

2022



AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH DIVISION

ANNUAL MEETING

EAST CAMPUS UNION - GREAT PLAINS ROOM
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2022

REGISTRATION

8:30 - 9:00 AM

Coffee & Pastries will be served.

WELCOME

9:00 – 9:30 AM

Archie Clutter, *Agricultural Research Division Dean and Director*

**PANEL 1: "SUCCESSFUL INTEGRATION" - RESEARCH
WITH EDUCATION, EXTENSION & THE ARTS**

9:30 - 10:45 AM

Andrew Belser, *Dean of Hixon-Lied Fine & Performing Arts, UNL*

Edgar Cahoon, *Director of Center for Plant Science Innovation, UNL*

Deb Hamernik, *Deputy Director - Institute of Food Production &
Sustainability, USDA NIFA*

Erdogan Memili, *Associate Executive Dean for Research, Prairie View
A&M University*

John Westra, *Director Panhandle Research Extension and Education
Center, UNL*

POSTERS AND NETWORKING SESSION

10:45 - 11:30 AM

LUNCH

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

WOMEN SUPPORTING WOMEN INITIATIVE

12:30 - 1:00 PM

Angie Pannier, *Professor of Biological Systems Engineering, UNL*

**PANEL 2: "ACHIEVING RESEARCH IMPACTS" -
PERSPECTIVES FROM COMPANIES, AGENCIES,
COMMODITIES AND ACADEMIA**

1:00 - 2:15 PM

Robyn Allscheid, *Director of Research & Productivity, National Corn
Growers Association*

Bradley Barker, *Professor of 4-H Youth Development, UNL; NSF
Rotator Program*

Mary Emery, *Director Rural Prosperity Nebraska*

Corby Jensen, *Regional Technology Development Lead, Bayer*

BREAK

2:15 - 2:30 PM

CLOSING COMMENTS - NEXT STEPS FOR ARD

2:30 - 3:00 PM

Archie Clutter, *Current Agricultural Research Division Dean &
Director*

Derek McLean, *Incoming Agricultural Research Division Dean &
Director*

MEETING ADJOURNED

3:00 PM

**ANDREW BELSER***Dean of Hixon-Lied College of Fine & Performing Arts, UNL*

Andrew Belser began his appointment as dean of the Hixon-Lied College of Fine and Performing Arts at Nebraska on July 11, 2022. Belser came to Nebraska from the University of Arizona, where he was director of and professor in the School of Theatre, Film and Television and led arts and medicine initiatives. He recently launched the Stories Travel project, engaging youth from regional Latinx and Indigenous communities in film, sound, and performance projects to help them imagine their stories as important elements of potential university study and beyond.

Prior to Arizona, Belser was founding director of the Arts and Design Research Incubator at Penn State, where he mentored artists, designers and scientists. At Penn State, Belser was a co-principal investigator in large NSF and NIH funded projects involving extension faculty and staff. Belser was also a professor of movement, voice and acting in the Bachelor and Master of Fine Arts acting program at Penn State. Belser was named the Penn State Laureate for 2017-2018.

Belser holds a Bachelor of Arts in communication arts and theater from Grove City College, a Master of Arts in theater from Villanova and a Master of Fine Arts in directing from Virginia Tech.

**EDGAR CAHOON***Director of the Center for Plant Science Innovation, UNL*

Ed Cahoon is the George Holmes University Distinguished Professor of Biochemistry and Director of the Center for Plant Science Innovation at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Dr. Cahoon has combined biochemistry and functional genomics to uncover metabolic pathways for high-value fatty acids, antioxidants, and carotenoids and has transferred these pathways to soybean to enhance oil value for emerging markets such as aquaculture feedstocks. He has >160 publications and 35 US patents in plant biotechnology. Dr. Cahoon was also recognized as a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 2019 and was a 2017 recipient of an honorary doctorate in Plant Breeding from the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences. Dr. Cahoon is currently the PI of a USDA-NIFA Research and Extension Experiences for Undergraduates grant "Expanding Opportunities in Agricultural Sciences: Crop-to-Food Innovation" that has a recruitment focus on students from 1890 Land Grant HBCUs.



DEB HAMERNIK

Deputy Director, Institute of Food Production & Sustainability, USDA NIFA

Deb joined NIFA in July 2020 as Director, Division of Animal Systems and was appointed Deputy Director, Institute of Food Production and Sustainability (IFPS) in November 2020. She provides leadership and oversight for about 70 staff that administer competitive and capacity programs focusing on pre-harvest plant and animal production systems, which account for more than half of NIFA's annual appropriations. Prior to joining NIFA, she was Associate Vice Chancellor for Research; Associate Dean, Agricultural Research and Associate Director, Nebraska Agricultural Experiment Station; and Professor, Department of Animal Science at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. At UNL she was responsible for administering state and federal funding for agricultural research and supporting faculty research development. Deb earned a B.S. in Animal Science from UNL; a M.S. in Animal Science from Washington State University; and a Ph.D. in Animal Reproductive Physiology from Colorado State University. She was a postdoctoral fellow in Molecular Endocrinology at Case Western Reserve University.



ERDOĞAN MEMILI

Associate Executive Dean of Research, Prairie View A&M University

Dr. Memili graduated as a veterinarian with DVM at Istanbul University, followed by graduate research in microbial genetics and mammalian embryo development during his MS and Ph.D. studies at Wisconsin-Madison, respectively. He did epigenetics stem cell research during his postdoc at Harvard followed by basic and applied research on development of transgenic animals in Boston at Genzyme Transgenics. In fall of 2015, Dr. Memili did sabbatical research at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY. He served as a faculty member from Assistant to full professor in the Department of Animal and Dairy Sciences at Mississippi State University where he had research, teaching and service appointments.

He has a wide experience from genomics and industry to animal and veterinary sciences dating all the way back to his childhood on his Mediterranean farm with sheep, goats and cattle as well as horses that he would ride from the age of six. He completed his postdoctoral training and faculty sabbatical at Harvard and Cornell, respectively. In research, he leads a globally recognized research group pursuing fundamental research to improve fertility in livestock for food security using systems biology approaches within the concept of systems physiology. The collaborative and multidisciplinary research is aimed at uncovering sperm fertility markers and improving sperm cryopreservation. The research with his collaborators and students has been funded by diverse agencies and published and presented in numerous journals and conferences, respectively.

His passion and purpose are to make positive impact on agricultural science, education and the society. Currently, he oversees the Cooperative Agricultural Research Center and facilitates success of the faculty in research which is linked to the other two missions of the land grant university: Education and Extension.



JOHN WESTRA

Director Panhandle Research Extension and Education Center, UNL

Since 2017, Dr. Westra has served in various administrative roles at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln (UNL) and as Professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics including as the Associate Director for Southeast Research and Extension District, Eastern Nebraska Research, Extension and Education Center (ENREEC), as Program Leader for two disciplinary teams - water and integrated cropping systems and agricultural economics, and since September of this year as Director at Panhandle Research, Extension and Education Center (PREEC). For 15 years prior to joining UNL, he was the J. Nelson Fairbanks Professor at Louisiana State University (LSU). There he worked on several transdisciplinary teams, conducting research in production, natural resource and environmental economics relevant to the agricultural sector. He integrated research findings with award-winning extension programming to help producers with land management decisions (farming, ranching and other natural resource-based enterprises) that affected economic parameters (income and social welfare) and provision of ecosystem services and goods, including primary production, water quality and quantity.

SPEAKER

Women to Women Initiative



ANGIE PANNIER

Director of Research & Productivity, National Corn Growers Association

Dr. Angela Pannier is the Swarts Family Chair of Biological Systems Engineering and Professor of Biomedical Engineering at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL). Dr. Pannier's NIH/NSF/USDA/industry supported research focuses on engineering biomaterials and systems for gene therapy and tissue engineering applications. Dr. Pannier, along with Dr. Andrea Cupp of UNL, has started the IANR Women Supporting Women (WSW) Network for Success.

**ROBYN ALLSCHEID*****Director of Research & Productivity, National Corn Growers Association***

Robyn joined NCGA in 2018 and serves as staff lead for the Sustainable Ag Research Action Team as well as leading NCGA's research and STEM education programs. Prior to joining NCGA, Robyn managed operations and funding for a research lab at the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center in St. Louis, studying plant-pathogen interactions. Prior to that, she was a Foreign Service Officer with the U.S. Agency for International Development, where she granted and implemented \$40 million in agricultural programs in the country of Georgia. She holds Master of Science degrees in crop science and agricultural economics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

**BRADLEY BARKER*****Professor of 4-H Youth Development; NSF Rotator Program***

Bradley Barker is a Professor and Youth Development Specialist with 4-H Extension. From 2019 to 2022 Barker served as a Program Director at the National Science Foundation in the Education and Human Resources (EHR) directorate as part of the Division of Research on Learning in Formal and Informal learning environments (DRL). Dr. Barker has been the Principal Investigator on several National Science Foundation including the Nebraska 4-H Robotics and GPS/GIS project, the Nebraska 4-H Wearable's Technologies (WearTec) Wearable Technologies Grant, and most recently the Nebraska Innovative Maker Co-Laboratory (NiMC).

Dr. Barker's research interests include the development and evaluation of educational technology systems for STEM education in non-formal learning environments especially focused on rural communities. Dr. Barker has authored a number of peer reviewed journal publications. He is the co-editor of the chapter book *Robots in K-12 Education: A New Technology for Learning* (2012) and co-authored a book chapter titled *Developing an Elementary Engineering Education Program through Problem-Based Wearable Technologies Activities* (2015) in the chapter book *Handbook of Research on Wearable and Mobile Technologies in Education*. Recently (2019) he has published two books chapter books: *the American Perspectives on Learning Communities and Opportunities in the Maker Movement* and *European Perspectives on Learning Communities and Opportunities in the Maker Movement*.



MARY EMERY

Director Rural Prosperity Nebraska, UNL

Dr. Mary Emery, Director of Rural Prosperity Nebraska, has a deep and abiding interest in community and economic development research and practice. Much of her work focuses on supporting rural communities to build their capacity to make for themselves a more prosperous future for all. A co-author of the Field Guide for Community Coaching and the Field Guide to Ripple Effect Mapping, she regularly provides workshops and training on community development processes and approaches.



CORBY JENSEN

Regional Technology Development Lead, Bayer

Corby grew up on a diversified family farm near Hay Springs, Nebraska. He attended the University of Nebraska – Lincoln where he received a B.S. degree in Agronomy / Crop Production in 1986. He began his career in industry in 1987 as a Crop Specialist with Servi-Tech Inc. based out of Minden, NE. Through the close working relationships formed with farmer clients and seed dealers, Corby determined that his true interests were in the seed business, so he pursued and began working for J.C. Robinson Seed Co. / Golden Harvest based in Waterloo, NE as a District Production Supervisor in the fall of 1989. He has been involved with the seed business ever since. In 1996 he transitioned to DEKALB Genetics as a Regional Agronomist serving the western two-thirds of Nebraska and eastern Colorado. After Monsanto purchased DEKALB in 1998, Corby has held several different positions within the company including Technology Development Rep (North Platte, NE), Technology Development Manager (St. Louis, MO), and most recently Regional Technology Development Lead (Lincoln, NE) where he and his team of 13 field scientists are responsible for testing and refining the local positioning of Bayer's pre-commercial product pipeline for seed, traits, crop protection and biologicals before they enter the commercial marketplace.

Throughout his career in agriculture, Corby has been rewarded by working with revolutionary technologies and some of the finest agriculturists in the nation. He has worked in the agriculture industry for 35 years, but one could say his entire life. He has worked for Bayer/Monsanto/DEKALB for 26 years, and in his current role he enjoys the opportunity to network with and build relationships with academic colleagues and students alike through various campus focused events and activities throughout the year. He and his wife, Gina have been married for 32 years and have 3 children, and 2 grandchildren.



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