regional Vice-Presidents for an evening of celebration: food, fun, games, music, and line dancing! Attendees are encouraged to wear western inspired attire. This event will be located on-site.

TALENT SHOW
9:30 PM – 11:00 PM

It's Showtime! Come watch MANRRS students and professionals showcase their talents in this year's event. Don't miss your chance to see our "rising stars" as this year's show promises to be bigger and better! Please get there early, seats will fill. Don't forget to pack your dancing shoes for the After Party! Prizes will be awarded to the winners.

STUDENT MIXER AND AFTERPARTY
11:30 PM – 1:00 AM

SATURDAY, MARCH 28TH

**5K FUN RUN AND ONE MILE WALK
6:00 AM – 7:30 AM**

We are so excited to present the 2nd Annual MANRRS 5k Fun Run and 1 Mile Fitness Walk which will take place on the beautiful grounds of Herman Park. Proceeds will benefit the MANRRS Scholarship Fund which secures educational funding for deserving and talented student members who demonstrate the core values of the MANRRS organization. We are hoping this event will promote scholarship, fitness and camaraderie of our members. The event will be separated into a 5K race and 1 mile fun walk. Members can participate in the run or as volunteers to help with timing, watering stations, etc. We look forward to participation in this year's event. Participation will be limited to 150 participants.

The bus will depart the Crowne Plaza at 6:10 AM and return at 7:30 AM. A liability waiver will have to be signed by each participant. Pre-registration is required. Limited slots will be available on-site.

Fees: \$20.00/per Runner and \$10.00/per Walker

**YOGA AND EXERCISE
6:30 AM – 7:30 AM**

Attendees looking for a less strenuous and more relaxing workout, will have the opportunity to participate in a Yoga and Exercise Class. Potential benefits of yoga include stress reduction, flexibility, and increased strength. Yoga can change your physical and mental capacity quickly, while preparing the mind and body for long-term health. Participation will be limited to 150 participants.

**MANRRS VIP SCHOLARS' BREAKFAST
8:00 AM – 9:00 AM**

Sponsors will have the opportunity to network with the brightest students attending the National Conference. Students with at least a 3.25 GPA will be invited to the exclusive VIP Scholars' Breakfast to network with conference sponsors. Hot breakfast will be served. *By invitation only.*



**PLENARY SESSION I:
HOW MANRRS CAME TO BE -
HISTORY IN THE MAKING
8:00 AM – 9:00 AM**

How did MANRRS begin? Why was it started? Why was it needed? What circumstances and ingredients led to the birth of MANRRS? This session will detail the genesis of MANRRS, the first chapter, the first conference, and the formation of the national society, as well as how and why MANRRS came to be.

**MALE AND FEMALE
EMPOWERMENT LUNCHEON
11:15 AM – 1:00 PM**



The Male and Female Empowerment Luncheons are sessions designed to celebrate the work of minority leaders. The

panelists and table hosts will provide insight into their successes and struggles along the way.

**PLENARY SESSION II: MANRRS:
WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?
3:15 PM – 4:15 PM**

Continuation of discussion from the plenary session and thoughts on the challenges facing the next generation of MANRRS leaders.

**GALA BANQUET AND AWARDS
CEREMONY - A BLACK TIE EVENT
6:30 PM – 9:00 PM**



Gala Banquet and Awards Ceremony is an event to celebrate, congratulate and recognize MANRRS Contest Winners and Supporters and the winner of the Public Speaking Contest will give his/her winning speech.

**GALA DANCE
9:00 PM – 10:00 PM**

**STUDENT AFTER PARTY AND MIXER
10:30 PM – 12:30 AM**



2015 CHAPTER ADVISOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

This award recognizes the Advisor that has gone over and beyond to support his or her chapter members and chapter activities.

Nomination for MANRRS Advisor Award

The Nomination Package must include:

1. Completed nomination form and cover sheet;
2. The nominee's 1- to 2-page résumé;
3. Three letters of recommendation;
4. One to two page summary written and signed by the nominator that summarizes the impact that the nominee has had on the Leadership;
5. Professional Development;
6. Career training/careers of several present and past MANRRS members; and
7. The other two letters, written by the primary and secondary MANRRS member mentees, could come from current or past members, who should give an account of how the Advisor has impacted his/her career.

NOTE: The MANRRS Advisor must have served in this position for at least two years. The Nominator and the two other persons writing the letters of reference must be current or past MANRRS members. Self-nominations and nominations for members, posthumously, will not be accepted. The Nominator, the primary and secondary mentees must be three different persons.

2015 MANRRS LEGEND AWARD

The MANRRS Legend Award was created in 2007 to honor individuals who have made extraordinary strides in the name of MANRRS. This person should be a continuous servant of the organization, helping to further the goals and the objectives of the society.

Past winners include the late Dr. William Henson (2007), Dr. Eunice Foster (2008), Dr. Jesse Thompson, Jr., (2009), Dr. Dave Weatherspoon, (2010), Dr. Charles Magee, (2011), Tina Terrell (2012), and Dr. Carlos Gonzalez (2013).

Criteria:

- Individual should be an active member of MANRRS
- Member of the organization for at least 10 years

- Participated on at least one MANRRS committee

Guidelines:

- The individual cannot nominate themselves to receive the award.
- The nominating person should write a one-page essay on why the person should receive the award and include the individual's accomplishments within the National Society.
- The individual will be chosen by the Executive Committee via majority vote.
- Deadline: **Friday, February 6, 2015.**
- This information must be submitted to the MANRRS National Office via electronic submission to nationalsecretary@manrrs.org.

Recognition:

The individual will be highlighted in the Final Conference Program with a one-page layout that includes a color photo, brief biography and a list of MANRRS Accomplishments. The individual will be formally recognized at the Opening General Session and Parade of Chapters on Thursday evening, with an award as well as provide brief remarks to the attendees. *The individual will be awarded a complimentary registration to attend the 2015 conference.*

2015 JOHN DEERE SCHOLARSHIP

John Deere Scholarship for MANRRS collegiate students and rising high school seniors who are continuing their education. This scholarship is to identify and award one student who has excelled in academics, extracurricular activities, and community involvements in school so they can continue to achieve in college. **Deadline: March 1st.**

Criteria

- Declared Major: School of Ag/Animal Science, School of Business/Economics, College of Engineering
- Classification: MANRRS collegiate students
- Grade Point Average: 3.0 Cumulative or above

Required Documentation

1. Submit a resume demonstrating academic excellence, leadership record, community and extracurricular activities.
2. Submit official transcript showing GPA of 3.0 or higher and classification.
3. Submit one page statement of "How do I think, John Deere could better help educate people about agriculture?"
4. Three letters of recommendation- (including one letter from your Advisor)
5. Copy of the acceptance letter of the school you will be attending in Fall 2015.
6. Submit application to John Deere – MANRRS at JDMANRRSMailbox@JohnDeere.com
7. Winners will be announce at the Gala Dinner.

Award

- Jr. MANRRS Scholarship - \$500 and certificate
- MANRRS Collegiate Scholarship - \$1,000 and certificate



America's fourth-largest city is a cosmopolitan destination, filled with world-class dining, arts, hotels, shopping and nightlife. Take a stroll through the historic Heights, spend the day exploring the Museum District or head down to Space Center Houston. Later on, grab a bite in one of dozens of award-winning restaurants, or hang out with the cool kids on Washington Avenue. There's always something to do in this Southern hospitality meets urban chic city. Come explore YOUR Houston!

<http://www.visithoustontexas.com>

GETTING TO HOUSTON!

TRAVEL BY AIR

Traveling to Houston has never been easier. As the country's fourth largest airport system, the Houston Airport System serves over 180 cities worldwide, with Hobby Airport and Bush Intercontinental Airport, which ranks third in the United States among airports with scheduled non-stop domestic and international service.

Transportation from Houston Airports:

- Hobby Airport (HOU) to Crown Plaza Hotel: Approximately 10 miles
- Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH) to Crown Plaza Hotel: Approximately 30 miles



Transportation Costs:

Approximate fares from Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH) are

- \$52 to downtown area
- \$60 to Galleria/Medical Center area
- \$65 to Reliant Park
- There is a late night surcharge of \$1 per trip (8PM - 6AM)

Approximate fares from Hobby Airport (HOU) are:

- \$26 to downtown area
- \$32 to Medical Center/Reliant Park
- There is a late night surcharge of \$1 per trip (8PM - 6AM)



Flight Times to Houston from Key Destinations:

Albuquerque	2:05 hrs.
Atlanta	1:50 hrs.
Boston	3:40 hrs.
Chicago	2:25 hrs.
Cleveland	2:35 hrs.
Dallas/Ft. Worth	30 min.
Denver	2:20 hrs.
Los Angeles	3:30 hrs.
Miami	2:20 hrs.
Minneapolis	2:40 hrs.
New Orleans	1:00 hrs.
New York City	3:20 hrs.
Philadelphia	3:10 hrs.
Phoenix	2:40 hrs.
San Diego	3:20 hrs.
San Francisco	4:10 hrs.
Seattle	4:30 hrs.
Washington, D.C.	2:50 hrs.



MANRRS GROUP TRAVEL 2015

To and from George Bush
Intercontinental Airport and
William P. Hobby Airport
And
Crowne Plaza Medical-
Reliant and Surrounding
Hotels.

Discount Valid Between:
March 24-29, 2015

**\$2 OFF One way and \$4 OFF roundtrip on share rides
or
\$5 OFF One way and \$10 OFF roundtrip on luxury vehicles**

IF YOU BOOK ONLINE

To book online go to: www.supershuttle.com and enter your discount code:

ZMADT

Discount valid online only. **GRATUITY NOT INCLUDED.**

NOTE: \$2.00 BOOKING FEE will apply to reservations that are booked by a SuperShuttle agent. Discount valid online only. Regular rates to above listed hotel is anywhere from \$23 to \$24 depending on the location of the hotels and airport.

Accessible vans available. Please check the box next to the symbol when making reservations online or request from representative.

ARRIVAL SUPERSHUTTLE SHARED-RIDE VAN SERVICE

1. Claim your luggage.
2. Proceed outside Baggage Claim at each terminal to sign marked "SHUTTLE SERVICE." to locate our shuttle counter.
3. A SuperShuttle Guest Service Representative will arrange SuperShuttle service to your destination. Identify yourself to the SuperShuttle agent and provide them with your online confirmation number.

DEPARTURE SUPERSHUTTLE SHARED-RIDE VAN SERVICE

1. Please be ready at your hotel designated shuttle/taxi pick up location. Please ask the front desk if you do not know.
2. SuperShuttle will arrive within the 15 minutes of the pick-up time selected when booked online.



**CROWNE PLAZA HOUSTON
RELIANT - MEDICAL**
~~ DON'T WAIT ~~

Reserve your Guest Room Early!

BY PHONE:

- Contact the Crowne Plaza Houston Near Reliant - Medical at (713) 748-3221. Mention “**MANRRS 2015 Annual Meeting**” group in order to receive the \$125 plus tax (currently 17% tax) per night group rate.

BY WEBSITE:

- For online reservation, the link can be accessed on the MANRRS website at www.manrrs.org.
- Make your reservations EARLY! The group rate and rooms will be available until the MANRRS Room Block is full or **Tuesday, March 10, 2015**, whichever occurs first.

Crowne Plaza Houston Near Reliant - Medical

8686 Kirby Drive

Houston, TX 77054

Phone: (713) 748-3221

MANRRS Group Rate: \$125.00 + tax
Currently 17%/night)

Parking: Complimentary

Internet: Complimentary

Check-in: 3:00 PM | Check-out: 12:00 Noon

AIRPORTS:

- George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH)
Distance to hotel: 28 Miles
- Airport: Hobby Airport (HOB)
Distance to hotel: 10 Miles

Thoughtfully positioned along Houston’s Inner Loop, adjacent to NRG Sports & Entertainment Complex, less than two miles from Texas Medical Center and near downtown Houston and Hobby airports, the Crowne Plaza® Houston - Medical Center offers guests a convenient central location. Houston visitors enjoy easy access to major medical and educational facilities, as well as popular area attractions. Spend the day in Houston Museum District, shopping at Galleria or Rice Village or visiting the Houston Zoo. From the Crowne Plaza Sleep Advantage® program to the 24-hour Fitness and Business Centers, two outdoor pools, a popular restaurant and free shuttle service within 3 miles, Crowne Plaza® Houston - Medical Center provide upscale amenities to pamper our guests. We look forward to showing you a warm Texas welcome.

HOTEL CANCELLATION POLICY

Guest room reservations must be cancelled by 4:00 PM, 48 hours prior to your arrival, in order to avoid a one night’s room charge. Please contact the hotel directly regarding any room cancellations or changes, with the exception of rooms reserved through Chapter of Excellence. Contact to the MANRRS National Office for these rooms.

MANRRS “CHAPTER OF EXCELLENCE” COMPLIMENTARY HOTEL ROOM POLICY

Provided funds are available, “Chapters of Excellence” are eligible to receive one complimentary hotel room for arrival on Thursday, March 26, 2015 and departure on Sunday, March 29, 2015. The MANRRS National Office will be coordinating these complimentary chapter hotel rooms. Information and special hotel reservation forms will be e-mailed to all Advisors for “Chapters of Excellence” in January 2015. To reserve your complimentary room, the chapter advisor must complete the “Chapter of Excellence” special reservation form no later than **Friday, February 13, 2015**. Confirmation numbers will be forwarded to the Chapter Advisor. A credit card will be needed on file for each room upon check in to cover any incidental charges incurred.

DRESS CODE

What to Bring

Professional business attire is expected throughout the conference with the exception of the late night social activities, when casual attire is acceptable. We strongly encourage students and professionals to wear professional attire during the conference. Remember, you only get one chance to make a first impression! The dress code and accepted attire is listed below. Regional vice-presidents will be sending out supplemental information prior to the conference on appropriate attire.

Climate

Springtime visitors to Houston, TX will find warm, sunny days with cool evenings. With the Houston weather being so comfortable, medium weight clothing such as a comfortable pantsuit for women or a lightweight jacket for men will be most appropriate. Houston weather is usually mild and dry and averages 73 degrees Fahrenheit. Clothing that can be layered are highly suggested.

Thursday/Sunday

Travel Days Casual Dress; Chapter, Organization or University Shirt

Thursday, March 26th

Pre-Conference Mobile Tours - Casual Dress; Comfortable walking shoes

Opening General Session and Welcome Dinner - Business Casual: Slacks: (Dockers, Khakis), no jeans, School Polo Shirts are acceptable

Friday, March 27th

General Session, Career Fair, Meetings, Workshops, Contests - Professional Women Attire: Suit (pants or skirt) or dress and appropriate dress shoes (no stiletto heels)

Professional Men Attire: Suit or sport coat, tie and dress slacks (no Dockers or Khakis)

Presidents' Reception - Western Attire: Boots, Jeans, Cowboy Hats; Button-Down Shirts; Vests; and Bandanas

Saturday, March 28th

Meals, Business Meetings, Workshops - Business Casual: Slacks: (Dockers, Khakis), no jeans, School Polo Shirts are acceptable

Gala Dinner & Dance - Semi-formal/Formal Attire or Professional Attire

Friday/Saturday evening

Talent Show & Evening Dance (After party) - Casual Dress

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION & LODGING COSTS

REGISTRATION FEES

Received by Feb. 28, 2015	Received after Feb. 28, 2015	On-Site
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MEMBERS:

Jr. MANRRS		
\$150.00	\$200.00	\$250.00
Collegiate Member		
\$225.00	\$275.00	\$325.00
Professional Member		
\$425.00	\$475.00	\$525.00

Collegiate One-Day Fee (Meals Included)		
\$75.00	\$100.00	\$125.00
Professional One-Day Fee (Meals Included)		
\$125.00	\$150.00	\$175.00

NON-MEMBERS:

Collegiate Non-Member		
\$275.00	\$325.00	\$375.00
Professional Non-Member		
\$525.00	\$575.00	\$625.00
Professional Non-Member One-Day Fee		
\$200.00	\$225.00	\$250.00

Online Registration is strongly encouraged.

Please visit www.manrrs.org for complete details.

GET \$25 OFF - REGISTER ONLINE FOR DISCOUNTED PRICING. CURRENT PRICING DOES NOT REFLECT DISCOUNT.

Conference registration forms can be mailed or faxed to:

Lisa Hurly, A Meeting Company
411 Washington Avenue
Haddonfield, NJ 08033
Phone: 877-744-3083
Fax: 877-744-3084





ONLINE REGISTRATION

To register for the MANRRS 2015 conference, go to www.manrrs.org and click conferences and complete the online registration. Online registration is strongly encouraged. All participants will receive a \$25.00 discount when registering online.

Complete the enclosed form and mail with check, or fax it with your credit card payment by **February 28, 2015** and save! (Payment must accompany registration form to qualify for early rate.)

A full conference registration includes the following:

- Entry to all Workshop Sessions and General Sessions (Wed., Thurs., Fri., & Sat.)
- Entry to the Career Fair (Friday)
- The following meals:
 - Thursday: Dinner;
 - Friday: Box Lunch, and Hor de'vors at the Presidents' Reception
 - Saturday: Continental Breakfast, Lunch and Gala Dinner Banquet
- Conference Registration Packet

Each participant will receive a Registration Packet containing a MANRRS name badge, Conference Program which lists all organizations participating in the Career Fair, contest participants, and general information about MANRRS. Attendees must be registered participants to attend conference activities. Admission to all activities will require your name badge.

BADGES AND TICKETS

Your name badge is your ticket into the conference. You will receive your conference badge when you check-in at the MANRRS Conference Registration Desk. Name badges must be worn at all times. Meal tickets will be provided for the Career Fair and President's Reception. Tickets must be presented in order to receive food.

INDIVIDUALS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

MANRRS encourages the full participation of individuals with special needs or disabilities. The Sheraton Overland Park is handicap accessible. Please indicate on the registration form if you need special assistance. The Conference Planner will contact you.

CONFERENCE SHIRTS

Professionals and Students may pick up their complimentary Conference Shirt during registration. Shirt sizes are included on the registration form.



WORKSHOPS

Conference attendees will be required to attend both workshops in the morning and afternoon. Workshops' acceptance will be contingent upon the number of attendees who sign up. The workshops that have the fewest number of attendees may not be offered. You will be required to attend the workshops selected. All attendees will receive workshop confirmations approximately three weeks prior to the conference.



CONFERENCE REGISTRATION CANCELLATION REFUND POLICY

All conference cancellations must be received in writing by the following dates to receive a refund:

- 100% refund, less a \$50 administrative fee, when received by January 31, 2015
- 50% refund when received between February 1 and March 10, 2015
- No Refund if received after March 10, 2015

LIABILITY

By attending the MANRRS Career Fair and Training Conference, all participants agree to assume certain inherent risks, which accompany attendance at such events. Participants are expected to comply with the travel policies of the entity (ies) that they represent. This may include completion of release forms, assumption of risk forms, and other required paperwork. All participants accept personal responsibility and liability for their actions while at the conference site in the Houston, Texas area, and while traveling to and from the conference site. The MANRRS organization may not be held liable for individual acts of negligence or unlawful

activity on the part of conference participants. The MANRRS organization may be held liable only for incidents in the case of gross negligence on the part of its agents. All MANRRS conference participants are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner during the conference. Chapter advisors are requested to help ensure that their students represent their institutions professionally and that they adhere to the expectations of conference attendance.

PHOTO DISCLAIMER

All photographs sent to or taken by Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS) become the property of the National Society. By completing this registration, you understand that you are giving all rights and titles in and to all photographs taken to the National Society for MANRRS. As owners of the photographs, MANRRS will have all rights to use and publish the photographs, and no compensation is made or owed for use of the photographs. Photographs will not be given or sold to any other company or individual.

PEOPLE POWER

Volunteers are an intricate part of the conference success. Numerous volunteers are needed to assist with a variety of tasks during the conference. One Conference Host is assigned to arrange for and coordinate the work of volunteers, our "People Power" program.



MANRRS 30TH ANNUAL CAREER FAIR & TRAINING CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

March 26 – 28, 2015 • Crowne Plaza Medical/Reliant • Houston, Texas

First Name _____ Last Name _____ Badge Name _____

Membership: Jr. MANRRS (High School) Undergraduate Graduate Professional GPA _____

Corporate Government Academic Other Organization/School _____

BKGD/Major _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

This is my first MANRRS Conference. If not, I have attended _____ previous MANRRS Training Conferences.

Shirt Size: Small Medium Large X-Large 2XL 3XL 4XL

Vegetarian Dietary or Other Special Needs _____

I would like to volunteer for People Power.

PRE-CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES – THURSDAY, MARCH 26TH

- Enrichment Tour.....\$ 25.00
- Community Service Project and Workshop..... FREE

WORKSHOPS:

Attendance at the following workshops is strongly encouraged, but not required. However, pre-registration is required to attend.

Wednesday, March 25th

- Maximizing your MANRRS Participation

Thursday, March 26th

- Professional Workshop: Crucial Conversations
- (T1) Do it for the Vine
- (T2) Polished, Professional and Prepared
- (T3) From the Classroom to the Boardroom: The Dos and Don'ts of Fashion, Hair and Makeup
- (T4) Dealing with Adversity

Friday, March 27th

- Graduate Workshop I** - How to Successfully Present Research and Publish in Top Journals
- Graduate Workshop II** - Financial Literacy
- Professional Workshop I** - Effective Communication and Crucial Conversations
- Professional Workshop II** - Blooming Where You're Planted: A Deliberate Guide to Moving Onward and Upward in a Career
- Professional Workshop III** - The Art of Advising the Next Generation of Leaders
- Professional Workshop IV** - The Art of Advising: Promoting Opportunities in STEM Related Fields
- Professional Workshop V** - How to Maintain and Retain your Chapter

WORKSHOPS - SATURDAY, MARCH 28TH

The following student workshops below are required. Please select two options for each session by listing '1' and '2' for both options. Attendance is required.

Workshop Session A - 9:10 AM - 10:00 AM

- (1A) The Introverts Guide to Career Networking and the Extroverts Guide on How to Network with Introverts!
- (2A) You Have a Job Offer... Do You Take It?

- (3A) Have the Inside Scoop and Get Ahead!
- (4A) Understanding Credit and Establishing Your Finances
- (5A) Veterinary Care for your Pets – The At Home Veterinarian, part I
- (6A) From the Yard to the Campus?
- (7A) **Graduate Workshop** - How Social Media Can Help (Or Hurt) You in Your Job Search/ Current Position

**MANRRS 30TH ANNUAL CAREER FAIR & TRAINING
CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM**
March 26 – 28, 2015 • Crowne Plaza Medical/Reliant • Houston, Texas

PAYMENT INFORMATION

(NOTE: CREDIT CARD CHARGES WILL APPEAR AS PAYABLE TO A MEETING COMPANY)

Check/PO # _____ enclosed. (Please make checks payable to *A Meeting Company*)

Please Choose One: Visa MasterCard Discover American Express

CC# _____

Expiration Date _____ Security Code _____ Phone: _____

Required: Contact Name for payment of Credit Card _____

E-mail Address (for receipt): _____

Full Name on Card _____

Signature _____

Credit Card Billing Address _____

Credit Card and Cancellation Terms: I give A Meeting Company my permission to charge my credit card for the above designated dollar amount. Cancellations are accepted up until March 10, 2015 with a partial refund. Cancellations received after **March 10, 2015**, will be charged the full amount. By submitting this form, I am agreeing to the terms below and stated in this guide.

Photo Disclaimer: All video and photographs sent to or taken by Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS) become the property of the National Society. By completing this registration, you understand that you are giving all rights and titles in and to all video and photographs taken to the National Society for MANRRS. As owners of the photographs, MANRRS will have all rights to use and publish the photographs, and no compensation is made or owed for use of the photographs or videos. Photographs and videos will not be given or sold to any other company or individual.



2015 NATIONAL CONTEST JUDGES' APPLICATION

THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2015 – SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2015

Crowne Plaza® Houston - Medical Center • Houston, Texas

We are soliciting professional members to serve as a judge for one of the contests below:

- Jr. MANRRS and Undergraduate Student Public Speaking Contest
- Jr. MANRRS and Undergraduate Written Essay Contest
- Jr. MANRRS Impromptu Speaking Contest
- Chapter-of-the-Year Contest
- Graduate Student Oral Research Contest (2 divisions)
 - o Division I – Biological, Chemical, and Physical Sciences
 - o Division II – Education, Social Sciences & Business
- Graduate Student Poster Research Contest
- Impromptu Speaking Contest
- Research Discussion Contest
- MANRRS Bowl
- Undergraduate Student Oral Research Contest (2 divisions)
 - o Division I – Biological, Chemical, and Physical Sciences
 - o Division II – Education, Social Sciences, and Business
- Undergraduate Student Poster Research Contest

For more information about one of the above contests, please contact Quentin Tyler, Ph.D., National President-Elect, at by e-mail at manrrs.pres.elect@gmail.com. The deadline to return this form is **January 15, 2015**. Please return this form to the National Secretary, Sherri DeGraphenreed, nationalsecretary@manrrs.org. You can sign-up electronically online at the MANRRS website by clicking Conferences

Please print the following information:

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

I am interested in participating as a judge in the following contest (s):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jr. MANRRS Written Essay | <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate Poster Research |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jr. MANRRS Public Speaking | <input type="checkbox"/> Impromptu Speaking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jr. MANRRS Impromptu Speaking | <input type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate Student Public Speaking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter of the Year | <input type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate Written Essay |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Research Discussion | <input type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate Poster Research |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate Oral Research (2 Divisions) | <input type="checkbox"/> MANRRS Bowl |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate Oral Research (2 Divisions) |

Specify which Division:

- Division I – Biological, Chemical, and Physical Sciences
- Division II – Education, Social Sciences, and Business

Specify which Division:

- Division I – Biological, Chemical, and Physical Sciences
- Division II – Education, Social Sciences, and Business

MANRRS CHAPTERS

Region I (Northeast)

Bowie State University
Cornell University
Delaware State University
Howard University
Rutgers College-Cook
The Pennsylvania State University
University of Connecticut
University of Delaware
University of the District of Columbia
University of Maryland Eastern Shore
University of Maryland College Park
West Virginia State University
West Virginia University

Region II (East Coast)

Clemson University
Florida A&M University
Florida International University
Fort Valley State University
Miami Dade College
North Carolina A&T State University
North Carolina Central University
North Carolina State University
Saint Augustine's College
Shaw University
South Carolina State University
University of Florida
University of Georgia - Athens
Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University
Virginia State University
Voorhees College

Region III (Southeast)

Alabama A&M University
Alcorn State University
Auburn University
Kentucky State University
Mississippi State University
Tennessee State University
Tuskegee University
University of Arkansas at Fayetteville
University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff

University of Kentucky
University of Tennessee - Knoxville
University of Tennessee - Martin

Region IV (Southwest)

Crowder College
Kansas State University
Langston University
Lincoln University of Missouri
Louisiana State University
Oklahoma State University
Prairie View A&M University
Sam Houston State University
Southern University and A&M College
Texas A&M University - Kingsville
Texas A&M University - College Station
Texas State University
Texas Tech University
University of Missouri - Columbia

Region V (Midwest)

Iowa State University
Michigan State University
Purdue University
Southern Illinois University - Carbondale
The Ohio State University
University of Illinois at Urbana - Champaign
University of Minnesota
University of Nebraska – Lincoln
University of Wisconsin - Madison
University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point
University of Wisconsin - Stout
Wilberforce University

Region VI (West Coast)

California Polytechnic State University - San Luis Obispo
California State University - Fresno
Colorado State University
New Mexico State University
Oregon State University
South Mountain Community College
University of Arizona
University of California – Davis
University of Hawaii at Manoa
Washington State University

2014-2015 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dr. Eunice Foster	Michigan State University
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Yvette Green	USDA APHIS, AC
Debra Harrell	US Forest Service
Michelle Matuszewski	Walt Disney World
Freddrianna McElveen	Tuskegee University – School of Veterinary CoBank
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John C. Plummer	John Deere
David Rock	DuPont
Dr. Loston Rowe	Dow AgroSciences
Laverne Thompson	West Virginia State University
Dr. Ulises Toledo	IUPUI
Dr. Dexter Wakefield	University of Wisconsin- Madison
Maya Warren	

2014-2015 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dr. Dexter Wakefield,	Past National President
Koni Patterson	National President
Dr. Quentin Tyler	National President- Elect
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Dr. B. Michelle Harris	National Historian
Sherri DeGraphenreed	National Secretary
Ebony Webber	Chief Officer of Operations /Conference Program Chair
Freddrianna McElveen	Past National Undergraduate President
Marquel Lett	National Undergraduate President
Kelly Moore	Region II Undergrad VP
Kalauna Carter	Region III Undergrad VP
Yasmine Jackson	Region V Undergrad VP
Maya Warren	Past National Graduate President
Maurisha Ross	National Graduate President
Saundra Wheeler	Region I Graduate VP
Aaron Judson	Region II Graduate VP
Shandrea Stallworth	Region III Graduate VP
Ian Smith	Region VI Graduate VP
Spencer Tribble	Region V Graduate VP
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Brunetta Dillard	Finance Cmte. Chair
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Steven Couch	Public Relations Cmte. Co-Chair
Jewel Butler	Ad-hoc Auditing Committee Chair
Ernest Bradley	Ad-hoc Jr. MANRRS Cmte. Co-Chair
AntomiaFarrell	Ad-hoc Jr. MANRRS Committee Co-Chair

Dr. Wash Jones
Clarissa Okpaleke

Ad-hoc Constitution Cmte. Chair
Ad-hoc Strategic Planning Cmte.
Co-Chair
Ad-hoc Strategic Planning Cmte.
Co-Chair

John Plummer



Introducing...

The New MANRRRS Website!

Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences is pleased to announce the launching of its new website, featuring:

- Career Tips and Internship Opportunities
- MANRRRS Chapter News from around the U.S.
- Advance Notice on Upcoming Events—Including the Annual Career Fair
- MANRRRS eStore
- Join MANRRRS



visit us today:
MANRRRS.ORG



FOLLOW MANRRRS ON LINKEDIN

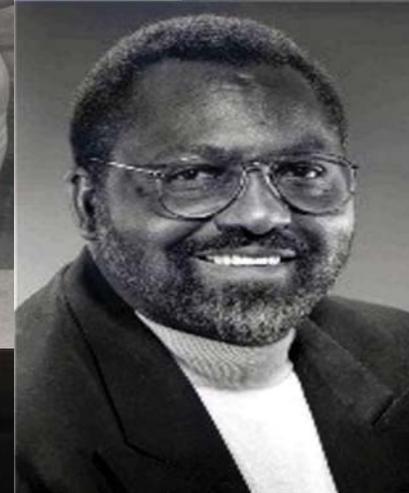
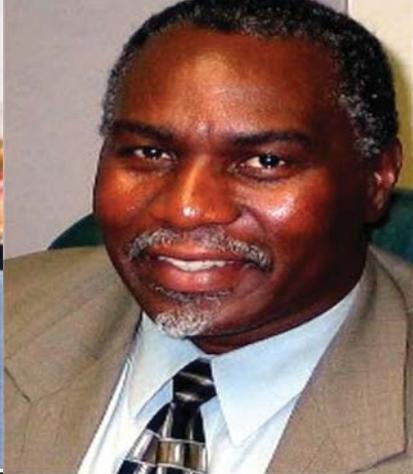
TO FOLLOW A COMPANY:

- Click the filter icon to the left of the Search box at the top of any LinkedIn page and select Companies from the dropdown.
- Type a company name in the Search field.
- Click the Follow button to the right of the company name in the search results list.

FIVE COMPELLING REASONS HOW YOU CAN GET THE MOST OUT OF ONE OF THE TOP SOCIAL MEDIA NETWORKS IN THE WORLD.

1. BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS
2. MARKETING A BUSINESS
3. NETWORKING WITH PROFESSIONALS AND PEERS
4. POSTING AND FINDING NEW JOBS
5. HIGHLIGHTING YOUR EXPERTISE





1985 - 2015
HAPPY 30TH CONFERENCE ANNIVERSARY

MANRRS wishes to thank the following organizations that have partnered with us and significantly contributed to the successful planning of the 30th Annual MANRRS Career Fair and Training Conference.



Farm Credit

The Farm Credit System is a nationwide network of borrower-owned lending institutions and specialized service organizations. Farm Credit provides more than \$199 billion in loans, leases, and related services to farmers, ranchers, rural homeowners, aquatic producers, timber harvesters, agribusinesses, and agricultural and rural utility cooperatives. Farmers, ranchers, agribusiness, rural homeowners and rural utilities depend on the Farm Credit System's funding and services to produce the high quality food and agricultural products enjoyed in the United States and around the globe.

The Farm Credit mission is to provide a reliable source of credit for American agriculture by making loans to qualified borrowers at competitive rates and providing insurance and related services.

<http://www.farmcreditnetwork.com>



Texas A&M University

Opened in 1876 as Texas' first public institution of higher learning, Texas A&M University is a research-intensive flagship university with more than 50,000 students — including 10,000 graduate students — studying in more than 120 undergraduate and 240 graduate degree programs in 16 colleges and schools. Students can join any of 800 student organizations and countless activities ranging from athletics and recreation to professional and community service events. But there's more than just numbers that make up the Aggie experience. There's access to world-class research programs and award-winning faculty. There are opportunities to learn in and out of the classroom whether through technology or through one of our branch campuses or international study centers.

<http://www.tamu.edu>



Prairie View A&M University

Founded in 1876, Prairie View A&M University is the second-oldest public institution of higher learning in the state of Texas. Prairie View A&M University offers baccalaureate

degrees in 50 academic majors, 37 Master's degrees, and four doctoral degree programs through its nine schools and colleges. As an 1890 land-grant university, Prairie View A&M University's mission is to achieve excellence through teaching, research, and service. The College of Agriculture and Human Sciences (CAHS) works trilaterally with the Cooperative Agriculture Research Center and the Cooperative Extension Program to carry out the land-grant mission. CAHS at Prairie View A&M University prepares students for successful careers in Agriculture, Veterinary Science, and Human Nutrition.

The professors and research scientists in the college are experts in their fields, and are dedicated to ensuring the success and education of the students. CAHS provides students with access to research labs and an 800+ acre farm to gain valuable experience and hands-on training to maximize academic success and competitiveness in the job market.

<http://pvamu.edu>



Texas Parks and Wildlife

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) manages and conserves the natural and cultural resources of Texas and provides hunting, fishing, and outdoor recreation opportunities for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. In fulfilling TPWD's mission, we strive to be a recognized national leader in implementing effective natural resources conservation and outdoor recreational programs; serve the state of Texas, its citizens, and our employees with the highest standards of service, professionalism, fairness, courtesy, and respect; rely on the best available science to guide our conservation decisions; responsibly manage agency finances and appropriations to ensure the most efficient and effective use of tax-payer and user fee resources; and attract and retain the best, brightest, most talented workforce that represents the diversity of Texas to successfully execute our mission.

<http://tpwd.texas.gov>

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