



Welcome to Connections, your monthly newsletter for the latest NAADA news, member stories and important industry information.

DID YOU KNOW? Each Newsletter Section Banner is clickable. Click each to explore more!



Digging Deeper: Alumni Boards

Nov. 5, 2025 | 11:00 am CT | [CLICK HERE to Register](#)

A roundtable discussion on alumni board management, board member roles and responsibilities, bylaws and operating procedures.

Questions: Contact Amanda Clougherty | akbrown@umd.edu

Digging Deeper: Mentor Programs & Fundraising Campaigns

Dec. 3, 2025 | 11:00 am CT | [CLICK HERE to Register](#)

A roundtable discussion on two topics.

First: Alumni to student mentorship programs:

What are measures of success, how are they managed and what are challenges mentor programs face.

Second: When Universities kick off large fundraising campaigns, what role do alumni programs have in the larger campaign, how are alumni engaged? Are there other metrics collected?

Questions: Contact Amanda Clougherty | akbrown@umd.edu

Digging Deeper: The Future of Alumni Programs

Jan. 7, 2026 | 11:00 am CT | [CLICK HERE to Register](#)

Join us as we dig deeper into the future of Alumni programs - engagement, retention, stewardship and more!

Questions: Contact Amanda Clougherty | akbrown@umd.edu

2026 Conference Alumni Educational Session Planning

Feb. 4, 2026 | 11:00 am CT | [CLICK HERE to Register](#)

This quarterly meet-up will include planning for the 2026 NAADA Alumni Track Educational sessions at annual conference in June. We will also be sharing individual program wins and challenges.

Questions: Contact Amanda Clougherty | akbrown@umd.edu



NAADA Award Applications & Nominations Opened October 1, 2025!

2026 NAADA Projects & Publications Competition

The P&P application period opened on October 1, 2025.

Submissions are welcome for any project or publication completed during the full calendar year of 2025. The application window will remain **open until February 20, 2026**.

[CLICK HERE](#) for Award Descriptions & Submission Instruction

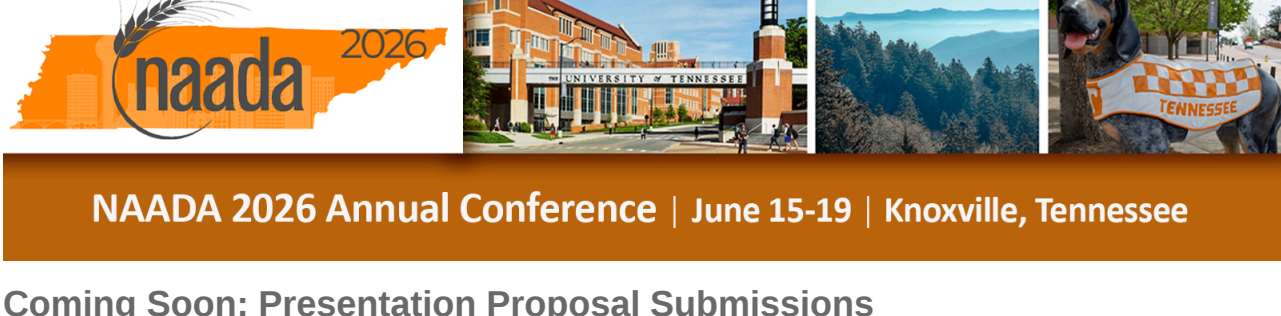
[CLICK HERE](#) to View Past Award Winners

Nominate a Colleague for the 2026 NAADA Individual Awards

Nominations opened **October 1, 2025**, and remain available until **February 20, 2026**. This is your chance to recognize a peer whose contributions deserve the spotlight. Award recipients will be announced and celebrated at the NAADA Annual Conference in Knoxville, TN, next June.

[CLICK HERE](#) for Award Descriptions & Submission Instruction

[CLICK HERE](#) to View Past Award Winners



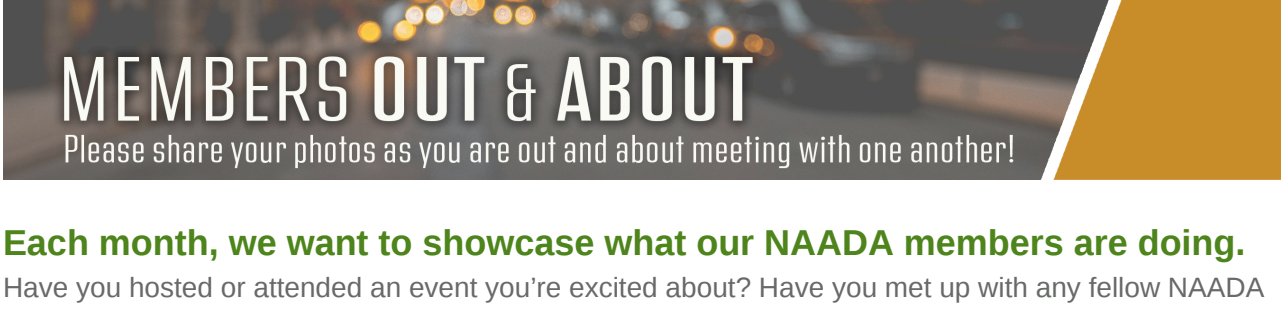
NAADA 2026 Annual Conference | June 15-19 | Knoxville, Tennessee

Coming Soon: Presentation Proposal Submissions

for 2026 NAADA Annual Conference at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville

Get ready to share your expertise! NAADA will soon be accepting presentation proposals for the 2026 Annual Conference. We're seeking engaging, educational sessions on topics related to alumni relations, development, student engagement, and more within the agricultural industry. Stay tuned for full details and submission information — proposals will open soon! The deadline for submissions is **January 30, 2026**.

For questions, contact info@naada.org.



Each month, we want to showcase what our NAADA members are doing.

Have you hosted or attended an event you're excited about? Have you met up with any fellow NAADA members at a convention or meeting? Please share! Submit photos, captions, and names of those photographed by the 1st day of each month for publication in Connections to info@naada.org.

Hokies and Wolfpack came together the night before the big game for a Land-Grant Family "Tailgate" alumni hour!

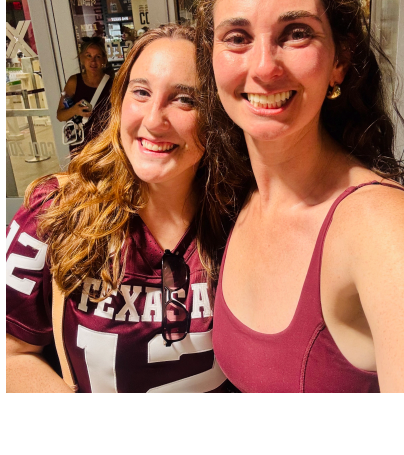
This fun collaboration between Virginia Tech and NC State gave alumni the chance to celebrate their shared passion for the land-grant mission, while coming together for food and fellowship. With plenty of laughter, conversation, and school spirit on both sides, the event highlighted the power of connection across state lines. We're grateful for the opportunity to work alongside a fellow NAADA school and look forward to more partnerships that bring our alumni together.



*Pictured left to right: Amy Juliana [NC State], Robyn Stuart [VT], Jacy Copeland [NC State]
2 work for the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture and am a proud Fightin' Texas Aggie from the Class of 2019 (hence the maroon in the photo). | Maribeth Martin | VT Advancement*

Tennessee Visits Texas A&M

I was in College Station this weekend for the Texas A&M vs. Auburn football game. I now work for the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture and am a proud Fightin' Texas Aggie from the Class of 2019 (hence the maroon in the photo). During my visit, I was able to connect with Bailey Allison (pictured left). She gave me an update on their Signing Days, which is something their team adopted from Tennessee, where they implemented a formalized scholarship thank you letter process. We also discussed the Agricultural and Natural Resources Policy Internship Program, which both of us participated in at different times, and a program that Bailey currently fundraises for in her role as a Development Officer. | Megan (Myers) Blips | UTIA Advancement



The UGA College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences has a new home for news, stories, expert resources and more!

We are pleased to introduce [Field Report](#), a newly launched content platform that highlights the impact of CAES across Georgia and beyond. From the latest news, in-depth stories of research impact, nearly 1,400 how-to resources from UGA Extension experts and more, Field Report is your gateway to the people and programs shaping instruction, outreach, research and development driving Georgia's No. 1 industry.



Head's Up: It is time for NAADA Membership renewals!

This is a friendly reminder that **NAADA memberships expire on October 1st each year**. You (or the Key Contact for Institutional Memberships) should have received a renewal notice with instructions on how to renew your membership. If you did not receive a renewal notice or have questions, please contact memberservices@naada.org. Don't miss out on access to our valuable resources, exclusive networking events, and professional development opportunities. **The deadline to renew without penalty is January 15, 2026.**

Institutional Membership is available to agricultural colleges and alumni organizations within the 1862, 1890 and 1994 land-grant institutions, plus institutions holding membership in APLU having agricultural, forestry and natural resources programs. There are 5 levels of Institutional Membership, based on number of individual members.

We hope you've enjoyed the benefits and connections you've gained this past year and we look forward to having you continue with us in the next!

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about NAADA Membership Benefits!



Welcome to our Newest NAADA Members

If you are a new member and not listed, please email info@naada.org.

Amanda Bernavil, *University of Florida IFAS and College of Agricultural & Life Sciences*

Tom Burkey, *University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

Jaky Childres, *University of Georgia*

Allyson Farmer, *North Carolina State University*

Meg Gaito, *North Carolina State University*

Jason Gipe, *North Carolina State University*

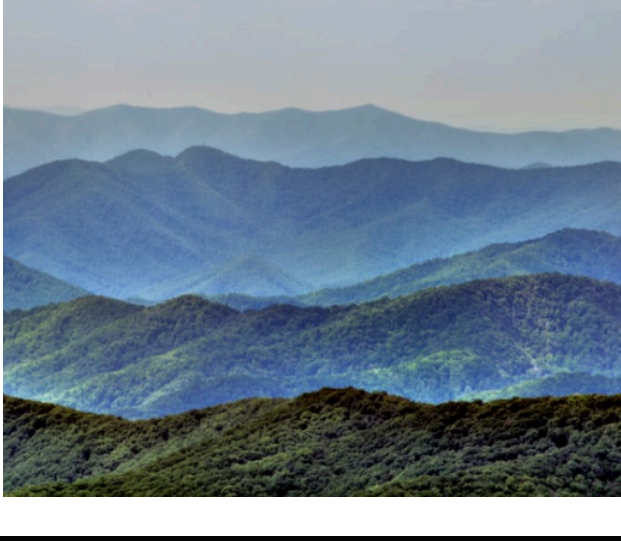
Cole Guidry, *Louisiana State University*

Adam Hamond, *University of Georgia*

Isaac Collins, *University of Tennessee Foundation, Inc*

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about NAADA Membership Benefits!

University of Tennessee-Knoxville Fun Facts



Did You Know | The Great Smokey Mountains National Park is the **most visited national park** in the U.S. They are also the **most biodiverse place** in the United States.

We are so excited to host NAADA 2026!

Get ready for a fun, educational, unforgettable time at University of Tennessee-Knoxville!

FOLLOW NAADA on the **SOCIALS!**



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