

November 2, 2001

Purdue University hosts conference for agribusiness managers

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. – Uncertain times can sort the expert from the inexperienced, but proactive food and agribusiness industry managers can gain key skills for dealing with change during the national conference for agribusiness at Purdue University.

The conference, "Fast Ag! Balancing Speed with Quality in a Changing Environment," is slated for Nov. 27-28 and is sponsored by Purdue's Center for Food and Agricultural Business. This event will focus on management skills for a turbulent environment

"In an environment of rapid change, decisions come fast and hard for agribusiness managers, regardless of level within the organization," says Mike Boehlje, professor of agricultural economics at Purdue and a keynote speaker at the conference. In his session, Boehlje will lay out several options a manager has when making decisions in uncertain business environments.

Other speakers include experts who will pass on their advice formally and informally during the conference. Speakers include representatives from Fast Company magazine, Elanco Animal Health and Wind River Systems. Academics from the University of Wyoming, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Purdue University will speak on their respective areas of expertise.

"People are eager to learn more about managing through change," says Scott Downey, associate director of the Center for Food and Agricultural Business and event organizer.

"It's a great opportunity for people to hear from a variety of speakers on this topic at a single event. Participants come from all over the world to attend this conference."

Registration is \$795. For more details about the conference or registration, contact the Center for Food and Agricultural Business at (765) 494-4247, or fax (765) 494-4333.

Questions about the agenda or speakers should be directed to Downey at (765) 494-4325, downeys@agecon.purdue.edu. Conference information is also available on the Web.

CONTACT: Vickie Maris, Center for Food and Agricultural Business marketing manager, (765) 494-8151, vjmaris@purdue.edu.

Compiled by Beth Forbes, (765) 494-2722, bforbes@aes.purdue.edu

Ag Communications: (765) 494-2722; Beth Forbes, <u>bforbes@aes.purdue.edu</u>; <u>http://www.agriculture.purdue.edu/AgComm/public/agnews/</u>

Purdue News Service: (765) 494-2096; purduenews@purdue.edu

To the Purdue News and Photos Page