



MANRRS

35th Annual Career Fair & Training Conference

April 1-4, 2020

Hilton Minneapolis Hotel | Minneapolis, Minnesota

MANRRS: THIS IS IMPACT

Preliminary Program and Registration Guide



Presented in partnership with:



www.manrrs.org

MANRRS wishes to thank the following organizations that have partnered with us and have significantly contributed to the successful planning of the 35th Annual Career Fair and Training Conference. Thank You!



Cargill

We bring food, agricultural, financial and industrial products to people who need them all around the world. You learn a few things during 150 years in business. Today, we apply that expertise to serve customers and communities in 70 countries/regions. We have 155,000 employees working every day to nourish the world in a safe, responsible, sustainable way and improving the communities where we live and work.

www.cargill.com/careers

LAND O' LAKES, INC.

Land O'Lakes

Land O' Lakes, Inc., one of America's premier agribusiness and food companies, is a member-owned cooperative with industry-leading operations that span the spectrum from agricultural production to consumer foods. With 2017 annual sales of \$14 billion, Land O' Lakes is one of the nation's largest cooperatives, ranking 209 on the Fortune 500. Building on a legacy of more than 96 years of operation, Land O'Lakes today operates some of the most respected brands in agribusiness and food production including LAND O LAKES® Dairy Foods, Purina Animal Nutrition, WinField® United and Land O' Lakes SUSTAIN. The company does business in all 50 states and more than 60 countries. Land O' Lakes, Inc. corporate headquarters are located in Arden Hills, Minnesota.

www.landolakesinc.com



Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

The College of Agriculture at Kansas State University offers 16 undergraduate majors, 15 minors, 5 certificates, and a general agriculture program. We have been leading the way in food, agriculture and natural resources since 1863 by providing a home for ag students from across the globe. Our emphasis prepares our students to be productive citizens who are culturally sensitive for a diverse agriculture workforce. To meet this goal we partner with KState Research and Extension (KSRE) and the College of Agriculture's Diversity Programs Office. The Diversity Programs Office (DPO) strives to ensure that diversity is welcomed and integrated into K-State's College of Agriculture and K-State Research and Extension. It is dedicated to providing and promoting leadership, understanding, goodwill and friendship throughout the college by offering one-on-one guidance, diversity trainings, and international opportunities. The office supports K-State's Minorities in Agriculture Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS) chapter on local, regional levels.

www.dnr.state.mn.us



Missouri Department of Conservation

The Missouri Department of Conservation's mission is to protect and manage the fish, forest, and wildlife resources of the state and to facilitate and provide opportunity for all citizens to use, enjoy, and learn about these resources.

www.mdc.mo.gov



Syngenta

Syngenta is one of the world's leading companies with more than 28,000 employees in over 90 countries dedicated to our purpose: bringing plant potential to life. We contribute to addressing some of the planet's most critical issues such as the rising demand for food from a growing population.

www.syngenta.com



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

University of Minnesota

The University of Minnesota is the state's land grant university and one of the most prestigious public research universities in the nation. Ranked by Forbes as one of the 10 best educational employers in the nation and one of the five universities in the nation with an engineering school, a medical school, a law school, a veterinary medical school, and an agricultural school all on one campus. University of Minnesota faculty, alumni, and researchers have won 26 Nobel Prizes and three Pulitzer Prizes.

www.umn.edu

Thank You to our National Partners for helping us make it to this wonderful milestone!

MANRRS would like to thank our current partnering organizations for their support of the
35th Annual Career Fair and Training Conference

TITANIUM LEVEL (\$100,000+)



DIAMOND LEVEL (\$75,000+)



PLATINUM LEVEL (\$50,000+)



GOLD LEVEL (\$25,000+)



NATIONAL PARTNERS

Sponsorship as of December 2019

MANRRS Conferences Then & 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
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
- 2016 Growing the Next Generation of Agricultural Leaders
- 2017 Sculpting Minds, Nurturing Hearts, and Creating Diverse Leaders
- 2018 MANRRS: Preparing our Future, Empowering our Present, and Honoring our Past
- 2019 MANRRS: Innovate to Elevate

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT:

Greetings National Society of MANRRS,

On behalf of the National Officer Team and Advisory Board, we welcome you to the 35th Annual MANRRS Career Fair and Training Conference. We are elated to have your presence in Minneapolis, MN. The conference theme this year is "MANRRS: This is Impact". The theme reflects the work that has been done to continue to promote academic and professional advancement by empowering minorities in agriculture, natural resources, and related sciences.

Words cannot begin to express what a huge honor and privilege it has been to serve as your 2019-2020 National President. Every moment I lead a meeting, speak at the podium, meet with a sponsor, or give words of encouragement, I am reminded of the blood, sweat, tears, and dedication that has been bestowed upon this amazing Society for the past 35 years.

This year we celebrate the legacy of the National Society. We have watched the organization cultivate in its existence for 35 years. The overall goal of the Society is to continue to build a sense of community and capitalize on the talent of our membership. This year, our goals has been to review programs, policies, and procedures that in turn impact the overall Society. We will continue to meet the needs of MANRRS to ensure we are all striving for excellence in an equitable manner.

This year's conference is possible because of the tremendous support of our national partners. We want to thank our partners for their continued support. Remember this, MANRRS started with a group of pioneers who had an idea. Each of you are innovators and it begins with an idea and a plan. As you attend workshops, participate in contest, network, listen to speakers, scholars, and influencers who have impacted the agriculture industry, envision yourself in their roles, and flourish with excellence. We look forward to seeing you in April at the MANRRS 35th Annual Career Fair and Training Conference in Minneapolis, MN!



Dr. Antomia Farrell
National President 2019-2020

2019-2020 NATIONAL OFFICERS



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President



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Past President



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Dr. Maurice Smith
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R5 GR VP



Omar Gonzalez Benitez
R6 GR VP



Christian Henry
GR Parliamentarian

NATIONAL STAFF



Dwane Matthews
Program Manager



Ashantae Smith
Business Manager



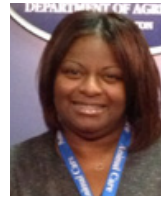
Dr. Jeneen Abrams
Purdue University



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Dr. Tiffany Carter
APSU



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Corteva Agriscience



Dr. Olga Bolden-Tiller
Tuskegee University



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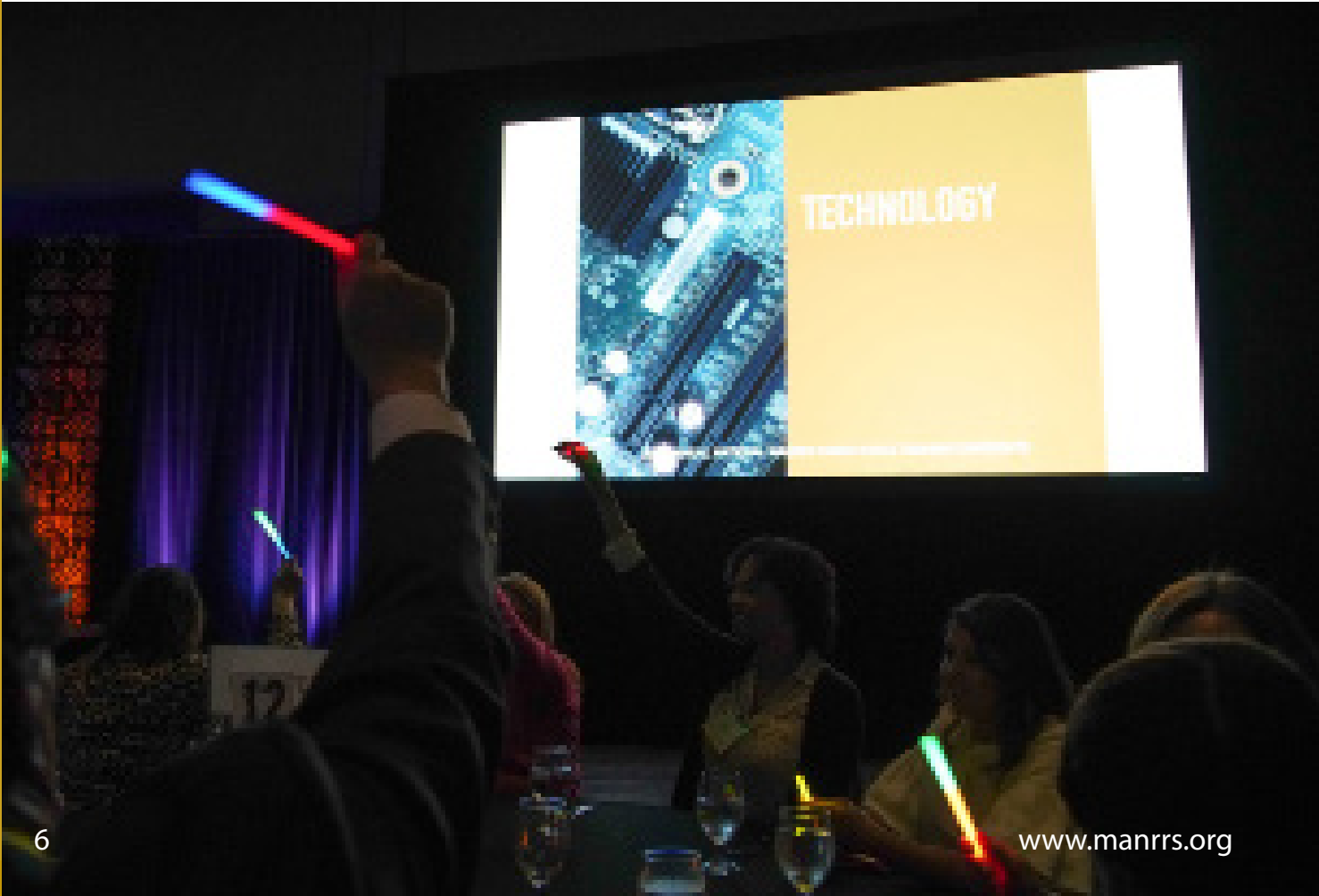
2019-2020 ADVISORY BOARD

2019-2020 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Dr. James Anderson, Ad-hoc Strategic Planning Committee Co-Chair
 Dr. Derris Burnett, Alumni Committee Chair
 Miguel Carlin, Alumni Committee Chair
 Michelle Cole, Jr. MANRRS Committee Co-Chair
 Stephon Fitzpatrick, Public Relations Committee Co-Chair
 Dr. Nicole Hams, Communications Committee Co-Chair
 Rayricus Matthews, Public Relations Committee Co-Chair

Dr. Wash Jones, Ad-hoc Constitution Committee Chair
 Koni Patterson, Membership Committee Co-Chair
 John Plummer, Ad-hoc Strategic Planning Committee Co-Chair
 Derrick Rhodes, Jr. MANRRS Committee Co-Chair
 Dr. Maurice Smith, Communications Committee Co-Chair
 Brielle Wright, Membership Committee Co-Chair

PAST CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS



2020 CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

As we prepare for MANRRS 35th Annual Career Fair and Training Conference, the 2020 Conference Planning Team and Region V invite you to join us in this anniversary event in Minneapolis, MN. 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 demonstrate IMPACT in the fields of Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences for the 21st century and beyond.

Overall Planning

Dwane Matthews, MANRRS
Ashantae Smith, MANRRS
Ebony Webber, MBA, MANRRS

Conference Planning Committee Team Leaders

Patrice Bailey, Minnesota Department of Agriculture
Tim Boudreaux, Cargill
Gissel Neri Corcoles, MANRRS Region VI Undergraduate Vice President
Dr. Antomia Farrell, University of Kentucky
Jody Gray, University of Minnesota
Garreth Hubbard, Land O' Lakes
Bryson King, Missouri Department of Conservation
Matt Lewis, Greater MSP
Dr. Kemba Marshall, Land O' Lakes
Narke Norton, MANRRS National Historian
Hermant Persaud, University of Minnesota
John Plummer, Land O' Lakes
Heidi Riese, Land O' Lakes
Sonya Roberts, Cargill
Chrisiten Russell, MANRRS Region III Graduate Vice President
Lauren Schoeder, Cargill
Rowzat Shipcandler, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Devin Thomas, Cargill
Lisa Weber, Syngenta
Lauren Wiese, Cargill

AN OVERVIEW OF MANRRS HISTORY

In the early 1980s, a concerned minority student, Dave Weatherspoon, recognized the need for a support group for minority students in agricultural programs at Michigan State University (MSU). With the help and guidance of a sensitive college advisor, Eunice Foster, he set out to form such a group on his campus. From these efforts, the Minority Agriculture and Natural Resources Association (MANRA), a registered student organization in the College of Agriculture at MSU, was founded in the spring of 1982. News of MANRA reached a staff person whose responsibilities included promoting participation of minority students in agricultural sciences at The Pennsylvania State University (PSU). In 1985, after a series of communications between institutions, representatives of MANRA and their faculty mentor visited PSU to help form an organization for minority students in its College of Agriculture. Out of this meeting, Minorities in Agriculture (MIA) was formed by the Penn State group. Dr. William Henson served as the first advisor for this group at Penn State.

In April 1986, MANRA and MIA jointly sponsored "The First Annual Conference of Minority Students in Agriculture and Natural Resources" at MSU. A primary focus of the conference was the problem of how to organize student disciplinary interest groups on university campuses. Over 40 students and faculty from six colleges participated. The second conference, also sponsored jointly by MANRA and MIA, was held, April 1987, at PSU. More than 60 people from 11 colleges, six government organizations, and five private organizations participated. The third conference was held at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, April 1988. This was a pivotal meeting for the formation of MANRRS. Student and faculty representatives from all 1862 and 1890 land grant colleges and universities, including Tuskegee University, were invited. Representatives from interested public and private agencies were also invited to participate.

Online Registration

To register online for the MANRRS 2020 conference, go to www.manrrs.org/nationalconference. Follow the links to complete the online registration.

Complete the online registration with your payment by **February 28, 2020** and save on registration fees. (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 (Thu., Fri., & Sat.)
- Entry to the Career Fair and Expo (Friday)
- The following meals:
 - Thursday: Dinner;
 - Friday: Continental Breakfast; Box Lunch; and
 - Saturday: Brunch and Gala Banquet Dinner.
- Conference Registration Packet with giveaway items

The Diversity Summit is NOT INCLUDED with your conference registration fee and is a separate, add-on event.

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 are provided for the Career Fair Box Lunch. You must present ticket in order to receive food. Special tickets are provided to individuals with dietary restrictions.



Individuals with Special Needs

MANRRS encourages the full participation of individuals with special needs or disabilities. The Hilton Minneapolis is handicap accessible. Please indicate on the registration form if you need special assistance, and 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. Exact shirt sizes cannot be guaranteed.

Workshops

Conference attendees will be required to attend both workshops in the morning and afternoon. Workshops' acceptance are contingent upon the number of attendees who sign up. Workshops will close once they meet maximum capacity. You are required to attend the workshops selected. All attendees will receive workshop confirmations approximately one week 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 (per registrant), when received by January 31, 2020
- 50% refund when received between February 1- March 10
- No Refund if received after March 10, 2020
- Registration transfers are allowed as long as it is the same registration type.

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 Overland Park 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/Video Disclaimer

All photographs and videos sent to or taken by 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 and videos taken to the National Society for MANRRS. As owners of the photographs and videos, MANRRS will have all rights to use and publish the photographs/videos, and no compensation is made or owed for use of the photographs/videos. Photographs/videos 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. A People Power Coordinator will arrange and coordinate the work of volunteers, our "People Power" program.



2020 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. **Deadline for Submission is February 15th.**

Nomination for MANRRS Advisor Award

The Nomination Package must include:

1. Completed nomination form and cover sheet;
2. The nominee's résumé (limited to three pages);
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 Leadership Development; Professional Development; and the Career training/careers of several current and former MANRRS members;
5. 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.



U.S. FOREST SERVICE LEADING CHANGE AGENT AWARD

The MANRRS LEADing Change Agent Award was developed in 2018 – 2019 as a Presidential Initiative focusing on building, strengthening and further developing the National Society.

The MANRRS LEADing Change Agent Award recognizes MANRRS student "leaders of distinction" and provides a \$500 stipend to the winning student to fund scholarship or educational purposes contributing to the student's learning and development. A \$1,500 grant will be provided to the chapter in honor of the winning student, as MANRRS chapters have provided the support and inspiration for many of our student leaders to excel. **Deadline for Submission: TBD**

Nomination for MANRRS LEADING Change Agent Award

Student Selection Criteria:

1. Student will be a member of a chapter deemed as MANRRS Chapter in Good Standing.
2. Student will have a minimum 2.5 GPA.
3. Open to Undergraduate Students only.
4. Student will submit the following:
 - o Current Resume or CV
 - o Unofficial Transcript
 - o Complete two essay questions.

Submission Guidelines:

- All items must be submitted for consideration.
- There can be a maximum of two submissions per chapter; however, only one student can be chosen as recipient of the MANRRS Change Agent Award.

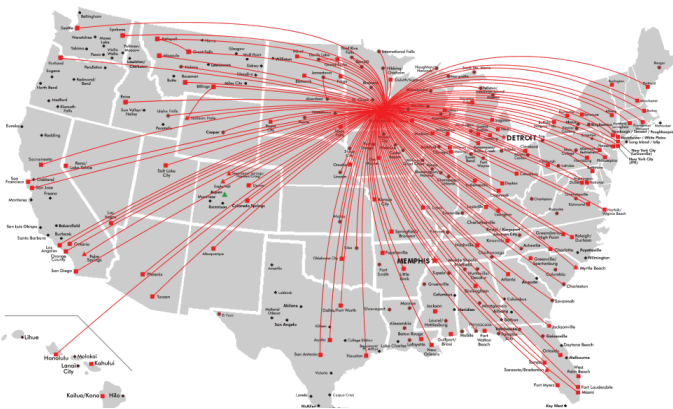
GETTING TO MINNEAPOLIS!

Meet the biggest underestimated place in the north! A dramatic riverfront skyline, three professional sports stadiums within 1.3 miles, so much art you're literally surrounded by it. The area is commonly known as the Twin Cities after its two largest cities, Minneapolis, the most populous city in the state, and its neighbor to the east Saint Paul, the state capital. In Minneapolis, you'll never be far from where you need to be literally. Minneapolis prides itself in having a very compact downtown so matter where you are, there are options to get you there quickly and easily. Minneapolis has an award winning transits system with light rail and buses- taxis, Uber, Lyft- and bike rentals on the streets with dedicated bike lanes all over the city. For more information on this, go to:

www.minneapolis.org

Travel by Air

Transportation to Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport Voted "Best Airport in America," the (MSP) Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport is a centrally located travel hub revered for its ease of check-in, security, and amenities.



Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport is served by 11 airlines and offers approximately 49 daily non-stop flights. Highly competitive airfares, easy access and an enviable, no-delay status attract millions of passengers to it each year.

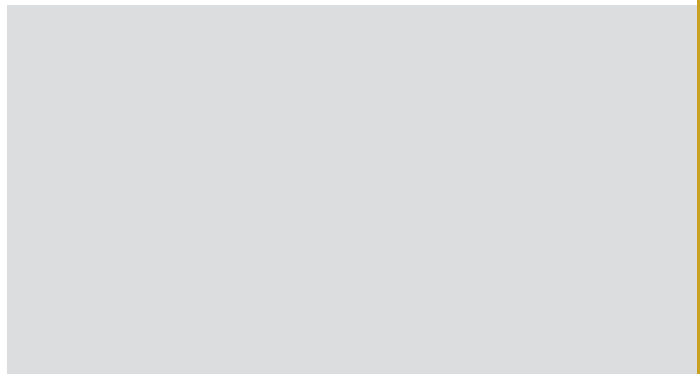
Driving distance to Hilton: 12 miles

Driving time: Approximately 20 minutes

Transportation Options:

For ground transportation assistance upon arrival at MSP, please go directly to the Ground Transportation located on the outside Baggage Claim.

- Uber/Lyft - Mobile App
- Taxi Services
- Light Rail Transit
- Super Shuttle





Hilton Minneapolis Reserve your Guest Room Early!

BY PHONE:

- Contact the Hilton Minneapolis at 888-933-5363. Mention "MIA" group code to receive the \$169 plus tax (currently 13.4% tax) per night conference group rate.
- Total with tax: **\$191.65**

BY WEBSITE:

- For online reservation, use this [link](#) or access it on the MANRRS website at www.manrrs.org/nationalconference.
- Make your reservations EARLY! The group rate and rooms will be available until the MANRRS Room Block is full or **Monday, March 2, 2020**, whichever occurs first.
- Reservations may be made, modified or canceled by individuals on-line.

Hilton Minneapolis

1001 S. Marquette Ave. South
Minneapolis, MN 55403
Phone: (888) 933-5361
MANRRS Group Rate: \$169.00 + tax
(Currently 13.4%/night)
Valet: Available on first-come basis
Internet: Complimentary in sleeping rooms
Check-in: 3:00 PM | Check-out: 12:00 Noon

Hotel Location & Nearby Attractions

With a stay at Hilton Minneapolis in Minneapolis (Downtown Minneapolis), you'll be steps from Nicollet Mall and 6 minutes by foot from Minneapolis Convention Center. This 4-star hotel is 0.7 mi from Target Center and 0.8 mi from Basilica of Saint Mary.

Popular Hotel Amenities and Features

Don't miss out on recreational opportunities including an indoor pool and a 24-hour fitness center. Additional features at this hotel include complimentary wireless Internet access, concierge services, and gift shops/newsstands.

Business, Other Amenities

Featured amenities include complimentary wired Internet access, a business center, and express check-in. This hotel has facilities measuring 77,000 square feet (7 square meters), including a conference center. Self parking (subject to charges) is available onsite.

Restaurants, Bars, Lounge & Dining

Grab a bite to eat at Ten 01 Social, a restaurant which features a bar, or stay in and take advantage of the room service (during limited hours). Full breakfasts are available daily from 7 AM to 10 AM for a fee.

Hotel Accommodations and Guest Rooms

Make yourself at home in one of the 821 air-conditioned rooms featuring refrigerators and LCD televisions. Your pillowtop bed comes with down comforters and premium bedding, and all rooms are furnished with sofa beds. Cable programming and iPod docking stations are provided for your entertainment, with wired and wireless Internet access available for a surcharge. Private bathrooms with bathtubs or showers feature complimentary toiletries and hair dryers.

Hotel Cancellation Policy

Reservations must be cancelled at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled arrival date unless otherwise outlined in the signed Group Sales Agreement. Any cancellations received after that date would be charged one night's room and tax. 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.



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

The city features very cold, snowy winters and humid, warm to hot summers. The climate can be compared to Moscow in precipitation and temperature, although that summer is warmer in the Twin Cities. Springtime visitors to Minneapolis will find cool, sunny days with much cooler evenings. Clothing that can be layered are highly suggested.

RECOMMENDED ATTIRE

Thursday/Sunday

Travel Days - Casual Dress

Thursday, April 2nd

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

Opening General Session – Business Casual: Slacks (Dockers, Khakis), NO Jeans, Chapter, Organization or University Shirts are acceptable

Friday, April 3rd

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)

Saturday, April 4th

Meals, Business Meetings, Workshops

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

Black Tie Gala Dinner & Ball

Formal Attire or Professional Attire

Friday/Saturday evening

Talent Show & Evening Dance (After Party)

Casual Dress

2020 REGISTRATION AND LODGING COSTS

MEMBER	Early Bird Rec'd by Jan 31	Regular Rate Rec'd by Feb 28	Late Registration Rec'd by Mar 25	On-Site Fees Rec'd after Mar 25
Jr. MANRRS	\$185	\$235	\$285	\$335
Jr. MANRRS Chaperone	\$205	\$255	\$305	\$355
Collegiate	\$275	\$325	\$375	\$425
Professional	\$450	\$500	\$550	\$600
Local Collegiate One-Day (Friday only)	\$75	\$90	\$125	\$175
Professional One Day	\$175	\$225	\$275	\$325
NON MEMBER				
Collegiate Non-Member	\$325	\$375	\$425	\$475
Local Collegiate One-Day (Friday only)	\$125	\$140	\$175	\$225
Professional Non-Member	\$525	\$575	\$625	\$675
Professional Non-Member – One Day	\$225	\$275	\$325	\$375

Online Registration is REQUIRED

Please visit www.manrrs.org/nationalconference for complete details. Conference registration questions can be directed to:

Amanda Barry, A Meeting Company
 411 Washington Avenue
 Haddonfield, NJ 08033
 Phone: (856) 429-8305, Fax: (877) 744-3084
 E-mail: amanda@ameetingplace.com

Wednesday, April 1, 2020

9:00 AM–3:00 PM	Advisory Board Meeting
9:00 AM–9:00 PM	National Teach Ag FAST Symposium
5:00 PM–8:00 PM	Registration Opens
6:00 PM–9:00 PM	Diversity Summit – Reception and Panel Discussion*

Thursday, April 2, 2020

7:30 AM–12:30 PM	Diversity Summit*
8:00 AM–6:00 PM	Registration
8:00 AM–3:00 PM	National Teach Ag FAST Symposium
8:00 AM–3:00 PM	Farm Credit VIP Program
11:00 AM–4:00 PM	Mobile Field Trips <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Syngenta Innovation Tour • Cargill Research and Development Center Tour • Sustainable Agriculture (SARE) Tour
12:00 PM–6:00 PM	Exhibitor Registration & Setup
12:30 PM–3:00 PM	Chapters Welcome Lounge
12:30 PM–6:30 PM	UG and GR Poster Research Contest – Setup
1:00 PM–2:30 PM	Annual Appreciation Luncheon – by invitation only
2:00 PM–4:00 PM	Branding You with National Industry Partners
3:00 PM–4:30 PM	Jr. MANRRS Welcome and New Member Ceremony
3:30 PM–4:30 PM	New Member Meeting & Pinning Ceremony
4:00 PM–4:30 PM	National Contest Superintendents and Judges' Meeting
5:00 PM–6:30 PM	Opening General Session
6:30 PM–8:00 PM	Business Card Exchange Welcome Reception
8:00 PM	Contest Participants and Judges report to designated contest rooms
8:30 PM–10:00 PM	Jr. MANRRS Student Game Night
8:30 PM–10:30 PM	Undergraduate Public Speaking Contest
8:30 PM–10:30 PM	Chapter of the Year Contest
8:30 PM–10:30 PM	MANRRS Bowl (preliminary)
8:30 PM–10:30 PM	MANRRS Bowl II (preliminary)
8:30 PM–10:30 PM	Impromptu Speaking Contest
9:30 PM–11:30 PM	Professional Hospitality

Friday, April 3, 2020

7:00 AM–7:30 AM	Continental Breakfast
7:00 AM–6:00 PM	Registration
7:30 AM–9:00 AM	Professional Meeting
7:30 AM–9:00 AM	Undergraduate Student Meeting
7:30 AM–9:00 AM	Graduate Student Meeting
7:30 AM–9:00 AM	Grab & Go Cash Breakfast
8:00 AM–8:30 AM	Jr. MANRRS Breakfast
8:30 AM–9:00 AM	Jr. MANRRS Ice Breaker
9:15 AM–10:15 AM	General Session
10:30 AM–11:30 AM	Jr. MANRRS Contests: Public Speaking and Impromptu Speaking
10:35 AM–11:50 AM	MANRRS Speaks: How Will We IMPACT the Future
10:35 AM–11:50 AM	Executive Leadership Power Talk
11:45 AM–12:30 PM	Jr. MANRRS Empowerment Luncheon
12:00 PM–12:30 PM	Box Lunch

12:00 PM–1:00 PM	Advisor Appreciation Reception
12:30 PM–4:30 PM	Career Fair and Expo
12:45 PM–1:35 PM	Jr. MANRRS Workshop I
1:45 PM–2:35 PM	Jr. MANRRS Workshop II
2:30 PM–4:30 PM	Sustainability in Five Minutes
2:45 PM–3:30 PM	Jr. MANRRS Contest: Elevator Speech
3:00 PM–5:00 PM	UG and GR Poster Research Contest
3:30 PM–4:30 PM	Jr. MANRRS Career Exploration
3:30 PM–5:30 PM	Business Pitch Competition
3:30 PM–5:30 PM	Lincoln Douglas Debate
3:30 PM–6:30 PM	MANRRS Bowl – semi-final
4:00 PM–4:30 PM	Contest Orientation – Participants and Judges report to contest rooms
4:30 PM–5:00 PM	Jr. MANRRS Career Exploration Wrap Up
8:30 AM–10:30 AM	Undergraduate Oral Research – Div I
4:30 PM–6:30 PM	Undergraduate Oral Research – Div II
4:30 PM–6:30 PM	Graduate Oral Research – Division I
4:30 PM–6:30 PM	Graduate Oral Research – Division II
4:30 PM–6:30 PM	Research Discussion Contest
4:30 PM–6:30 PM	UG and GR Poster Research Contest
4:30 PM–6:30 PM	Elevator Speech Contest
5:00 PM–Until	Experience MSP
6:00 PM–8:00 PM	New Officer Meeting and Team Dinner
6:30 PM–8:30 PM	Iowa State Alumni and Friends Reception
9:00 PM–11:00 PM	Conference After Party
9:30 PM–11:30 PM	Professional Hospitality
9:30 PM–12:00 AM	Professional/Alumni Networking Event (off-site TBD)

Saturday, April 4, 2020

8:00 AM–9:30 AM	National Leadership Forum & Business Meeting
9:30 AM–3:00 PM	Jr. MANRRS High School Symposium
10:00 AM–11:30 AM	National Scholarship and Awards Brunch
11:50 AM–12:40 PM	Workshop A1 – A5
11:50 AM–12:40 PM	Chapter Advisor Fireside Chat
12:50 PM–1:40 PM	Workshop B1 – B5
12:50 PM–1:40 PM	Chapter Advisor Workshop I
1:50 PM–2:40 PM	Workshop C1 – C5
1:50 PM–2:40 PM	Chapter Advisor Workshop II - Strategic Regional Planning
2:45 PM–3:10 PM	Networking Break
3:15 PM–4:05 PM	Workshop D1 – D5
3:15 PM–4:05 PM	Chapter Advisor Meeting
4:30 PM – 5:00 PM	Call to Serve – Committee Interest Meeting
6:30 PM–7:15 PM	Gala Reception – By Invitation Only
7:30 PM–9:30 PM	Black Tie Gala and Awards Banquet – Doors Open at 7:00 PM
9:30 PM–10:30 PM	Black Tie Ball

Sunday, April 5, 2020

9:30 AM–11:00 AM	EC Small Breakfast Meeting
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THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2020

I. Syngenta Innovation Tour

11:00 AM–4:00 PM

Syngenta has a Biological Assessment site with multiple departments that include R&D and The Seedcare Institute located in Dennison, MN which is just under 1 hour from Minneapolis. The Seedcare Institute offers tours that will provide you with the opportunity to see all of exciting aspects of seed treating technology. The six (6) stations include Formulation, Recipe Development, QA Lab, Application Lab, Plantability Lab, and Seed Biology.

II. Sustainable Agriculture Tour

11:00 AM–4:00 PM

USDA's Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program is a nationwide grants and education program to advance sustainable innovation to all of American agriculture. NCR-SARE offers competitive grants and educational resources and opportunities for educators, graduate students, farmers, ranchers, scientists, institutions, organizations and others exploring sustainable agriculture.

The tour will include visits to 3 or 4 sites in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area that utilize sustainable practices. Attendees will meet urban and rural farmers and learn about the farm system and the sustainable practices used. Suggestions include a visit to The Good Acre, a nonprofit food hub that works with small-scale, immigrant and minority farmers to provide access

to infrastructure and markets and provides educational opportunities.

While on site, we'll learn about post harvest handling and food safety workshops which used novel approaches to reach Hmong farmers, and learn about the challenge of maintaining soil fertility with organic practices in high tunnels. Other visits might include a small urban farm in St. Paul to see a rain capture system for high tunnel irrigation, FNC13-909, a visit to the Hmong American Farmer Association's incubator farm to see cover cropping in small vegetable plots, and a visit to Mainstreet Project's poultry-centered regenerative agroforestry system (chicken, hazelnuts, and more.)

SARE will provide a handout with details about each of the farms on the tour, along with SARE resources on sustainable agriculture that are available for free for educators. SARE will also provide tour guides who will ride with attendees and provide details about SARE grants and resources and information on the farm visits. The tour guides will also lead discussions on the benefits of Sustainable Agriculture and specific sustainable farming techniques and topics such as soil health.

III. Cargill Research and Development Center Tour

11:00 AM–4:00 PM

The Minneapolis Research & Development Center and the Cargill Food Innovation Center, both located in Plymouth, Minnesota, United States, are the North American hub of Cargill's global network of food and ingredient research and technology centers. Nearby in the Minneapolis metro area, Cargill's Engineering R&D Lab supports process and product development with an integrated pilot lab for small-batch production and testing. This network provides access to deep technical expertise across Cargill's broad portfolio of ingredients and food systems, as well as to experts in key disciplines, such as sensory science, culinary based-product development and analytical and data analysis.

The Minneapolis Research and Development Center is a \$25 million, 100,000 square foot facility featuring molecular biology labs, advanced analytical and materials research laboratories, test kitchens and a pilot production plant. The center is home to about 200 scientists working on projects to transform the marketplace, from improving food safety to developing new food ingredients that meet consumer expectations for simple, nutritious options.



JR. MANRRS CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Several colleges and universities established “Junior” MANRRS chapters to promote agricultural literacy and awareness in their communities. Collegiate MANRRS members serve as mentors to Jr. 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 35th Annual Career Fair and Training Conference.

A collaboration with the Jr. MANRRS Committee, NAAE and the University of Minnesota have planned activities for high school and middle school students allowing them to discuss leadership skills, problem solve ethical issues, and network with professionals, students and representatives of food, agricultural, natural resources, and related sciences’ industries.

Through the High School Symposium and Jr. MANRRS program, MANRRS is doing its part in raising awareness of the importance of including underrepresented groups in agriculture 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

THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2020

3:00 PM–4:30 PM Jr. MANRRS New Member Meeting and Kick-Off Pep Rally
8:00 PM - 9:30 PM Jr. MANRRS Student Game Night

FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2020

8:00 AM–8:30 AM Jr. MANRRS Breakfast and Daily Overview
8:30 AM–9:00 AM Jr. MANRRS Ice Breaker
10:30 AM–11:30 AM Jr. MANRRS Contest - Public Speaking and Impromptu Speaking Contest (concurrent)
11:45 AM–12:30 PM Jr. MANRRS Empowerment Lunch
12:45 PM–1:35 PM Workshop I: When I Grow Up, I’m Going to Be a _____!
1:45 PM–2:35 PM Workshop II: Making a Positive First Impression
2:45 PM–3:30 PM Jr. MANRRS Contest - Elevator Speech
3:45 PM–4:30 PM Career Fair and Expo Exploration
4:30 PM–5:00 PM Jr. MANRRS Career Exploration Wrap Up
5:00 PM–Until Experience MSP

SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2020

9:30 AM–3:00 PM High School Symposium

The regular agenda should be followed except events noted above.



JR. MANRRS WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

When I Grow Up, I'm Going to Be a _____!

"What do you want to be when you grow up?" It is the questions adults always ask, but it's sometimes hard to answer. Let us help! Learn how AgExplorer can help you find your future career and match you with the top four careers best for your personality and skills. It's all about you during this high-energy workshop that will help you find your future in agriculture.

Making a Positive First Impression

Did you know it takes only three to five seconds for someone to form a first impression? Why are first impressions so important? Taking the time to manage your image will improve the odds of making a positive first impression in those initial three to five seconds. Attend this session to learn tips to help manage your image from the inside out.

Career Fair and Expo Exploration

After using AgExplorer, you are left with a list of careers that are a good fit for someone with traits similar to yours. Career exploration is the second stage of the career planning process. After completing the self-assessment, you learn about your interests and values. You will take these career options and explore them with real colleges and companies during the Career Fair and Expo.

JR. MANRRS STUDENT COMPETITIONS

Jr. MANRRS Contest Deadline is March 1, 2020.

All entries must be submitted online at: <http://info.manrrs.org/2020-contest-submission>

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





SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2020

HIGH SCHOOL SYMPOSIUM

9:00 AM–3:00 PM

Sponsored by



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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. The Jr. MANRRS Committee and the University of Minnesota encourage full participation of the youth in the greater Minneapolis-St. Paul and surrounding areas 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 35th Annual Career Fair and Training Conference, many components will be devoted to local high school students and Jr. MANRRS Members.

The High School Symposium will allow high school students from the Minneapolis-St. Paul 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.



JR. MANRRS

CALL FOR CONTEST JUDGES

We are soliciting professional members to serve as a judge for one of the contests below. **The deadline for submission is January 25, 2020.** The contest superintendent will contact you to confirm your participation on or before the above date. Sign-up: <https://info.manrrs.org/judges-2020>

- Jr. MANRRS Public Speaking Contest
- Jr. MANRRS Written Essay Contest
- Jr. MANRRS Impromptu Speaking Contest

- Business Pitch Contest
- Chapter of the Year
- Elevator Speech Contest
- Impromptu Speaking Contest
- Lincoln Douglas Debate
- MANRRS Bowl
- Undergraduate Public Speaking Contest
- Research Discussion Contest
- Undergraduate Written Essay Contest

- Graduate Student Oral Research Contest (2 divisions)
 - Division I – Biological, Chemical, and Physical Sciences
 - Division II – Education, Social Sciences & Business
- Undergraduate Student Oral Research Contest (2 divisions)
 - Division I – Biological, Chemical, and Physical Sciences
 - Division II – Education, Social Sciences, and Business
- Graduate Student Poster Research Contest
 - Division I – Biological, Chemical, and Physical Sciences
 - Division II – Education, Social Sciences & Business
- Undergraduate Student Poster Research Contest
 - Division I – Biological, Chemical, and Physical Sciences
 - Division II – Education, Social Sciences & Business



THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2020

Exhibitor Setup

12:00 PM–6:00 PM

National Contests Judges & Superintendents' Meeting

4:00 PM–5:00 PM

This brief informational meeting will provide overall contest guidance to volunteers involved in evaluating student competitions and to recognize them for their hardwork, dedication and commitment to student development and training.

Judging for Student Competitions

8:30 PM–10:30 PM

Professional Hospitality

9:30 PM–11:30 PM

FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2020

Professional Meeting

7:30 AM–9:00 AM

Open to all professional financial members. Badges checked upon entrance.

Advisor Appreciation Reception

11:00 AM–12:00 PM

Exclusive event for MANRRS Chapter Advisors to enjoy light refreshments and massages..

Judging for Student Competitions

4:30 PM–6:30 PM

Professional Alumni Networking Event

On Your Own

10:00 PM–12:00 AM

Location: Offsite (TBD)

Professional Hospitality

9:30 PM–11:30 PM

Join us and unwind in a casual setting with complimentary drinks, music and snacks.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2020

Chapter Advisor Fireside Chat

11:50 AM–12:40 PM

Advisors will hear from leading organizations on how best to engage with their organizations to provide assistance and resources to their local chapters.

Chapter Advisor Workshop I: Building Constituency

12:50 PM–1:40 PM

This workshop is focused on building constituency and the importance of helping others feel included in all settings! Through this workshop, we will have the opportunity to identify how to develop relationships in different organizations and identify and implement constituency building.

Chapter Advisor Workshop II: Strategic Regional Planning 2020-2025

1:50 PM–2:40 PM

Join us for this session to share, listen, learn, and strategize on the future growth of MANRRS. MANRRS Chapters help the Society deliver on its value proposition and mission to empower and support minorities pursuing careers in agriculture, natural resources and related sciences. We want to learn what support chapters need to sustain their future growth.

Chapter Advisor Meeting

3:15 PM–4:05 PM



THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2020

USDA Hiring Event and Workshops

8:00 AM–5:00 PM

Various USDA agencies will hold an on-site hiring event for eligible attendees. Workshops will focus on Applying for Federal Jobs on USAjobs.gov and creating a federal resume.

Chapter Welcome Lounge

12:30 PM–3:30 PM

Open lounge and wait area for chapters and advisors waiting on hotel rooms, travel, and the start of conference activities.

Annual Appreciation Luncheon

1:00 PM–2:30 PM

The Sponsor Appreciation Luncheon is an invite-only event to recognize MANRRS Supporters, Partners, and Sponsors.

Branding You with Industry Partners

2:00 PM–4:30 PM

Looking to land your dream job!? Learn how to market yourself and develop your personal brand and target your ideal job. To land your dream job, you will learn how to build your network to connect and be a part of the community that you have a passion for in the workforce. You will learn to search for jobs, build a resume/cover letter and set yourself up for success in interviews.

New Members' Meeting and Induction Ceremony

3:30 PM–4:30 PM

New members are encouraged to attend this session to learn about the benefits of membership, MANRRS History, and receive their membership pin and certificate.

Opening General Session and Parade of Chapters

Doors Open at 4:30 PM

5:00 PM–6:30 PM

Join us as we kick off the anniversary celebration of MANRRS 35th Career Fair and Training Conference, commencing with this year's Opening General Session and Parade of Chapters featuring founding members and Past National Presidents.

Business Card Exchange and Networking Reception

6:30 PM–8:00 PM

National Chapter of the Year Award

8:30 PM–10:30 PM

Conference participants are encouraged to attend and witness the top chapter from each region compete head to head in the most coveted chapter award.

National Student Competitions

(Check schedule for details)

8:30 PM–10:30 PM

Undergraduate Public Speaking; Impromptu Speaking and MANRRS Bowl.





FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2020

Continental Breakfast

7:00 AM–7:30 AM

Membership Business Meetings: Graduate, Professionals and Undergraduate

7:30 AM–9:00 AM

Open to all financial members and representatives from chapters in good standing. Badges will be checked upon entrance.



Beth Ford
President and CEO of Land O'Lakes, Inc.,

General Session: This is IMPACT - Recognizing Women in Ag

9:15 AM–10:15 AM

MANRRS will recognize women who have made an impact in the food, agriculture, and natural resources industries. MANRRS General Session will be led by keynote speaker, Beth Ford.

Beth Ford serves as President and CEO of Land O'Lakes, Inc., a Fortune 200 food production and agribusiness company that is also a nearly 100-year-old farmer-owned cooperative. Beth's 33-year career spans six industries at seven companies. Since joining Land O'Lakes in 2011, she has held a variety of roles leading the farmer-to-fork business offerings. Today, she is a passionate advocate on behalf of farmers and rural America with the goal of connecting people, particularly in urban areas, to the farmers and rural communities who grow their food. Beth has recently been recognized by Fortune as one of the World's 50 Greatest Leaders and Most Powerful Women, was named to Fast Company's Most Productive People and Best Leaders lists, and was named one of Time magazine's "Firsts," among other honors.

MANRRS Speaks: How Will We IMPACT the Future?

10:35 AM–11:50 AM

- Sustainability in Agriculture
- Sustainability in Natural Resources: Managing Scarcity of Resources
- Sustainability and Technology: The Role of Automation

These three concurrent sessions will allow attendees to learn how various companies plan to develop their sustainability goals for 2050 and the challenges they will face along the way.

Executive Leadership Power Talk

(Seniors and Graduate Students Only)

10:35 AM–11:50 AM

The interactive session with industry executives will provide students who are preparing to transition into a professional career an opportunity to meet and receive valuable advice on advancing in the agricultural industry as well as discuss the industry's most serious challenges.

Lunch Break

12:00 PM–12:30 PM

Advisor Appreciation Reception

12:00 PM–1:00 PM

Hard work and dedication are not new concepts to our chapter advisors. To show our appreciation, Chapter Advisors are invited to attend the Reception Lounge for relaxation refreshments.

Sustainability in 5 Minutes: Graduate Students furthering Sustainable Agriculture through SARE

2:30 PM–4:30 PM

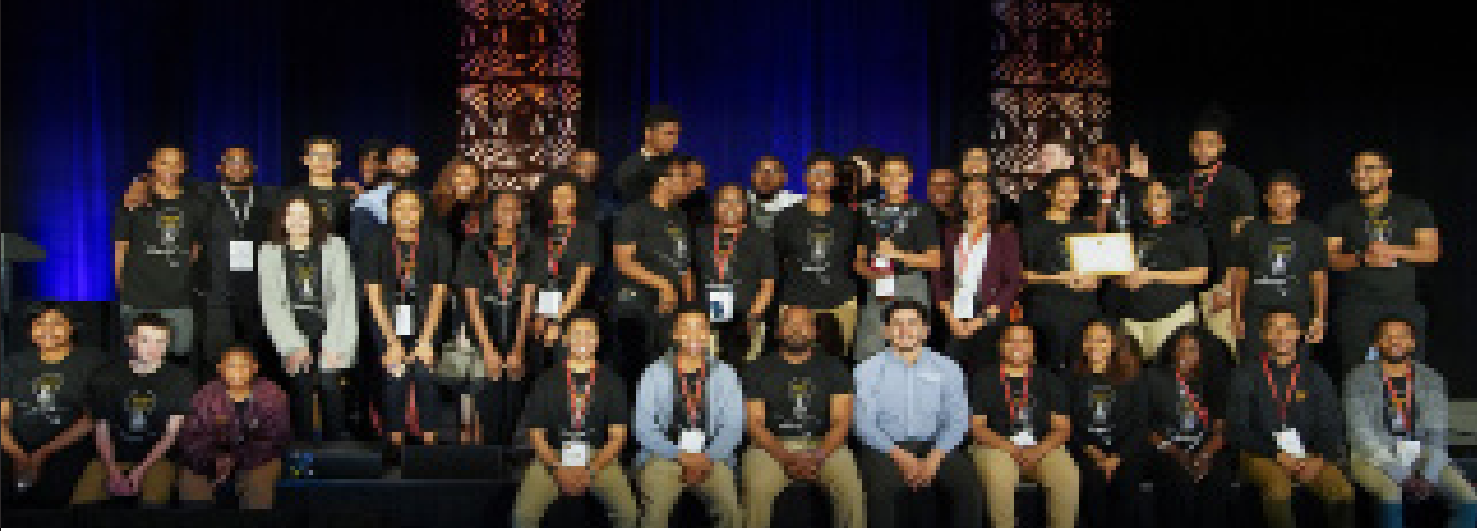
Graduate students are an integral part of furthering sustainable agriculture research efforts through the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program. SARE's graduate student program introduces young researchers to what's possible in sustainable agriculture practices through university-driven research projects.

Learn more about what graduate students are doing in the area of sustainability in four 30-minute sessions. Master's and PhD students will introduce their SARE-funded projects in 5-minute lightning round presentations. There will be time for Q&A following each presentation. Three students will present their research in each 30-minute session using no more than 15 compelling slides. Topics will cover innovative ideas in sustainability and may include anything from pasture poultry to using cover crops in vegetables, to pollinator preservation, and more.

Career Fair and Expo

12:30 PM–4:30 PM

This event provides the perfect venue for students and professionals to recruit and meet with representatives from government, industry, and academia. The Career Fair is an excellent opportunity to network and develop contacts for future internships or job opportunities. Some employers will conduct on-the-spot interviews during the Career Fair. 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.



FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2020

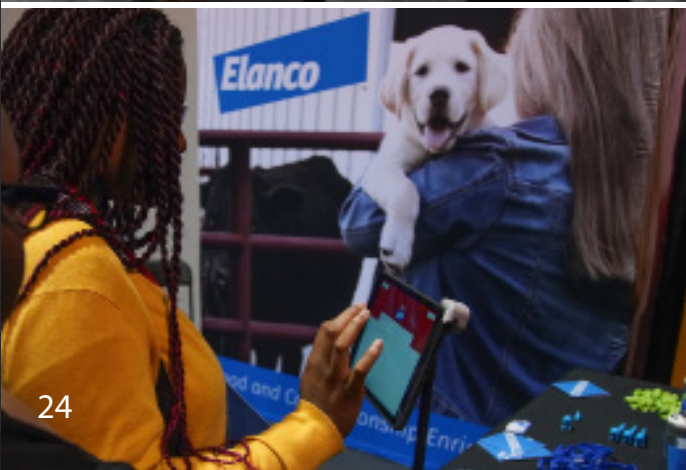
National Student Competitions (Check schedule for details)
3:30 PM–6:30 PM

Experience MSP
5:00 PM–Until

Open time for attendees to explore the Minneapolis-St. Paul area for dinner and entertainment.

Iowa State Alumni & Friends Reception
6:30 PM–8:30 PM

Conference After Party
9:00 PM–11:00 PM



SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2020

National Leadership Forum and Business Meeting
8:00 AM–9:30 AM

All members are encouraged to attend as official business items are shared, amendments presented and national officers confirmed. This meeting is for Members Only. Chapter delegates and professional members are strongly encouraged to attend.

National Scholarship and Awards Brunch
10:00 AM–11:30 AM

National Partners will have the opportunity to celebrate with the brightest students attending the National Conference. The event is open to all registered conference attendees.

Workshops (Check schedule for details)
11:50 AM–4:05 PM

Networking Break
2:45 PM–3:10 PM

Light refreshments provided.

Gala Reception (By Invitation Only)
6:30 PM–7:15 PM

Black Tie Awards Gala and Ball
7:30 PM–9:30 PM
9:30 PM–11:00 PM - Ball

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.

Immediately following the Gala Banquet, we will host the final formal dance for all to attend. As we conclude the annual conference, join us for plenty of dancing and fun.

Elevate

MANRRS 34th Annual Career Fair & Training Conference

STS





THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2020

Chapter Welcome Lounge
12:00 PM–3:00 PM

Undergraduate and Graduate Student Poster Research Setup
12:00 PM–6:00 PM

USDA Hiring Event
8:00 AM–5:00 PM

Opportunities for direct hire will be provided by various government agencies on-site during the conference. Interested attendees are required to create a profile on USAJobs.gov and create a government-style resume.

Branding You with National Industry Partners
2:00 PM–4:00 PM

Business Card Exchange and Welcome Reception
6:30 PM–8:00 PM

Attend to network with students and professionals from around the country.

Student Competitions
8:30 PM–10:30 PM

Chapter of the Year, MANRRS Bowl, Public Speaking and Impromptu Speaking Contests

FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2020

Undergraduate Student Meeting and Graduate Student Meeting
7:30 AM–9:00 AM

Executive Leadership Power Talk
(Seniors and Graduate Students Only)
10:35 AM–11:50 AM

The interactive session with industry executives will provide students who are preparing to transition into a professional career an opportunity to meet and receive valuable advice on advancing in the agricultural industry as well as a discuss the industry's most serious challenges.

Lunch Break
12:00 PM–12:30 PM

Student Competitions
3:00 PM–5:00 PM

Undergraduate and Graduate Research Poster Contest - Division I and II

Student Competitions
3:30 PM–5:30 PM

Lincoln Douglas Debate, MANRRS Bowl, and Business Pitch

Student Competitions
4:30 PM–6:30 PM

Undergraduate and Graduate Oral Research - Division I and II and Research Discussion Contest

New Officers' Meeting and Team Dinner– Students and Professionals
6:00 PM–8:00 PM

MANRRS After Party
9:30 PM – 12:00 AM



SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2020

Workshop Session A

11:50 AM–12:40 PM

(A1) Careers in Science and Policy

Track: Non-traditional Careers

This workshop aims to share career tips and necessary skills for students and early-career researchers who are considering careers in science and policy. The speakers have diverse backgrounds, from federal and state government agencies, trade associations, private industry, and the academia. This will be an interactive session, including time for Q&A.

(A2) Sustainability, Community Engagement, and Agronomics

Track: Agriculture

The workshop will focus on urban community agronomics with an overview of the benefits of urban community gardening and small farmers. The workshop will discuss different enterprises and revenue generated by multiple urban agriculture opportunities.

(A3) Understanding the Impact of Climate Change

Track: Sustainability

In case you haven't heard, a climate disaster is looming. The effects of climate change—like rising seas and intensifying weather patterns—are already here. Even though the worst is yet to come, there are still things that we can do to fight for our planet. Attend this session to educate yourself on these steps.

(A4) The Role of Artificial Intelligence in Agriculture

Track: Innovation and Technology

Should we be fearful of AI and automation? This session will explore how ever-increasing technology and AI is going to impact the labor force over the next 20-30 years.

(A5) Navigating Graduate and Professional School: The Good, Bad, & Ugly

Track: Professional and Personal Development

Choosing to attend graduate or professional school takes time and understanding of self. With many different educational tracks, finding the perfect fit is difficult. Through this panel discussion, students will be able to interact with professionals and graduate students who have experienced how to navigate these waters. During this discussion, students will hear about three different educational paths (Professional School, Graduate School, Hard Science, Graduate School, Social Science) and receive advice on choosing the best program.

Workshop Session B

12:50 PM–1:40 PM

(B1) AG-Vocacy in Different Spaces

Track: Non-traditional Careers

What does it mean to advocate for agriculture in spaces other than academia or industry? Various non-profit and NGO organizations are challenging the inequities in agriculture



such as unequal access to land and land rights, bringing adequate resources and support to underserved farmers, and regenerating sustainable agriculture. This session will focus on the grassroots work of agricultural advocacy and the current work organizations are conducting nationwide. Learn about how to participate in sustainable agricultural advocacy, what it means to conduct this work on the ground with farmers and local communities, and diverse amount of professional opportunities within the non-profit/NGO field.

(B2) Financial Cost of Animal Health and Disease

Track: Agriculture

Across the globe, families depend on livestock animals for milk, meat, eggs, even muscle power. But when a valuable cow or sheep gets sick, farm families face a stark burden affecting not just their herd's survival, but human health and potential losses for years to come. National agencies and nonprofits have long sought a clear picture of how animal disease affects us all. Panelists will shed light on how animal diseases impact not only animal productivity, but human lives and economies.

(B3) Biodiversity

Track: Sustainability

The air we breathe, the water we drink and the food we eat all rely on biodiversity. It is fundamental we produce food in a way that preserves the environment. That's why safeguarding natural resources and biodiversity is critical to people's health and planetary wealth. Sustainable agriculture is the answer to reverse trends that lead to biodiversity loss. The agriculture sector is highly dependent on the services generated by biodiversity and neighboring natural ecosystems that provide key services such as pollination, pest control, genetic diversity, soil retention, structure and fertility, water supply. This session will explore how closely interlinked biodiversity and ecosystem services support agriculture in multiple ways, benefitting farmers' livelihoods and well-being.

(B4) Robotics and Technology in Ag and Natural Resources

Track: Innovation and Technology

Over the centuries, as farmers have adopted more technology in their pursuit of greater yields, the belief that 'bigger is better' has come to dominate farming, rendering small-scale operations impractical. But advances in robotics and sensing technologies are threatening to disrupt today's agribusiness model. "There is the potential for intelligent robots to change the economic model of farming so that it becomes feasible to be a small producer again. Attend this session to learn how moving to a robotic agricultural system can make crop production significantly more efficient and more sustainable.

WORKSHOPS | APRIL 4



(B5) You Are Not Fake!

Track: Professional and Personal Development

"I know that I aced that class, but it is only because the professor curved it. I don't know why they accepted my essay, I do not have nearly as much experience as my peers" Often, students find themselves saying such phrases, which may indicate they are experiencing impostor syndrome. An alarming 70% of people admit to having experienced impostor syndrome throughout their lives, but some of the people most prone to suffering from it are women and college students, especially first-generation and low-income college students (FLI). This workshop is perfect for students who want to deconstruct and discuss impostor syndrome as we will dive into what it is and how it can show up.

Workshop Session C

1:50 PM–2:40 PM

(C1) Jobs in the Circular Economy

Track: Non-traditional Careers

How prepared are you for tomorrow's job market in the agriculture sector? Do you know what types of jobs are available for recent graduates? Would you like to learn where to look for them and how to prepare so that you are competitive? This workshop brings together a panel from different agriculture-related agencies - each will share key information about BA/BS level positions they hire, how/where they advertise, seek applicants, what they look for in resumes, interview format, advancement, etc. You will hear directly from employers and will have opportunities for face-to-face interaction while asking questions and gathering details that will be of benefit to you as you prepare for the career of your choice. The workshop will enable you to gain first-hand information and practical advice on various agriculture-related careers paths.

(C2) Educate, Motivate, Innovate: Building the Next Generation of Environmental Justice Leaders

Track: Agriculture

If the future belongs to our youth, then we must include our youth in addressing our future's key issues, such as environmental change and environmental justice. Championed primarily by African-Americans, Latinos, Asians and Pacific Islanders and Native Americans, the environmental justice movement addresses a statistical fact: people who live, work and play in America's most polluted environments are commonly people of color and the poor. Communities of color, which are often poor, are routinely targeted to host facilities that have negative environmental impacts. Attend this session if you want to learn how to become an Environment Justice Leader.

(C3) Changing Perceptions: Exploring the Agricultural and Food Value Chain

Track: Sustainability

The goal of the global agribusiness value chain, which spans input companies through to the final consumer has a total value of around \$5 trillion, is to provide sustainable access to affordable food, feed, fibre and, more recently, fuel. However, this goal is getting harder to achieve every year due to several prominent challenges. Industry professionals will provide insight into how demand from a growing population and the threat to a quality food supply will impact the Value Chain.

(C4) The Power of Big Data

Track: Innovation and Technology

Sometimes we only know there was a revolution by looking in the rear view mirror. That is not the case with the disruption in agriculture today. We can see the innovation and disruption that's occurring in real time all around us. With the need to produce more food using fewer inputs, agriculture is seeking new products, practices and technologies. As a planet we must use fewer chemicals and less water. Subsistence farmers need to close the yield gap. Production farmers want yield boosts and cost savings. Consumers are demanding healthier, clean food and ingredients. Come learn how big data is causing the disruption to meet these needs.

(C5) Know Your Worth

Track: Professional and Personal Development

Ever wonder what you are supposed to do when you are presented with an amazing job offer but the salary is way in left field? No one likes to talk about money, however negotiating your salary is a critical component of your overall career success. In this session, Industry Professionals pull back the curtain on understanding what you need to know to position yourself in order to maximize your value to your potential or current employer.

Workshop Session D

3:15 PM–4:05 PM

(D1) Global Citizenship Through Career Exploration

Track: Non-traditional Careers

The purpose of this workshop is to expose attendees to diplomacy through Agriculture and apply their agriculture know-how overseas to help feed our world. Attendees will learn about the impact agriculture has on the world/globalization. Panelists will share how students can help improve a community's livelihood and develop sustainable solutions, while gaining global skills for their career. Join us

at this agriculture-focused information session to learn about volunteer experiences, education abroad opportunities, and ask questions about the lasting benefits of service and living abroad.

(D2) Hemp and Cannabis is Agriculture: Farming and Future Implications

Track: Agriculture

Legalization is inevitable. Illinois in 2020 will mark the 11th state to legalize recreational cannabis. In this workshop, we will discuss innovative ways to enter the industry, why being in agriculture, natural resources, and related sciences is not only important but a unique position, and how to get involved.

(D3) Urban Agroecology

Track: Sustainability

Urban farming is growing quickly in cities around the world, and will increase as more people will live in cities (by year 2030, 75% of the world population will live in cities) and climate change affects agricultural production in rural areas. Mega-cities of more than 10 million people will triple and in order to feed them, about 6,000 tons of food needs to be daily imported into such mega-cities, traveling an average of 1,000 miles. With the right incentives, urban farmers can produce at least 25% of the vegetables and small animal derived protein needed by urban dwellers. Applying agroecological principles to the design and management of diversified farms can help realize this potential. Session attendees will raise popular consciousness about the role urban agroecology can play in democratizing the food system.

(D4) Innovation and Entrepreneurship: Creating Success in Agriculture

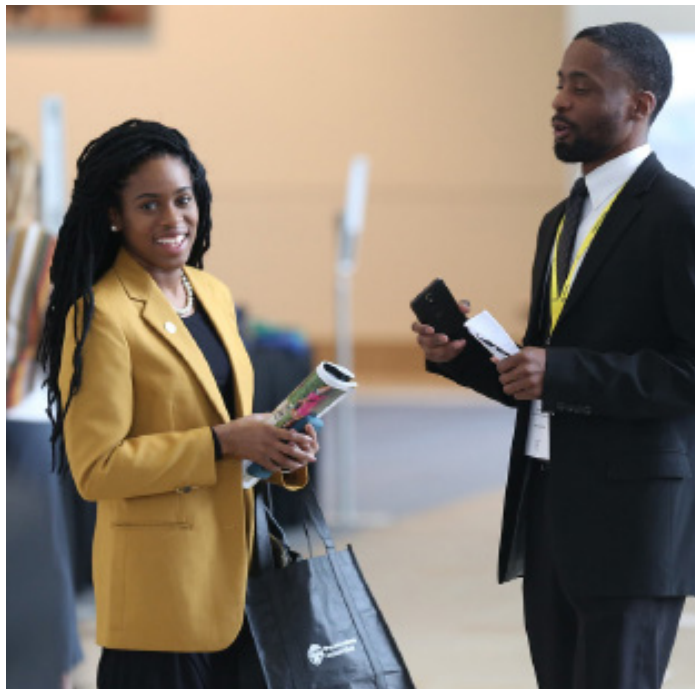
Track: Innovation and Technology

Entrepreneurship is a mindset of taking action on an idea to make it happen. Thinking in new ways. Breaking barriers. Developing new skills. Surrounding yourself with those who inspire fresh thinking and action. Session attendees will learn about initiatives across all sectors aimed to help identify the next generation of innovators and leaders in agriculture.

(D5) The Struggle is Real: Caring for you Mental Health and Wellness

Track: Professional and Personal Development

"You're an adult now," they said. "It'll be fun," they said. The truth is, The Post-Grad Struggle is real! From learning how to "adult" and tackling mental health and personal finance, new professionals face an honest struggle in coming into themselves as individuals. This panel discussion will provide students and young professionals with the opportunity to delve into the struggles of adulting and how to best adjust to life after school.





Student Competitions

*The following contests will be held on Thursday evening: Public Speaking, Impromptu 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. Contest guidelines can also be found on this website. All entries must be submitted online at:

<http://info.manrrs.org/2020-contest-submission>

Contests are open to all undergraduate or graduate students who are members of MANRRS through chapter or independent membership. All students must be a registered member before the contest deadline: **January 31, 2020**. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners for select contests will receive a check and framed certificate. The winner of the Public Speaking Contest winner will to present his/her winning speech at the Gala Banquet and Awards Ceremony on Saturday evening.

1. Elevator Speech

The purpose of the elevator speech contest is to sell the brand of MANRRS to the judges and audience. A preliminary contest was held at each regional cluster and finals will occur at the national conference. Prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners.

2. MANRRS Bowl* (evening session)

MANRRS Bowl is a chapter competition designed to increase and test the knowledge of Members on MANRRS History and topics with regard to food, agriculture, natural resources, and related sciences. Additionally, the competition promotes teamwork and encourages Regional pride.

Awards:

1st Place: \$500 and a certificate

2nd Place: \$250 and a certificate

3. Lincoln Douglas Debate

Debate allows development of research, effective communication, intense time management, team building, and organizational structure. Create competitive, yet friendly relationships among chapters and to increase regional pride and interconnectivity.

Awards:

Certificates of Excellence provided to the winners

4. Undergraduate Oral Research (Division I – Biological, Chemical and Physical Sciences)
5. Undergraduate Oral Research (Division II – Education, Social Sciences and Business)
6. Graduate Oral Research (Division I – Biological, Chemical and Physical Sciences)
7. 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.

Awards:

1st Place: \$300 and a certificate

2nd Place: \$200 and a certificate

3rd Place: \$150 and a certificate

8. Graduate Research Poster (Division I – Biological, Chemical and Physical Sciences)
(Division II – Education, Social Sciences and Business)
9. Undergraduate Research Poster (Division I – Biological, Chemical and Physical Sciences)
(Division II – Education, Social Sciences and Business)

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

10. 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

11. 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

12. *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, April 4, 2020.

Awards:

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

13. *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

14. *Impromptu Speaking (evening session)

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 were selected from the regional clusters and compete in the national competition.

Awards:

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

15. 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 the 35th Annual Career Fair and Training Conference Program.
- The overall first place Chapter winner will have their winning photograph published on the back cover of the 35th Annual Career Fair and Training Conference Program.
- The first and second runner up photograph will be published in the MANRRS 35th Annual Career Fair and Training Conference Program.
- Winners shall be notified at least two weeks prior to the 35th Annual Career Fair and Training Conference.
- Certificates of Excellence will be provided to the winners at the conference.



35th Annual Conference Anniversary Celebration

www.manrrs.org

#MANRRS35 #THISISIMPACT #WEAREMANRRS