

Thursday, September 5, 2024 at 07:48:44 Eastern Daylight Time

Subject: Dean's Update
Date: Thursday, September 5, 2024 at 7:46:50 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: CFAES Office of the Vice President and Dean
To: cfaes-all@lists.osu.edu
Attachments: image001.png, image002.png

CFAES Community,

I hope the academic year is off to a great start and you enjoyed the Labor Day weekend. Thank you for your ongoing contributions to our college. Your dedication, persistence, and commitment are truly appreciated as we begin this academic year.

This week, President Carter announced that after several more workshop sessions, he will plan to share our university strategic plan in **early November**. This plan will reaffirm our university's leadership role as an institution of higher education and will focus on four major areas including the preparation of future leaders, building environments that support teaching and learning, advancing research excellence, and embracing our land-grant mission.

The nomination window for the 2024-2025 College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences faculty and staff awards is **open through November 29, 2024**. Criteria and nomination requirements for all awards, past recipients, and the link to submit nominations can be found at <https://go.osu.edu/cfaesawardnominations>.

We hope you join many of your colleagues for the 2024 Farm Science Review (FSR) held at our Molly Caren Agricultural Center on September 17- 19, 2024. Our teams are actively preparing for another exceptional year, and we look forward to welcoming more than 120,000 visitors at the event. Your BuckID is your ticket to enter the grounds. If you bring a non-Ohio State affiliated friend, \$10 presale tickets can be purchased at fsr.osu.edu.

With the upcoming elections, it's a good time to review the university's [political activity guidelines](#). University staff and faculty members are encouraged to fully and freely exercise their constitutional right to vote, as well as express their personal opinions regarding political candidates, issues, local, state and national programs, initiatives and referendums. However, as an employee of a public institution you are restricted from exercising these rights in a manner that suggests university endorsement of a cause or candidate.

The First Amendment and Ohio law expressly protect the rights of students, faculty, staff and visitors at the university to lawfully engage in speech and expressive activities. The [Freedom of Expression website](#) is an online hub for support resources, policies and other information to help everyone participate in public discourse and exercise their rights.

Listen. Learn. Discuss. is a new initiative to help members of our community listen and discuss different perspectives productively, build trust with one another, learn how to clearly articulate their point of view and successfully navigate complex conversations. Listen. Learn. Discuss. will help students, faculty and staff draw connections and form skills to engage in productive and respectful dialogue. Learn more at

listen-learn-discuss.osu.edu.

Sincerely,
Dean Cathann Kress

Cathann A. Kress, Ph.D.

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