

*Persistence bears the fruit of Academic Excellence*  
*Michelle M. Corley Ph.D.*



Dr. Michelle Corley is the newly appointed Dean of the CESTA/Director of 1890 Land Grant Program and Full Professor at Central State University in Wilberforce Ohio. She earned a Doctor of Philosophy in Avian Molecular Immunology and Virology, Auburn University, Auburn, AL, a Master of Science in Ruminant Nutrition and Rumen Microbiology and a Bachelor of Science in Animal and Poultry Science from Tuskegee University, Tuskegee, AL. By her words, she is looking forward to leading the College of Engineering Science, Technology and Agriculture in strengthening existing endeavors and building capacity to impact our stakeholders at CSU and within our community, through fulfillment of the 1890 Land Grant tripartite mission of Teaching, Research and Outreach Education. In this role, she intends to operate

with a high level of integrity, pursue excellence, be student centered, and provide leadership through team building via a mission driven and outcomes-based approach. Dean Corley has 20 years of experience in Teaching, Research, Extension and matriculation of undergraduate and graduate students in the STEM areas of the Food, Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Human Sciences (FANRHS) disciplines. She has also led 12 Academic programs/Concentrations (Animal Science, Animal-Pre-Veterinary Science, Environmental Science, Plant and Soil Science, Agri-Business and Economics, Agricultural Education and each Concentration +Certificate Program in International Agriculture) at Virginia State University. Dean Corley intends to implement new curricula and research experiential learning programs as well as provide workforce experiences for students at both the Federal and State levels. She has a robust background in Grantsmanship and Peer reviewed research publications. As Dean of the CESTA at CSU, she intends to build a team to provide visionary leadership for the college, that supports a dynamic fluid model of interdisciplinary foci to further build capacity in the Teaching, and 1890 Land Grant programs through innovative strategies of student recruitment, retention, curricula benchmarking and land grant community outreach programs. She will build on the efforts to support the CESTA in its mission to exemplify a culture of excellence in Teaching, Research and Extension in fulfillment of the tripartite mission at CSU, the newest member of the 1890 Land Grant University System. Dean Corley expressed that she is grateful to have joined the CSU family and is looking forward to serving to the best of her ability in this capacity.