

**“Sustainable STEM: Resilience in a Changing Climate”
79th JOINT ANNUAL MEETING of NIS/BKX**

March 27-30, 2024

March 27, Wednesday - EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL		
2:00 PM – 8:00 PM	REGISTRATION	In front of Embassy Ballroom
5:30 PM – 6:30 PM	OPENING PLENARY SESSION Guest Speaker: Dr. Thelma Ivery <i>“History of BKX”</i>	Embassy I & II
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	MEET AND GREET/ HOTEL COMPLIMENTARY HAPPY HOUR	Atrium
6:45 PM – 7:45 PM	JUDGES MEETING	Commerce
8:00 PM-9:00 PM	EXECUTIVE SESSION (NIS/BKX)	State Boardroom
March 28, Thursday - EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL		
7:00 AM – 8:30 AM	BREAKFAST (COMPLIMENTARY PROVIDED BY HOTEL)	Atrium & Montgomery Grill
8:30 AM – 12:00 PM	GRADUATE ORAL PRESENTATIONS GROUP A (Morning session)	Capital Ballroom
8:30 AM – 12:00 PM	GRADUATE ORAL PRESENTATIONS GROUP B (Morning session)	Salon A & B
UNDERGRADUATE ORAL PRESENTATIONS (Morning session)		
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	CMPE (Chem; Comp. Sci; Phy; Math; Eng.) PSE (Psy; Soc. Sci., Env. Educ.)	Salon D

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM	<p align="center">BKX LECTURE AND MEMORIAL LUNCHEON</p> <p align="center">LECTURER: Marlin I. Ford, PhD, MPA Farm Research Superintendent /Research Assistant Professor and Urban Agricultural Specialist at the Southern University Agricultural Research & Extension Center</p> <p align="center"><i>“Promoting Sustainable Integration in STEN/STEAM Education, Research, and Outreach at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) “</i></p>	Embassy I & II
1:45 PM – 5:00 PM	<p>GRADUATE ORAL PRESENTATIONS (Afternoon sessions)</p>	Capital Ballroom
<p>UNDERGRADUATE ORAL PRESENTATIONS (Afternoon Sessions)</p>		
2:00 PM – 5:00 PM	BIO (Biology)	Salon D
5:45	***** JUDGING RESULTS DUE *****	Commerce
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM	<p align="center">NISBKX DINNER SPEAKER:</p> <p align="center">Sherrice Allen, PhD Inclusive Learning Group Center for The Advancement of Science Leadership and Culture</p> <p align="center"><i>“Be the Solution: Sustaining STEM by Executing the 3Ps (Prep/Position/Produce)”</i></p>	Embassy I & II
<p>March 29, Friday - EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL</p>		
7:00 AM – 8:30 AM	BREAKFAST (COMPLIMENTARY PROVIDED BY HOTEL)	Atrium & Montgomery Grill
9:00 AM – 11:30 AM	EXHIBITIONS	In front of Embassy Ballroom
9:00 AM – 9:30 AM	POSTER SET UP	Salons D, E & F
9:30 AM – 11:30 PM	UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE POSTER PRESENTATIONS	Salons D, E & F
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM	<p align="center">NIS MEMORIAL LUNCHEON</p> <p align="center">LECTURER: Quenton Bonds, PhD Lead for NASA GSFC SBIR/STTR Program</p> <p align="center"><i>“WHAT IS IT????”</i> Motivational Talk</p>	Embassy I & II

2:00 PM – 5:00 PM	WORKSHOPS	
2:00PM-3:00PM	<p style="text-align: center;">I. Nyree McDonald, PhD Associate Dean, Graduate Enrollment Management University of Notre Dame and Marcus A. Huggans, PhD Executive Director, Client Relations The National GEM Consortium</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“Graduate School is FREE, in fact we pay you!!”</i></p>	Salon A
2:00PM-3:00PM	<p style="text-align: center;">II. Quenton Bonds, PhD Lead for NASA GSFC SBIR/STTR Program</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>NASA Funding Info Session for Researchers</i></p>	Salon C
3:00pm-4:00PM	<p style="text-align: center;">III. LaTanya Hammonds-Odie, PhD, Georgia Gwinnett College and Debra D. Murray, PhD, Baylor College of Medicine</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“Precision Medicine: All of Us Research Program on the Brink of Making it a Reality”</i></p>	Salon B
3:00PM-4:00PM	<p style="text-align: center;">V. Jianping Yu, PhD (NREL), Himadri Pakrasi, Dr. (WUSTL), Dr. Harvey Hou, PhD(ASU)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“Energy Science: Challenges and Opportunities”</i></p>	Salon C
4:00PM-5:00 PM	<p style="text-align: center;">IV. Olufemi Ajayi, PhD Director, Industrial Hemp & Specialty Crops Program Alabama State University Department of Biological Sciences</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“Mitigating climate change effects via urban gardening”</i></p>	Salon A
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM	<p style="text-align: center;">DINNER SPEAKER:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Himadri Pakrasi. PhD George William and Irene Koechig Freiberg Professor Washington University in St. Louis</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Climate Challenges: Biology to the Rescue</i></p>	Embassy I & II
6:30PM - 7:30PM	NIS STUDENTS MEETING	Salon A
6:30PM - 8:00PM	BKX BUSINESS MEETING	Salon B
8:00PM – 9:00PM	NIS BUSINESS MEETING	Salon C
7:30PM – 8:30PM	BKX STUDENTS MEETING	Salon D
7:30 PM - 8:30 PM	SPECIAL JOINT NIS AND BKX PLANNING SESSION	State Boardroom

March 30, Saturday - EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL AND EMBASSY I & II		
7:00 AM – 8:30 AM	BREAKFAST (COMPLIMENTARY PROVIDED BY HOTEL)	Atrium & Montgomery Grill
8:30AM – 9:00 AM	GROUP PICTURE	River Front
9:00 AM – 11:30AM	& TOUR OF EQUAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE AND NATIONAL MEMORIAL FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE MUSEUM	Board busses in front of the hotel
12:15 PM – 2:00 PM	79TH ANNUAL NIS/BKX AWARDS LUNCHEON	Embassy I & II
Adjourn		