

CAST knows that your faculty and graduate students are the key to the world's food and fiber production in the years ahead. Future scientific discoveries and technologies will result from their work. It is important that they know about the events occurring daily that affect their research, their career, and the world. It is essential that they know where to gain access to credible, science-based information. CAST has a great offer to help achieve this goal.

### EDUCATION PROGRAM BENEFITS

#### Friday Notes Newsletter

Your university's entire agriculture division would have the opportunity to receive CAST's *Friday Notes*, our signature e-newsletter published and distributed 48 times a year. The *Notes* provide timely links to the latest news across the full spectrum of agricultural topics. Each issue features:

- Lead articles on current topics being discussed in agriculture;
- Hot topics selected from multiple sources, including live links to the original articles;
- Current events and opportunities; and News from the Far Side of the Barn (a less serious look at agriculture).



#### Reference Publications

Your college will receive a "CAST Reference Collection."

- This includes more than two dozen recent CAST publications relating to all fields of agriculture -- CAST Task Force Reports, Special Publications, and Issue Papers (a \$300 value)
- Can be used in your department library, Dean's office, or any location that would benefit your faculty and students.

#### Current Publications

- With every publication release, CAST sends each of your representatives a printed copy of new Issue Papers, Special Publications, and Task Force Reports.
- Commentaries and Ag quickCASTs are available as free downloads from the CAST website at [www.cast-science.org](http://www.cast-science.org). These brief, highly focused documents provide timely information on "hot topics" in agriculture, in user-friendly language.



#### Recognition of your support

Your organization is recognized on the CAST website and in the CAST Annual Report.

#### HOW IT WORKS:

- *Friday Notes* may be distributed broadly within a university's agriculture division. This would include faculty and students within the agriculture college, veterinary college, Extension Services, and Directors of Experiment Stations. The program fee may be split among these different entities as the administration sees fit.
- Your college would designate an administrator to receive CAST *Friday Notes* each Friday. The designee would simply forward *Friday Notes* to distribute to your faculty/student listservs.
- This valuable service is offered at only
  - \$3,000/year for institutions with ag enrollments of 1,000 or less
  - \$5,000/year for institutions with ag enrollments greater than 1,000

*“Each week we distribute CAST Friday Notes to our faculty and graduate students to help them keep up-to-date on current news and emerging issues, and to make them aware of the broad set of scientific resources available to inform discussions in the lab and classroom. We also hope that the Friday Notes will help our faculty and students see the value in their own engagement in addressing emerging issues and their participation in helping to educate policy makers and the public. If our faculty are engaged, then the public will start to realize the value of our research and it can help make the case for increased funding for science.”*

**Wendy Wintersteen**  
President, Iowa State University

*“In today’s world, information is an essential tool to educate our legislative leaders, colleagues, and stakeholders about the importance of agricultural science and technology to our nation’s economic development and world security. CAST provides up-to-the-minute news and background on emerging issues that helps us communicate about the critical role agriculture plays locally and globally. It helps us reassert the role that agriculture has in solving the world’s most pressing problems.”*

**Jack M. Payne**  
Senior Vice President for Agriculture and Natural Resources  
University of Florida



**Educating the next generation of ag leaders is important to you and CAST has the resources available to help in an affordable, convenient, and easy to administer program. CAST could serve your students and faculty in many ways; please consider supporting CAST by joining with other universities in this outstanding educational program.**

### **Additional Program Benefits [Optional but Encouraged]: Representation on the CAST Board**

Your university would have the opportunity to participate in CAST through a CAST Representative who serves on a work group (*Animal Agriculture and Environmental Issues, Food Science and Safety, or Plant Agriculture and Environmental Issues.*)

- The primary charge of a work group is to identify, clarify, and prioritize national issues and concerns they believe CAST should address; and then develop proposals for new publications and/or projects.
- Representation would allow your school additional input on publications and projects and provide another method of outreach to the public on critical issues.
- Through CAST your input can be changed into credible science-based communications that are respected and referenced by stakeholders, policymakers, the media, and the public.
- Organizations on the board also have their names listed on publications and *Friday Notes*.

### **Education Program Members**

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|--|-------------------------------------|
| Cal Poly State University                      | Cornell University                  |
| Iowa State University                          | Kansas State University             |
| Mississippi State University                   | North Carolina A&T State University |
| North Carolina State University                | Purdue University                   |
| Texas A&M University                           | The Ohio State University           |
| Tuskegee University                            | University of Arkansas              |
| University of California–Davis                 | University of Florida               |
| University of Kentucky                         | University of Nebraska              |
| University of Nevada–Reno                      | Land O’Lakes, for support of        |
| National Association of Agricultural Educators |                                     |

**Contact Melissa Sly for more information at [mshly@cast-science.org](mailto:mshly@cast-science.org) or (515) 292-2125.**