



United States Department of Agriculture  
Research, Education, and Economics

# National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board

Dr. Catherine Woteki

United States Department of Agriculture

Chief Scientist

Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics

Updates from the Research, Education, and Economics Mission Area

Beltsville, MD,

December 17, 2015





# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Challenges



Food Security



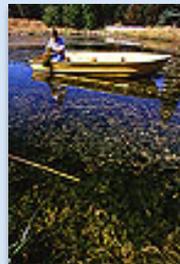
Food Safety



Human Nutrition &  
Health



Building the  
Bioeconomy



Sustainable Agricultural  
Systems Resilient to  
Climate Change



	Agency Description	Agency Budget		
		2014 Enacted	2015 Enacted	2016 Enacted
<b>Agricultural Research Service</b>	USDA's chief scientific, in-house research agency	\$1,122M	\$1,177M	\$1,356M
<b>National Institute of Food and Agriculture</b>	Links Federal and State ag research, Extension and higher education resources	\$1,281M Inc. AFRI \$316M	\$1,295M Inc. AFRI \$325M	\$1,331M Inc. AFRI \$350M
<b>Economic Research Service</b>	Economic and social science information and analyses	\$78M	\$85M	\$85M
<b>National Agricultural Statistics Service</b>	Provides timely, accurate and useful statistics for U.S. agriculture	\$161M	\$172M	\$168M



# Open Science for Agriculture

- International Collaboration
- Coordinated Scientific Research
- Worldwide Access to Publicly-funded Data Streams
- Spurs Innovation and Technology towards Global Food Security
- GRIN-Global
- Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition (GO-DAN)





# Global Scientific Cooperation

- Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition (GODAN), November 2013 (launch date)
  - GODAN Summit, September 2016
- Meeting of the G20 Agricultural Chief Scientists
  - Hosted by Mexico ('12), Russia ('13), Australia ('14)
- Open access to germplasm
- Improved technology transfer



# Strengthening extramural/intramural independence

## Background

- Food and agriculture, natural resource/forestry, veterinary, and human sciences have among the poorest condition labs and facilities of any discipline in our nation.
- ARS has a facilities infrastructure that is in very poor shape.
- Nearly a third of ARS laboratories are co-located Land Grant Universities campuses. And both ARS and the universities agree that these co-locations contribute greatly to their research climate and success.

## Next Steps

- Renew/replace university and ARS facilities
- Educate Congress on the merits of funding the 30-year old authority that NIFA has to provide competitive funding for research facilities
- ARS and LGUs continue complementary hires to strengthen the existing research teams already on many campuses
- Increase computing power to manage large data sets



## Inequalities in partnership with minority-serving institutions

- For the 1890s, we've recently become aware of the issue of some institutions not receiving their matching funds from their state governments. NIFA has embarked on a comprehensive inventory and analysis of the situation and will also develop a path forward on how this may be addressed.
- As part of the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of the establishment the 1890s land-grants, USDA supported the creation of three Centers of Excellence proposed by the 1890s.
- USDA will continue to seek additional resources for Tribal colleges and to connect them more broadly with USDA agencies, which may offer additional opportunities to faculty and students. Funding was slightly decreased.
- USDA continues to support creating the endowment for the Hispanic Serving Agriculture Colleges and Universities, in 2016 Congress did not do so.



# The Need for a Unifying Message

- We should take a cue from Research America and its experience and success advocating for biomedical research funding for the National Institutes of Health.
- The Riley Memorial Foundation has been working to develop such a unified message for the food and agricultural sciences. If you're not familiar with their work, give it a look..



# What can you do?

- Read the very good articulation of this idea by going to the Charles Valentine Riley Foundation website [www.rileymemorial.org](http://www.rileymemorial.org)
- Inform yourself about the budget facts
  - We have to begin looking for a rising baseline for all in ag research
  - And then we have to communicate about that need



## What else can we all do?

- Educate your colleagues, other leaders in your organizations, your students
- Reach out to your alumni and your communities, and leaders in your state and ask them to help
- Speak out about the importance of **all** ag research for the future of our country and the globe
- BE A PROUD ADVOCATE FOR OUR SCIENCE



United States Department of Agriculture  
Research, Education, and Economics

Some important websites:  
[www.rileymemorial.org](http://www.rileymemorial.org)  
[www.researchamerica.org](http://www.researchamerica.org)

Thank you – Let's work together

