

Around the South

May 2007, Vol. 3 No. 5

■ SRDC Items of Interest

• **2007 RIDGE Program Request for Proposals Just Released**

The SRDC is pleased to announce its continued support for food and nutrition-related research focusing on the South under the new banner of the RIDGE Program (RIDGE refers to Research Innovation and Development Grants in Economics). As in past years, the program is designed to support innovative social sciences research that advances our knowledge and understanding of food assistance and nutrition issues impacting vulnerable populations in the South. The Economic Research Service remains a valuable partner with the SRDC in supporting this important work. Proposals must be postmarked by June 20, 2007. View the RFP online at

<http://srdc.msstate.edu/focusareas/health/fa/07rfp.pdf>.

• **SRDC Honored at Annual NACDEP Conference with "Friend of NACDEP" Award**

At the third annual National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals conference held April 16-19 in Philadelphia, PA, the SRDC received a "Friend of NACDEP" award. The award was in recognition of the SRDC's vision, dedication, and assistance in the formation and sustainability of NACDEP as a partner in advancing the profession, practice and science of community development within Extension. Thanks, NACDEP!

• **Invitation to Join the SRDC Regional Entrepreneurship Resource Team**

If you are engaged, or have an active interest in entrepreneurship-related activities, the SRDC would like to invite you to join our regional entrepreneurship resource team. This team is not limited to land-grant faculty/Extension educators. Community college faculty, government organizations, nonprofit groups, foundations, small business representatives, entrepreneurs, community leaders, etc. are all invited to join this important regional team.

Why would you want to join this team? For a number of reasons:

- The regional team will provide critical input to the national team that is working on the eXtension entrepreneurship website. This national team has two major foci which include (1) developing educational materials that can be used by individual entrepreneurs and their technical assistance providers and (2) developing educational materials that can be used by communities as they seek ways to more fully support entrepreneurship as a viable economic development tool. You will be invited to tell us what improvements are needed on the website before it goes public in late 2007.
- If you have curricula or other resources that you either have developed or plan to develop on any entrepreneurship-related topic, you will be invited to submit these materials to the national extension entrepreneurship team for its review. There is a good chance your materials (if you approve) would be added to the national website for use by customers and Extension educators across the country.

- You will provide recommendations of individuals on the regional resource team who could be nominated to fill slots that will open up on the national extension team in 2008.
- You can be part of an important network of colleagues with whom you can interact on key entrepreneurship-related topics.
- You can help guide the development and delivery of educational training to Extension faculty and our partners in the Southern region.
- You can have research articles you have written on entrepreneurship-related topics highlighted in the research articles section of the extension entrepreneurship website.
- You will receive periodic updates from the SRDC on entrepreneurship-related activities and products that have come to our attention.

The form to signup is available at <http://srdc.msstate.edu/entrecop.htm>.

■ National Items of Interest

- **Annual Award for Diversity -- Deadline for Nominations is June 1**
Sponsored by CSREES, ECOP and the ECOP National Extension Committee on Diversity, the purpose of the Annual Award for Diversity is to acknowledge accomplishments in achieving organizational changes that support diversity, pluralism and innovation in programs that impact our Extension audiences. The award is presented at the NASULGC annual meeting. Full details can be found at <http://srdc.msstate.edu/news/diversityawardsbrochure2007.pdf>.
- **National Agricultural Library Publishes Spanish Language Agricultural Thesaurus and Glossary**
The USDA National Agricultural Library (NAL) has published Spanish language versions of its NAL Agricultural Thesaurus (NALT) and Glossary of Agricultural Terms. The NALT and Glossary in Spanish support increased Spanish language access to agricultural information throughout the United States and the world, accommodating the complexity of the Spanish language from a Western Hemisphere perspective. Both publications can be downloaded and used through the NAL Services web page at <http://nal.usda.gov/services/>.
- **Second "GulfGov" Report Released**
The Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana and the Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government released the second GulfGov summary report, "GulfGov Reports: A Year and a Half after Katrina and Rita, an Uneven Recovery." The report examines the impact of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita on 22 communities across Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama and the role of local governments in the recovery efforts and what factors have helped or hindered the process. In addition, researchers examined the status of the local economies, the housing and labor situation, and how well the states are faring. The report finds that there is progress in the recovery and rebuilding efforts, but the recovery is uneven. To read the report, go to <http://www.rockinst.org/GulfGov/pdf/GulfGov18MonthReport1.pdf>.

■ Funding Opportunities

- **SRDC's Grant Connections: Rural Development Funding Opportunities**
Volume 9, Number 4, April 2007
<http://srdc.msstate.edu/funding/april07.htm>

The SRDC staff compiles Grant Connections primarily for the faculty of land-grant colleges and universities in the South to provide funding information in support of activities in agricultural economics, education, human sciences, rural sociology, youth development, and other related disciplines.

■ SRDC Sponsored Conferences & Trainings

- **E-Commerce Strategies for Small Businesses and Communities -- Registration deadline is Friday, May 11**
A Rollout of New Extension Educational Curricula developed as part of the SRDC and CSREES/USDA "Rural E-Commerce Extension Initiative: A National Demonstration Project"
June 4-6, 2007
Lied Lodge and Conference Center
Nebraska City, Nebraska
<http://srdc.msstate.edu/ecommerce/07training/>
- **eCommerce: An Opportunity Whose Time Has Come**
Offered by the NCRCD in cooperation with the SRDC
Online Breeze Conference
February through June, 2007
10-11:30 a.m. CST
<http://www.ncrcrd.iastate.edu/projects/breeze/ecommerce/index.htm>

■ Other Conferences & Trainings

- **Black Environmental Thought: Land, Power and Sustainability**
May 22-24, 2007
Tuskegee, Alabama
<http://blackenvirothought.org/>
- **Energizing Entrepreneurship (e2) in Rural America**
Presented by RUPRI Center for Rural Entrepreneurship and the Heartland Center for Leadership Development
June 5-8, 2007
Nebraska City, Nebraska
<http://www.heartlandcenter.info/documents/e2RegistrationBrochure.pdf>
- **National Poverty Center's The Impact of Religion and Faith-Based Organizations on the Lives of Low Income Families**
June 7, 2007
Washington, DC
<http://www.npc.umich.edu/news/events/religion&poverty/>
- **Mid-Continent Regional Science Association 38th Annual Conference**
June 7-9, 2007
Kansas City, Missouri

Hotel deadline for group rate is May 17

<http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/mcrsa/>

- **Southern Regional Rural Healthcare Conference**
June 13-14, 2007
New Orleans, Louisiana
Hotel deadline for group rate is May 13
http://lrha.org/conf_and_events.htm
- **CDS-NRDP Annual International Conference**
"The Magic of Community: History, Change, and Regional Development"
June 17-20, 2007
Appleton, Wisconsin
<http://www.comm-dev.org/>
- **Intensive Economic Development Training Course**
July 23-27 and September 10-14
Auburn University, Alabama
<http://www.auburn.edu/outreach/ecdi/intensivecourse/>
- **Society for the Study of Social Problems 57th Annual Meeting**
"Research Matters: Creating Knowledge, Policy, and Justice"
August 10-12, 2007
New York, New York
<http://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/23>
- **RCCA Annual Conference**
"Red Hot, Rural and Ready!"
September 23-25, 2007
Albuquerque, New Mexico
<http://rcca.msgovt.org/rcca2007/>
- **Transatlantic Conference on the Science and Education of Land Use**
September 24-26, 2007
Washington, DC
<http://nercrd.psu.edu/taluc/>
- **4th Annual Tri-State Diversity Conference: Expanding our Cultural Circles**
January 17-18, 2008
Clarksville, Indiana
Proposal deadline is May 15, 2007
<http://srdc.msstate.edu/news/tristatediversity.pdf>
- **SARE 20th Anniversary National Conference**
March 25-27, 2008
Kansas City, Missouri
<http://sare.org/>

■ Job Opportunities

- Assistant/Associate Professor, Extension Specialist, Community Viability
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
View announcement: <http://jobs.vt.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=185961>

- Associate Director, Borlaug Institute for International Agriculture
Texas A&M Agriculture, The Texas A&M University System
View announcement: http://srdc.msstate.edu/news/jobs/tx_intag.pdf
- Director
Western Rural Development Center
Utah State University
View announcement: <https://jobs.usu.edu> (Req #050671)
- Director of Extension/Associate Vice Provost for University Engagement
Purdue University
View announcement: http://www.purdue.edu/humanrel/aao/openings_ag.shtml (Posting #001788-2007)
- Program Officer -- Community Building
Foundation for the Mid South
View announcement:
http://www.fndmidsouth.org/Documents/Pgm_Officer_BldPhil_0704.pdf
- Research Fellow And Senior Research Fellow Posts (4 posts)
Countryside and Community Research Institute, United Kingdom
View announcement: <http://www.jobs.ac.uk/jobfiles/LR604.html>
- Senior Agribusiness/Trade Promotion Advisor (located in Southern Africa)
Recruited position
View announcement: <http://srdc.msstate.edu/news/jobs/africa.doc>
- Senior Researcher (Senior Forecaster), Community Development
Metropolitan Council
View announcement:
http://www.metrocouncil.org/jobs/jobfiles/SR_Researcher_RA_290951.pdf
- Vice President of Economic Development
Heart of Wisconsin Business & Economic Alliance
View announcement: <http://www.heartofwi.com/howjobs/VPED.pdf>

■ Submit Announcements

Job announcements and other items of interest may be sent to Emily Shaw, emilye@srdc.msstate.edu, for possible inclusion in future issues.

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