Sunday, November 12

Building India’s Human Resources toward Agricultural Transformation: The National Agricultural Higher Education Project

7:00 AM – 8:15 AM (Breakfast Meeting)

Park Tower 8206

The Government of India has emphasized increased climate resilient agricultural productivity as fundamental to India’s poverty reduction and growth strategy. Building the relevant skill sets has been a persistent challenge across the economy. Educational institutions, particularly at the tertiary level, are critical to accelerate India’s emergence in global markets, yet teaching is poorly linked with labor market demand, research and development, thereby producing graduates with limited problem-solving skills.

The National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP) supports both India’s Agricultural Universities and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in providing more relevant and higher quality education to Agricultural University (AU) students. NAHEP targets the 75 institutions that form the ICAR-AU System, consisting of State Agricultural Universities (63), Deemed Universities (5), Central Universities with Agricultural Faculty (4) and Central Agricultural Universities (3). This breakfast session will provide an overview of NAHEP and address potential partnership opportunities with APLU-member universities.

Declaration on University Global Engagement

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Wilson A

Public universities have from their inception played a critical role in fostering economic and social collaboration across borders, facilitating the global movement of ideas, people and knowledge. Articulating the valuable role universities play in this regard and the many contributions this bridge building role provides to the communities that surround and support public universities is critical to sustaining and deepening the global engagement of universities for the benefit of all. This session will seek to engage participants in a discussion about how best to highlight this important aspect of universities' societal contributions.

Stakeholder Engagement in the Context of International Strategies

10:45 AM - 12:00 PM

Washington 1

Public universities in North America have traditionally built stakeholder relationships in their local/regional communities to fulfill their obligations to support economic growth, health and well-being of a given region/province/state. Stakeholder relations today are not only designed to strengthen universities' credibility as partners of state/provincial governments but also as reaching additional stakeholder communities which can strengthen institutions' viability at different levels. International strategies for public universities are more and more understood as contributing to broader institutional stakeholder engagement strategies.

Institutional Strategies Session for Global Learning, Research, and Engagement

3:30 PM - 4:45 PM

Washington 6

We live in a world where increasing numbers of people cross national borders and where our most complex challenges are global in nature, requiring international cooperation and collaboration to develop real
solutions. These global trends have created a world in which interdisciplinary, cross-cultural, and cross-national learning, research, and engagement are basic requirements for excellence. Institutions that are able to prepare students-of-the-world and support global research and engagement will be the colleges and universities of the next century. Global diversity within our institutions is no longer just nice to have, but a scholarly and practical imperative. The APLU Institutional Award for Global Learning, Research, and Engagement recognizes public research universities and their leaders who excel in their efforts to drive an inclusive approach to their global engagement, research, and learning, and measure the impact of these efforts. In this session, the finalists from this year’s inaugural competition will present the lessons they have learned and effective practices they have discovered through their efforts to drive an inclusive approach to comprehensive internationalization. This year’s finalist institutions are Michigan State University, Queen's University, University of Calgary and University of Washington.

Monday, November 13
IAS Business Meeting
7:00 AM - 8:15 AM (Breakfast Meeting)
Wilson B
Annual Business Meeting of the International Agriculture Section (IAS). All IAS members, as well as others interested in international agricultural activities, are welcome to attend.

Crossing Borders and Joining Forces: Strengthening International Research Collaborations
8:30 AM - 10:00 AM
Thurgood Marshall Ballroom West
As a North American organization, APLU and its members are committed to championing ideas that drive the discovery and dissemination of new knowledge to solve the most vexing challenges of their state, country, region, and world. Recent efforts of APLU, including The Challenge of Change, Addressing Antibiotic Resistance, and the Highly Integrative Basic and Responsive (HIBAR) Research Alliance seek to encourage North American collaboration on some the grand challenges of our time in order to heighten benefits to society. International research collaborations are critical to solving vexing challenges like global food and nutrition security, climate change impacts, water, and energy, however, it's often difficult to articulate the benefits of these collaborations to policy makers and others.

This session will explore, from a tri-lateral perspective, what information is needed so that public universities can better share and demonstrate the value of international research and address some of the challenges of international research collaborations.

U.S. Universities and Agricultural Higher Education in Africa
10:45 AM – 12:00 PM
Maryland A
Institutions of higher education in Africa face the task of creating and disseminating knowledge to address a range of grand social challenges including, among other things, absorption of a demographic youth bulge, development of food systems that are resilient to climate change, and achieving inclusive economic growth. The demand for discovery, teaching, and public service from these institutions calls for innovative models of higher education and creative partnerships with universities abroad, both of which are emerging. Speakers in this panel will reflect on the challenges facing higher education in Africa; experience in cooperative engagements between U.S. and African universities; the potential for greater partnerships involving U.S. land-grant universities and African universities; and possible financing mechanisms.
Collaborative Session: Implications of “America First” on North American Higher Education
1:45 PM – 3:00 PM
Thurgood Marshall Ballroom East
In the current "America First" environment, university leaders are faced with evolving and complex political challenges when planning engaged learning, discovery, and service activities that cross geographical boundaries - local, state, national, and global. Is America's international leadership in higher education in jeopardy? How are institutions outside of the United States responding to the "America First" rhetoric? What does this mean for APLU as a North American higher education organization?

This session will address how institutions can navigate these concerning disruptions. Specifically, this session will explore the questions of:

1. Is global university engagement in conflict with the "America First" rhetoric?
2. How are institutions leveraging global university engagement to address the "America First" rhetoric?

CII Business Meeting
3:45 PM – 5:15 PM
Virginia B
Annual Business Meeting of the Commission on International Initiatives. All who are interested in international campus activities are welcome to attend.

International Advocacy Coordinating Committee (IACC) Reception
5:30 PM - 6:45 PM
Maryland A&B
The International Advocacy Coordinating Committee (formerly IDACC) is the component of the Commission on International Initiatives (CII) which supports international programs advocacy through an annual membership-based assessment. This reception will provide an update on IACC’s success in influencing authorization and appropriations legislation on international development, immigration reform, study abroad and international education, as well as look forward to next year’s agenda. Feedback will be sought from IACC members on communications and future agenda. IACC members and non-members are welcome to attend.

Tuesday, November 14
Perspective from the Senate: Federal Funding Priorities and Challenges
8:30 AM – 9:10 AM
Marriott Salons 2&3
U.S. Senator Roy Blunt (R-MO), who chairs the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, is a strong funding champion for public research university priorities, including the National Institutes of Health and the federal Pell Grant program. Senator Blunt will offer remarks on the federal budget environment and higher education and research funding and policy issues.