Summary of Activities
January–May 2017

ROLLOUTS

**Plant Breeding and Genetics**—A paper in the series on The Need for Agricultural Innovation to Sustainably Feed the World by 2050 (March 22)
- Dr. Stephen Baenziger and Dr. Rita Mumm (task force cochairs) presented the paper to three audiences in Washington, D.C.:
  - A National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research (NC-FAR) Senate briefing for staffers
  - An NC-FAR “Lunch ’n Learn” seminar for House staffers
  - A presentation for stakeholders cohosted by the ASA, CSSA, and SSSA Science Policy Office

**Crop Protection Contributions toward Agricultural Productivity**—A paper in the series on The Need for Agricultural Innovation to Sustainably Feed the World by 2050
- Dr. Susan Ratcliffe, task force chair and director of the North Central IPM Center at the University of Illinois, presented the paper in Washington, D.C., on the following dates:
  - April 5 at a gathering cohosted by CropLife America
  - April 6 at two presentations for Senate and House staffers on Capitol Hill

**CAST Annual Report 2016**
- Branching Out in New Directions was the theme of the report, released in April, which contains the following information:
  - Letters from Richard Cavaletto (current CAST President) and Kent Schescke (CAST EVP)
  - Board of Trustees updates, publication rollout info, summaries of the Spring and Fall Board Meetings, BCCA event reports, membership lists, and financial summaries

**BORLAUG CAST COMMUNICATION AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT**
- Jayson Lusk was announced as the 2017 winner of the BCCA on April 27
  - Currently a Regents Professor and Willard Sparks Endowed Chair with the Department of Agricultural Economics at Oklahoma State University
  - Will become head of the Department of Agricultural Economics at Purdue University (July)
  - Uses multiple forms of media to advocate for science as he explains how innovation and growth in agriculture are critical for food security and global progress
- Announcement took place at the World Bank in Washington, D.C.
- Award presentation will occur at a breakfast side event cohosted by Syngenta and CAST at the World Food Prize Symposium on October 18 in Des Moines, Iowa
- Dr. Kevin Folta, 2016 recipient of the BCCA, spoke at the announcement
  - Dr. Folta’s topic was *Earn Trust Before Facts Can Flow*
CAST MEMBERSHIP INCREASES

- American Seed Trade Association - representative TBD
- BASF Corporation - Luke Bozeman (Director, R&D Crop Protection, North America) as representative
- National Corn Growers Association/Iowa Corn Promotion Board - David Ertl (Technology Commercialization Manager) as representative
- National Milk Producers Federation - Jamie Jonker (Vice President, Sustainability & Scientific Affairs) as representative
- The Fertilizer Institute - Sally Flis (Director, Agronomy) as representative
- Tyson Foods - Lora Wright (Director, Food Safety Quality Assurance) as representative

BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES CHANGES

- American Dairy Science Association - George Patocka, Dairy Specialist at University of Alberta
- American Society of Animal Science - Glenn Duff, Head of the Department of Animal and Range Sciences at New Mexico State University
- American Society of Plant Biologists - Amit Dhingra, Associate Professor at Washington State University
- Entomological Society of America - Gary Brewer, Professor and Head of the Department of Entomology at University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- Land O’Lakes - Jason Sewell, Senior Scientist, R&D Applications, Purina Animal Nutrition, LLC
- Northeastern Weed Science Society - Rob Richardson, Professor and Extension Specialist at North Carolina State University
- Society of In Vitro Biology - John Harbell, Consultant

BOARD OF TRUSTEES UPDATES

- Dale Bauman, Liberty Hyde Bailey Professor at Cornell University
- Mike Strain, Commissioner, Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry
- Gary Thompson, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education Director at PA Agricultural Experiment Station and Penn State College of Agricultural Science

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Rollout of “Why Does Bee Health Matter? The Science Surrounding Honey Bee Health Concerns and What We Can Do About It” (June 19, 2017)
- Rollout of “Genome Editing in Agriculture: Methods, Applications, and Governance—A paper in the series on The Need for Agricultural Innovation to Sustainably Feed the World by 2050” (TBD)
- Rollout of “Omega-3 Fatty Acids: Health Benefits and Dietary Recommendations” (TBD)
- Borlaug CAST Communication Award Presentation and Breakfast at World Food Prize (October 18, 2017)