

## EVENT OVERVIEW

The Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (FFAR) will hold **Foster Our Future – cultivate. discover. grow.** a first of its kind event in Washington, DC on February 5, 2019 at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center. FFAR, created by Congress in the 2014 Farm Bill and provided with \$200M in funding that must be matched via public private partnerships to invest in food and agriculture research, is convening **Foster Our Future** to ...

- Demonstrate game-changing technology and innovation that research brings to food and agriculture
- Inspire future agriculture research by bringing scientific breakthroughs to life
- Celebrate the impact food and agriculture research has on consumers and producers
- Showcase how to attract and retain research talent in food and agriculture
- Highlight the importance of continued philanthropic investment in food and agriculture research

The one-day activity will be divided between day and evening programs. The day program will provide an interactive experience for attendees to discover how research and science is changing the food and agriculture landscape. Wandering through the exhibits participants may see, hear and interact with displays reflective of activities FFAR has supported or that showcase breakthroughs made by other key players. Examples may include ...

- A controlled vertical farming system
- New Innovator talks on research changing the future of food and agriculture
- The power of big data and how digital ag is transforming the farming landscape
- A hands-on look at how researchers are harnessing photosynthesis to develop higher-yielding plant varieties with potential to change the lives of smallholder farmers

### Foster Our Future Objectives

**Foster Our Future** will provide an audience of key decision makers, researchers and scientists, public/private stakeholders, research and educational institutions, commodity groups and trade associations and international and national non-profits and NGOs. FFAR will demonstrate how the domestic and global challenges facing food and agriculture can be addressed with research and science.

For information contact Renee Bullion at 202-836-9955 or [rbullion@foundationfar.org](mailto:rbullion@foundationfar.org)

### Task Force

#### Rose Barbuto

*Executive Director of External Relations  
and Policy*  
Farm Journal Foundation

#### Julie Borlaug

*Vice President Communications &  
Public Relations*  
Inari Communications Inc.

#### Jason Clay

*Senior Vice President, Food & Markets  
Executive Director, Markets Institute*  
World Wildlife Fund

#### Jane DeMarchi

*Vice President, Government and  
Regulatory Affairs*  
American Seed Trade Association

#### Erin Fitzgerald

*Chief Executive Officer*  
U.S. Farmers & Ranchers Alliance

#### Mike McCloskey

*Chief Executive Officer*  
Select Milk Producers

#### Howard Yana-Shapiro

*Chief Agricultural Officer*  
Mars Advanced Research Institute Fellow  
Mars, Inc.