



What is CARET?

The Council for Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching (CARET) is a national grassroots organization of volunteers created in 1982 by the Board on Agriculture Assembly of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU). CARET seeks to enhance national support and understanding of the land-grant university system's food and agricultural research, extension, and teaching programs that enhance the quality of life for all people.



To find out more about CARET, write or call:

CARET

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35 YEARS
1982-2017

CARET

Council for Agricultural
Research, Extension,
and Teaching



Land-Grant Universities

The U.S. Congress and various states established the unique land-grant university system to cooperate with the U.S. Department of Agriculture in carrying out:

RESEARCH to discover new knowledge, develop technology, and solve problems related to food and agriculture.

EXTENSION to provide research-based practical education applied to the problems of families, communities, agriculture, business, and industry.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS in the professions and sciences related to food and agriculture, as well as the humanities at the 105 APLU land-grant institutions.

The essence of the legislative mandate to the land-grant system is expressed in the Bankhead-Jones Act of 1935: “. . .the development and improvement of the rural home and rural life, the maximum contribution of agriculture to the welfare of the consumer, and the maintenance of maximum employment and natural prosperity . . .”

People of rural and urban America are the beneficiaries and vital partners in the operation of land-grant programs. CARET provides an opportunity for people to tell the story of their land-grant university programs.

CARET is composed of volunteer representatives from the 50 states, the U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia.



Who Are CARET Delegates?

CARET delegates are chosen by their respective land-grant universities to be representatives of their states' land-grant programs. CARET delegates include:

Agricultural producers and ranchers

Farm and commodity organization leaders

Agribusiness leaders

Consumer representatives

Homemakers

Local elected and appointed officials

Members of land-grant advisory groups

How Does CARET Work?

The nation's land-grant institutions sponsor the participation of delegates in regional activities and with the national CARET organization, headquartered in Washington, D.C. at the APLU offices. CARET supports America's land-grant agricultural programs of research, extension, and teaching before Congress and its committees, Executive Branch agencies, and elsewhere. It also works with national agricultural organizations to tell agriculture's "story." CARET delegates complement these efforts through individual contacts with Congressional delegations and national agricultural organizations.

CARET delegates provide states with lay leadership and expertise about the federal budget process and national issues affecting food and agriculture.

