

VISION – One of our goals is to increase stakeholder engagement with our research program, and we're pleased to announce a high participation rate in our 2018 HRC Research Priorities Survey. As an essential part of our HRC Strategic Plan, the results of the survey will ensure that our research priorities are established and benefited by our member growers/merchants/brewers. Hop research is not just a keystone for the hop industry, it's an essential component for our industry's continued strength and long-term growth. We will continue to refine and develop specific goals and objectives for our HRC funded research projects with broad member input. You can review the results of our first Research Priorities Survey on the Research page of our HRC website:

(<http://www.hopresearchcouncil.org/index.cfm/fuseaction/home.showpage/pageID/5/index.htm>).

HRC People – March 7&8 a large cross-section of stakeholders from the hop industry visited our elected officials in Washington DC, and the USDA/ARS headquarters in Beltsville. The goal of the visit was to request increased funding for hop research, and to voice our strong disagreement with the USDA/ARS proposal to eliminate public hop research and to close the USDA Forage Seed and Cereal Research Unit in Corvallis, OR. This closure is part of the president's proposed FY2019 budget. The coalition, organized and led by the Brewers Association, can celebrate their success with hop research funds now appearing as a congressional spending priority instead of discretionary spending, by the USDA/ARS. Congratulations! HRC thanks congress for prioritizing public hop research! More news on hop research funding levels for FY2018 will be reported as it's budgeted.

Request for Grower Participation – Dr. Alison Hamm, our USDA/ARS researcher from Colorado, will need to take soil samples from at least 3 hop yards each in WA/ID/OR in late July. If you are a grower of either Cascade or Centennial hops, can you participate in this soil sampling for her microbiome study? She plans to travel to these states during the week of July 23. Please let us know if you can participate and we'll forward a list of farms to her (see our e-mail addresses below).

Oregon Quality Food and Beverage Products Initiative – Oregon State University has proposed an initiative to expand their growing programs in fermentation sciences for brewing, winemaking, and cheesemaking. The Oregon legislature has committed \$9million toward building a new \$18mil state-of-the-art facility at OSU to accommodate research for the rapid growth being experienced in these industries. Industry has shown strong participation in the efforts to raise the additional \$9million, but the \$9million fundraising goal has yet to be met. This initiative is very similar to the Washington initiative that paired state funding with industry donations and resulted in the Ste. Michelle Wine Estates WSU Wine Science Center

(<https://wsu.edu/125/washington-wine/>). For more information on how you or your company can become involved in the OSU initiative, please see the article posted at our HRC website under Current News/Of Interest/Oregon Quality Food & Beverage Initiative:

(<http://hopresearchcouncil.org/index.cfm/fuseaction/home.showpage/pageID/46/index.htm>)

HRC Events – The HRC Summer meeting is scheduled for July 24/25 at the IAREC center in Prosser, WA. For more information, including block rate hotel reservations, please visit our website under Current News/Important Dates. Note that July 23 are Hop Industry/HGA meetings. HRC meetings are July 24/25.

(<http://hopresearchcouncil.org/index.cfm/fuseaction/home.showpage/pageID/44/index.htm>)

If you have any suggestions for content for our monthly newsletter, please contact your Co-Technical Directors, Bryan and Judy Thoet (bryan@bjagriculturalconsulting.com) (judith@bjagriculturalconsulting.com) (503) 400-9147
