

NCA&T Professor Re-Appointed To National Genetic Resources Advisory Council

By Administrator

Monday, 22 September 2014 09:23 - Last Updated Monday, 22 September 2014 09:23

RALEIGH, (SGRToday.com) - Dr. Mulumebet Worku, Animal Scientist/Professor/Biotechnologist at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University is among the scientists reappointed to the National Genetic Resources Advisory Council.

Dr. Worku will be among those meeting this week in Ames, Iowa. The NGRAC is made up of nine voting members and eight ex-officio members. Two-thirds of voting members are selected from the scientific community and one-third from the general public.

According to the U.S. Agriculture Department, the council was originally established by Congress in 1992 and re-activated in 2012.

The council's mission is to formulate recommendations on actions and policies for the collection, maintenance, and utilization of genetic resources; to make recommendations for coordination of genetic resources plans; and to advise the Secretary of Agriculture and the National Genetic Resources Program (NGRP) Director of new and innovative approaches to genetic resources conservation.

More recently, the NGRAC was charged with advising USDA on ways to ensure that the NGRP serves the needs of all farmers for high-quality and diverse seed for their particular farming operations and how the department can develop a broad strategy for maintaining plant biodiversity available to agriculture, and strengthening public sector plant breeding capacities.

The meeting's agenda includes featured experts in genetic sciences within food and agriculture.