



FANR FOCUS: WHAT'S THE LATEST?

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

FROM DOUG'S DESK

Doug Steele, Vice President

As March comes “roaring in like a lion”, the season of coming to Washington DC to introduce and promote advocacy priorities has begun. In the next few weeks, APLU and the Board on Agriculture Assembly will have groups in town representing: Board on Health and Human Sciences (BHHS); Council on Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching (CARET) and Administrative Heads Section (AHS); Board on Natural Resources; Colleges of Veterinary Medicine; and the APLU Council on Government Affairs (just to name a few).

Through the work of the Budget and Advocacy Committee (BAC, chaired by Michael Boehm, University of Nebraska) with a focus on the FY24 Appropriations Priorities and the Committee on Legislation and Policy (CLP, chaired by Marshall Stewart, Kansas State University) leading the efforts on the FY23 Farm Bill, the team has developed a set of advocacy documents that will be shared next week as the CARET delegates prepare for congressional office visits. Our advocacy documents provide a national voice that clearly demonstrates the role of public and land-grant universities in addressing critical issues facing our country today. The advocacy message outlines priority areas for federal funding, background information, justification for the request, and return on federal investments.

The changing political landscape within the federal government makes it imperative that we work collectively to advance federal funding support for not only base funding (capacity) but also growth in competitive funding opportunities. You will continue to receive additional updates as our advocacy messaging is implemented throughout the current fiscal year.

In this edition:

- [Washington Update from Lewis-Burke Associates](#)

- [Sign On Letter to Support Research Facilities Act](#)
- [2023 USDA Teaching Awards](#)
- [FACA Farm Bill Recommendations](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
- [2023 Joint COPs Summer Meeting](#)
- [2023 New Administrators Orientation](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Washington Update

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

As progress on the Farm Bill ramps up, the focus on agriculture has increased across the federal government. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) kicked off 2023 with its annual Agricultural Outlook Forum which covers all areas of the agricultural sector and features sessions with leaders across the agency in addition to global political leaders. READ THE FULL REPORT HERE: [Lewis-Burke Associates Update](#)

Sign On Letter to Support the \$5 Billion Request for Research Facilities Act (RFA) Funding

The Board on Agriculture Assembly is circulating a letter and soliciting organizational signatures to support the **\$5 billion request for Research Facilities Act (RFA) funding in Title VII: Research, Extension, and Related Matters in the 2023 Farm Bill. The deadline for organizational sign-on has been extended Wednesday, March 22, at COB.**

To add an organization to the letter, **please fill out [this form](#)**. Note that the letter form indicates that institutions of higher education are not eligible to sign the letter, only stakeholder groups such as state ag associations, commodity groups, etc.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Caron Gala, CARET Executive Director and Director of Governmental Affairs at cgala@aplu.org. For more information, please view www.land-grant.org.

Farm Bill Research Letter

APLU, along with over 50 diverse organizations, urged the Senate and House leadership to prioritize robust investments in food and agriculture research, facilities, Extension, and education in the Farm Bill. This letter supports \$8 billion in mandatory funding in the research title to spur scientific breakthroughs, keep pace with our global competitors, modernize facilities, and ensure nutrition security and a sustainable food system. The request of \$8 billion is inclusive of the APLU request of \$5 billion in mandatory funding for the Research Facilities Act, although is not specified in the broader campaign. READ THE LETTER HERE. [Farm Bill Research Letter click here](#)

National Awards for Excellence in College and University Teaching in the Food and Agricultural Sciences Program

Applications due electronically by 5pm ET on April 15.

The [2023 USDA Teaching Award Guidelines](#) and [Evaluation Questions](#) are now available online. [The National Awards for Excellence in Teaching](#) recognizes outstanding college faculty in agriculture, natural resources, veterinary science, human sciences, and related sciences. A selection committee of nationally recognized teachers and scholars choose **two national recipients, two early career recipients, and two teaching and student engagement recipients**. There are also **six regional awards**. Nominees are evaluated based on their ability as instructors, educational innovation, service to students, professionalism, and scholarship. Financial awards range from \$2,000-5,000 for these winners depending on the award category.

For more information on the application process, you can view the webinar recording of “*Crafting Successful Nominations for the USDA Teaching Excellence Awards Program*” [here](#). Please reach out with questions to Wendy Fink, Executive Director - Academic Programs Section, Board on Agriculture Assembly and Associate Vice President, Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resources at wfink@aplu.org.

The Food and Agriculture Climate Alliance Releases Policy Recommendations

The Food and Agriculture Climate Alliance (FACA), a broad-based group of which APLU BAA is a steering committee member, released its policy recommendations for the 2023 farm bill on February 22nd. All the FACA Steering Committee CEOs were at the release and supported the

recommendations, which emphasized that Congress should pass a farm bill that supports “voluntary, bipartisan, science-based climate solutions.”

[FACA's recommendations](#), developed by the 23-member steering committee, are divided into six categories:

- Conservation, risk management and credit
- Energy
- Food waste
- Forestry
- Livestock and dairy
- Research, Extension and innovation (REI)

[APLU Co-Chaired FACA's Research, Extension, and Innovation \(REI\) working group](#), which emphasized that Congress should pass a bill that will:

- Help to ensure USDA Climate Hubs maximize research opportunities and outreach.
- Facilitate innovation to build strong and sustainable agriculture and food systems.
- Reauthorize and fund the Research Facilities Act.
- Strengthen grant programs through the Cooperative Extension System.
- Provide consistent and comprehensive evaluation mechanisms for climate-smart agriculture practices, including measurement, verification, and data collection.

EVENTS

Registration to 2023 Joint CARET/AHS Annual Spring Meeting is now closed.

[2023 Joint COPs Summer Meeting and 2023 New Administrators Orientation](#)

[2023 Joint COPs Summer Meeting](#)

Loew's Kansas City Hotel, 1515 Wyandotte Street
Kansas City, MO 64108 | July 18 – 20, 2023

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 Policy Board of Directors and 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 Committee.

2023 New Administrators Orientation

Loew's Kansas City Hotel, 1515 Wyandotte Street
Kansas City, MO 64108 | July 19 – 21, 2023

In addition to the Joint COPs meeting, the 2023 New Administrators Orientation will be held in Kansas City July 19-21. The event will have one-day crossover meetings with Joint COPs so that BAA and BHHS leadership can interact with the new administrators beginning at noon on Wednesday July 19. The New Administrators Orientation is intended for individuals on the Board on Agriculture Assembly and their supporting administrators or faculty, who have entered an administrative position recently; USDA-NIFA personnel who are interested; and any others who would like to learn more about APLU, the Land-Grant University System, the BAA, and USDA.

[See the draft agenda here](#)

NSF Eddie Bernice Johnson INCLUDES Aspire Alliance Summit

UCLA's Luskin Center | July 19 – 20, 2023

Theme: *Systemic Change for an Inclusive and Diverse Faculty.*

If your project or work fits our call for proposals, we welcome your submission by March 21.

APLU, along with five collaborative partners, is leading the NSF INCLUDES Aspire Alliance—a NSF-funded effort to diversify STEM faculty and promote more inclusive practices. Aspire engages a growing network of partners to support systemic change in the STEM higher education ecosystem.

Are you striving for a more diverse and inclusive faculty at your institution? Is your research or project focused on these issues? If so, then join us at the NSF Eddie Bernice Johnson INCLUDES Aspire Alliance Summit. The Summit will convene members of the broader STEM ecosystem to explore key issues in advancing faculty diversity and inclusion through the sharing of emergent research and promising practices, community dialogue and collaboration, and intentional network building.

We welcome any scholar, practitioner, or institutional decision-maker to join us. We are especially interested in evidence-based practices from the NSF INCLUDES Aspire Alliance community, and the broader NSF INCLUDES, AGEP, and ADVANCE communities. This is an opportunity for us to think together about how we might advance a more inclusive and diverse higher education faculty at 2 and 4-year institutions. We look forward to learning more about your work at the Aspire Summit. Learn more [here](#) and submit a proposal [here](#) by March 21.



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

Douglas L. Steele

Vice President, Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resources

Association of Public and Land-grant Universities

1220 L Street, NW, Suite 1000

Washington, DC 20005

(202) 478-6082

E-Mail: dsteELE@aplu.org

Website: www.aplu.org

Twitter: [@APLU_Ag](https://twitter.com/APLU_Ag)



APLU, 1220 L Street, NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20005

© 2023 Copyright [Contact](#) [Privacy Policy](#)