



MSU Extension and AgBioResearch State Advisory Council Current Members

MSU Extension District Representatives

Bob LaFave, MSU Extension District 1 Representative (2023-2026)
Village Manager, Village of L'Anse

Nikki Storey, MSU Extension District 2 Representative (2026-2029)
CEO, Headwaters North

Leah Bagdon McCallum, MSU Extension District 3 Representative (2023-2026)
Owner, Blue Orange Consulting

Joseph Sowmick, MSU Extension District 4 Representative (2023-2026)
Public Relations Manager, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe

Allen Pung, MSU Extension District 5 Representative (2023-2026)
Regional Sales Manager, Ceres Solutions Cooperative

Bridget Silvernail, MSU Extension District 6 Representative (2023-2026)
Dairy Sales Support Specialist, Neogen

Allen Robinette MSU Extension District 7 Representative (2024-2027)
Manager, Robinette's Apple Haus and Winery

Saturnino Rodriguez, MSU Extension District 8 Representative (2022 to 2026)
Vice president, Lansing School District Board

Mary Kelpinski, MSU Extension District 9 Representative (2023-2026)
MSU AgBioResearch Representative (2017-2022)
Chief Executive Officer of Michigan Pork Producers Association

John Tilt, MSU Extension District 10 Representative (2026-2029)
MSU AgBioResearch Representative (2023-2026)
General Manager, Vita Plus Corporation
Michigan Agri-Business Association Board Member

Jean Persely, MSU Extension District 11 Representative - Macomb County (2023-2026)
MSUE Master Gardener, D11 District Council member

Anthony Davis, MSU Extension District 11 Representative – Wayne County (2026-2029)
Education Specialist, Detroit Zoological Society

Nicole Scott, MSU Extension District 11 Representative – Wayne County (2026-2029)
Owner, Midwest Invitational Rodeo

Loren King, MSU Extension District 12 Representative (2024-2027)
Digital Marketing Specialist, MorganMyers



MSU Extension and AgBioResearch State Advisory Council Current Members

Rose Florian, MSU Extension District 13 Representative (2023-2026)
Food Hub Manager, Kalamazoo Valley Community College

District 14 – Vacant (pending)

AgBioResearch Representatives

Joe Cramer, MSU AgBioResearch Representative (2026-2029)
Executive Director, Michigan Bean Commission

Keith Creagh, MSU AgBioResearch Representative (2026-2029)
Michigan Department of Agriculture, various positions 1974-2007
Former MDARD Director 2011-2012

Gordon Wenk, MSU AgBioResearch Representative (2019 to 2026)
Retired director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Members-at-Large

Julius Buzzard, Member-at-large (2024-2027)
Executive Director, Growing Hope

Marguerite Cotto, Member-at-large (2023-2026)
MSU Extension District 3 Representative (2018 to 2022)
Vice President for Lifelong and Professional Learning at Northwestern Michigan College

Phil Knight, Member-at-large (2023-2026)
Executive Director, Food Bank Council of Michigan

Doug Lewis, Member-at-large (2024-2027)
Director of Student Legal Services at the University of Michigan

Barbara Rose, Member-at-large (2023-2026)
MSU Extension District 13 Representative (2018 to 2022)
Retired township supervisor

Becky Taylor, Member-at-large (2026-2029)
Vice President of Loan Administration & Legislative Affairs, GreenStone Farm Credit Services





MSU Extension and AgBioResearch State Advisory Council Current Members

CARET

The **Council for Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching** is a national grassroots organization of volunteers created in 1982 by the Board on Agriculture Assembly of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU). CARET seeks to enhance national support and understanding of the land-grant university system's food and agricultural research, extension, and teaching programs that enhance the quality of life for all people.

Leah Bagdon McCallum, MSU Extension District 3 Representative (2023-2026)
Owner, Blue Orange Consulting

Glenn Preston, Council for Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching
Owner, Preston Farms

John Tilt, MSU AgBioResearch Representative (2023-2026)
General Manager, Vita Plus Corporation
Michigan Agri-Business Association Board Member

Char Wenham, Council for Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching
Partner and consultant at Wood, Wenham & Henderson Consultants LLC

