



Iowa Institute for
Cooperatives

CO-OPVIEWS

News and information for the benefit of Iowa cooperatives.

December 2017 Vol. 47 , No. 6

Hall Named as New Government Affairs Lead

Having a voice in government relations on behalf of Iowa cooperatives is one of the great benefits of Iowa Institute membership. Ensuring that the policies our members have adopted are communicated to necessary parties is a major responsibility that the Iowa Institute is proud to fulfill. As another state legislative session is to begin, we are glad to welcome Katie Hall to the Iowa Institute staff as the new director of government affairs who will be a tremendous asset on the hill to our member cooperatives.

Katie Hall comes to the Iowa Institute with a strong background in trading grain commodities and managing logistics over the past six years. She has traded multiple commodities and coordinated large-scale logistics for companies like ADM and The Scoular Company. Katie's knowledge and experience will be of great use in building relationships with elected officials and our members.

A Manilla, Iowa native, Katie grew up on a farm and witnessed her dad, Gary Hall, serve on the FSC board for 23 years. In her recent involvement with Iowa Corn Growers I-LEAD program, Katie discovered a passion for advocating for agriculture and has since shown that through further involvement with the organization. She was recently asked to serve on the Iowa Corn Growers' Strategic Planning Committee. Katie is excited to bring her industry knowledge, focusing on building relationships and attention to detail to the government affairs position. Please reach out to Katie to welcome her, and let her know about your cooperative.



Katie Hall



JOIN IIC AT THE LEGISLATIVE WELCOME BACK RECEPTION

JANUARY 9, 2018

5:00 - 7:00 PM

State Historical Building - 600 East Locust St., Des Moines, Iowa

The Iowa Institute is again co-hosting the Welcome Back Reception for Iowa legislators on January 9, from 5:00 - 7:00 pm at the State Historical Building. This event is hosted by the Iowa Institute for Cooperatives, Iowa Association of Electric

Cooperatives, PMCI, Iowa Communications Alliance, and Iowa Bio.org. Join our staff as we welcome back Iowa legislators to the 2018 Legislative Session and share issues important to our organizations.

Preview of Leading 2018 Legislative Topics

By Katie Hall, Director of Government Affairs

As we near the 2018 Iowa Legislative Session, the Iowa Institute is paying close attention to several topics. When the new session commences January 8, we're expecting to tackle water quality funding first. Majority Leader Representative Hagenow (R-District 43) spoke at the Ag State meeting and said he's optimistic a long-term water quality infrastructure funding bill will pass quickly. Last year's work on a sustainable water quality bill did not reach an agreement by both bodies of the Iowa legislature, but Iowa is ready to get this law in the books and start working toward cleaner water.

The second major focus will be on the state's budget. Last year required a withdrawal of reserve funds and the state will be looking to pay that money back. The legislature and governor will also be looking for cuts or reductions to help balance out the decrease in tax revenue year-over-year. One of the most noticeable declines last year was in sales tax revenue due to increased internet shopping. A slow ag economy was also noted as a reason for decreases in tax revenue. Expect revenue estimates, cuts and appropriations to be common discussions throughout the 2018 Session.

Tax reform is the third hot topic on our watch list. Tied in with budget constraints on both the state and federal

levels, we are paying close attention to how this will impact cooperatives. We're also working with our legislators and other states to come up with an answer to the loss of Section 199 DPAD. The estimated loss of this tax deduction has a \$250 million impact on Iowa cooperatives alone. There is a new replacement deduction for cooperatives and farmer-members in the latest version of the Senate tax bill, and the outcome of that will be decided very soon. Follow our website, Facebook and Twitter pages for up-to-date progress on these tax bills and Section 199. We will continue to be diligent in communicating updates and ask that you be ready as we work to engage members and connect you with legislators. If you have any questions about how to contact your legislators, please do not hesitate to ask. I can be reached at khall@iowainstitute.coop or by phone, 515-292-2667.

I will continue to provide our members with legislative updates throughout the upcoming Session, both on these anticipated topics and those that effect your cooperative and members. Thank you for trusting the Iowa Institute to represent you, and I hope you've had a wonderful holiday season!

Upcoming Member Events

As we enter into the new year, there are several workshops and events available for our members to attend. All four phases of the Director Certification Program will once again be offered January 30 through February 2. In addition, there are two opportunities to interact with state legislators in Des Moines. More information for any of these can be found on the Iowa Institute website, www.iowainstitute.coop.

January 9 - Iowa Legislature Welcome Back Reception

January 10 - Winter Workshop - *Buena Vista College, Storm Lake*

January 11 - Winter Workshop - *The Hilton Garden Inn, Cedar Falls*

Director Certification (1 & 2) - Kings Pointe Resort, Storm Lake

January 30 - Phase 1 - Co-op Business Structure, Board Legal Responsibilities

January 31 - Phase 2 - Board Planning & Problem Solving

Director Certification (3 & 4) - The Hilton Garden Inn, Cedar Falls

February 1 - Phase 4 - Manager Development, Evaluation & Compensation

February 2 - Phase 3 - Cooperative Financial Statements

Board Presidents - Courtyard at the Marriot, Ankeny

February 13 - Legislative Process Activity, Presidents Round Table

February 14 - Coop Day at the Capitol - Iowa Capitol, Des Moines

Mid Manager Program - Holiday Inn, Ames

February 28 - Various Government Regulatory Topics

March 1 - Customer Service & Personal Interaction

Joining of Member Cooperatives at Annual Meeting

Education and Celebration Amongst More Than 300 Members and Guests at the 2017 IIC Annual Meeting



Two inductions to the Iowa Institute Cooperative Hall of Fame were awarded at the Annual Meeting Business Meeting. In the left-hand photo, 2018 inductee Jack Friedman (right), retired CEO Innovative Ag Services, was introduced by Mike Duncomb (left). In the above right-hand photo is inductee Tom Francis (right), retired Vice President Relationship Manager of CoBank. Tom was introduced by Bert Johnson.



During the Annual Meeting's Issues In Common session, Iowa Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig spoke to members about the state's top agricultural issues and outlooks.



Steve Ford- actor, speaker and son of former President Gerald R. Ford- gave an enlightening keynote presentation to members on leadership and character.

WINTER WORKSHOP DETAILS ANNOUNCED

The can't miss Winter Workshops have been scheduled for January 10-11 and will include a diverse list of speakers and topics. Intended for managers, staff and board members, two workshop days are available and will entail the same great presentations on both days. Speakers will address issues of current importance and trends that aid in the decision making at the local cooperative level. The topics include:

- Captive insurance companies
- WISE Student exchange program
- Land O'Lakes SUSTAIN program
- Employee policies and procedures regarding harassment in the workplace

Be sure to register to attend these Winter Workshops. Registration and the full agenda for both days can be found online at www.iowainstitute.coop.

**January 10 - Winter Workshop
Buena Vista College, Storm Lake**

**January 11 - Winter Workshop
The Hilton Garden Inn, Cedar Falls**

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Cooperative Leadership Opportunity

For decades, the Graduate Institute of Cooperative Leadership (GICL) Summer Institute has been a valued component of the educational programs for many cooperatives. Designed for senior management, GICL focuses exclusively on strategy, structure and governance issues related to the cooperative form of ownership. Our program is tailored to improve the understanding of patron-owned firms, especially the impact of a democratic ownership structure on decision making and performance measures.

GICL's Summer Institute 2018 will be held May 14-17 at the University of Missouri in Columbia. Michael L. Cook, Partridge Professor of Cooperative Leadership and Executive Director of GICL, facilitates the fast-paced, intensive, discussion-centered program.



GICL SUMMER INSTITUTE 2018

May 14-17, 2018

University of Missouri in Columbia

GICL's goal is to contribute to the long-term success of agricultural cooperatives through the generation of new knowledge and development of advanced learning programs informed by research. We strive to highlight not only challenges faced by cooperatives, but also paths to finding solutions.

For more information, contact Kristi Livingston, 573-882-0140 or LivingstonK@missouri.edu.

The Graduate Institute of Cooperative Leadership(GICL) is a global, research-based executive education center drawing on recent advances in organizational economics/sociology and management science to develop life cycle organizational models and diagnostic tools for producer-owned firms. At GICL we strive to instill practical knowledge drawn from research-based discovery.