Welcome! Today’s webinar will start shortly
Important Note

Please note audio and video recording will occur on behalf of APLU for this virtual event. By registering for this webinar session, you automatically consent to such recordings throughout the duration of the event and usage of such recordings for the purpose of advertising and publicity without restriction. If you do not consent to being recorded, discuss your concerns with the host, or do not join the session.
Announcements

To ask a question, post in the **Q&A window**. Do not use the chat.

Use **Chat** function to talk with fellow attendees or notify facilitators of any technical issues.

If you would like to respond to a question, click **Raise Hand**.

Link to today’s slides will be in the chat window.
Panelists

Moderator: Doug Steele, Vice President, Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources, APLU
Panelists:

• Orlando McMeans, Chair BAA and Policy Board of Directors (PBD)
  Chancellor-Dean, Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center
• Peter McPherson, President, APLU
• Craig Beyrouty, Chair Budget and Advocacy Committee (BAC)
  Dean, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Maryland College Park
• Cornerstone Government Affairs
  Jim Richards, Hunt Shipman, Vernie Hubert, Maggie Earle
• Marshall Stewart, Chair Committee on Legislation and Policy (CLP)
  Vice Chancellor of Extension and Engagement, University of Missouri
Agenda

4:00- 5:00 PM ET

I. Welcome and Overview
II. APLU Update
III. Policy Board of Directors Update
IV. Budget & Advocacy Committee Update
V. Cornerstone Gov’t Affairs Advocacy Update
VI. Committee on Legislation and Policy Update
VII. Questions
VIII. Wrap Up
APLU Update

Peter McPherson, President
Policy Board of Directors (PBD)

The Policy Board of Directors (PBD) of the Board on Agriculture Assembly (BAA) takes appropriate action on key matters affecting the interests of the member institutions and is responsible to APLU for the management, budget oversight and coordination of Assembly affairs. Membership:

Orlando F. McMeans (2021) Chancellor-Dean, Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension

Thomas G. Coon (2023) Vice President, Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources Oklahoma State University

Susan S. Sumner (2021) Associate Dean, Academic Programs College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Virginia Tech University

Michelle S. Rodgers (2021) Associate Dean and Director of Cooperative Extension, University of Delaware

Gary A. Thompson (2020) Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education and Director, AES, Penn State University

John R. Vreyens (2020) Director, Global Initiatives University of Minnesota Extension

Carolyn J. Williams (2021) Associate Administrator, Cooperative Extension Prairie View A&M University

Charlene E. Carr (2021) Director of Land-Grant Programs Institute of American Indian Arts

Lee S. Yudin (2020) Dean and Professor, College of Natural and Applied Sciences University of the Guam

William F. Brown (2021) Dean College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources Texas Tech University
Recent Actions by PBD

• Approved BAC Recommendations for COVID-19 Funding Requests
• Appointment of Strategic Realignment Implementation Task Force
• Reviewed and Approved “Unified Ask” Advocacy Strategy
• Convening NIFA External BAA Advisory Committee
BAC Role and Responsibilities

• Develop the annual federal appropriations priorities for the BAA and oversees the system’s advocacy firm (Cornerstone Government Affairs).

• Makes NIFA appropriations recommendations to Policy Board for ratification.

• Coordinate advocacy message delivered to Hill:
  • BAC works closely with Cornerstone in developing strategies to advocate for the budget.
  • The BAC works with CARET, the APLU Council on Governmental Affairs, federal agencies (including the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the Office of Management and Budget), U.S. House of Representatives and United States Senate, and other individuals and groups as deemed appropriate by the BAC to communicate and advocate budget recommendations adopted by the BAA Policy Board of Directors.
BAC Composition

Voting
- Chair
- Advocacy Chair
- Academic Programs Section
- Cooperative Extension Section
- Experiment Station Section
- International Agriculture Section
- 1890 Extension
- 1890 Research
- 1994 Institutions
- APLU Non-Land-Grant Institutions
- Insular/Territorial Institutions
- Council for Ag Research, Extension, and Teaching
- Board on Human Sciences
- Board on Veterinary Medicine
- Section on Forestry Resources

Non-voting
- BAA Committee on Legislation and Policy Liaison
- BAA Policy Board of Directors Liaison
- APLU Council on Governmental Affairs Liaison
- Cooperative Extension
- Association of 1890 Research Directors
- Association of Extension Administrators
- North Central Association of AES Directors
- Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
- APLU
- Cornerstone Government Affairs
BAA Process for Funding Initiatives

1. The BAC works with committee membership to prepare annual budget recommendations for matters relating to agriculture and related areas that are of special concern to the member institutions.

2. Budget recommendations for consideration are brought forward by section memberships and from the ESCOP/ECOP Budget and Legislation Committees.

3. Funding recommendations from the BAC move forward to the Policy Board of Directors for final approval.

4. The BAC utilizes a framework of criteria to base their decisions, including does no harm to current lines, beneficial to the membership (as a whole), considers historic funding levels and relationship with NIFA, has the greatest amount of impact across the system and allows for continued growth in budget lines.

5. Coordinate the presentation of these recommendations to the BAA Policy Board of Directors in a timely fashion.

6. **Allow for an expediated process when undetermined events such as COVID-19 or infrastructure investment present unique opportunities for additional funding.**
Recommended Approval of $380m Sign On Letter for Research and Extension Supplemental Funding Through NIFA

• $80m for Extension COVID-19 response to support increased capability and capacity to virtually provide essential programming and engagement services to effectively reach clientele who varying degrees of access to adequate broadband.

• $150m to NIFA to provide up to 12 months full cost extensions to all competitive research projects to meet the direct needs caused by a stop in U.S. research operations due to COVID-19, plus an additional $12m for Federal Administrative costs (4%).

• $138m distributed via capacity research funding through 1862 Hatch, 1890 Evans-Allen, McIntire-Stennis and 1994 Tribal Colleges Research to assist agricultural research enterprises overcome unexpected disruptions to current activities.

Given the severity of COVID-19 impact on State budgets, broad waiver authority for the Secretary match and other criteria would be significant contributions.
Recommended for Approval: ESCOP Infrastructure Proposal

- Proposed funding for an agriculture-focused infrastructure competitive grant program such as the Research Facilities Act, as authorized in Section 7503 of the 2018 Farm Bill be included in future federal infrastructure investments.

- The funding should be $8.4 billion (including 4% Federal Administration) added to the USDA/NIFA budget designated for infrastructure grants awarded over a five-year period (based on previous deferred maintenance studies).

- Request that the USDA Secretary of Agriculture have broad waiver authority to implement the Research Facilities Act.

- This request is in addition to the Facilities Improvements at 1890 Institutions program already authorized and funded.

- The Research Facilities Act would assure a total investment of $12 billion (assuming a 50% non-Federal match required in Section 7503) into capital infrastructure at Land-grant/capacity institutions across the country and many other locations within each state.

- Short-term, this program would generate a significant impact on local economies of rural areas surrounding outlying research and Extension centers and contribute significantly to their post-pandemic recovery. Long-term, this influx of new funds would help assure continued significant returns on Federal investment resulting from food, agriculture, and natural resources research, Extension and teaching into the next century by addressing the current critical infrastructure crisis.
Cornerstone Government Affairs Update

**Update on Congressional Actions and Priorities**

- FY2021 Appropriations and Unified Ask
- COVID-19 Mitigation and Stimulus
  - COVID I (3/6 for agencies, small biz, vaccines, and state/local)
  - COVID II (3/18 for paid sick/family leave)
  - COVID III (UI, hospitals, small biz, aviation, state/local, individuals, programs)
  - COVID III.5 (Small biz and other III programs)
  - COVID IV (TBD, LGU’s?, liability, state/local?...)
  - COVID V (TBD, LGUs, infrastructure and stimulus?)
Advocacy Efforts

• BAA process and membership determined the $380 million request
  • 4/23 call to action
  • APLU letter
  • Submitted request and letter to the Hill
  • Targeted the “blessed states”
  • Conversations with key staff
  • Working with ECOP and ESCOP on further COVID related justifications
  • Continued engagement

• Deferred Maintenance...
Committee on Legislation and Policy (CLP)

The CLP is responsible for coordinating all activities of the Board on Agriculture Assembly (BAA) as it relates to Farm Bill legislation and other legislative and/or regulatory activities of interest to the BAA.

- Developing and implementing strategies in the initial development of the legislation,
- Coordinating a support base for initiatives development by the CLP as the legislation moves through Congress and/or the Executive Branch.
- Monitoring and impacting subsequent programs and regulations that are authorized in the legislation.
Committee on Legislation and Policy Membership

• Chair
• Academic Program Section
• Cooperative Extension Section
• Experiment Station Section
• International Agriculture Section
• 1890 Research
• 1890 Extension
• 1994 Institutions

• Insular/Territorial Institutions
• APLU Non-Land-Grant Institutions
• Board on Human Sciences
• Section on Forestry Resources
• Board on Veterinary Medicine
• Council for Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching
CLP Update

• Although we are only in the 2\textsuperscript{nd} year of the 2018 farm bill, time is approaching for the 2023 Farm bill process to begin again.
• Farm bill provisions expire on fiscal year, crop year, and marketing year dates.
• Need to have 2023 Farm bill provisions enacted before September 30, 2023.
• The CLP will develop a 2023 Farm Bill survey to be released in the spring of 2022 for BAA input.

NOTE:

A potential complication for the 2023 farm bill is that 2\textsuperscript{nd} session of 117\textsuperscript{th} Congress is when the proposals will be developed, while the 2023 Farm bill will be enacted in the 1\textsuperscript{st} session of the 118\textsuperscript{th} Congress
Questions and Answers
Thank You

• BAA members for their engagement and contributions
• Panelists
• Thank you APLU Staff for producing this event: Winston Savoy & Kaelin Jackson
• Suzette Robinson, Program Assistant Food, Agriculture & Natural Resources, APLU