

**APLU Food Systems Leadership Award  
Presented by the Association of Public Land-grant Universities**

**Purpose:**

The Association for Public Land-grant Universities (APLU) Food Systems Leadership Award annually recognizes a leader who has made an extraordinary impact on the food system through leadership and service and who exemplifies the core principles established by the Food Systems Leadership Institute (FSLI), including personal leadership, organizational leadership and food systems leadership. The award also recognizes the leadership, innovation, engagement and service that APLU promotes through its programs.

**Background:**

APLU's FSLI program was created in 2004 with a five-year seed grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to advance and strengthen leadership in the food system by enhancing leaders' development and increasing their influence for institutional change. A design team was formed with the charge to shape a leadership development program for higher education, industry and governmental leaders that would prepare the next generation of food systems leaders. This transformation of the food systems culture, particularly within land-grant universities, would require "a cadre of new leaders to create and recreate the food systems of the future."

The FSLI has made and will continue to make a difference in ensuring that the pipeline is filled with highly competent leaders with appreciation for strong food systems in our land-grant system. Through the first eight cohorts, 168 Fellows (118 men/ 50 women) are moving into spheres of influence within land-grant universities, industry and government; over 30% of all the FSLI Fellows have taken on higher-level responsibilities and influence.

**Process:**

An annual call in the Spring for nominations from APLU will create the candidate pool for the award. An award review committee of FSLI Commission members will evaluate the nominations and select the annual recipient. The award will be given at the awards program at the APLU Annual Meeting, usually held in November. The recipient will be invited to address the current cohort of FSLI Fellows at one of their residential sessions; the recipient's expenses for attending the residential session will be covered by the Food Systems Leadership Award program.

**Award Criteria:**

A nominee must:

1. Be a leader who has impacted the food system
2. Exemplify the Core Principles established by FSLI:
  - a. articulating a broad, integrated food systems perspective focused on healthy humans, environments, communities and/or economies
  - b. engaging diverse constituencies to focus on major food system challenges, issues and opportunities
  - c. influencing values, goals and strategic directions related to food systems
  - d. advocating for change within the food system

**Nomination Materials Required:**

1. Nomination Form
2. Letter of nomination including a summary of the nominee's contributions, how they impact the Food System and highlighting the nominee's recent accomplishments related to the criteria for the award (maximum 4 pages)
3. Letters of support (up to 3) (maximum of 2 pages each)

**Nomination Deadline:** May 21, 2014

**Nominations should be sent to:**

Food Systems Leadership Institute  
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