The CARET Executive Committee is meeting prior to the APLU meetings in San Diego, California on November 7 – 8, 2019. Members of their leadership team and liaisons, attending meetings of their specific organizations, will be in attendance throughout the APLU meeting.

During the summer CARET Executive Committee meeting, hosted at Purdue University, the group received a presentation on the Research on Impact of Rural Broadband given by Dr. Wally Tyner, the James and Lois Ackerman Chair of Purdue’s Agricultural Economics Department. Also a presentation on the Wabash Heartland Innovation Network (WHIN) project promoting Smart Technology by Johnny Park, Chief Executive Officer of WHIN showing that broadband is necessary for innovation in rural area, it will cultivate regional ecosystems that empower, it will help local farmers adopt new technologies, and in summary indicating that data is the new oil of this century.

Dr. Karen I. Plaut, the Purdue University Glenn W. Sample Dean of Agriculture and CARET Chairwoman Louise Beaman explained how the highly successful Purdue-CARET program works. The group received a report from the CARET Nominating Committee related to the 2020 officers for CARET: Chairman – J. Noland Ramsey, North Carolina; Vice Chairman, J. Robert Frazee, Maryland; and, Secretary – Jean-Mari Peltier, California.

CARET continues to build upon and support a stronger relationship with AHS. We remain committed to maintaining current and establishing new relationships with other groups. The group also continues to refine our orientation program for new CARET delegates during the annual Joint CARET/AHS meetings realizing its importance in the future success of CARET members and our advocacy.

The 2020 Join CARET/AHS meeting will be held March 1 – 4, 2020 in Washington, DC. The theme for the meetings and the emphasis of the program is *Land-Grant Universities: Impacting International Trade and Local Markets*.

Future meeting dates of the CARET Executive Committee are: February 29, 2020 (prior to the Joint CARET/AHS Meeting), Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, DC; June 2020, Washington, DC; November 5-6, 2020 (prior to the APLU Annual Meeting), Hilton Orlando, Orlando, FL.

CARET members are appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Deans of our respective institutions, to advocate for the funding of the land grant university system. We are citizen
advocates, sharing our unified passion for the land-grant university system that has improved not only our lives, but also the lives of our neighbors, our community, and the world. We look forward to working together as we strive to ensure a promising future the land grant university system.

For your information, here is the job description for CARET delegates:

The typical profile of a CARET delegate would be a person that is:

- an end user of the land-grant university’s food and agricultural research, extension, and/or teaching programs
- politically knowledgeable and has close ties or has the capacity to develop close ties to one or more members of Congress
- intensely interested in many areas of public policy (particularly agriculture in its fullest sense)
- prone to want to make a difference on those issues of interest to the agricultural research, extension, and teaching components of the land-grant university system
- willing to work in a collaborative environment
- knowledgeable about the land-grant university system
- able to make the time commitment to serve as a CARET delegate in order to participate in CARET activities (nationally and regionally) and functions at their appointing institution

CARET delegates are expected to interact with members of Congress and others with whom they are familiar on a frequent basis throughout the calendar year (including the annual Joint CARET/AHS Meeting in Washington, DC) to provide a knowledgeable, credible endorsement for the annual APLU Board on Agriculture Assembly budget recommendations and legislative proposals (e.g. farm bill) affecting the agricultural research, extension, and teaching programs of the land-grant university system.

CARET delegates also are expected to have and maintain a strong working relationship with the Administrative Head(s) of Agriculture of their appointing institution.

It is the policy and practice of the CARET organization that individuals currently on the appointing institution’s payroll are ineligible to serve as a CARET delegate.