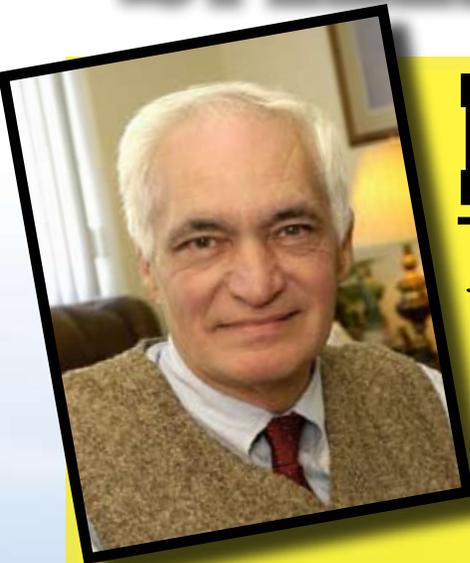


AgriFuture

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



DR. LOWELL CATLETT

New Mexico State University

Dr. Lowell Catlett, is a Regents Professor in Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Business and Extension Economics and the Dean of the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences at New Mexico State University. He is an exciting futurist whose knowledge of technologies and their implications on the way we will live and work is addressed in his varied and upbeat presentations. His vast knowledge astounds corporate and association audiences both nationally and internationally. His presentations are thought-provoking and highly-entertaining.

Dr. Catlett received his doctorate in Economics from Iowa State University, and has twice received the Don C. Roush Award for Excellence in Teaching. He is also a recipient of the prestigious Burlington Foundation Faculty Achievement Award for Outstanding University Teaching. In 1994 he was one of two Western Regional recipients of the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges "Excellence in College and University Teaching in the Food and Agricultural Sciences Award."

In February, 2007 he received the Carl F. Hertz Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award from the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers for his service to agriculture.

In addition to his selection in 2002 as a member of the original class of six New Mexico State University Regents Professors, Dr. Catlett has received every teaching award the university offers, including the Westhafer Award for Teaching in 1990, New Mexico State University's top honor. The professor of agricultural economics and agricultural business is internationally known as an expert in commodities futures markets and is in demand as a speaker and consultant on predicting and planning for near- and long-term futures.

Lowell recently received the College of Agriculture and Home Economics Advisor of the Year as well as Teacher of the Year at New Mexico State University.

He is a consultant to the U.S. Departments of Agriculture, the Interior, Defense and Labor. He has also been a consultant to many Fortune 500 companies.

CYNTHIA LUMMIS

U.S. House of Representatives

Cynthia Lummis was elected to represent the people of Wyoming in the U.S. House of Representatives in 2008. She was raised on her family ranch in Laramie County and graduated from the University of Wyoming with bachelor degrees in Animal Science and Biology. In 1979, Cynthia became the youngest woman ever elected to the Wyoming Legislature. She returned to the University of Wyoming for a law degree, which she received in 1985.

Cynthia then clerked at the Wyoming Supreme Court, practiced law in Cheyenne, and served a total of fourteen years in the Wyoming House and Senate, concentrating on natural resource and taxation issues. She completed her legislative service in 1994 and then chaired Governor-elect Jim Geringer's transition team. She continued to work in the Governor's office for two more years, primarily on natural resource issues. Cynthia also served as the interim Director of the Office of State Lands and Investments.

Cynthia was elected Wyoming State Treasurer in 1998. In eight years (two terms) as Wyoming State Treasurer, she converted Wyoming's primarily fixed income investment portfolio of \$3.5 billion to a fully diversified portfolio of equities, real estate and fixed income investments, public and private, domestic and international, totaling \$8.5 billion. Her term of office as State Treasurer ended in January 2007.

Cynthia continues to be involved in the daily operations of the Lummis family ranch. She and her husband, Al Wiederspahn, former Wyoming legislator who is a Cheyenne attorney, have one daughter, Annaliese.



I felt honored to be able to listen to and talk with the people who attended the 2011 AgriFuture Conference. The caliber of people at this meeting was amazing as were the discussions we had about providing a future for agriculture. I will definitely be attending next years conference and I have high expectations for it!

KATELYN SCHADE

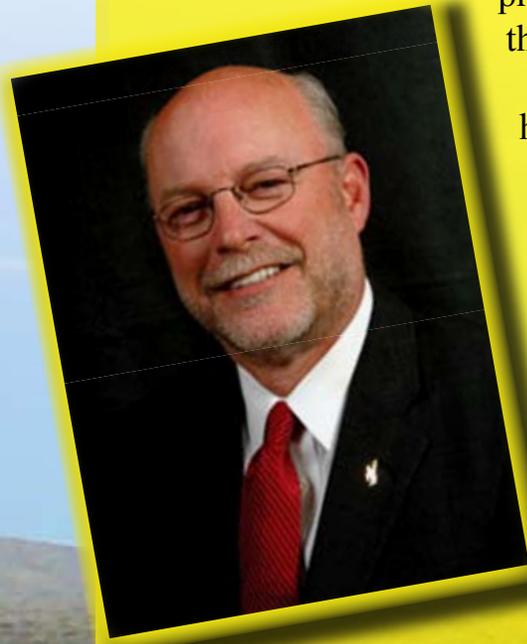
University of Wyoming

TOM BUCHANAN

University of Wyoming

Tom Buchanan, President, University of Wyoming, has had a career in higher education that has spanned more than 35 years, as a student, teacher, and administrator. A native of New York, Buchanan attended the State University of New York at Cortland where he graduated with his undergraduate degree in 1973. He earned his master's of science from the University of Wyoming in 1975 and a Ph.D. from the Institute for Environmental Studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1979. After completing his doctorate, Buchanan returned to Wyoming as an assistant professor in the Department of Geography at the University of Wyoming. Over the next 30 years, he rose through the faculty ranks to full professor, and has held various administrative positions including department head, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and vice president for academic affairs. On July 1, 2005, he was appointed the 23rd president of the University of Wyoming.

As UW president, Buchanan's priorities for the University have included excellence in academics, promoting access to higher education in Wyoming, and enhancing economic and workforce development in Wyoming. Buchanan is the recipient of numerous awards recognizing excellence in teaching and administration, including the Ellbogen Meritorious Classroom Teaching award and the Seibold Professorship in the College of Arts and Sciences. He serves on the governing boards of the Mountain West Athletic Conference, the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, and the Western Cooperative for Educational Telecommunications. He is Wyoming's representative to State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO).



“The AgriFuture Conference provides one of the best opportunities for students, agricultural producers, private business and public agencies to network.”

NANCY VERES CLARKE

Rural Development - USDA

DALLAS TONSAGER

USDA Under Secretary for Rural Development



Dallas Tonsager was appointed by President Obama as Under Secretary for Rural Development and sworn into office in May of 2009. Tonsager has over 35 years of agricultural, business, cooperative and financial experience through his work as a farmer, businessman, and community, state and national leader.

Prior to joining USDA, Tonsager served from 2004 to 2009 on the board of directors for the Farm Credit Administration. As one of three board members, Tonsager was responsible for regulatory oversight of the Farm Credit System, which provides approximately one-third of the agricultural credit in the United States. During his tenure as a board member of the Farm Credit Administration, Mr. Tonsager supported passage of a new authority, which allowed Farm Credit System institutions to invest in rural communities across America. Among the many benefits provided by this authority was that it also opened a way for the System to provide funding for critical access hospitals in rural America.

Tonsager served as the executive director of the South Dakota Value Added Agriculture Development Center from 2002 to 2004, leading efforts to develop farmer-owned agricultural facilities, such as ethanol, to increase economic value and consumer appeal of agricultural products. The center is composed of 18 farm and rural business organizations, and provides project management, feasibility assessment, business planning, education, funding access, research and networking assistance.

In 1993, then-President Bill Clinton selected Tonsager to serve as USDA South Dakota's state director for Rural Development. In 1999, he was recognized as one of two outstanding state directors in the nation and received the national "Hammer Award" from then-Vice President Gore for his work as part of a team that reinvented USDA's rural business guarantee loan program. Tonsager served as state director until 2001.

Tonsager served two terms as president of the South Dakota Farmers Union. He also served on the board of National Farmers Union Insurance from 1989 to 1993, and was a member of the advisory board of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission from 1990 to 1993.

Tonsager grew up on a dairy farm near Oldham, S.D. and has been involved in the family's diversified farm operations since 1976. He graduated from South Dakota State University with a Bachelor of Science in agriculture in 1976. Tonsager and his wife, Sharon, have two sons.

Rural Development has a network of 6,100 employees and 500 offices, a portfolio of business, housing, and infrastructure loans totaling \$132 billion, and provides an estimated \$20 billion annually to support economic and community development in rural America



KEVIN EDBERG

Cooperative Development Services of St. Paul MN

Kevin Edberg is the executive director of Cooperative Development Services, a 26 year old non-profit organization that helps to start and expand cooperative businesses in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Iowa. CDS' current programs focus on finding cooperative solutions to issues of community development, environmental improvement, and renewable energy.

Kevin brings to his work a broad background in agriculture. Before coming to CDS in October 2000, Kevin spent 13 years with the Minnesota Dept. of Agriculture, the last seven as head of all state agricultural marketing programs. In his early years at the MDA, he led the development of the state's local foods program, agricultural diversification program, and served as the state's organic agriculture program leader. Later he served as the Commissioner's representative on 13 state commodity councils; led the department's international trade programs, oversaw the development of the state's cooperatively based ethanol program, and created a program to support farmer ownership of value-added agricultural businesses.

Kevin holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Horticulture and Agricultural Economics; a Masters Degree in Plant Breeding and Plant Physiology; and another Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Science Education in Chemistry and Biology, all from the University of Minnesota.

He has also been active in his community, with over 20 years of elected service on his local school board and city council.



DAVID BELL

Boulder County Parks and Open Space

David has been employed by Boulder County Parks and Open Space for fourteen years, and is currently the Agricultural Resource Manager for the Department. In this position David is responsible for the management of 25,000 acres of agricultural land that is owned by the county and leased to local farmers and ranchers. In addition to working with traditional agricultural operations, the Department has made a commitment to supporting local market-farms on Open Space properties.

To help minimize these new operations on public lands from impacting existing producers, the Agricultural Division has created an “Exploring Local Markets” program, which helps put local buyers in contact with local agricultural producers in order to expand opportunities in the county.

David received his B.S. in Wildlife Biology from Colorado State University and his Master in Environmental Law from the University of Denver.

GREGORY HANES

U.S. Meat Export Federation

Gregory Hanes is currently the Assistant Vice President of International Marketing at the U.S. Meat Export Federation in Denver, Colorado and is responsible for strategic marketing and program direction as they relate to the USMEF mission statement. Prior to moving into this position in August 2009, he was the USMEF’s Japan Director, for the organization’s office based in Tokyo. As Japan Director, he was responsible for all activities occurring in Japan. During his tenure, he spearheaded the launch of the “We Care” beef campaign to rebuild demand for US beef and the “Erabarete No.1” (chosen #1) campaign for US pork, which has seen record growth. He held this position for over 3 ½ years but lived in Japan since January 2001. During this 8 ½ year period, he worked as the only foreigner in a Japanese company and in another position had responsibilities that covered all of Asia. Before moving to Japan, Hanes worked at USMEF for 4 years and was Assistant Director for Program Planning, a position which worked closely on the annual planning document for the Foreign Ag Service in USDA.

Hanes has a Master’s Degree of International Management with an emphasis on marketing from Thunderbird in Phoenix Arizona and a BA in Economics, with a minor in Asian Culture & History from Colorado College. He spent a semester abroad at Kansai Gaidai University near Kyoto Japan during his junior year. After graduating from C.C., he worked 1 year in Osaka with the JET Program. In total he has lived and worked in Japan for over 10 years and extensive experience working and traveling throughout Asia and other countries. Hanes is a Wyoming native, having been born and raised in Cheyenne.

MILTON GEIGER

Wyoming Cooperative Extension Service

Milton Geiger currently serves as the energy extension coordinator for the University of Wyoming, Cooperative Extension Service. In this capacity, Milt coordinates outreach and applied research activities related to energy efficiency and renewable energy for the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, School of Energy Resources, and College of Engineering and Applied Science.

DON COLLINS

Western Research Institute

Don Collins is the Chief Executive Officer of the Western Research Institute located in Laramie, WY. At WRI, Don is focused on transitioning science to commercialization of clean energy technologies and lower cost methods for building highways, including zero-emission coal power plants and bioasphalt highways.

He has 25-years of experience in engineering and management of research, design, and construction of new technologies. His first 17-years were dedicated to submarine technologies R&D and integration of complex systems for SEAWOLF and VIRGINIA Class submarines, for the U.S. Navy, and the first dry mini-sub for the Navy Seals.

He is a mechanical engineer and computer software engineer by training and early career work during which he completed a Master of Science degree in systems engineering management from the George Washington University.

Prior to arriving at WRI, Don was responsible for managing groups of scientific and engineering project managers in pursuit of the U.S. Department of Energy Clean Coal Technology R&D goals. For ~6.5-years he managed DOE R&D programs focused on fuel cells and energy storage technology R&D for distributed and central power applications, including integration of technologies to achieve smart grid objectives. He was also responsible for hydrogen turbines and high efficient CO₂ compressors development under the DOE's FutureGen and Carbon Sequestration programs.



MARGARET FOGARTY

Farm Credit

Margaret Fogarty is the National Communications Director for Farm Credit, with more than a decade of experience in planning and executing integrated communications and public relations programs in industries ranging from telecommunications and restaurants, to automotive financing and political campaigns. Margaret specializes in creating results-driven programs with integration across traditional and digital media.

Shortly after joining Farm Credit she launched an award-winning national website at www.farmcredit.com, which serves as the cornerstone for communications across the Farm Credit System for both internal and external clients.

Her previous work includes:

- Creating a consumer social media program for a Fortune 200 telecom company
- Developing community-focused public relations campaigns and sponsorship activation
- Driving integration and adoption of new communications technologies across organizations

She holds a Master's degree from Colorado State University in Technical Communications Management and a Bachelor's degree in English and Spanish from the University of Iowa, and is active in the Public Relations Society of America's Colorado Chapter.

KIM CULLEN

K2 Red Angus

Kim Cullen of Wheatland grew up on a commercial cattle operation. She bought her first heifer when she was 9 years old and began her journey to becoming a breeder of Red Angus cattle. Kim graduated from the University of Wyoming with a degree in Animal Science in 1996. Two years later she bought her first Red Angus cattle and started her own business. She has expanded into a very successful A.I. business, which reached third in sales in the US in 2010 and fourth in North America.

Kim started her registered Red Angus business without a name or reputation, but she was armed with an idea of what she thought a cow should be and what it should raise. Her philosophy on how to run her herd has reaped rewards. People now travel to see her cattle and are interested in her nationally recognized genetics.

As president of the Wyoming Red Angus Association, Kim looks at the cow on a commercial basis first. She takes into account the cow's input costs, the calf it raised and whether it will make her money at a sale barn. Kim has also made strides in genetics, working in a niche markets with Red Angus for low PAP genetics.

She is a graduate of the Wyoming L.E.A.D. program and recently served on the State Fair Advisory Committee.

PATRICK ZIMMERER

Table Mountain Vineyards

Patrick Zimmerer comes from four generations of farmers with operations in Huntley growing a variety of crops: sugar beets, beans, alfalfa, corn and a cattle production operation. He graduated from the University of Wyoming in 2001 with degrees in Ag Business and Ag Communications and received his Juris Doctorate from UW in 2004.

The concept of a vineyard started as part of a school research project and after graduating from UW, Patrick convinced his family to start with 300 vines on the farm. Since 2001, Table Mountain Vineyards has grown to over 10 acres and 10,000 vines and boasts about 12 different varieties of cold hardy hybrid grapes. The next logical step was to establish a winery on the farm. Table Mountain Winery was established in 2004 and produces hand crafted wines from 100 percent Wyoming grapes, raspberries, honey and agricultural products.

Patrick is the Southeast youth representative on the Wyoming Board of Agriculture and a graduate of the Wyoming L.E.A.D. program.

TROY RANDALL

TR Custom Wicking

Troy Randall became an entrepreneur at a young age – in fact when he was in Jr. High School in Pine Bluffs, Wyoming. Purchasing a wicker cart in 2004 Troy started his rye wicking service. (Rye wicking removes or kills common rye plants in wheat fields.) He has expanded his service area to include all of southeastern Wyoming and western Nebraska. His strong customer base has grown by word-of-mouth and some advertising.

Troy is currently a junior at the University of Wyoming, majoring in Ag Business. The rye wicking business is seasonal, typically for about 4-5 weeks beginning the end of May. He has grown large enough to hire one or two additional people during the summer to help him meet his customer demands, and hopes to continue the business after graduation. He has already garnered many awards including the McKelvey Entrepreneurial Scholarship, a national scholarship program that is awarded to 100 young business owners.

