



**PRESS RELEASE**  
*For immediate release*

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

**OAK BROOK, IL Sept. 12, 2018:** The U.S. food and agriculture sector has a critical partnership with the nation's colleges and universities to help generate the human capital and new technologies needed to grow the industry and enhance its competitiveness.

The Farm Foundation Forum on Wednesday, Sept. 19, will examine how changes in public funding tools have challenged educational institutions as they work to respond to student and industry needs--both in the classroom and in research laboratories.

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.

"With this Forum we want to examine not only the challenges to educational institutions, but tools that may enhance the ability of these institutions to best respond to the needs of the food and agriculture sector," says Farm Foundation President Constance Cullman.

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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