

FANR FOCUS: WHAT'S THE LATEST?

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

FROM DOUG'S DESK

Doug Steele, Vice President

I was able to attend part of the National Extension Directors Administrators (NEDA) and Experiment Station Section (ESS) joint meeting held in Baltimore, Maryland last week. The meeting's central theme was "trust", which influenced much of the agenda, topics, and speakers. As I listened to many of the presenters, it intrigued me about the role of trust in building relationships after two years of remote work because of the pandemic. Trust is often referred to as an essential building block for both professional and personal foundations for successful interactions. Trust can also be one of the greatest challenges faced by leaders because it doesn't occur overnight. You have to have a relationship orientated culture and create opportunities that reinforce a "safe" environment for difficult discussions.

I have a book in my personal library that I used frequently when I taught leadership classes. *Credibility* by Kouzes and Posner (1995) is subtitled "*How Leaders Gain and Lose It, Why People Demand It.*" Much like trust, credibility demonstrates why a major part of effective leadership is based on relationships, with credibility as one of the cornerstones. While we all need to continue to grow and develop as leaders, it is important to remember the foundational building blocks that will provide future success for our institutions.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

The APLU Annual Meeting

The APLU Annual Meeting is back in-person, and we can't wait for you to join us in Denver, CO, November 6-8, 2022! The link to information and registration is below in the [Events](#) section.

New Funding Opportunity: The Biden-Harris Administration Announces More Than \$8 Billion in New Commitments

The Biden-Harris Administration hosted the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health on September 28th. The Administration has released a [National Strategy](#) with actions the federal government will take to drive solutions to these challenges. The Administration announced more than \$8 billion in new commitments as part of this conference's call to action and released a [fact sheet](#).

This conference was the first of its kind in more than 50 years since the 1969 White House Conference on Food, Nutrition, and Health, which led to the development of landmark initiatives including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). Ahead of the Conference, the Administration released a National Strategy on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health, which calls for a whole-of-government approach involving more than a dozen federal agencies to address the challenges of widespread malnutrition, diet-related diseases, and access to healthy foods with the twin goals of ending hunger in America by 2030 and reducing the prevalence of chronic disease by increasing healthy eating and physical activity. Some actions mentioned in the strategy are new, while others have already been announced or publicly noticed. Many are likely to be included in the President's budget request for fiscal year (FY) 2024 and beyond. More information on the White House Conference and the National Strategy can be found [here](#).

Washington Update

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

As August recess has come and gone, there are several new developments related to agriculture policy of note leading up to the election. The most prominent issues of the last month have been the House Agriculture Committee hearing on the Conservation Title in the Farm Bill and the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Additionally, the U.S. Department of Food and Agriculture (USDA) released a solicitation for Regional Food Business Centers and the Biden-Harris Administration announced a partnership with USDA for 70 Climate-Smart commodities and rural projects. **Read the full report from Lewis-Burke Associates [here](#).**

Call for Applications LEAD 21: Leadership for the 21st Century

The LEAD21 program is intended to meet the future needs for leadership development of faculty, specialists, district and regional directors, program and team leaders, research station and center directors, department heads and chairs, and others in the universities' colleges of agricultural, environmental, natural resources, veterinary sciences, and human sciences and USDA/NIFA. Individuals from land-grant, NARRU institutions, and USDA are encouraged to participate.

The primary purpose of LEAD21 is to develop leaders in land grant institutions and their strategic partners who link research, academics, and extension in order to lead more effectively in an increasingly complex environment, either in their current position or as they aspire to other positions.

Application deadline: November 15, 2022 for full consideration
For more information and to apply online, link is [here](#).

APLU BAA is Collecting Responses to the Notice of Stakeholder Listening Session Regarding Science Priorities

To represent the interests of BAA sections and members, APLU FANR requests input from sections and representatives by **October 24th** in response to the NIFA stakeholder listening session recently announced. "[NIFA Listening Session for Stakeholder Input to Science Priorities](#)." is a stakeholder listening opportunity which will take place on **November 2, 2022** to inform the research, Extension and education priorities of NIFA, which has the mission of investing in and advancing agricultural research, education and Extension to solve societal

challenges. For the purpose of this opportunity, agriculture is defined broadly and includes research, Extension, and education in food, fiber, forestry, range, nutritional and social sciences, including food safety and positive youth development. NIFA's investments in transformative science directly support the long-term prosperity and global pre-eminence of U.S. agriculture. The 2022 listening opportunity allows stakeholders to provide feedback on the following questions:

- What is your top priority for research, Extension or education for NIFA investment?
- What are the most promising opportunities/solutions for advancement of these food and agricultural priorities?
- What are the greatest challenges that will face food and agriculture in the coming decades?
- What fundamental knowledge gaps exist that limit the ability of research, extension, and education to respond to these challenges?
- Based on those challenges, what general areas of food and agricultural research should be advanced and supported to fill the knowledge gaps?
- What is NIFA doing right and are there opportunities to further improve?

APLU FANR welcomes input on the value of capacity funding and stakeholder partnerships in developing solutions to pressing challenges faced by our agricultural, food, and resource sectors. Additionally, we would like to showcase examples of outcomes from investments of research, Extension, and education that have led to useful innovations and built human resource capacities to solve problems. Please submit your suggested content to cgala@aplu.org by Monday, October 24th.

Extension Foundation Selected by USDA-NIFA as Technical Provider for NEXTGEN Funding Opportunity

The Extension Foundation was [selected](#) by USDA-NIFA to serve as the technical service provider for NEXTGEN to raise awareness of the program and provide technical assistance for eligible institutions to develop teams, partners, program strategies and to connect with USDA and other career opportunities.

A webinar series will provide an overview of grant support resources available immediately to streamline the application process, create compelling applications, and help with potential partnerships for the NEXTGEN grant. More information and registration is [here](#).

The primary goal of the [From Learning to Leading: Cultivating the Next Generation of Diverse Food and Agriculture Professionals Program \(NEXTGEN\)](#) is to enable 1890 Land-grant institutions, 1994 Land-grant institutions, Alaska Native-serving institutions and Native Hawaiian-serving institutions, Hispanic-serving institutions, and insular area institutions of higher education

located in the U.S. territories to engage, recruit, retain, train, and support students to help build and sustain the next generation of the food, agriculture, natural resources, and human sciences (FANH) workforce including the future USDA workforce. NEXTGEN-supported projects should enable student scholarship support, meaningful paid internships, fellowships, and job opportunity matching, and also facilitate opportunities to learn the processes and pathways leading to training and employment in the federal sector.

EVENTS

2022 APLU Annual Meeting

Denver, CO | November 6-8, 2022

Hyatt Regency Denver at Colorado Convention Center

The APLU Annual Meeting is the premier gathering of senior leaders from public research universities, land-grant institutions, and state university systems. No other meeting in higher education brings together such a diverse array of public university presidents, chancellors, and other senior leaders.

The theme of this year's meeting is Future Forward. Our program is designed to ensure collaboration and give attendees practical strategies they can use on their own campuses. As always, ample time for networking with colleagues from the United States, Canada, and Mexico has been built into the schedule as well. **The link to information and registration is [here](#).**

The link to the Commission on Food, Environment, & Renewable Resources (CFERR) and The Board on Agriculture Assembly (BAA) agenda is [here](#).

Tours and the Awards Reception will be held at the new Colorado State University (CSU) Denver Spur Campus. Buses will be provided. **Learn more about the campus at: [What is Spur? | CSU Spur at the National Western Center](#).**

Excellence in Teaching, Research, Extension and BoHS Awards Reception

Join us at the Colorado State University Spur Campus for food and drink as we celebrate the achievements of our award winners.

November 5, 2022, 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM MDT

Link to information and registration is [here](#).

Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month

Virtual | October 13, 2022, 3:00-4:15PM ET

A Continuation of APLU's Series of Special Events Webinars

Join HSI leaders as they highlight the strength of HSIs and rising HSIs in supporting Latino students. The conversation will include topics such as: leveraging funding and resources for current and future Latino students, defining student success to be more inclusive of graduate Latino students, and exploring the role of partners in accelerating access, support and change for Latino students. **Information and registration is at: [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#).**

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 sign up here: [FANR Focus Newsletter](#)

Doug

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