



PRESS RELEASE
For immediate release

Farm Foundation Forum examines challenges to higher education in food & ag

OAK BROOK, IL Sept 4, 2018: Colleges and universities have long had a critical role in the growth and development of the nation's food and agriculture sector. Yet changes in the composition of funding—including reductions in public funding—have challenged institutions as they respond to student and industry needs, both in the classroom and in research laboratories.

How colleges and universities are facing these challenges, and the opportunities they may create for new educational approaches, will be the focus of the Farm Foundation® Forum on Wednesday, Sept. 19.

“Institutions of higher learning—the Land Grants, community colleges and private institutions—are critical partners in preparing the human capital needed to maintain and grow the food and agriculture sector,” says Farm Foundation President Constance Cullman. “We believe it is critically important for public and private leaders to be fully aware of the challenges and opportunities facing today's higher education institutions.”

The Forum, *The ROI for Higher Education in Food and Agriculture*, will be 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. EDT at the National Press Club, 529 14th Street NW, Washington, D.C.

Policy leaders and educators providing perspectives on these challenges include:

- Former U.S. Senator Richard Lugar, President of the Lugar Center,
- Michael Martin, Ph.D., President of Florida Gulf Coast University,
- Ronnie Green, Ph.D., Chancellor of the University of Nebraska, and
- Jay Akridge, Ph.D., Provost and Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs and Diversity, Purdue University.

Cullman will moderate the discussion. After comments by the panelists, the floor will be opened for questions and discussion.

There is no charge to participate in the Forum, but registration is requested.

- Register [HERE](#) if you plan to attend the Forum in person at the National Press Club.
- For the free live audiocast, register [HERE](#). Audiocasting is made possible by a grant from Farm Credit.

Who should participate in the Forum: People with an interest in agricultural, food and rural policy, including members of Congress, congressional staff, executive branch officials, industry

representatives, NGO representatives, Embassy representatives, academics and members of the media.

The Forum: Farm Foundation organizes these public forums to engage all stakeholders in informed dialogue on food, agricultural and rural policies. Participants examine current policies, explore and analyze alternative policy options, and give voice to new proposals.

Audio from the session will be posted on the Farm Foundation [website](#). Presentations and audio files from past Forum sessions are also available at the website.

For more information:

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