President-Elect for 2021-22 Announced

Dr. Sally Flis—Sustainable Ag Field Manager with Nutrien Ag Solutions—was chosen as the President-Elect for 2021-2022. Dr. Flis is a member of, and has chaired, the Plant Ag and Environment work group (PWG) at CAST. She has also served on the Board of Directors since 2018 as the PWG Liaison, has led the efforts for three CAST publications, and was a contributing author for *The Role of Agricultural Science and Technology in Climate 21 Project Implementation*.

One of her visions for the future of CAST is to explore on-campus activities with CAST education members in an effort to help grow the next generation of members and authors. In 2022-2023, she will become the 50th president of CAST. Congratulations Dr. Flis!

Release of New Commentary

On June 28, CAST released *The Role of Agricultural Science and Technology in Climate 21 Project Implementation*. The webinar on June 29 had six panelists—David Baltensperger (task force chair, Texas A&M University), Marty Matlock, Juan M. Tricarico, J. Alex Thomasson, Zhengxia Dou, and Debbie Reed. This report summarized each of the key recommendations and priorities where current agricultural science and technology for plant and animal production can be applied and where new investments will be critical to meeting the goals of the administration. Topics covered:

- Managed Landscapes
- Animal Agriculture’s Role in Climate Mitigation
- Role of Advanced Technologies in Climate Mitigation
- Food Supply Chain and Waste in Climate Mitigation
- How Do We Make Carbon Markets Work for Agriculture?

New Interactive Student Study Guides

Assistant professors, Rebecca Mott and Amy Leman, from the University of Missouri and University of Illinois, respectively, worked together to make their students’ classroom experiences as engaging, interactive, and applicable to real life as possible while teaching during the pandemic. “We wanted to provide our students with as many opportunities and connections as we possibly could considering the circumstances. We knew our students still wouldn’t have the opportunity to network or interact with each other or with industry leaders at conferences or events like they normally would because of COVID,” Mott said.

To accomplish this, both professors brought students together in virtual teams to build a program with an outside stakeholder, and CAST was chosen as one of the stakeholders. This spring, CAST staff worked with a group of their students by answering questions about CAST publications and discussing how to best utilize the interactive study student guides in the future. The students chose two CAST papers to create interactive study guides from—*Producing Food Products from Cultured Animal Tissues* and *Food Loss and Waste*. These guides will be hosted on Articulate 360.

CAST will still be offering the original student study guides released in 2020 covering its publications.) These interactive study guides aren’t available yet, but watch *Friday Notes* and other social media platforms for their release date sometime this fall.
New Board-Level Nonprofit Member

The Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM) is the newest addition to the list of CAST Nonprofit Members at the board level. This level of support for CAST allows the organization the opportunity to appoint a representative to serve on a work group and network with other professionals to help CAST address agricultural issues through its publications. Anita Sennett—Senior Director, Agriculture Services, AEM—says this of the new partnership: "There is a lot of misinformation about agricultural technologies that can lead to negative perception in the general public as well as uninformed decisions among legislators and lawmakers. One of our AEM Ag Sector priorities is to work to dispel that type of misinformation and help to bring awareness to the realities and benefits of modern ag. The work that CAST does is in perfect alignment with that goal. We look forward to collaborating with the other CAST partners to bring focus and educate on key aspects of agricultural technologies."

New Board of Trustees Members

CAST would like to welcome these academic leaders onto the CAST Board of Trustees:

- Dr. Cathann Kress serves as Vice President for Agricultural Administration and Dean, College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) at The Ohio State University.
- Dr. Julie Funk serves as Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Arizona.
- Dr. Nick Place serves as Dean of the University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and Director of the UGA Cooperative Extension and Agricultural Experiment Stations.

Upcoming Events

October 21—Dr. Sarah Evanega, 2021 Borlaug CAST Communication Award recipient, will present at the World Food Prize
October 26-28—CAST Annual Board Meeting

Stay Aware and Connected Through CAST

CAST’s Friday Notes newsletter, blog, and other social media outlets regularly provide important updates about news headlines, announcements, and pertinent educational resource material related to agriculture, science, and COVID-19’s impacts on the ag industry. Another CAST resource includes self-study guides focused on CAST’s papers that can then be used by teachers and parents for their online learning activities and in other educational settings.

Forthcoming Publications Under Development

- Celebrating 50 Years as the Trusted Source for Agricultural Science and Technology—A publication focusing on CAST’s impact the past 50 years
- Goals, Strengths and Limitations Governing the Use of Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) in Food and Agriculture (Commentary)
- GMO Free—The Impact on Consumers, Retailers, Farmers, and the Environment (Issue Paper)