



A PUBLIC VOICE

ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC AND LAND-GRANT UNIVERSITIES

[Join Us: 2015 APLU Annual Meeting Video](#)

Watch: Purdue University President Mitch Daniels, Indiana University President Michael McRobbie, and Ball State University President Paul Ferguson invite you to join them at the APLU Annual Meeting in Indianapolis, November 15-17.



[Register now.](#)

[Watch the invite video.](#)

[APLU Annual Meeting's Pillar Sessions Announced](#)

APLU's agenda is built on the three pillars of increasing degree completion and academic success, advancing scientific research, and expanding engagement. This year's APLU Annual Meeting will feature sessions that explore each of those pillars. The first pillar session, "Education: Delivering Student Success," will review strategies to remove unnecessary hurdles to achievement as well as approaches that boost student success by proactively advising students at critical junctures in their college career. The second pillar session, "Identifying and Solving Research Grand Challenges," will examine the leading models of defining research grand challenges and compare approaches for optimizing research efficiency as well as fostering university-wide collaboration. And the third pillar session, "The New Engagement," will delve into community engagement and explore the need to redouble community engagement efforts and adopt a holistic approach that includes all stakeholders in the process.

[Register for the Annual Meeting.](#)

[Washington Update: Federal Government to Be Funded Through December 11, 2015](#)

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Following House Speaker John Boehner's announcement that he will resign effective October 30, Congress is set to pass a Continuing Resolution, which will fund the government at current levels through December 11, 2015. The outlook remains uncertain beyond the December stopgap extension, and will depend in large part on the election of a new leadership slate in the House and the dynamic of rank and file members. The Washington Update also provides an update on the status of the extension of the Federal Perkins Loan program.

[Read the Washington Update.](#)

[Project Degree Completion Award Finalist Profile: Middle Tennessee State University](#)

Middle Tennessee State University was announced as a Project Degree Completion Award finalist for its Quest for Student Success initiative, which aims to improve student retention and graduation rates. The initiative offers enhanced academic advising, expanded tutoring offerings, and



the implementation of more rigorous performance metrics. By directing resources toward students who are at risk of falling behind, the program has raised the persistence rate for first-time freshman to 91 percent. And persistence rates for part-time new transfer students improved by more than 10 percent under the program.

[Read more.](#)

[Land-Grant Institutions to Celebrate Cooperative Extension Innovation with Twitter Town Hall at NEDA 2015](#)

Extension educators and researchers from the University of the District of Columbia, North Dakota State University, Kansas State University, and the Southern University Ag Center (La.) will partner with Agriculture Is America, a national communications initiative aimed at highlighting the nation's land-grant institutions, to host a joint Twitter town hall on Wednesday October 14th from 9:30 am – 10 am CT. The experts will answer questions regarding youth development, gardening, nutrition, and unmanned aerial systems, among other agricultural topics.

[Learn more.](#)

[APLU's Mike Brost Writes Huffington Post Blog on Complexity of Higher Education](#)

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[@Ag_Assembly](#)

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Cooperative
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CARET:
[@CARETExDir](#)

APLU's Mike Brost penned an essay in the Huffington Post on cutting through the complexity that students and families face in higher education and dispelled common misconceptions about college affordability and accessibility as well as student debt.

[Read more.](#)

[APLU & Veterinary Medical College Task Force Names Dr. Chase Crawford as Director of Antibiotic Resistance Initiative](#)

Dr. Chase A. Crawford has been named Director of the Antibiotic Resistance Initiative in a professional staff position jointly funded by the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) and the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU). Crawford will provide administrative leadership for the development of a series of research and educational programs that the APLU/AAVMC Task Force on Antibiotic Resistance in Production Agriculture will recommend in its much-anticipated report slated for release in two weeks.



[Read more.](#)

[Board on Agriculture Assembly's Academic Programs Section Innovative Teaching Awards Announced](#)

The Board on Agriculture Assembly's Academic Programs Section of the Association of Public Land-grant Universities has awarded five Innovative Teaching Awards to five teams of faculty representing eleven institutions. The awards aid faculty focused on expanding their scholarship of teaching and learning by providing innovative teaching and learning experiences for students. The \$2,000 awards are intended to support efforts to build and use collaborative relationships between faculty at different institutions that will take an innovative approach to teaching and learning in the food, agricultural, and natural resources sciences as well as serve as a base or pilot for future grant proposals. The awards also encourage partnership and mentoring between seasoned faculty and junior faculty.

[Read more.](#)

[New Book on Social Innovation Includes APLU Contributor](#)

A new book on career pathways in social innovation and global sustainable development, “Solving Problems that Matter (and Getting Paid for It), will be released on October 2. The book includes an expert brief from APLU’s Jim Woodell, entitled “The Secret Life of Universities as Economic and Social Development Hubs.” Khanjan Mehta, Founding Director of the Penn State University’s Humanitarian Engineering and Social Entrepreneurship (HESE) program, and Assistant Professor of Engineering Design, edited the volume.

[Read more.](#)
