

Budget and Legislative Committee (BLC)

2025 agInnovation Fall Meeting

Agenda Brief

Chair: Steve Lommel (NCSU)

Membership: [Budget & Legislative Committee \(BLC\) – ESCOP](https://escop.info/committee/blc/) (<https://escop.info/committee/blc/>)

Executive Vice-Chair: Jeanette Thurston (agNC)

Assistant Executive Vice-Chair: Christina Hamilton (agNC)

2025 BLC Activity To Date

CGA Representation on BLC – Matt Peterson (NCSU) is serving as the inaugural representative from the APLU Council on Government Affairs (CGA). He also chairs the CGA Agricultural Appropriations Committee.

DC Update Meetings – Launched recurring update sessions for all agInnovation members to provide timely insights on federal budget developments, agency activities, and congressional actions affecting agricultural research. These sessions are led by Elizabeth Stulberg (LBA) and Matt Peterson to provide updates and respond to directors' questions.

New Administration Impacts Brief – Advanced and shared a brief outlining the potential effects of the new administration on agricultural research, including personnel changes and program impacts. The document supports directors in discussions with stakeholders and policymakers. BLC is exploring opportunities to collaborate with APLU CGA and other partners to update and expand the brief.

Upcoming BLC Activities

agInnovation [Input to USDA Reorganization Plan](#)— Discussion on whether agInnovation should submit comments on the USDA reorganization plan, given its significant implications for agricultural research and our partnerships with USDA agencies and scientists.

[USDA National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics \(NAREEE\) Advisory Board](#) – Assess the role and responsibilities of the board as a potential avenue for elevating agInnovation's visibility and influence, and to help inform USDA policies and programs.

LGU Roadmap Collaboration – Partnering across agInnovation committees, including the Science and Technology Committee (STC), and with newly engaged consultants, to advance the LGU Roadmap—particularly in shaping a cohesive budget strategy.

AS ALWAYS, FEEL FREE TO REACH OUT TO STEVE (slommel@ncsu.edu) OR JEANETTE (jthurston@ksu.edu) ON TOPICS OR ACTIVITIES YOU BELIEVE BLC SHOULD BE ADDRESSING.