New Facilities Planned
• A new 8,000 sq. ft. Food Processing and Food Safety facility will be constructed within the year. Funding for the facility is provided by USDA/CSREES. This facility, when completed, will serve as the focal research facility for the development of food processing methods, analytical methods for the determination of contaminants, chemical/drug residues both naturally occurring and biotechnologically, including food components and waste management and environmental quality.

Unique Plant Responses
• Replenishment with a refill nutrition solution containing 4.5 mM N/K with remaining nutrients at half-Hoagland concentration was effective in increasing sweetpotato storage root yield and maintaining standard levels of N and K within the plant.
• Plant model work has shown that the quantity of N remobilized from senesced sweetpotato leaves appears to be sufficient to support more than 70% of required storage root N at harvest. It seems that the remaining storage root N is remobilized from other senesced plant parts, particularly flowers and/or from the nutrient solution.
• Peanut plants exposed to low Mars ambient PPF (100-200 µmol m$^{-2}$ s$^{-1}$) reduced pod and seed yield, harvest index, and delayed flowering.

Cooperative/Interdisciplinary Projects
• Collaborated with the solid waste recovery team of NASA’s Environmental Systems Commercial Space Technology Center at the University of Florida in recycling inedible sweetpotato and peanut plant biomass.
• Cooperative work with USDA/CSREES sweetpotato, biotechnology, and breeding, and food processing and human nutrition programs.
• Student interns working with scientists at JSC and KSC in engineering, food safety and product development, and biomass production projects.
• Collaborated with the New Jersey-NSCORT, and majority native American serving Dine and South Mountain Colleges on the 2000 Spaceflight and Life Science Training Program at KSC.

Workshops/Colloquia/Symposia
• Participated in NASA’s Training and Development of Small Businesses in Advanced Technologies (TADSBAT II) targeted towards helping NASA to increase contracts to small, disadvantaged, minority or women-owned businesses.
Committees and Sub-committees Served

- Dean and Research Director serves on NASA’s Biological and Physical Sciences Research Advisory Committee; CAST Advisory Council for the Kellogg-funded CAST/ICL leadership development initiative for Professional Societies; Advisory Committee for the ESCOP/ACOP Leadership Development of the Experiment Station Committee on Organization and Policy (ESCOP) / Academic Committee on Organization and Policy (ACOP); National Research Initiative Competitive Research Grants review panel.

Publications