

~~Strikethrough print~~ represents text which has been deleted.

Bold and italicized print represents text which has been added or modified.

Resolution

Support for Public Sector Science and Education in Agriculture

Delta Research and Extension Center-MSU and Agricultural Research Service-USDA

Strengthening recruitment and retention of scientists and specialists at the Delta Research and Extension Center-Mississippi State University and USDA at Stoneville should remain a high priority of the Administration of the University, USDA, producers, grower organizations, promotion boards, and all allied agricultural businesses. The ability to attract and maintain a corps of solid research and extension leaders in the State, and the federal research and education system is essential to the relevance and impact of public sector, independent research and practical solutions for farm challenges in the Delta.

Delta Council urges Mississippi State University and USDA to initiate a rigorous review of current policies associated with all aspects of the process from the identification of a vacancy-to-the-placement of quality individuals who possess the skillset to impact commercial agricultural production such as that conducted at the Delta Research and Extension Center. In the view of Delta Council, both systems, Federal and State, should analyze all approaches and implement more innovative methods for securing the future of Mississippi agriculture by ensuring that policies regarding promotions and compensation are constantly evaluated in a way which adequately rewards the impact which researchers and specialists bring to the farm gate.

**Adopted by: Delta Council Board of Directors
November 3, 2023**

