

From the Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors:

Dr. Eric Young, Executive Director of the Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

- **Dr. Young has provided exemplary leadership to the Land Grant system for the past 20 years as Associate Director (North Carolina AES) and Executive Director of SAAESD. He has been Administrative Advisor for numerous Multi-state projects, and is a highly engaged liaison to the Southern Business Officers, Southern Extension Directors (ASRED), and Southern Administrative Heads (AHS). He was co-chair of the organizing committee that established LEAD 21 in 2004. Dr. Young supported the Battelle study commissioned by SAAESD and ASRED (Impact & Innovation: Agbioscience in the Southern US). He initiated and fostered Best Management Practices Sessions at SAAESD meetings. He has provided administrative support for the ESCOP Chair, BAA Committee on Legislation Policy, BAA Policy Board of Directors, NRSP Review Committee, and National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee. Dr. Young's approach is one of inclusion and service making him an outstanding mentor for new Directors. He is widely recognized for his administrative expertise, diplomacy, and organizational skills, and his leadership has been invaluable in navigating potentially difficult situations.**