

Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research
Introduction to the
**National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education,
and Economics Advisory Board**

December 17, 2015



Agenda

- Introduction to FFAR
- Q&A



FFAR Mission:
*Build unique partnerships
to support innovative
science addressing today's
food and agriculture
challenges.*

Who We Are



- **Independent 501 (c) (3) organization**
- **20-Member Board of Directors**
 - Chaired by former Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman
 - 5 *ex officio* members representing NSF and USDA
- **Established by the 2014 Farm Bill to increase food and agriculture research and complement the work of the USDA**

Who We Are – FFAR Board

5 *Ex officio* Members

- **Thomas Vilsack** Secretary of Agriculture
- **Dr. France Córdoba**, Chair, National Science Foundation
- **Dr. Catherine Woteki**, Chief Scientist and Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics, USDA
- **Dr. Sonny Ramaswamy**, NIFA Director, USDA
- **Dr. Chavonda Jacobs-Young**, AFRI Administrator, USDA

Who We Are – FFAR Board

14 Voting Members

Dr. Kathryn J. Boor, Cornell University

Dr. Doug Buhler, Michigan State University

Dr. Nancy Creamer, North Carolina State University

Dr. Deborah Delmer, University of California Davis

Hon. Dan Glickman, *Chairman of the Board*, Aspen Institute

Dr. Rob Horsch, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Ms. Pamela Johnson, National Corn Growers Association

Dr. Mark Keenum, Mississippi State University

Dr. Michael Ladisch, Purdue University

Dr. Christopher Mallett, Cargill Inc.

Dr. Terry F. McElwain, Washington State University

Dr. Stanley Prusiner, University of California - San Francisco

Dr. Yehia “Mo” Saif, Ohio State University

Dr. Barbara Schaal, Washington State University

How FFAR Will Work

- Fund cutting-edge research and development through grants and challenges
- Build unique public-private partnerships
- Convene stakeholders and thought leaders to foster collaboration
- Build human capacity to advance innovation
- Utilize social, physical, and biological sciences to answer research questions

Partnership

- Public-private partnership is a key part of FFAR's operating model
- All projects require matching funds from a non-Federal partner; FFAR's ability to leverage/multiply dollars sets the foundation apart
- Charged with complementing, not duplicating USDA-funded efforts

Research Target Areas

More productive, sustainable agriculture

- 1 **Optimizing agricultural water use**
- 2 **Transforming soil health**
- 3 **Enhancing sustainable farm animal productivity, resilience, and health**
- 4 **Improving plant efficiency**

Better health through food

- 5 **Achieving a deeper understanding of nutrition and healthful food choices**
- 6 **Managing food production systems to enhance human nutritional outcomes**
- 7 **Spurring food system innovation**

Inaugural Programs

- FFAR announced our first two programs following our October board meeting:
 - New Innovator in Agriculture Research award
 - Rapid Response Program
- Two additional programs to be announced by early 2016

Early Career Awards

- **Unmet need:** The New Innovator in Agriculture Research award will support and spotlight the next generation of scientists pursuing innovative research in food and agriculture



- Recipients will be committed to mentoring
- Research in 1 or more FFAR focus areas

Rapid Response Program

- Unmet need: Rapid deployment of funds to mitigate potential damage in the face of unanticipated threats to food supply
- Criteria for project selection:
 - Acute
 - National
 - Tangible outcomes

Considering several funding models

National Prize

- **Unmet need:** Prestigious recognition for scientists in food and agriculture
- **Anticipated award:** \$100,000 for one annual or biennial recipient
- **Partner:** National Academy of Sciences



National Consortium on Soil Health

- **Unmet needs**
 - Systems approach to cover crops, soil health
 - National network to address these issues
- **Target Outcomes**
 - Results of competitive research on soil health
 - Widespread adoption of no till, cover crops and other soil health practices.



Seeking Experts

- Nominate a leading scientists or stakeholder to serve on inaugural FFAR Advisory Councils, covering our seven research areas
- Duties (primarily virtual):
 - Make recommendations concerning program development
 - Identify emerging issues of interest
 - Review applications pending in respective topic areas.
 - Identify potential partners with whom the Foundation might work.
- More information: www.foundationfar.org

Thank you!

- **Q&A**
 - **Contact Us**
 - **Dr. Sally J. Rockey, Executive Director**
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 - **Katy Raymond, Chief Operating Officer**
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 - **Connect with FFAR:**
 - www.far.foundation
-  [@FoundationFAR](https://twitter.com/FoundationFAR)
[@RockTalking](https://twitter.com/RockTalking)

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