FANR FOCUS: WHAT’S THE LATEST?
APLU’s Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resources (FANR) Update

FROM DOUG’S DESK
Doug Steele, Vice President

As this edition of the FANR Focus reaches your inbox I am in Ottawa, Canada meeting with the Association of Canadian Faculties of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine (also know as the Dean’s Council, much like the BAA). Their 8 colleges of agriculture and 5 colleges of veterinary medicine are all members of APLU.

Once you cross the northern boarder it should be no surprise that many of the topics are the same: climate, sustainability, profitability, food supply chains, nutrition, and the list goes on. As part of the APLU commitment to a North American Knowledge Zone we increasingly try to identify ways in which our public and land-grant universities can work together to solve the complex issues we face today and into the future.

House Research Facilities Act FY23 Dear Colleague Letter
Representatives Schrier (D-WA) and Mann (R-KS) lead the first House appropriations Dear Colleague letter for FY23 requesting an increase agricultural research infrastructure funding as authorized in the Research Facilities Act (RFA) of the 2018 Farm Bill. The letter, addressed to House Agriculture, Rural Development, and Food and Drug Administration Appropriations Subcommittee leadership, requests at $365 million in funding for RFA in FY23. The request matches APLU’s FY2023 request. Thank you to all the members who worked with their government affairs officials and congressional delegations to add support to the letter. See the final letter here.

House NIFA Agriculture Research and Capacity Funding FY23 Dear Colleague Letter
Representatives Jimmy Panetta (D-CA), Rodney Davis (R-IL), and Suzan DelBene (D-WA) lead a House FY23 Dear Colleague letter in support of agriculture research and capacity funding at
the Department of Agriculture’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture. The letter, addressed to House Appropriations leadership and the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee leadership, requests increased funding for several APLU priority programs, including the Hatch Act (State Agricultural Experiment Stations), Smith-Lever (Extension Activities), McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry, Evans-Allen Program (1890s Research and Education programs), 1890s Institutions Extension Services, and Extension Services and Education funding for 1994 institutions, and the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI). Thank you to all the members who worked with their government affairs officials and congressional delegations to add support to the letter. See the final letter here.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The 2022 GusNIP Nutrition Incentive Program and Produce Prescription Program Request for Applications (RFAs) were recently published.

**GusNIP Nutrition Incentive Program**

The [GusNIP Nutrition Incentive Program](#) presents the opportunity to bring together stakeholders from various parts of the food and healthcare systems to foster understanding of how they might improve the health and nutrition status of participating households. NIFA requests applications for the GusNIP Nutrition Incentive Program to support and evaluate projects intended to increase the purchase of fruits and vegetables by providing incentives at the point of purchase among income eligible consumers. Download the RFA [here](#).

Proposal Due Date: June 30, 2022  
Estimated Total Program Funding: $33,982,780  
Relevant Links: Nutrition Incentive RFA Resources and GusNIP FAQs

**GusNIP Produce Prescription Program**

The primary goal and objective of the [GusNIP Produce Prescription Program](#) is to demonstrate and evaluate the impact of projects on (1) the improvement of dietary health through increased consumption of fruits and vegetables; (2) the reduction of individual and household food insecurity; and (3) the reduction in healthcare use and associated costs. Download the RFA [here](#).  
Closing Date: June 30, 2022
The White House Announced a Historic Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health to be held in September 2022.

According to the White House, “This conference comes at a crucial time: we face new challenges in our food system…The mission is clear: re-imagining our nation’s food system to end hunger, improve nutrition, and reduce diet-related chronic diseases.”

U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack commented: “For our country and our children to reach their highest potential, we must not only keep food on the table, but also aim for everyone to enjoy nutritious and affordable food that contributes to their overall health…The White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health will help drive the transformative solutions…The U.S. Department of Agriculture is proud to be a partner as we work together toward the admirable goal of ending hunger and increasing healthy eating by 2030.” For more information, see the White House Announcement.

White House Office of Public Engagement Listserv

If you are interested in receiving White House updates on public engagement, you may want to register for the Office of Public Engagement listserv. Weekly updates are specific to federal programs, state and regional updates and priority areas from the administration. For more information and to register for the listserv, visit Office of Public Engagement | The White House.

BoHS / CAFCS Inaugural Leadership Fellows Program

The Board on Human Sciences (BoHS), in partnership with the Council of Administrators of Family and Consumer Sciences (CAFCS), recently launched an inaugural Leadership Fellows Program that identifies, engages, and cultivates emerging faculty and extension administrative leaders within the human sciences disciplines. Please join us in congratulating our first cohort:

Leadership Fellows:

- Dr. Kim Williams, Professor & Chair, Department of Hospitality and Tourism Management, University of North Texas
- Dr. Brian Focht, Professor & Vice Chair, Department of Human Sciences, The Ohio State University
The Bipartisan Commission on Biodefense Report to be Released

The Bipartisan Commission on Biodefense will release a report entitled *Boots on the Ground: Land-Grant Universities in the Fight Against Threats to Food and Agriculture* that details the unique role of America's land-grant universities in protecting the nation's food and agriculture from biological threats. It was informed by a meeting hosted by the Commission at Colorado State University, led by former Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle and former Homeland Security Advisor Ken Wainstein. APLU's Board on Agriculture Assembly members contributed to this report through 2021 workshop hosted by the Commission and the Scowcroft Institute of International Affairs at Texas A&M University that examined land-grant capabilities and needs to support national biodefense. The report will detail specific recommendations on how America's
land-grant universities can play a significant role in food and agricultural defense, and how the federal government can better support those efforts. As of May 9, 2022, it will be available here.

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**EVENTS**

**Announcement of the 2022 Borlaug CAST Communication Award Recipient**
May 10, 2022, 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM CDT
The Borlaug CAST (The Council for Agricultural Science and Technology) Communication Award is presented annually for outstanding achievement by a scientist, engineer, technologist, or other professional working in the agricultural, environmental, or food sectors in contributing to the advancement of science in the public policy arena. Register for the virtual event here.

**The Southern Region Mini Land-Grant Meeting: Working Together for Impact**
May 16 – 19, 2022
College Station, Texas
The 2022 Southern Region Mini Land-Grant Meeting brings together leaders from seven groups from both 1862 and 1890 Land-Grant universities to explore avenues for improving the roles of each group and Land-Grant functions as a whole. For more information, see here.

**2022 Joint COPs Summer Meeting: “Moving Into The New Normal”**
July 19 – 21, 2022
Omni Shoreham Hotel. 2500 Calvert Street, NW, Washington, DC
Here is the Joint COPs Agenda. Registration and lodging information will be sent under a separate message during the week of May 9, 2022.

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**INFORMATIONAL**

United States Department of Agriculture
National Institute of Food and 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: https://nifa.usda.gov/grants/upcoming-request-applications-calendar

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: dsteele@aplu.org
Website: www.aplu.org
Twitter: @APLU_Ag