Activities around the Capitol and among our Board on Agriculture members is picking up as we move into the spring months. Congressional Committee assignments are still underway but should be finalized soon. The Lewis-Burke advocacy report provides a more detailed update on the status of committees and our advocacy efforts. Advocacy recommendations and priorities from the Budget and Advocacy Committee (FY24 Advocacy priorities) and the Committee on Legislation and Policy (FY23 Farm Bill) were reviewed and approved by the Policy Board of Directors. I encourage the Administrative Heads and Council on Agriculture Research, Extension and Teaching (CARET) members to attend the upcoming spring meeting (registration information and documents are below) as we carry our advocacy message forward.

We are approaching the typical time inside the beltway where it will be “hurry up, slow down.” The intent of the Office of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources is not to inundate your email inbox with a barrage of messages, but rather keep you informed and let you know how/when you can assist our efforts.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming meetings and conferences.

In this edition:

- Washington Update from Lewis-Burke Associates
- Executive Director, Cooperative Extension System Job Opening
- Extension Award Nominations
- Upcoming Events
- Resources
ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Congress is officially in session with the House and Senate releasing their respective rosters for the Agriculture Committees, though there are a few openings left to fill. In addition, the Pennsylvania Farm Show provided the new House Agriculture Committee Chair, Glenn “G.T.” Thompson (R-PA) a venue to hold a listening session with other members of Congress on the Farm Bill. Read the full report here.

JOB POSTING: Executive Director, Cooperative Extension System and Assistant Vice President, APLU Office of Food Agriculture, and Natural Resources

The Cooperative Extension System (CES) is a Section of the Board on Agriculture Assembly (BAA) located within the Office of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources (FANR) of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU). The Extension Committee on Organization and Policy (ECOP), the CES Governing Board, is seeking a highly skilled Executive Director to serve, guide and report to ECOP in addressing four core themes: 1) building partnerships and acquiring resources; 2) increasing understanding and visibility of cooperative extension at the national level; 3) enhancing leadership and professional development; and 4) strengthening organizational functioning. Successful candidates will be an exceptional leader and communicator, possess the ability to develop partnerships and relationships across a variety of constituencies, including the federal enterprise and will have relevant understanding/experience with the CES or a similar organization.

This full-time National ECOP position is based in Washington, DC. The successful candidate must reside in DC, MD, or VA and will be eligible for a hybrid work schedule. Preference given to applications received by February 24, 2023. See details here.
Nominations Begin for National Extension Awards

The following awards are open for nomination and offered by Extension Committee on Organization and Policy (ECOP) in partnership with USDA-NIFA.

- National Extension Diversity Award
- Individual Awards for Excellence in Extension
- Team Award for Excellence in Extension

For full details, visit the new website awards.extension.org today!

EVENTS

Agricultural Outlook Forum
Arlington, VA, Crystal City Gateway Marriott | February 23 – 24, 2023
In-person and all sessions will be livestreamed.

USDA’s 99th Annual Agricultural Outlook Forum will include more than 30 sessions and 100 agriculture leaders and subject matter experts will discuss key issues impacting the sector. Learn more about the Forum and register here.

Black Resistance: Leadership in the Academe
February 28, 2023 | 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm ET
Virtual Webinar

Join APLU for a special virtual Black History Month event, “Black Resistance: Leadership in the Academe”. The event will celebrate Black leaders who have paved the ways for others and provide an opportunity to hear from four public university leaders as they explore this year’s Black History Month theme of “Black Resistance” with a particular focus on the need for the higher education community to take steps to expand the number of Black higher ed leaders. More information and registration is here.
Join the Board on Health and Human Sciences (BHHS) and Council of Administrators of Family and Consumer Sciences (CAFCS) at our Joint Spring Meeting! Our theme is: **Lens for the Future: Strategic, Proactive, Leadership.**

Through keynote speakers, interactive sessions, and networking opportunities, we will explore growth mindset, strategic planning, future-focused leadership, embracing opportunity, and innovative tools and strategies. **Register today!**

If you are a new or upcoming administrator in the human sciences, we invite you to register for the **Emerging Leaders Workshop on March 7-8, 2023**. This two-day, interactive experience will focus on improving self and development of teams. Participants will learn how to improve personal communication skills, build and strengthen faculty teams, and envision and launch a leadership program at your institution.

*Please note: only Emerging Leader Workshop participants and BHHS Directors have events on March 7.*

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**2023 CARET/AHS Joint Annual Meeting**
Washington, DC, Omni Shoreham Hotel | March 12 – 15, 2023

Theme: **Ag is the Answer: Building Land-grant Solutions to Global Food, Agriculture, and Resource Challenges**

Please view registration, hotel, and agenda information [here](#). **Join us and register today!**

Please see these CARET/AHS materials and resources:

**FY2024 Annual Appropriations**

- APLU BAA Unified Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriations Request

**2023 Farm Bill Reauthorization**

- APLU BAA 2023 Farm Bill Title VII Policy Recommendations
- APLU BAA 2023 Farm Bill Request for the Research Facilities Act
- A National Study of Capital Infrastructure at Colleges and Schools of Agriculture

**CARET Strategic Plan**
National 4-H Conference
Arlington, VA, Hyatt Regency Crystal City | April 14 – 19, 2023

Bringing hundreds of 4-H’ers to the nation’s capital each spring, the National 4-H Conference is the flagship youth development opportunity of USDA. Experience unparalleled discovery, learning, professional development and networking with 4-H’ers from around the world. The event features roundtable sessions, Youth Career Fair exhibitions, live “cool job” panels, community service, special events, assemblies and much more. Learn more and register online.

2023 Joint COPs Summer Meeting

The Joint Committees on Organization and Policy (and associated groups) is the elected and appointed leadership from the Board on Agriculture Assembly sections executive committees (Academic Programs Section, Administrative Heads Section, Cooperative Extension Section, Experiment Station Section, International Agriculture Section), The Board on Health and Human Sciences (BHHS), Council on Agriculture Research, Extension and Teaching (CARET) executive committee and liaisons, the three standing committees of the Policy Board of Directors (Budget and Advocacy Committee, Committee on Legislation and Policy (Farm Bill), and Communication and Marketing) and the Policy Board of Directors.

This year the meeting will be held:
July 18 – 20, 2023
Loew’s Kansas City Hotel
Kansas City, MO

In addition to the Joint COPs meeting, the 2023 New Administrators Orientation will be held during the end of the week, but with one day crossover meetings so that BAA and BHHS leadership can interact beginning at noon on Wednesday July 19.

2023 New Administrators Orientation
July 19–21, 2023
Loew’s Kansas City Hotel
Kansas City, MO
View the draft agenda here.

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**RESOURCES**

**APLU Releases Resources to Support Career & Workforce Development in Rural Areas**

Report: *Facilitating Career Pathways for Low-Income Rural Students: Cooperative Extension as a Community Connector*

Aiming to expand opportunity, boost employment, and increase productivity in rural areas, the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) and the North Central Regional Center for Rural Development hosted by Purdue University released a report and curriculum to help public and land-grant universities’ programs advance workforce development and strengthen career pathways for low-income workers and learners. For more information, see here.

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**AAAS Charles Valentine Riley Memorial Lecture**

The AAAS Charles Valentine Riley Memorial Lecture Video is now online here. The 2022 lecture featured Dr. Douglas Landis, University Distinguished Professor of Entomology at Michigan State University, speaking about “Designing Pest Suppressive Agricultural Landscapes for a Changing World.” The lecture, a collaboration between AAAS, Charles Valentine Riley Memorial Foundation, and World Food Prize Foundation, aims to promote a broader and more complete understanding of agriculture as the most basic human endeavor and to enhance agriculture through increased scientific knowledge.

Dr. Landis’ address was followed by a wide-ranging conversation with expert panelists:

- Fred Gould, William Neal Reynolds Professor of Agriculture, North Carolina State University
- Steven Bradbury, Professor in the Departments of Natural Resource Ecology Management and Entomology, Iowa State University
- Megan Fritz, Assistant Professor in the Department of Entomology and Institute for Advanced Computer Studies, University of Maryland
- Linda Kinkel, Professor of Plant Pathology, University of Minnesota
For more information on past and future lectures, please visit here.

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**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.

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**USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture Calendar**

See application deadlines [here](#).

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**APLU Member Job Postings**

APLU has a [job board](#) on which member institutions may list available positions for which they are recruiting.

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**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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