

FANR FOCUS: WHAT'S THE LATEST?

APLU's Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resources (FANR) Update

FROM DOUG'S DESK

Doug Steele, Vice President

I recently read that the fall season (autumn for many people) officially begins on September 1st. I don't know about your part of the country, but it appears in the northeast summer may linger just a little longer before we see the color of leaves start to change.

A lot has been happening in recent weeks. The Lewis-Burke Associates report provided updates and highlights of recent advocacy efforts. We completed a very successful Joint Council on Organization and Policy summer meeting with leadership from the Board on Agriculture sections, councils, and committees attending, as well as the Board on Human Sciences that has undertaken a new strategic planning initiative.

I was honored to join the 1890 Association of Extension Administrators conference this week in Orlando, the first time in 11 years this group has gotten together for a system-wide, in-person meeting. It was a great reminder of not only the impact our work has had during and coming out of COVID, but also how much we value personal interactions and learning from each other.

The 2022 APLU annual meeting (November 6-8, Denver) is in the final stages of planning and registration information will be available soon. We are also finalizing the BAA, BoHS, and Awards of Excellence meetings that will occur during the annual meeting.

I hope that as summer comes to an end and you begin to welcome students back on campus for the fall semester that you have an opportunity for rest and reflection. One take-away from the pandemic is that the responsibility for achieving and promoting a culture that fosters an environment of work-life balance begins with senior leadership and supervisors. I believe that if you achieve that balance, you are happier and more productive in both your professional and personal life.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Evaluation of Joint COPs Summer Meeting

Thank you for those who participated in the July 2022 Joint COPs Summer Meeting held at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC. Attendees should have received an evaluation form on August 2, 2022. Your evaluation is important to us. Your response will be used to help us plan for the 2023 conference. Feedback is confidential. If you did not receive this form, please contact Suzette Robinson at srobinson@aplu.org.

Washington Update

Written for the Board on Agricultural Assembly by Lewis-Burke Associates

In the leadup to August recess, there have been several developments in agricultural policy. The most prominent issues of the last month are below.

Senate Agriculture Appropriations Bill for Fiscal Year 2023

On July 28, the Senate Appropriations Committee released its version of the fiscal year (FY) 2023 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies [appropriations bill](#). The overall bill would provide \$27.072 billion in discretionary funding, a \$2.3 billion increase, or 9 percent above FY 2022. The draft bill reflects Democratic priorities and is unlikely to receive formal consideration either in Committee or by the full Senate before current funding for FY 2022 expires on September 30. However, the funding levels and priorities articulated in this draft bill are a starting point for the Senate in negotiating a final package of spending bills for FY 2023. Notably, the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) would receive \$1.691 billion, \$54 million or 4.7 percent over FY 2022 with modest growth across its programs, but \$77 million less than the House mark.

Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (Reconciliation)

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) have reached a tentative agreement on an energy, climate, health care, and tax package referred to as the [Inflation Reduction Act of 2022](#). Overall, the bill would raise approximately \$739 billion in revenue and spend \$433 billion on energy, climate, health care, and tax policies. The

conservation programs supported by this bill would include \$8.45 billion for the Environmental Quality Incentives Programs, which incentivizes farmers and ranchers to employ conservation practices. The Senators call for using the over \$300 billion remaining in savings for deficit reduction, which they argue could help combat inflation. The bill would not need any Republican support to pass but will require support from all 50 Democrats. The Senate plans to vote on the legislation during the week of August 8th, and the House is prepared to return to session for votes in the early part of August if the Senate passes the legislation.

Nomination of Dr. Arati Prabhakar as the new Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP).

On July 21, the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee held a hearing on President Biden's nomination of Dr. Arati Prabhakar to be the Director of OSTP. Dr. Prabhakar formerly served as Director of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). Committee members from both parties have praised Dr. Prabhakar's career and are optimistic about her leading OSTP.

August Congressional Recess 2022

Every August, Members of Congress return to their home districts/states to meet with constituents and, in election years, campaign. Given how pivotal the 2022 midterm elections will be, we anticipate Members of Congress will hold town halls, roundtables, constituent coffees, and attend state and county fairs, etc. Participating in these events is a great way to not only hear about your elected officials' priorities, but to also engage with your Representatives or Senators on what is important to you.

If you have the opportunity to talk with a Representative or Senator, we hope that you will continue to support the BAA's overall priority – the need for robust funding support for USDA NIFA research, Cooperative Extension System, and education programs.

We encourage you to invite Members or their staff to visit your campuses to showcase the work you are doing in agriculture research, extension, and education. While it is great to present new innovations and highlight outreach efforts, it would be tremendously helpful for staff to see firsthand the critical agriculture facilities needs on your campus.

Resources

Check your Representative/Senators social media (Twitter, Instagram, Facebook) for upcoming events—links can often be found on the “contact me” page of the Member's website. You can also call the offices to ask directly about any upcoming events.

U.S. House Directory: <https://www.house.gov/representatives>

U.S. Senate Directory: <https://www.senate.gov/senators/senators-contact.htm>

The House Agriculture Committee has also hosted a number of listening sessions throughout the country in the home districts of its Committee members and will continue to do so. These are great opportunities to raise the importance of research, extension, and education ahead of the Farm Bill. For reference, recordings of some sessions are available below:

- Washington State: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ita_dmzueYs
- Arizona: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Do5Mu7MtiWA>
- Minnesota: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mILobmZ32jw>
- California: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_Jrqtv4W-Xc

Nominations for CARET Awards: Lifetime of Service and Meritorious Service

Do you know someone who has been exceptional in their service to the Council on Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching (CARET)? Submit them for an award!

At the March 2023 CARET/AHS Joint Meeting, the Lifetime of Service and the Meritorious Service will be presented to individuals who have been extraordinary in their service to CARET. The Lifetime Service Award is given to a longstanding CARET delegate who made significant contributions over many years and concluded their service to CARET. The Meritorious Service Award is given to an individual who has supported CARET and the overall land-grant university community.

Learn more about both awards [here](#). **Please submit your nominations to fbethel@aplu.org by September 15.** And join us in celebrating our awardees at the CARET/AHS Joint Meeting next March!

McCollum, Smith, Meeks, McCaul Introduce Bipartisan Legislation Reauthorizing the Global Food Security Act

Representatives Betty McCollum (D-MN), Chris Smith (R-NJ), House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Gregory Meeks (D-NY), and Ranking Member Michael McCaul (R-TX) have introduced the [Global Food Security Reauthorization Act of 2022 \(H.R. 8446\)](#), extending the authorization of USAID's Feed the Future program for an additional five years through 2028.

APLU weighed in on the legislation and encouraged extension of support for the Feed the Future Innovation Labs, partnerships with public research universities, and a renewed emphasis on USAID research and development. The House reauthorization text achieves

these goals as well as a **10 percent increase in the authorization of appropriations for the Global Food Security Act programs.**

News from NIFA: Hispanic-Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities Certification Process

The Federal Register on July 19 published a notice entitled "Hispanic-Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities (HSACU) Certification Process." This amendment to National Institute of Food and Agriculture's regulations updates the list of institutions that are granted Hispanic-Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities (HSACU) certification by the Secretary and are eligible for HSACU programs for the period starting October 1, 2021 and ending September 30, 2022. For more information, see the [Federal Register notice](#).

EVENTS

Preventing Cancer One Bite at a Time

Community Conversations in Support of President Biden's Cancer Moonshot
USDA Day of Action | August 10, 2022

The USDA Day of Action features two sessions from leading scientists, innovative program specialists and community leaders with a focus on food, nutrition, and healthy habits that reduce the risk of cancer and chronic disease.

Virtual Roundtable on Cutting-edge Nutrition Research and Science

10:00 – 11:30 am ET

Showcasing the latest best agriculture and nutrition science for preventing cancer and leading a healthy life free from chronic disease.

Virtual Roundtable on Integrating Best Practices and Engaging with USDA Programs

2:00 – 3:30 pm ET

Showcasing USDA and partner programs and best practices that increase community adoption of healthy eating and lifestyles, both of which have been shown to prevent cancer.

REGISTER

INFORMATIONAL



National Institute of Food and Agriculture
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) Seeks Qualified Candidates

NIFA is hiring! Please see the [NIFA Career Opportunities](#) page for a current listing of career opportunities.

USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture Calendar

See application deadlines [here](#).

APLU Member Job Postings

APLU has a [job board](#) on which member institutions may list available positions for which they are recruiting.

FOCUS is an update from the Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resources office of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) to provide timely, relevant information and actions items to the membership of the Commission on Food, Environment, and Renewable Resources (CFERR) and its member boards and sections.

If you know of someone who would like to receive our newsletter, please ask them to email Suzette Robinson at srobinson@aplu.org with their contact information.

Doug

Douglas L. Steele

Vice President, Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resources

Association of Public and Land-grant Universities

1220 L Street, NW, Suite 1000

Washington, DC 20005

(202) 478-6082

E-Mail: dsteeler@aplu.org

Website: www.aplu.org

Twitter: [@APLU_Ag](https://twitter.com/APLU_Ag)



APLU, 1220 L Street, NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20005

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