AG WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

The Role of Cooperative Extension

Washington, DC—July 19, 2018, for Immediate Release – The role of Cooperative Extension in agricultural workforce development will be the subject of NCFAR’s seminar at a noon luncheon in 1310 Longworth House Office Building and again in 328A Russell Senate Office Building at 2:30 on Tuesday, July 24. The presenter is Dr. Jason Henderson, Director, College of Agriculture, and Dean of Extension, at Purdue.

"Cooperative Extension has always provided training for both farm and non-farm agricultural businesses," says Henderson. “With historically low unemployment rates, regulatory changes, and new technological innovations, agricultural training programs are more crucial than ever as agricultural businesses and farms continue to identify finding hard working, high quality workers as a primary challenge to the industry.”

“This presentation provides an excellent example of the value of federally funded food and agricultural research, extension, and education in producing the scientific outcomes and outreach needed to meet 21st century challenges and opportunities,” says Andy LaVigne, President of the National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research (NCFAR).

Highlights: Dr. Henderson will be discussing the role that Cooperative Extension plays in Ag Workforce Development. With historically low unemployment rates, employers are scrambling to find workers with entry-level and advanced skills. Jason will be address how Cooperative Extension staff at our Land Grant Universities are innovating and partnering to expand the technical, professional, and life skills training opportunities for America’s agricultural workforce. Come prepared to learn about the wide range of Cooperative Extension research- and evidence-based educational programming being delivered to address short-term and long-term issues relating to ag workforce development.

The seminar is open to the public and the media. ******

The National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research (NCFAR) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, consensus-based, and customer-led coalition that brings food, agriculture, nutrition, conservation, and natural resource stakeholders together with the food and agriculture research and Extension community, serving as a forum and a unified voice in support of sustaining and increasing public investment at the national level in food and agricultural research, Extension, and education. NCFAR’s Hill Seminar Series, now in its fourteenth year, regularly presents leading-edge researchers working to provide answers to pressing issues confronting the public and Congress. The Hill Seminar Series helps demonstrate the value of public investment in food and agricultural research—investment that returns 45 percent per year on average, and $20 in economic benefit from every $1 investment in food and ag research.

Go to http://www.ncfar.org/Hill_Seminar_Series.asp for more information about the seminar series and past topics. Interviews with NCFAR President Andy LaVigne are available by request. For additional information, go to www.ncfar.org; or contact Tom Van Arsdall, Executive Director, at tom@vanarsdall.com or (703) 509-4746.