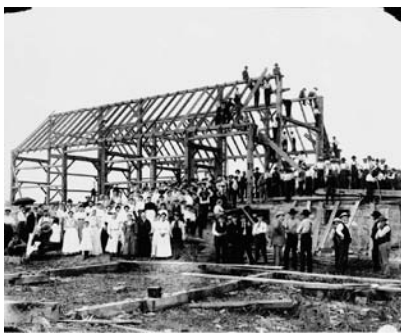


February 19, 2010

Working Together for the Future of Agriculture

Civilization as it is known today could not have evolved, nor can it survive, without an adequate food supply.

—Norman Borlaug



Successfully building agriculture has always required a cooperative effort, a gathering of the best available resources, ideas, energy, and time; and an accepted understanding that you don't wait until it starts snowing to put up a barn, and if you want to eat anything tomorrow, you better do something about it today. *[Photo courtesy of the Pennsylvania Historical Society]*

Building agriculture for the 21st century and beyond is established on the same principles of knowing and doing and may well be the most critical issue facing our nation and the world. Agriculture impacts everyone and every place on the planet, with implications for generations to come.

If you desire peace, cultivate justice, but at the same time cultivate the fields to produce more bread; otherwise there will be no peace.--Norman Borlaug

For almost four decades, CAST's mission has been to sustain agriculture through the communication of science. But bringing this mission to reality would not be possible without the mutual support of partners in agriculture who share CAST's commitment to this most essential of all "building projects." *[Photo courtesy of NPR]*



CAST expresses appreciation for all those who help "get the word out" on CAST's fact-based agricultural information, specifically those involved in our recently published Issue Paper, *Agricultural Productivity Strategies for the Future: Addressing U.S. and Global Challenges.*

Since the paper was released 1 month ago (January 19, 2010), it has been introduced to more than 50,000 (and counting) individuals at six different

face-to-face venues and through several forms of social media. Visits to the CAST website have soared--with more than 5,000 hits in the last month alone--and additional presentations are scheduled in April and June.

Our sincere thanks to the Task Force Members who prepared this new CAST paper, and to Task Force Chair Gale Buchanan, who has made six presentations of the material and is scheduled to make at least three more to unique audiences.

[February 12, 2010: Town Hall Meeting at the Newseum \(sponsored by CropLife International, BIO, and CAST\)](#)

An eminent panel of science and policy experts braved a historic blizzard last Friday (February 12, 2010) to identify solutions for the greatest agricultural challenges of all time at Washington, D.C.'s Newseum. The global dialogue--"Now Serving: 9 Billion: A Global Dialogue on Meeting Food Needs for the Next Generation"--also was live-streamed to a global audience. Participants from more than 30 countries on four continents shared their thoughts and perspectives with the panel as part of this global dialogue.

The webcast and paper are available for free download on the CAST website [HERE](#). The webcast and continued comments can be accessed through CropLife International [HERE](#) or [HERE](#).

The panel included (see photo, left to right) [Mark Cantley](#), former head of the European Commission's "Concertation Unit for Biotechnology in Europe" and of OECD's Biotechnology Unit; [Nina Federoff](#), Science and Technology Advisor to the U.S. Secretary of State and to the Administrator of USAID; [Frank Sesno](#) (Moderator), George Washington University; [Robert Paarlberg](#), Professor at Wellesley College and author of *Starved for Science: How Biotechnology Is Being Kept Out of Africa*; [Gale Buchanan](#), Task Force Chair of CAST's report and former USDA Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics; and [Calestous Juma](#), Pew Award winner and Professor of Practice at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. *[Photo courtesy of CropLife International]*



[February 2, 2010: Farm Foundation at the National Press Club \(Washington, D.C.\)](#)

The Farm Foundation Presentation, including Gale Buchanan's PowerPoint presentation and the MP3 version, is available [HERE](#) (Open and scroll down to "Past Presentations"). *[Photo of (left) Neil Conklin, President of Farm Foundation, and Gale Buchanan at the National Press Club, courtesy of John Bonner]*

[February 1, 2010: National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research \(NC-FAR\) \(Washington, D.C.\)](#)

NC-FAR has featured CAST publications for several years as part of



their "Lunch~'N~Learn" seminar series for Hill staffers. There were six CAST presentations in 2009, with more already scheduled for 2010. *[Photo of (center) Gale Buchanan addressing 85 Hill Staffers at NC-FAR presentation, courtesy of Tom Van Arsdall, NC-FAR]*

[January 25, 2010: American Seed Trade Association Meeting \(Las Vegas, Nevada\)](#)



[January 19, 2010: U.S. Department of State \(Washington, D.C.\)](#)



[January 19, 2010: U.S. Department of Agriculture's "Diverse Voices in Agriculture" Seminar \(Whitten Building, Washington, D.C.\)](#)



[Photo of Gale Buchanan (second from right) and Tom Redick, CAST President-Elect (right) discussing CAST's new paper with USDA agency representatives, courtesy of John Bonner]

Through the combination of (1) excellent INPUT for CAST publications, (2) increased INVESTMENT in the communication of science-based agricultural information, and (3) maximum IMPACT through distribution to large, diverse audiences, CAST can successfully build agriculture through cooperation.

To learn more about CAST, click [HERE](#).