



ASSOCIATION OF
PUBLIC &
LAND-GRANT
UNIVERSITIES

S-AHS Meeting Feb. 3, 2025

Wendy Fink

Associate Vice President, Food, Agriculture and Natural
Resources





The Path Forward



- Stay Focused
- Possibilities and Opportunities
- Unified Voice is an Amplified Voice
- The LGU System is Strongest When Working Together
- Let the Foundation of the Past Be the Cornerstone of the Future
- Lead with Courage and Enthusiasm

Key Dates for Major Legislation

Continuing Resolution (CR) to fund the government expires



MAR 14

1% across the board cut for defense and non-defense programs if no final FY 2025 appropriations passed



APR 30

Last day of FY 2025 and either a CR or FY 2026 appropriations package needs to pass;
Farm bill programs begin to expire



SEPT 30

MAR 31



Health program extensions and expanded telehealth policies expire

SUMMER



Estimated deadline to raise the debt limit to avoid default

DEC 31



2017 tax cut provisions expire

A Few New Players



- Senate Ag
 - John Boozman, Arkansas; Amy Klobuchar, Minnesota
- Senate Ag Appropriations
 - John Hoeven, North Dakota; Jeanne Shaheen, New Hampshire
- House Ag
 - GT Thompson, Pennsylvania; Angie Craig, Minnesota
- House Ag Appropriations
 - Andy Harris, Maryland; Sanford Bishop, Georgia



CARET
Council for Agricultural
Research, Extension,
and Teaching



APLU
BOARD ON
AGRICULTURE
ASSEMBLY

CARET/BAA WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

February 23-26, 2025 | Washington, DC

Dates: February 23-26, 2025

Location: The Watergate Hotel

Theme: *Securing Our Future*

Focus:

- Educating the new Congress about the value of land-grants in a time of distrust of higher education
- Educating on, protecting, and mobilizing support for capacity funding
- Protecting progress on Research Facilities Act (RFA)
- BAA Unified Ask





Draft BAA FY2026 Funding Requests

<i>APLU BAA Funding Priorities (In Thousands)</i>				
	<u>Final FY 2024</u>	<u>FY 2025 Budget Request</u>	<u>FY 2025 Section</u>	<u>FY2026 Section</u>
	<u>Conference</u>	<u>(Increase/Decrease over</u>	<u>Request</u>	<u>Request</u>
		<u>FY 2024 Conference)</u>		
<u>Research</u>				
Hatch Act	\$265,000	\$265,000	\$300,000*	\$300,000*
Evans-Allen Program	\$89,000	\$98,000 (\$9,000 or 10.1%)	\$125,000	\$125,000
1994 Research Grants	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$17,500	\$17,867
McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry	\$38,000	\$36,000 (\$2,000 or 5.3%)	\$46,000	\$46,000
AFRI	\$445,200 (\$10,000)	\$475,000 (\$29,800 or 6.7%)	\$500,000*	\$500,000*
<u>Cooperative Extension System</u>				
Smith-Lever 3(b) & (c)	\$325,000	\$325,000	\$420,000	\$420,000
Extension Services at 1890 Institutions	\$72,000	\$76,000 (\$4,000 or 5.6%)	\$92,000	\$102,000
Extension Services at 1994 Institutions	\$11,000	\$21,000 (\$10,000 or 91%)	\$17,500	\$17,867
<u>Smith-Lever 3(d) Programs:</u>				
Farm Safety				
New Technologies for Ag Extension	\$1,600	\$3,550 (\$1,950 or 122%)	\$7,300	\$7,300
Federally-Recognized Tribes Extension Program d/	\$4,000	\$7,700 (\$3,700 or 92.5%)		
<i>Subtotal 3(d)</i>	\$88,600 (\$2,650)	\$114,645 (\$26,045 or 29.3%)	\$95,000	\$115,000
<u>Education</u>				
Multicultural Scholars		\$10,000	\$10,000	\$15,000
Tribal Colleges Educ. Equity Grants Program/Payments to 1994s	\$7,000	\$15,000 (\$8,000 or 114%)	\$17,500	\$17,867
<u>Infrastructure</u>				
Research Facilities Act	\$1,000	\$2,000 (\$1,000 or 100%)	\$500,000	\$500,000
<u>Global Agriculture Research & Extension</u>				
Partnerships for Capacity	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000
International Agricultural Competitive Grant	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	\$10,000

APLU Statement on Federal Grant Pause

Washington, DC – APLU President Mark Becker today released the following statement on the White House Office of Management and Budget’s memo directing federal agencies to pause federal grants.

“The Office of Management and Budget memorandum ordering a temporary pause of federal grants is an overly broad mandate that is unnecessary and damaging. While we understand the Trump administration wants to review programs to ensure consistency with its priorities, it is imperative that the reviews not interfere with American innovation and competitiveness.

“This action will sideline world-leading American scientists who are working toward cures for cancer, developing breakthroughs in AI and quantum computing, driving progress in advanced manufacturing, and supporting American farmers. It will have far-reaching impacts in every corner of the country and hamper American innovation at a moment when it’s being fiercely challenged on a global stage. OMB’s action has unnecessarily injected an enormous amount of confusion and uncertainty across the nation. We urge the Trump administration to reverse this sweeping order.”



Research Facilities Act

After the passage of the 2024 Farm Bill out of the House Agriculture Committee we have been closely following the public comments as well as interacting with committee staff members and congressional leaders. We are especially excited about the mandatory funding of \$2.5 billion for the Research Facilities Act to support agriculture research infrastructure. This is an extraordinary moment to address one of our longest-standing priorities, but the process is far from over. We will continue to advocate for additional funding as the Farm Bill moves forward.

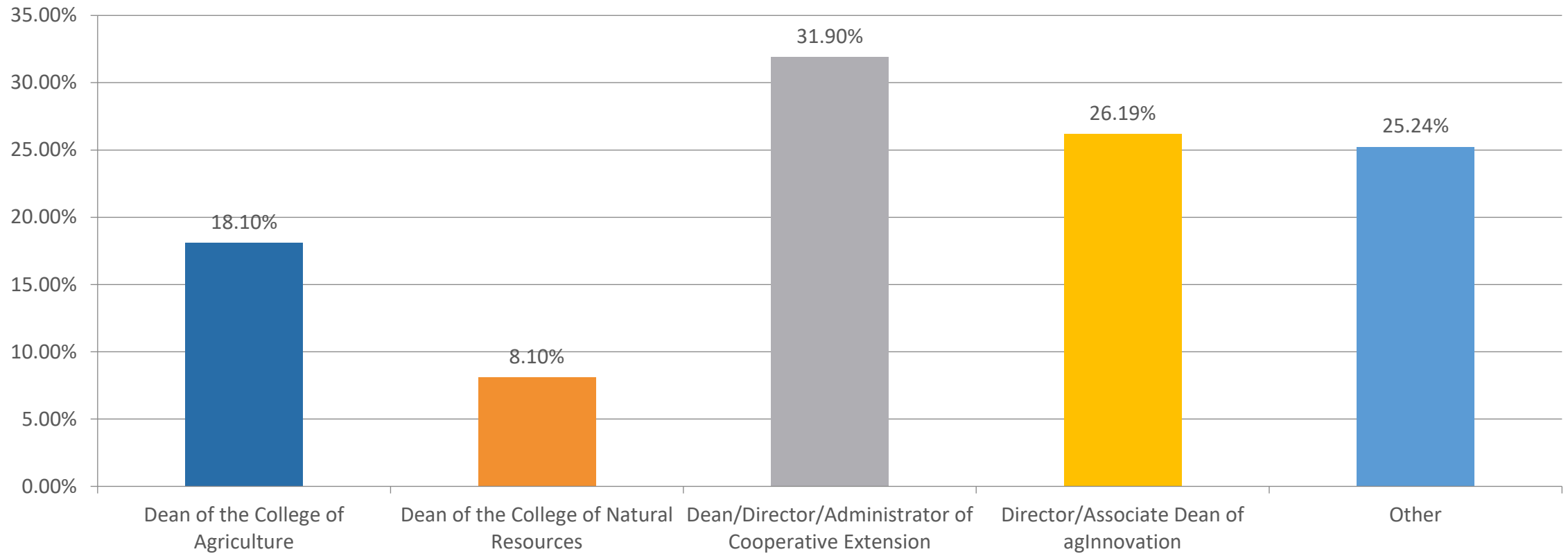


Capacity Building Initiative

The BAA has contracted with the Tripp Umbach firm to assist in the development and implementation of a capacity building awareness campaign to increase the understanding of the critical nature of capacity funds and to increase federal funding support. Though capacity funding is the supporting framework for the system, it can easily be forgotten or ignored over competitive funding. In recent decades, policymakers have favored competitive funding over capacity funding. The board is interested in building a case for the importance of capacity funding.

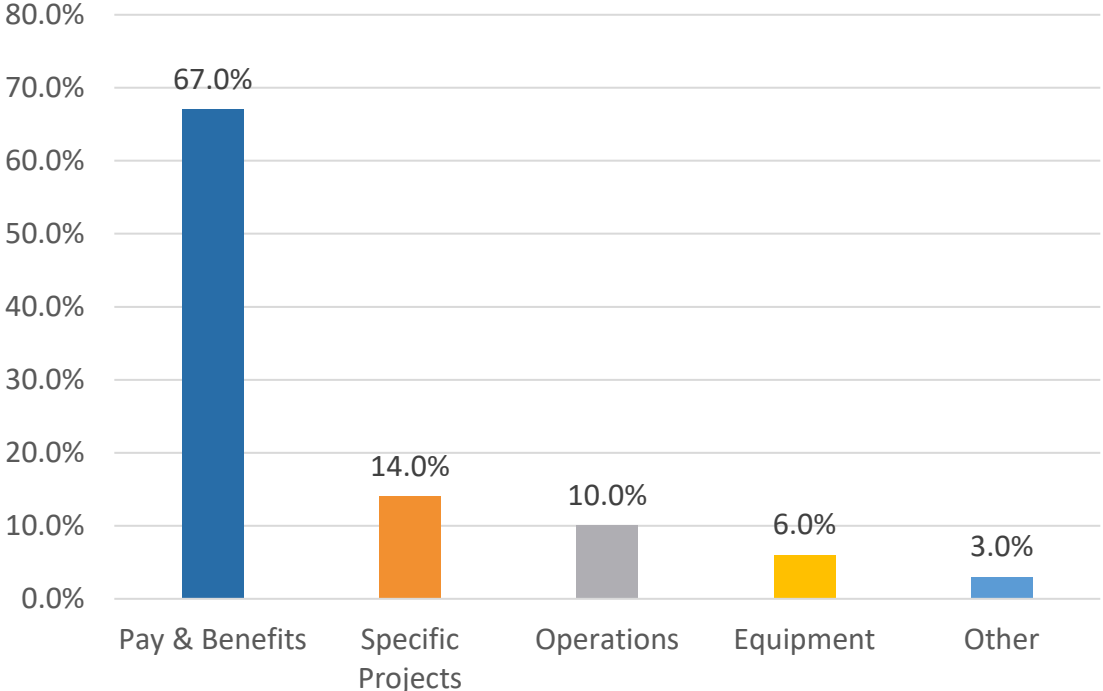
Introduction

Which best describes your role at your institution?



Current Allocation of Funds

What percentage of your federal capacity funds are allocated to each of the following?
(Average)



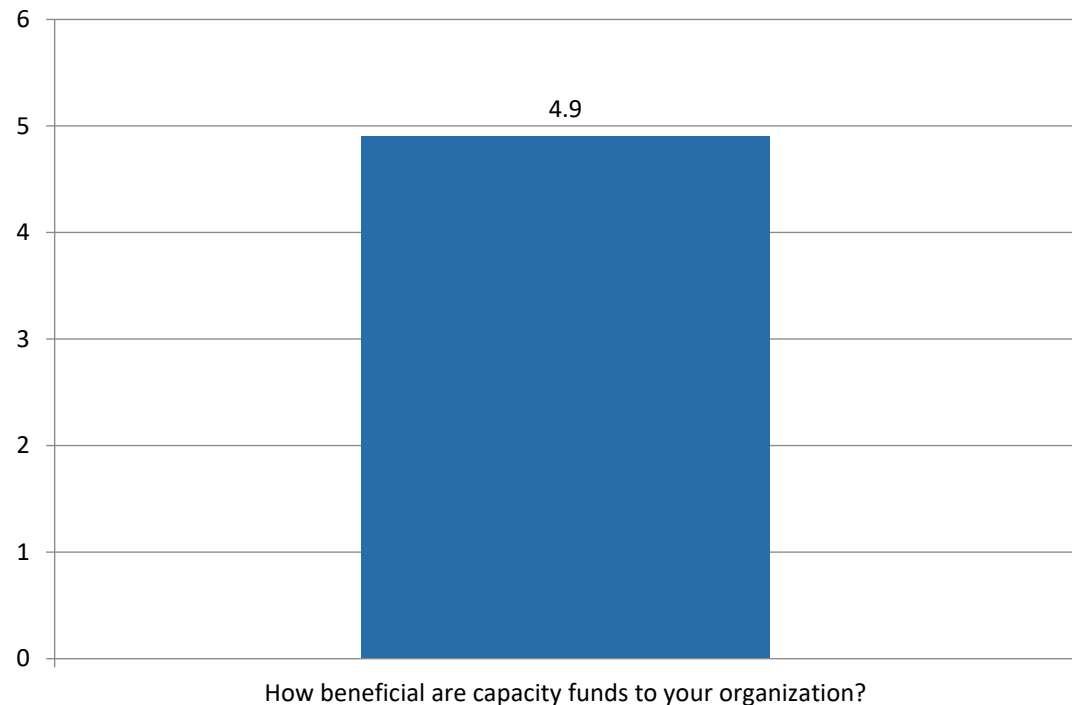
Breakout Analysis:

- Insular Institution respondents are more likely to spend capacity funds on equipment and operations.
- Cooperative Extension respondents are more likely to spend capacity funds on operations.
- agInnovation respondents are more likely to spend capacity funds on equipment.
- Non-1862 respondents are more likely to spend capacity funds on equipment, operations, specific operations, and others.

Key Findings #1

Federal Capacity Funds are Essential

On a scale of 1-5, where one equals not valuable and five equals very valuable:
(Weighted Average)



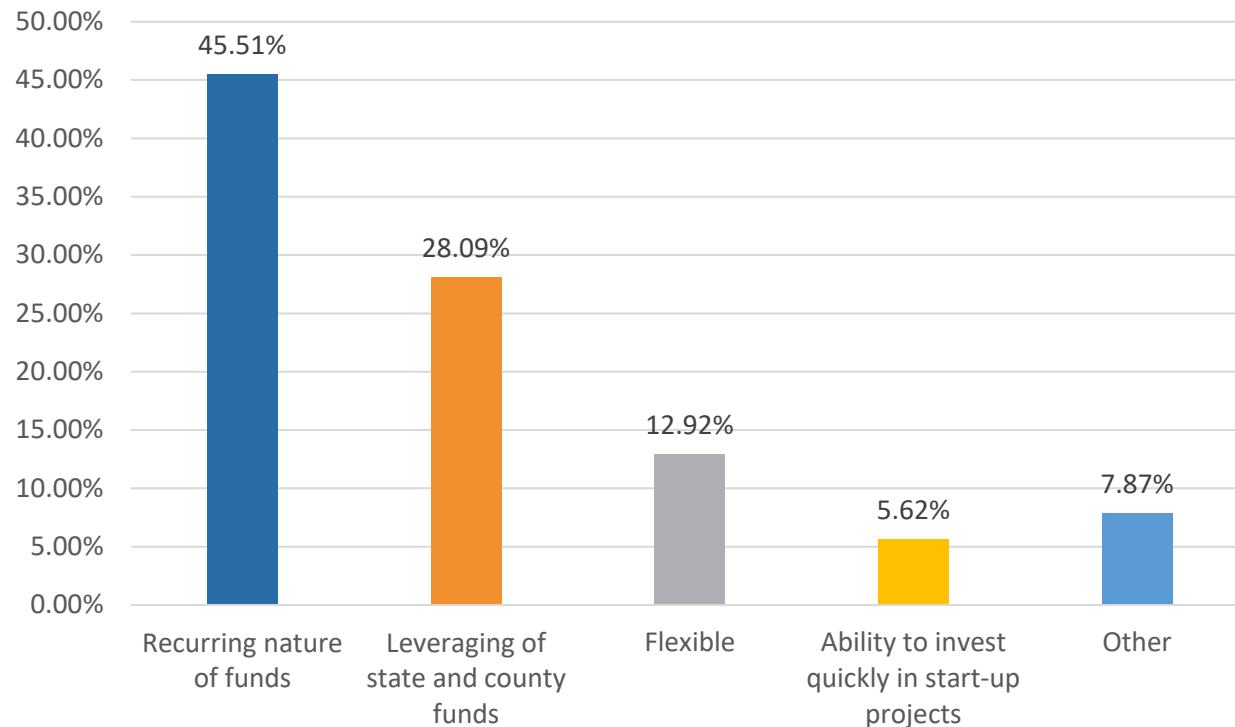
Breakout Analysis:

- There were no differences among respondents.

Key Findings #2

Reoccurring Capacity Funds are the most Crucial Benefit

What is the most important benefit of capacity funding vs. project-specific grants and contracts?



Breakout Analysis:

- Insular institutions were less likely to indicate leveraging of state and county funds.
- Cooperative Extension was less likely to report flexibility for funds as being an important benefit.
- Deans of Colleges of Agricultural and Natural Resources were less likely to report the ability to invest quickly in start-up projects as being an important benefit.
- Non-1862 institutions were less likely to report leveraging state and county funds as being an important benefit.

Next Steps

1. Engagement of key stakeholders to determine messaging.
2. Comprehensive Final Report – Concise high-level overview for leadership, detailed findings, analysis, and recommendations.
3. Presentations – Customized for leadership, policymakers, and key decision-makers.
4. Economic Impact Analysis



Decadal Vision

It has become apparent that to have true growth in funding lines that support our land-grant universities a long-term approach to messaging and annual appropriations needs to be developed. The BAA envisions a future where American agriculture provides the nation with improved personal, financial, and environmental health and prosperity. American agriculture squarely occupies the nexus of food, energy, health, and community. In this future, agriculture is a vital part of the solution to improving water and soil quality and environmental, ecosystem, and forest health while driving innovations that spur economic vitality and prosperity for America and beyond. The development of a decadal approach will provide long-term growth targets with increased funding through the annual appropriations process.

SHOUT OUTS



Waded Cruzado

Washington, DC – APLU today [announced](#) that Waded Cruzado, President of Montana State University and a passionate champion of the public and land-grant university mission, will serve as the next president of the association, effective July 1. Cruzado has been deeply engaged with APLU for many years, including as Chair of the Board of Directors in 2021. Since enrolling as a first-generation college student at the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez, she has spent her entire time as a student, faculty member, and administrator at APLU member institutions.

The Board on Health and Human Sciences

aplu.org/bhhs

- **From BoHS to BHHS**
- A **vibrant community** of higher education administrators representing a robust constellation of public and land-grant universities, Extension programs, colleges, and departments inclusive of Health and Human Sciences disciplines.
- **Vision:** To advance human development, health, and economic vitality holistically, thereby achieving a healthier, more resilient, equitable, and sustainable world.
- **Mission:** To empower leaders in Health and Human Sciences to collaboratively address pressing human challenges, aligning with the strategic goals of the APLU and other key stakeholders.
- **Membership benefits**
 - Influence policy and practice
 - Collaborate and network
 - Access emerging trends
 - Participate in professional development

Transforming through Partnerships

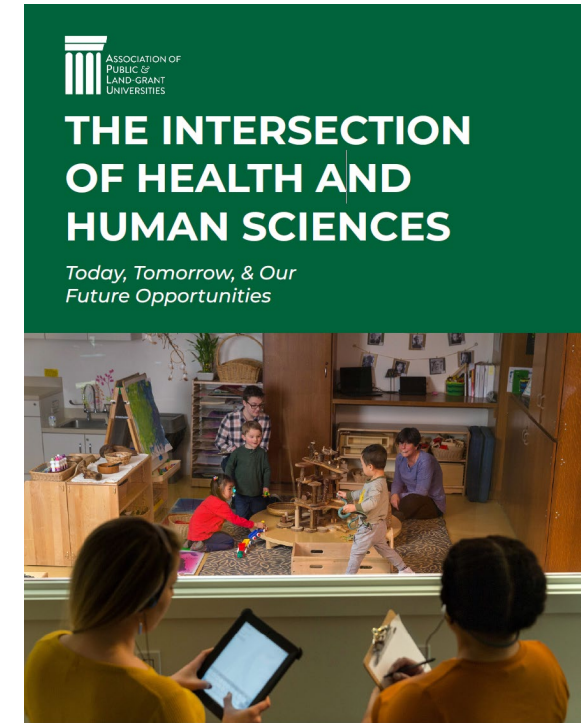
White paper

- Extending health care innovations into the household to prevent and treat disease and improve health.
- Employing advances in data, analytics, and AI to further understand and act upon human development, behavior, health, and interpersonal relationships.
- Addressing health disparities and enhancing health through changes to daily human behavior and interactions occurring at all levels.
- Advancing the interests of consumers in the face of population growth while also preserving and promoting the economy and the environment.

Mutual Benefit to Agriculture – Health – Human Sciences work

Connections to Extension/agInnovation 10-year roadmap

- Economically and environmentally healthy rural communities
- All Americans have better diets and longer, healthier lives





National Impact Database (NIDB)

In October 2023, the APLU Board on Agriculture Assembly began administering the NIDB, the nation's most extensive repository of land-grant system's collective impact statements in research, education and Extension. It serves as a comprehensive and important resource for the land-grant system to tell their story. Ag communicators from 65 schools submit materials on topics such as: food security/ national security, rural communities, public health, climate-informed solutions for agriculture, AI & emerging technologies, workforce development, youth development, agricultural sustainability, and water management. Member institutions have now uploaded almost 1,000 impact stories to the NIDB.

FANR Updates

- Welcome Marcus Glassman - Director, Government Affairs, Executive Director CARET
- Policy Board of Directors
 - Extend Lewis Burke Associates Contract
 - Approved Operating Budgets
 - Approved Leadership Contracts with FSLI and LEAD 21

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