



FANR FOCUS: WHAT'S THE LATEST?

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

FROM DOUG'S DESK

Doug Steele, Vice President

As many of our thoughts turn to fall and leaving the “dog days” of summer (*interesting footnote: dog days is the hottest and most humid period of the summer, usually from early July to mid-August and is a phrase that comes from the ancient belief that the heat was caused by the rising of Sirius, the dog star*), and Congress is returning to session, our focus is continuing to advocate for the FY24 appropriations, the Farm Bill, and Research Facilities Act, and preparing our FY25 funding priorities.

One of our biggest priorities is the Research Facilities Act (RFA), \$5 billion in mandatory funding (over the lifetime of the 5-year Farm Bill) administered by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). The RFA authorizes an agriculture and food focused research infrastructure program for facility construction, alteration, acquisition, modernization, renovation, or remodeling. Infrastructure investments at 1862, 1890, 1994, and insular land-grant and non-land-grant colleges of agriculture will enable the recruitment of diverse talent into the agricultural innovation enterprises.

Recent research has shown that the return on investment of U.S. agriculture research and Extension is \$20 for every public \$1 invested. Yet federal support for NIFA agricultural research, education, and Extension has been flat in real dollars, resulting in destabilization of the very system the U.S. relies on to cultivate U.S.-based agricultural leaders, reinforce domestic preparedness against pests and diseases, and ensure the U.S. leadership in global food security and technology.

We will be amplifying our messaging about the national value of Land-Grant and Public Universities' colleges of agriculture, life sciences, and natural resources through increased justifications for federal investment and clear articulation on the return on those investments. Engagement of our Board on Agriculture Assembly leadership will be imperative to support identified priorities and messaging.

Please check out land-grant.org for our advocacy materials that can be adapted and used locally.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Washington Update

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

Congress has a busy fall legislative schedule with major deadlines and decisions looming on September 30, the end of the fiscal year, and when major legislative packages authorizing and funding critical federal programs are set to expire. Congress is likely to punt and use short-term extenders to buy more time to negotiate final packages by the end of the year and even further extend into next year.

Unlike last year with the passage of historic legislation (e.g., the *Inflation Reduction Act* and the *CHIPS and Science Act*) and boosts in funding for federal agencies and programs, this year a divided Congress has more modest ambitions. Congress is struggling to extend existing programs and complete annual funding bills. Congress has also imposed fiscal constraints limiting growth of federal programs for at least the next two fiscal years through the *Fiscal Responsibility Act*. With House Republicans holding a narrow majority and the House Freedom Caucus demanding significant funding cuts, even the passage of a Continuing Resolution (CR) to extend government operations at FY 2023 funding levels and avoiding a government

shutdown will be a challenge, let alone pass more comprehensive legislation such as the Farm Bill.

[READ THE FULL REPORT](#)

Nominations for the 2023 National Advocacy Leadership Summit

This November 1-3, APLU's Board on Agriculture Assembly (BAA) will be hosting a National Advocacy Leadership Summit in Washington, DC. The summit will bring together individuals from across the network of public and land-grant universities' colleges of agriculture, life sciences, and natural resources, with a focus on the dynamics of successful federal advocacy strategies, how to be more effective in working with your federal offices, the key elements of advocacy messaging, and how annual appropriations (the Budget and Advocacy Committee) and Farm Bill priorities (Committee on Legislation and Policy) are determined.

The intended audience is Vice Chancellors, Vice Presidents and Deans of the colleges of agriculture (and life sciences & natural resources), senior level administrators (associate deans, research directors, Extension directors, 1890s administrators, 1994 TCUs, center directors) and other senior leadership with an interest in knowing more about BAA advocacy structure and priority setting.

Due to space constraints, registration will be capped at 100 participants and invitations will be extended based on a nomination process so that consideration can be given to size and type of institution, geographic representation, engagement of all BAA sections, and diversity of attendees. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone who would benefit from attendance, please use [this form](#). We are accepting nominations until **Friday, September 15, 2023 COB**. Please consider the event's agenda and focus on advocacy leadership when nominating.

The summit will take place in the DC/Virginia metro area, beginning with an opening dinner on Wednesday, November 1st at 6:00PM ET. Please see the tentative agenda [here](#). There will be a registration fee of \$200 for food and meeting space. Please reach out to Suzette Robinson at srobinson@aplu.org with any questions.

Welcome to New National 4-H Council President and CEO, Jill Bramble

The APLU Office of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources is excited to join the National 4-H Council Board of Trustees, Extension Committee on Organization and Policy and the Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development Program in welcoming Jill Bramble as its next President and CEO.

After an 18-month, externally-led executive succession process, the National 4-H Council Board of Trustees unanimously supported the appointment of Bramble, former Executive Vice President and Chief Growth Officer, as its new President and CEO. Bramble is an experienced National 4-H Council executive and 4-H alumna. She has more than 18 years of successful leadership experience at the organization and a deep commitment to National 4-H Council's mission, values, and goals. We look forward to continuing the strong relationship and continued financial support of 4-H under Bramble's leadership. The complete announcement of Bramble's appointment, as well as words from outgoing president and CEO Jennifer Sirangelo can be seen at: [National 4-H Council Appoints Jill Bramble as New President and CEO](#)

Board for International Food and Agricultural Development Subcommittee on MSI Engagement and Leadership Nominations

The [Board for International Food and Agricultural Development](#) (BIFAD) is accepting nominations for the proposed BIFAD Subcommittee on MSI Engagement and Leadership in USAID's Agricultural, Food Security, and Nutrition Policies and Programming.

BIFAD aims to engage experts who can promote evidence gathering and informed recommendations that are socially inclusive, consider diverse expert viewpoints on the subject matter, and incorporate the perspectives of marginalized populations. The Subcommittee should include members with a balance of organizational representation and who represent a range of professional fields and experiences, drawing not only from technical agricultural, food security, and nutrition fields of study and practice, but also from administrative and leadership experience related to the Subcommittee's objectives. For more information, please review the [Public Call for Member Nominations](#).

The nomination deadline is **September 15, 2023, 5:00 PM EDT**. Please submit your nomination via the [online form](#).

Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee Nominations

The Office of Pesticide Programs is in the process of seeking nominations of qualified candidates to be considered for appointment to the Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee

(PPDC). The PPDC is chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act to provide policy advice, information and recommendations to the EPA on a wide variety of pesticide regulatory development and reform initiatives, evolving public policy and program implementation issues, and policy issues associated with evaluating and reducing risks from pesticide use.

Nominees will be selected to represent: federal, state, local and tribal governments; pesticide industry and trade associations; pesticide user, grower and commodity groups; environmental and public interest groups; farm worker organizations; public health organizations; animal welfare groups; and academia. We seek highly qualified, racially and ethnically diverse candidates representing any of these groups.

To be considered, nominations should include:

1. Current contact information for the nominee, including the nominee's name, organization (and position within that organization), current business address, email address and daytime telephone number.
2. A brief statement describing the nominee's interest in and availability for serving on the PPDC.
3. A resume, and a short biography (no more than two paragraphs) describing the background and professional and educational qualifications of the nominee, including a list of relevant activities or any current or previous experience on advisory committees.
4. Letter(s) of recommendation from a third party supporting the nomination. The letter should describe how the nominee's experience and knowledge will bring value to the work of the PPDC.

For additional information about the PPDC, please visit the PPDC website [here](#).

View the Federal Register Notice [here](#). **Please note, the deadline has been extended to September 15, 2023.** If you have any questions, please contact Jeffrey Chang at chang.jeffrey@epa.gov.

USAID Releases Plan to Address Global Malnutrition

In October 2022, **President Biden signed the Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act (GMPTA)**, which directs USAID to prevent and treat malnutrition globally. The GMPTA further codifies USAID's leadership on advancing nutrition globally, with a focus on evidence-based interventions across health systems and food systems, in both development and humanitarian settings.

Robust leadership from the U.S. Government is now more important than ever to buffer shocks and stressors stemming from COVID-19, climate change, and conflict. USAID is committed to addressing these global challenges and preventing further backsliding on nutrition.

In late August, USAID released the [GMPTA Implementation Plan](#), which serves as a roadmap for USAID's investments in the prevention and treatment of malnutrition. The Plan presents USAID's key focus areas in nutrition and outlines the approach USAID will take to coordinate and collaborate internally, with priority countries, other federal agencies, and partners to achieve nutrition goals.

APLU / FANR EVENTS



APLU Annual Meeting

Seattle, WA | November 12 – 14, 2023

The APLU Annual Meeting is the premier gathering of senior leaders from public research universities, land-grant institutions, and state university systems. The theme of this year's meeting is *Innovation for Impact*.

This year's meeting schedule includes added time for networking with colleagues from the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

Join senior public university leaders from across North America as we tackle subjects related to:

- Institutional strategies on AI and its impact on pedagogy, research, and workforce development
- Faculty development and retention
- Establishing a proactive and systemic approach to responding to the next campus crisis
- International partnerships around innovation
- Research integrity and security

- Partnering with industry and government leaders to meet workforce needs
- Creating a sense of belonging for all students
- And much, much more! (The full agenda will be released in the weeks ahead)

Specific to the Office of Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resources, FANR staff are preparing the following sessions for our members:

- Awards Ceremony for the USDA Teaching, Extension and Research winners
- The Seaman A. Knapp Memorial Lecture
- BAA USDA Partnership Update
- BAA General Membership Session
- Administrative Heads Section (AHS) General Membership Meeting
- Academic Programs Section (APS) General Membership Meetings
- BAA Reception
- Board on Health and Human Sciences Meetings

Most FANR sessions will occur between Sunday, Nov. 12 at noon - Monday, Nov. 13 evening. Some executive business meetings will occur Sunday morning or on Tuesday. A complete schedule will be sent soon.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

SAVE THE DATE

Joint BHHS | CAFCS Spring Meeting

February 20-23, 2024

Omni Shoreham Hotel

Washington, DC

CARET/AHS Joint Annual Meeting

February 25-28, 2024

Omni Shoreham Hotel

Washington, DC

ECOP Spring Meeting

Week of March 11, 2024

Oklahoma City, OK

PARTNER EVENTS

- **agInnovation Fall Meeting 2023**

Grand Rapids, MI | September 24-26, 2023 | [Register Here](#)

Catalyzing Solutions to Climate Change Impacts on Food Security through Partnerships

The 2023 agInnovation fall meeting will bring together a diversity of partners to engage in robust discussions to jointly address food security challenges and climate change. Participants will also engage in a professional development activity focused on understanding, recognizing, and experiencing unconscious bias using the new virtual reality application, "A Mile in My Shoes".

Visit this [page](#) to view information regarding the meeting's speakers.

- **GROW (Generating Research Opportunities Workshop) Urban Agriculture Conference**

Virtual | November 1-3, 2023 & January 17-19, 2024 | [Register Here](#)

The GROW (Generating Research Opportunities Workshop) Urban Agriculture Conference strives to enhance urban agriculture and food systems through developing collaborative proposals that tackle critical issues. Working at the intersection of urban agriculture and food systems, we seek to identify value chain concerns and assess their economic, social, and environmental impacts on communities. Join us as we support the development of interdisciplinary REE proposals, bridging disciplinary and geographic divides.

The GROW Urban Agriculture virtual conference is designed to engage researchers, extension professionals, educators, industry representatives, and community collaborators in the development of integrated urban agriculture funding proposals. During this conference interdisciplinary teams will collaborate to create creative and effective proposals rather than spend resources competing against one another. This conference will occur in 3 phases:

- Phase I: November 1-3, 2023, will focus on developing teams,
- Phase II: November 4, 2023 to January 16, 2024, will be a time for teams to work together on proposals at their own pace, and

- Phase III: January 17-19, 2024, will include an opportunity for teams to present their proposals to a mock grant review panel and have time to incorporate and refine their proposals.

RESOURCES

USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) Funding Opportunities

View the [NIFA Upcoming RFA Calendar](#) for the latest timeline for grant programs.

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](#)

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