



Farm Foundation marks 75th anniversary

OAK BROOK, IL Farm Foundation will celebrate its 75th anniversary with a reception and dinner Wednesday, April 16. Featured speaker will be New Mexico State University President Michael Martin. His topic is public investment in food system research. The 7 p.m. program and dinner will be preceded by a 6 p.m. reception, all at The Hyatt Lodge at the McDonald's Campus, Oak Brook.

“We will honor the legacy of our founders, and the individuals and organizations whose leadership has and continues to enrich and sustain the Foundation’s work,” says Farm Foundation President Neilson Conklin. “Today, Farm Foundation is the nation’s only foundation devoted to economic and public policy issues in agriculture, the food system and rural America. As our founders envisioned, we challenge leaders to look to the future with constructive dialogue, objective analysis and innovative ideas.”

In the depths of the Great Depression, leaders of agriculture, agribusiness, the media and academia—spearheaded by International Harvester President Alexander Legge and former Illinois Governor Frank Lowden—conceived a private organization addressing issues facing agriculture and rural communities. They envisioned an organization “free from political considerations” that would be a catalyst for new ideas to benefit agriculture and rural communities.

Since its creation in 1933, Farm Foundation has worked as a catalyst, fostering discussion of current and evolving issues impacting agriculture, the food system and rural communities. Through projects and conferences, the Foundation provides comprehensive, objective information to enhance the decision-making capacity of private- and public-leaders. Farm Foundation does not lobby or advocate positions.

Reservations for the April 16 event will be accepted until close of business Wednesday, April 9, and can be made by calling Laurie Marsh, Laurie@farmfoundation.org, (630) 571-9393. There is no charge to attend. Individuals and corporations may become sponsors of the event with a minimum donation of \$100 per person; a Silver Patron with a minimum donation of \$500; or a Gold Patron with a minimum donation of \$1,000. Contributions can be sent to Farm Foundation, 1301 W. 22nd Street, Suite 615, Oak Brook, IL 60523.

For more information contact Mary Thompson, Director of Communication, (630) 571-9393, mary@farmfoundation.org.