

*Welcome to
NAADA Connections,
a quarterly connection
featuring the latest
NAADA news, member
stories, and important
industry information.*

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A Letter from the President

One of the most valuable things NAADA provides is professional development. Through our conferences, virtual learning, and online networking opportunities, we gain new skills, discover innovative ideas, and learn how to do our jobs more effectively.

But as many of you reminded us in our recent membership survey, the true strength of NAADA is our network.

Professional development teaches us how to do our jobs. The relationships we build through NAADA remind us why we do them.

Whether you're celebrating a fundraising success, navigating a challenging situation, or looking for advice from someone who has been there before, the NAADA community is always ready to connect, encourage, and support. These relationships become trusted friendships and professional partnerships that strengthen not only our careers, but also the institutions and communities we serve.

In a profession dedicated to advancing agriculture through working with students, communicating with our audiences, alumni engagement, and development, it is easy to focus on daily responsibilities and goals.

NAADA helps us remember the bigger purpose behind our work and the people who share that commitment.



*Thank you for being part of this extraordinary network.
Together, we continue to learn, lead, and inspire
one another.*

Danica Kirkpatrick
NAADA President

Maximize Your Membership

Welcome to Our Newest NAADA Members

University of Georgia

- Kate Walker

University of Minnesota

- Linda Nagel
- Dawn Wyse-Pester

The Ohio State University
College of Food,
Agricultural, and
Environmental Sciences

- Shannon Washburn

Purdue University
College of Agriculture

- Karin Gillund

Tarleton State University
and Natural Resources

- Michelle Damerau
- Codi Lamb
- Caroline Wolf

University of Tennessee
Foundation, Inc.

- Lauren Herbstritt
- Brittany Puryear

West Virginia University
Davis College of Agriculture
and Natural Resources

- Mary-Margaret Chaffee
- Lauren Seiler

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



Hello, fellow NAADA Members!

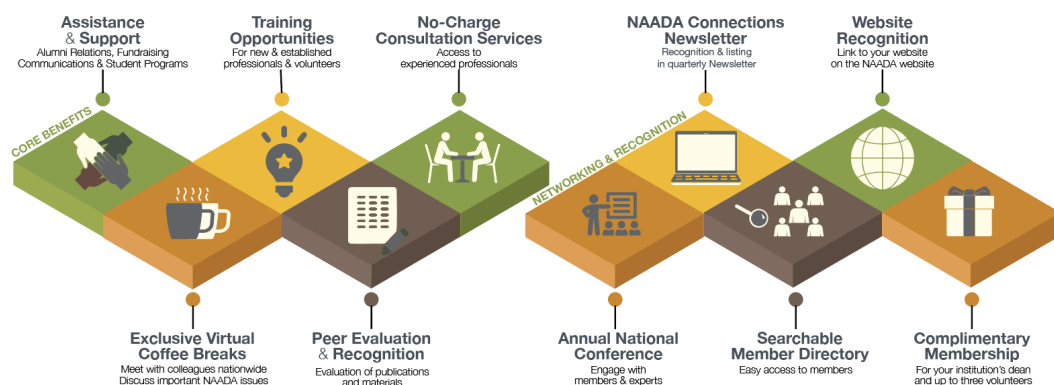
Annual membership expired on September 30, 2026.

Invoices will then be sent to members who have not yet renewed. We value your contributions and partnership, so don't let your membership lapse.

Contact memberservices@naada.org for assistance.

Brian McGonigle | NAADA Membership

Membership Benefits



- Assistance with alumni relations, fundraising, communications, and student programs.
- Member-only "Virtual Learning Sessions." These sessions are an opportunity for you to meet with your colleagues across the country to discuss issues of specific importance to NAADA members.
- Training opportunities for new and established professionals and volunteers.
- Peer evaluation and recognition of publications and materials.
- No-charge consultation services from experienced professionals.
- Annual national conference.
- Recognition and listing in NAADA Connections newsletter.
- Searchable directory of members.
- Recognition and link to your website on the NAADA website.
- Complimentary membership for your institution's dean and up to three volunteers. These restrictions do not apply to the Institution: Unlimited membership.

Virtual Learning Sessions | Open to ALL Members



Each month, our Track Representatives will host a **Virtual Learning Event** as part of a larger educational series. These diverse, continuing education and networking sessions, offered outside of the annual conference, provide cross-track training, collaboration, and interaction. **We invite all members** to log on, explore cross-disciplinary topics, share best practices, and discover new ideas, hoping you and your institution will find value in these extended learning opportunities.

NOTE: A ZOOM link will be sent upon registration.

Networking Sessions: *Communications Track*

If you handle communications of any kind for your institution, please join us for these Communications Track networking session. Discuss current trends, challenges, and share ideas. Bring your own topics for us to discuss at this event or future virtual meetings.

**Join us for one, or
all three sessions**

Oct. 19 | 3:00 pm ET

Nov. 18 | 2:00 pm ET

Dec. 8 | 3:00 pm ET

 **REGISTER NOW**
for OCT 19 Session

 **REGISTER NOW**
for NOV 18 Session

 **REGISTER NOW**
for DEC 8 Session

Questions:
Contact **Melissa Hansen**
klusekme@msu.edu

Measuring Alumni ROI: *Alumni Track*

Join us for an interactive 'beg, borrow, and steal' open discussion on defining, tracking, and communicating the ROI of alumni engagement. Bring your metrics, challenges, and successful strategies to collaborate on elevated standards for measuring impact.

 **REGISTER NOW**
Oct. 22 | 2:00 pm ET

Questions:
Contact **Amy Juliana**
amdombro@ncsu.edu

Back! By Popular Demand!

Join us virtually for the revival of one of our most popular Educational Sessions from the 2026 Annual Conference!

Power Automate Foundations: Managing Our Repetitive Tasks *Sponsored by the Student Professionals Track*

New to Power Automate or need a refresher? This introductory session will demonstrate how we can automate routine tasks such as notifications, approvals, form submissions, file management, and recurring communications. Attendees will learn the core building blocks of flows and leave with practical automation ideas they can implement immediately within their own unit.

**Join us for Part One
of Two Sessions**

 **REGISTER NOW**
Nov 10 | 12:30 pm ET

Questions:
Contact **Jill Cords**
jcords@msu.edu

Advancing Power Automate: Building Intelligent Workflows for Complex Operations *Sponsored by the Student Professionals Track*

Take your automation skills to the next level. Building on concepts from our previous session, participants will learn how to create more sophisticated workflows using conditions, variables, and multi-step processes. Discover how advanced automation can streamline reporting, communications, recruitment efforts, event management, and administrative operations.

Join us for Part Two

 **REGISTER NOW**
Dec 3 | 12:30 pm ET

Questions:
Contact **Jill Cords**
jcords@msu.edu



2027 Annual National Conference



Paradise is calling!

The University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) is excited to host the 2027 NAADA Conference, June 14-17, 2027, at the Margaritaville Resort in Orlando.

We can't wait to welcome everyone for a few unforgettable days of learning, networking, reconnecting with friends, and enjoying some Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes along the way. **Mark your calendars**, dust off your flip-flops, and get ready to join your NAADA family in the Sunshine State!

Registration information will be available in the new year, so stay tuned and visit NAADA.org for the latest conference details.

Sara Olson | NAADA Sponsorship | sara.olson@ufl.edu

2026-27 Sponsorship Opportunities and Benefits

Learn More, or **BECOME A SPONSOR!**

CONTACT
Sara Olson

Sponsorship Committee
sara.olson@ufl.edu



Become a NAADA Sponsor today and expand your visibility to current and future agricultural professionals across the nation!

INDUSTRY SPONSOR

National Annual Conference	
INDUSTRY SPONSOR LEVELS & BENEFITS	
Level	Benefits
Platinum	4 Exhibition Booths (10' x 10') 2000 sq. ft. of Exhibition Space 1000 sq. ft. of Reception Area 1000 sq. ft. of Meeting Room 1000 sq. ft. of Banquet Room 1000 sq. ft. of Conference Room 1000 sq. ft. of Office Space 1000 sq. ft. of Storage Space 1000 sq. ft. of Parking Space 1000 sq. ft. of Loading Dock Space 1000 sq. ft. of Unloading Dock Space 1000 sq. ft. of Shipping Dock Space 1000 sq. ft. of Receiving Dock Space 1000 sq. ft. of Office Space 1000 sq. ft. of Storage Space 1000 sq. ft. of Parking Space 1000 sq. ft. of Loading Dock Space 1000 sq. ft. of Unloading Dock Space 1000 sq. ft. of Shipping Dock Space 1000 sq. ft. of Receiving Dock Space
Gold	2 Exhibition Booths (10' x 10') 1000 sq. ft. of Exhibition Space 500 sq. ft. of Reception Area 500 sq. ft. of Meeting Room 500 sq. ft. of Banquet Room 500 sq. ft. of Conference Room 500 sq. ft. of Office Space 500 sq. ft. of Storage Space 500 sq. ft. of Parking Space 500 sq. ft. of Loading Dock Space 500 sq. ft. of Unloading Dock Space 500 sq. ft. of Shipping Dock Space 500 sq. ft. of Receiving Dock Space
Silver	1 Exhibition Booth (10' x 10') 500 sq. ft. of Exhibition Space 250 sq. ft. of Reception Area 250 sq. ft. of Meeting Room 250 sq. ft. of Banquet Room 250 sq. ft. of Conference Room 250 sq. ft. of Office Space 250 sq. ft. of Storage Space 250 sq. ft. of Parking Space 250 sq. ft. of Loading Dock Space 250 sq. ft. of Unloading Dock Space 250 sq. ft. of Shipping Dock Space 250 sq. ft. of Receiving Dock Space

INSTITUTION SPONSOR

National Annual Conference	
INSTITUTION SPONSOR LEVELS & BENEFITS	
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Platinum	4 Exhibition Booths (10' x 10') 2000 sq. ft. of Exhibition Space 1000 sq. ft. of Reception Area 1000 sq. ft. of Meeting Room 1000 sq. ft. of Banquet Room 1000 sq. ft. of Conference Room 1000 sq. ft. of Office Space 1000 sq. ft. of Storage Space 1000 sq. ft. of Parking Space 1000 sq. ft. of Loading Dock Space 1000 sq. ft. of Unloading Dock Space 1000 sq. ft. of Shipping Dock Space 1000 sq. ft. of Receiving Dock Space
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Annual INDUSTRY SPONSOR

Annual Industry Partner	
SPONSORSHIP LEVELS & BENEFITS	
Level	Benefits
Platinum	4 Exhibition Booths (10' x 10') 2000 sq. ft. of Exhibition Space 1000 sq. ft. of Reception Area 1000 sq. ft. of Meeting Room 1000 sq. ft. of Banquet Room 1000 sq. ft. of Conference Room 1000 sq. ft. of Office Space 1000 sq. ft. of Storage Space 1000 sq. ft. of Parking Space 1000 sq. ft. of Loading Dock Space 1000 sq. ft. of Unloading Dock Space 1000 sq. ft. of Shipping Dock Space 1000 sq. ft. of Receiving Dock Space
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Conference Submissions Now Open



Lacey Gordon
Education

Educational Session Presentation Proposal Submissions

The NAADA Education Committee is now accepting presentation proposals for the 2027 NAADA Annual Conference.

We're looking for engaging, practical sessions on topics relevant to alumni relations, development, student engagement, and the agricultural industry. Have an idea that could benefit NAADA members or volunteers from Member Institutions? We'd love to hear from you!



Proposal deadline: **January 15, 2027**

Questions? Contact info@naada.org.

We look forward to your ideas!



Caitlin Conrad
Publications & Projects

Publications & Projects (P&P) Award Submissions

We're excited to announce that submissions for the 2026-2027 Publications and Projects (P&P) competition opened on **October 1, 2026**. This is your opportunity to showcase achievements, share innovative work, and be recognized for your contributions.

Be sure to mark your calendar and start preparing your materials early. The **final submission deadline is February 1, 2027**, and all entries must be received by that date for consideration.

Don't miss your chance to participate. We look forward to reviewing your submissions and celebrating the outstanding accomplishments of our community!



Submission Period Opens: **October 1, 2026**

Submission Deadline: February 1, 2027

For shipping info, please see the P&P page on the NAADA website.

Volunteer Spotlight



Jamie Lucero
Volunteer Liaison



Elizabeth Galbreath
Director at Large

NAADA Reinforces Its Commitment to Volunteer Engagement

For 50 years, volunteer engagement has been a cornerstone of the NAADA community. Volunteers have been instrumental to our organization's mission of delivering education, support, and recognition for fellow professionals and volunteers in our field. Alumni, stakeholder, and student volunteers are essential to the success of our institutions' recruitment and philanthropic efforts. While the formal Volunteer Track is no longer part of our structure, NAADA is taking meaningful steps to ensure volunteers remain at the forefront of the organization's work.

NAADA recently introduced a new Volunteer Liaison position, serving as the primary advocate for volunteers and volunteer managers across member institutions. As a Director at Large appointed by the President, the Volunteer Liaison will help assess volunteer needs, facilitate the sharing of best practices, support volunteer-focused programming, promote the Volunteer Advantage Certificate Program, and ensure volunteer perspectives are represented in NAADA planning and decision-making. The role will also work closely with members and institutional volunteers to identify emerging needs and develop educational opportunities that strengthen volunteer engagement across the association.

A key initiative of this renewed volunteer strategy is the proposed "State of Volunteers" session at the 2027 NAADA Annual Conference. The effort will begin with a winter membership survey to better understand how institutions recruit, engage, manage, recognize, and retain volunteers. We envision the State of Volunteers session as a premier conference session that brings together representatives from across NAADA Tracks, volunteer leaders, and institutional practitioners for a shared learning experience. The session will feature survey results, volunteer management best practices, and a panel discussion showcasing innovative approaches from member institutions. The session will be scheduled early in the conference to establish volunteer engagement as a central theme and encourage presenters throughout the program to connect their work to volunteer involvement whenever appropriate.

Beyond the annual conference, NAADA remains committed to providing year-round support for volunteers and volunteer managers. Plans include offering at least two volunteer-focused virtual educational or engagement sessions each year, expanding opportunities for networking and professional development, and continuing to strengthen and evaluate the

Volunteer Spotlight *CONTINUED*

Volunteer Advantage Certificate Program to ensure it meets the evolving needs of members and volunteers alike.

Together, the new Volunteer Liaison role and the State of Volunteers initiative represent an exciting new chapter for volunteer engagement within NAADA. By elevating volunteer voices, sharing innovative practices, and creating new opportunities for learning and collaboration, NAADA is reaffirming its commitment to the volunteers who play a vital role in advancing the missions of member institutions across the country.

Questions: Contact **Jamie Lucero** | Volunteer Liaison
or **Elizabeth Galbreath** | Director at Large

NAADA Job Boards

NAADA Job Boards

Your Institution's NAADA Membership
allows you to post open positions **FREE OF CHARGE**.

- 1: Visit the **Career Center** on our website,
- 2: Click the '**Post a Job**' button in the top right corner,
- 3: Select the '**Job – NAADA Member Employers**' option.

Visit the **NAADA Job Board Page** 

Questions: Contact Shelbi Hoffman at shelbi@naada.org.

NAADA List Serves

NAADA List Serves

Instructions are listed under the '**Learn to Navigate NAADA Website**' button on the Member Landing page.

You can see the member landing page by assuming any member profile.

Visit the **NAADA List Serve Page** 

Questions: Contact Shelbi Hoffman at shelbi@naada.org.

NAADA News | Out and About



NAADA members, we want to hear from you!

Did you and your team knock it out of the park with an event?
Is your college conducting life-changing research?
Have any of your team members won awards or been highlighted recently?
We want to highlight our fantastic members and member institutions!

Email Melissa Hansen at klusekme@msu.edu to share your highlights so we can share across our social media.

Melissa Hansen | NAADA Communications & Marketing

NAADA Out & About

Have you hosted or attended an event you are excited about? If so, please share!

Submit your photos, captions, and the names of those included to info@naada.org.

Septemeber 25
Experience the
Power of Red

Septemeber 17
CASNR Career Fair

Septemeber 15-17
Husker Harvest Days

Septemeber 12
Purdue Ag Day Tailgate

Septemeber 25
This is CASNR
New Student Welcome



Experience the Power of Red

Experience the Power of Red is our annual CASNR visit day. Middle and high school students come to East Campus and are able to explore our 20 degree programs through a browsing fair and two academic sessions of their choice. For the first time, we held this event on a Friday, and we hosted about 30 students and their families, including a small group from Omaha Public Schools. Visitors were also able to hear from current students on a panel, eat lunch in the East Campus Dining Center, tour East Campus, and visit departmental facilities including the Animal Science Complex, Anatomy and Physiology Lab, and the School of Natural Resources in Hardin Hall. Feedback from faculty and staff was very positive, they said the students were very engaged and asking great questions. Parents and student visitors enjoyed the informational academic sessions, and many said the best part of the event was the hospitality.

NAADA Members Out & About



NAADA Out & About

Have you hosted or attended an event you are excited about? If so, please share! Submit your photos, captions, and the names of those included to info@naada.org.

Check Out photos and summaries of these recent events:

Experience the Power of Red, CASNR Career Fair, Husker Harvest Days, Purdue Ag Day Tailgate and This is CASNR New Student Welcome

NAADA Out & About

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NAADA Out and About



CASNR Career Fair

At the Nebraska East Union we hosted 82 employers who were able to connect with over 380 student attendees. These employers represent industries across agriculture,



food systems, and natural resources including opportunities in food technology, agronomy, plant and landscape systems, ag technology systems, animal science, biotechnology, fisheries and wildlife, environment, agriculture and sustainability. Many students were able to start conversations, network, and secure options for summer internships, research, or work experiences. In partnership with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Career Services team, our CASNR Careers Team and Peer Career Coaches- plus a lot of volunteers from around East Campus- put on a coffee social in the morning, assist with parking and loading, and help students check in, print resumes, and feel confident in their networking ability.

CASNR at Husker Harvest Days

The College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources hosts a scavenger hunt each year at Husker Harvest Days, a three-day farm show located just outside of Grand Island. Along with the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture, CASNR sponsors t-shirts to entice students to participate in the scavenger hunt. FFA Chapter members and other attending middle and high school students have to visit representatives from different careers in agriculture and natural resources spanning environment and soil, to agribusinesses and new technologies. After students are able to find those areas and take photos with representatives from each booth they choose, they come back, show us their photos, share what they've learned (including what good food they've eaten), and we get them t-shirts. This year we had 28 chapters participate and over 300 students fill out the UNL interest form.



Purdue Ag Day Tailgate

Purdue Agriculture and Purdue Veterinary Medicine welcomed alumni and friends for a joint Ag Day Tailgate before the Purdue football game against Wake Forest. More than 450 people registered for the event, which gave attendees the chance to reconnect, build relationships and celebrate their shared ties to Purdue. The partnership brought the two alumni communities together in one space and highlighted the strong connection between the College of Agriculture and College of Veterinary Medicine. The 2025 Ag Day Tailgate was a finalist for the 2026 Publications and Projects Competition in the Alumni Event category presented at the NAADA Conference this past June!



This is CASNR – New Student Welcome

Every year, CASNR hosts a big welcoming event for our newest Huskers. This is CASNR allows students to become familiar with their peers, CASNR staff and student services, their academic unit, and is just a fun event to kick off the start of the academic year! At the event, students hear from our Interim Dean, Tom Burkey, get introduced to the CASNR Dean's Office staff, participate in HUSKER POWER bingo, and then split to visit their academic department buildings for an activity. At the end, we bring everyone back to our beautiful patio outside the library for a UNL Dairy Store Ice Cream social. This year, we had over 260 students attend.

NAADA Out and About



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