

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, MAY 8

3:30 PM	Conference Registration <i>Available throughout the evening</i>	<i>Atrium</i>
4:30 PM	Welcome Reception with complimentary hors d'oeuvres Live music by Brian 'Pickle' Gerkenmeyers, Seward, NE	<i>Atrium and Grand Ballroom</i>
5:30 PM	Welcome to the 2012 Rural Futures Conference Dave Heineman, Governor of Nebraska; Chair of the National Governors Association Ronnie Green, NU Vice President and IANR Vice Chancellor, University of Nebraska	<i>Grand Ballroom</i>
6:00 PM	"Future of the Great Plains and Beyond" Moderator: Harvey Perlman, Chancellor, University of Nebraska—Lincoln Speaker: Joel Sartore, <i>National Geographic</i> photographer, speaker and author <i>Joel Sartore will provide an oral and visual depiction of the importance and beauty of rural people and the ecosystems of the Great Plains, emphasizing the variety and complexity of the region. His presentation will demonstrate, at least implicitly, the importance of involving transdisciplinary approaches to insure that the research, educational and engagement programs in higher education reflect the importance of the human, the community and the natural resources dimension in building positive rural futures.</i>	<i>Grand Ballroom</i>
6:45 PM	"Voices of the Rural Future" <i>A short video highlights young leaders living and working in rural areas. Through their words, people will be reminded of the need to think futuristically and to constantly move rural places forward to be competitive for our greatest resource — people.</i>	<i>Grand Ballroom</i>
7:00 PM	Dialogue Session with Young Leaders Moderator: Ronnie Green, NU Vice President and IANR Vice Chancellor, University of Nebraska Bob Bartee, Vice Chancellor for External Affairs, University of Nebraska Medical Center Amanda Crook, Graduate Student, Nebraska City, Nebraska Jim McClurg, Chair, University of Nebraska Board of Regents Caleb Pollard, Executive Director, Valley County Economic Development, Ord, Nebraska Anne Trumble, Executive Director, Emerging Terrain, Omaha, Nebraska <i>The future depends on thinking futuristically about the needs, wants and hopes of the future generations. In order to envision a bold rural future that will attract young people, a dynamic group of young leaders will paint a picture of what our future could be. You will have an opportunity to hear a conversation that will motivate, inspire and increase your understanding about what the rural future could look like.</i>	<i>Grand Ballroom</i>
8:00 PM	Adjourn for Evening	

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9

7:00 AM	Conference Registration <i>Available throughout the day</i>	Atrium
7:00 to 8:00 AM	Breakfast	Lancaster Room
8:00 AM	Welcome to the 2012 Rural Futures Conference Doug Kristensen, Chancellor, University of Nebraska at Kearney	Grand Ballroom
8:10 AM	Charge for the Day and Special Announcement Ronnie Green, NU Vice President and IANR Vice Chancellor, University of Nebraska	Grand Ballroom
8:30 AM	“Creating Breakthrough Innovations” Moderator: B.J. Reed, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, University of Nebraska at Omaha Keynote Speaker: Frans Johansson, an international speaker and author of <i>The Medici Effect</i> <i>Frans Johansson is a dynamic speaker who proposes (a) that future advances will occur at the intersection between traditional disciplines or silos and (b) that opportunities of the future will require complex and transdisciplinary responses. He will suggest that we must respond to the fact that the world’s economic, social, and ecological environments are changing at an ever increasing rate and that to be relevant we must not only embrace change but initiate it. Frans will remind the audience that “change is inevitable but progress is optional.”</i>	Grand Ballroom
9:45 AM	Break : Open Networking and Poster Viewing	Atrium and Grand Ballroom
10:00 AM	Panel: Intersectional Approaches to Higher Ed and Research Moderator: Chuck Fluharty, President of RUPRI, University of Missouri Shane Farritor, Professor, College of Engineering , University of Nebraska–Lincoln Jay Keasling, Professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, University of California, Berkeley Fred Luthans, Professor, College of Business Administration, University of Nebraska–Lincoln <i>Faculty engaged in collaborative work across disciplines and institutions will share the opportunities and challenges they have faced or anticipate facing related to building successful collaborations beyond their discipline. They will be asked to look to the future and to help identify the steps an institution of higher education can take to more effectively encourage and facilitate transdisciplinary and multi-institutional work on complex problems, and what steps are needed to more effectively engage students and stakeholders in this work.</i>	
11:15 AM	Open Space Session Introduction Teresa Posakony and Tenneson Woolf, Facilitators	Grand Ballroom

11:35 AM Lunch *Lancaster Room*
 Conversation with John Berge, Executive Director, USDA National Food and Agriculture Council

1:00 PM Panel: Be the Change You Want to See – Rural World Examples *Grand Ballroom*
 Moderator: Susan Fritz, Associate VP for Academic Affairs and Research, University of Nebraska
 Jim Cavaye, Associate Professor, Institute for Sustainable Regional Development, Australia
 Burt Chojnowski, Entrepreneur, Fairfield, Iowa
 Paul Eurek, Chairman and CEO, Xpanxion, Kearney, Nebraska

This session will focus on views from the rural landscape – community, business, and international perspectives on success and how higher education can engage with communities, businesses, service organizations and other partners to support long-term positive rural futures.

2:15 PM Break : Open Networking and Poster Viewing *Atrium and Grand Ballroom*

2:45 PM Panel: Setting the Stage for Tomorrow: Why a Rural Futures Institute? *Grand Ballroom*
 Moderator: Harvey Perlman, Chancellor, University of Nebraska–Lincoln
 Alice Diebel, Program Officer, Charles F. Kettering Foundation, Dayton, Ohio
 Timothy Eatman, Research Director, Imagining America, Syracuse University
 Ronnie Green, NU Vice President and IANR Vice Chancellor, University of Nebraska
 Tom Osborne, former Congressman and Athletic Director, University of Nebraska–Lincoln

The higher education culture and establishment does not have a long and storied history of (a) working across disciplines, (b) meaningful partnerships among institutions of higher education, or (c) creating deep collaboration across the quad-helix of higher education, government, the nonprofit sector and the private for-profit sector, (i.e. business and industry). This session will focus on institutional and cultural changes that are needed in order to breakdown these various silos and create more robust partnerships and collaborations... and the strategies, tactics and action steps that will achieve the institutional and cultural changes needed.

4:00 PM Tie It All Together *Grand Ballroom*
 Ronnie Green, NU Vice President and IANR Vice Chancellor, University of Nebraska
 Prem Paul, Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development, University of Nebraska–Lincoln

4:15 to 5:30 PM Digital Poster Session and Reception *Atrium and Grand Ballroom*

5:30 to 6:00 PM RFI Grant Q & A Session *Garrat Room*

Evening Dinner on Your Own

THURSDAY, MAY 10

7:00 to 8:00 AM	Breakfast	<i>Lancaster Room</i>
8:00 AM	Greeting and Charge for the Day J.B. Milliken, President, University of Nebraska	<i>Grand Ballroom</i>
8:15 AM	Open Space Conversations / Focused Conversations	<i>Various locations</i>
10:00 AM	Break : Coffee bar and specialty drinks	<i>Lower Lobby</i>
10:30 AM	Continuation of Conversations	<i>Various locations</i>
12:00 PM	Lunch	<i>Great Plains Room</i>
12:30 PM	Video Highlight Reel	<i>Great Plains Room</i>
12:45 PM	Real-time Polling : Everyone’s vote counts!	<i>Great Plains Room</i>
1:00 PM	Open Microphone Session : Participants share their ‘aha’ moments	<i>Great Plains Room</i>
1:30 PM	Harvest Time : Sharing and synthesis from morning conversations	<i>Great Plains Room</i>
2:00 PM	Panel: Witnessing and Observations by Conference Rapporteurs Moderator: Sam Cordes, RFI Senior Advisor, Purdue University, Emeritus Esmeralda Cruz, HHS Educator Assistant, Clinton County Purdue Extension David Procter, Director for Engagement and Community Development, Kansas State University Matt Rezac, Director of Rural Community Partnerships, Sherwood Foundation, Omaha Roni Reiter-Palmon, Director of the I/O Psychology Program, University of Nebraska at Omaha Ellen Weissinger, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, University of Nebraska—Lincoln <i>We’ll hear from five “Rapporteurs” who were assigned to keenly observe the informal and formal sessions of the conference. Based on their observations, they will share their overall impressions of creating a wildly successful RFI</i>	<i>Great Plains Room</i>
2:45 PM	The End of the Beginning : Appreciation and Next Steps	<i>Great Plains Room</i>
3:00 PM	Conference Adjournment	