



Charles Valentine Riley Memorial Foundation

Current Members, Board of Directors and President Emeritus, 2018

Ellen Bergfeld (Treasurer), Madison, WI. Dr. Bergfeld is CEO of the American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, Soil Science Society of America, and the Alliance of Crop, Soil and Environmental Societies. She also serves as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Agronomic Science Foundation. Previously, she served as Executive Director of the American Society of Animal Science. She received her B.S. from The Ohio State University and her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Nebraska.

Gregory A. Bohach, Starkville, MS. Dr. Bohach is professor of biochemistry and molecular biology and Vice President for the Division of Agriculture, Forestry, and Veterinary Medicine at Mississippi State University. He serves on numerous agricultural commodity and advocacy boards and currently serves as chair of the Committee on Legislation and Policy (CLP) a standing committee within the Policy Board of Directors (PBD) of the Board on Agriculture Assembly (BAA). Previously, he served as chair of the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors and chaired the ESCOP Science and Technology Committee. He received his B.S. degree from University of Pittsburgh, Johnstown, Ph.D. from West Virginia University and MT (ASCP) certification from Connemaugh Valley Memorial Hospital, Johnstown, PA.

Leon Bruner, Arlington, VA. Dr. Bruner is Senior Vice President for Scientific & Regulatory Affairs and Chief Science Officer at the Grocery Manufacturers Association (GMA), Washington, DC. The Science and Regulatory Affairs organization carries out member services on science policy, product safety, education and food safety. He is internationally recognized as an expert in the development, validation and regulatory acceptance of toxicity test methods. Dr. Bruner holds B.S., DVM degrees and a Ph.D. in pharmacology from Michigan State University.

Daniel R. Bush (Secretary), Ft. Collins, CO. Dr. Bush is professor of plant biology and the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs at Colorado State University. His research focuses on how plants allocate organic nutrients between organs and the discovery of genes that control biomass production. He is a past president of the American Society of Plant Biologists (ASPB) and past Chair of Section O, Agriculture, Food and Renewable Resources for the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). He is a Fellow of the ASPB and AAAS. He earned his Ph.D. at the University of California at Berkeley.

Neil Dierks, Urbandale, IA. Mr. Dierks serves as Chief Executive Officer of the National Pork Producers Council (NPPC) and served as its Director. He is responsible for the overall implementation of all NPPC programs. Beginning in 1990, he served NPPC in a

series of senior executive positions, including Executive Director of Operations, Vice President for Research and Education and Senior Vice President for Programs. Mr. Dierks grew up on a livestock farm in eastern Iowa and remains involved in a family farming operation. He is a graduate of Iowa State University.

Robert Easter, Urbana, IL. Dr. Easter is President Emeritus, Dean Emeritus of the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences and Professor Emeritus in the Department of Animal Sciences at University of Illinois. He is an expert in livestock feeding and has co-authored a book on livestock production and has written more than 90 peer-reviewed articles, 11 book chapters, and numerous other papers. He is a Fellow of the American Society of Animal Science. He also serves on the boards of Supporters of Agricultural Research (SoAR), Illinois Agriculture Leadership Foundation, Illinois State Fair Association and Marajen Stevick Foundation. He is an advisor to the ADM Institute for the Prevention of Post-Harvest Loss and the USAID Soybean Innovation Laboratory, both at University of Illinois. He earned undergraduate and M.S. degrees from Texas A&M University and a Ph.D. in animal science from the University of Illinois.

Ferd Hoefner, Washington, DC. Mr. Hoefner is the Senior Strategic Advisor for the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition, representing NSAC in Washington, DC, since its beginning in 1988. His work for NSAC, a coalition of over 100 farm, food, conservation, rural development and research organizations, has included numerous successful agricultural research and extension policy campaigns. He holds a B.S. degree in government from Oberlin College and has done graduate work in economics, ethics and public policy at American University and Wesley Theological Seminary.

Farida Mohamedshah, Washington, DC. Ms. Mohamedshah is the Director of Food, Health and Nutrition at the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT). In this role, she serves as IFT's principal scientific and technical resource on issues related to food, health and nutrition; provides leadership and direction on programs and tasks within the key focus areas; and recommends and leads the development of program and activities on food and nutrition policies. She is a member of the American Society for Nutrition and the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. She holds an M.S. in human nutrition and food systems from the University of Maryland.

Beverly Paul, Washington, DC. Ms. Paul is employed by Gordley Associates, an agriculture-focused government relations firm which represents a number of commodity associations, including those associated with soybeans, barley, canola, sunflowers, dry beans, and dry peas and lentils. She also represents AGree on a conservation and data integration proposal that, if successful, will establish a USDA data warehouse. Prior to joining Gordley Associates in 2002, she worked as Legislative Assistant for Agriculture and Trade for Senators Bob Kerrey and Ben Nelson, both of Nebraska. She was a participant in the SoAR/Resolve farm bill research title consensus process. She has a B.A. from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and a Master of Public Affairs from the LBJ School at the University of Texas at Austin.

Lowell W. Randel, Alexandria, VA. Mr. Randel is president of The Randel Group, LLC, and Science Policy Director for the Federation of Animal Science Societies. He is the former Deputy Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and also served as Director of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs for the Research, Education and Economics mission area at USDA. He holds a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics and a master's degree in agricultural

development, both from Texas A&M University. He also received a Juris Doctorate from George Mason University.

Steve Verett, Lubbock, TX. Mr. Verett currently serves as the Executive Vice President for Plains Cotton Growers, Inc. PCG is the certified cotton producer organization representing cotton producers in 41 counties. Before joining PCG in July 1997, he served as Executive Director for the Texas Food & Fibers Commission. Steve continues to be actively involved with his son and brother in a 5,000-acre farming operation in Crosby County. He has served in numerous capacities with agricultural organizations, including the Southwest Council of Agribusiness, National Cotton Council, Cotton Council International and Texas Farm Bureau. He received a B.B.A. degree from Texas Tech University.

Todd A. Winters, Martin, TN. Dr. Winters is Dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences at the University of Tennessee at Martin. He grew up on a dairy/grain/alfalfa farm in Washington state, and has degrees from Washington State (B.S.), Purdue (M.S.) and Wisconsin (Ph.D.). He also was an NIH Fellow at the University of Virginia School of Medicine and Faculty/Administrator at Southern Illinois University. He is a Fellow in the Food Systems Leadership Institute, Board Chair of the LEAD21 National Leadership Program and Past President of the Non-land-grant Agricultural and Renewable Resources Universities (NARRU).

Catherine Woteki (President), Washington, DC. Dr. Woteki is Professor of Food Science and Human Nutrition at Iowa State University and Visiting Scholar in the Social and Decision Analytics Laboratory of Virginia Tech's Biocomplexity Institute. Prior to these appointments, Dr. Woteki was Chief Scientist and Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics in the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Dr. Woteki is a member of the National Academy of Medicine and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Society for Nutrition. She received her B.S. from Mary Washington College and her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Virginia Tech.

President Emeritus

Richard L. Ridgway, Flower Mound, TX. Dr. Ridgway is a former research leader and national program leader for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service and former member of the graduate faculty at Texas A&M University. He has authored, co-authored or edited over 280 technical publications, including four books, two monographs, 20 book chapters and 13 monograph chapters. Dr. Ridgway currently is managing partner for farms in Terry County, Texas, and is a member of the Chancellor's Council at Texas Tech University. He received a B.S. degree from Texas Tech and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Cornell University.

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