

Women in Agriculture Conference 2018

Speaker Information

Michelle Miller

Michelle Miller, the Farm Babe, is a farmer, writer, and public speaker for agriculture and was once a big city girl who understands the disconnect between city life and rural farm living firsthand. She has a column on www.AGDAILY.com where she regularly debunks popular agricultural myths and encourages people to engage with real farmers to bridge the gap between consumers and food producers.



Jenna Kilgus

Jenna Kilgus is a co-owner of Kilgus Dairy and Kilgus Farmstead, a fourth generation family business located in Central Illinois. Jenna, her husband, Matt, and three other Kilgus families work together to operate the farm and provide farmstead milk and meat to customers throughout the state. Jenna manages communication, logistics, and orders, along with inventory for their on-farm country store. During the spring and summer, Jenna pours her knowledge and experience into consumer education via farm and creamery tours. She teaches about the importance of farming, the enduring commitment of farmers to their land and animals, and knowing where your food comes from. During harvest, Jenna's favorite spot is driving the grain cart, although most of her fall days are spent holding the fort down at home; Jenna is also the busy mom of three children, Kamber (11), Collin (8), and Kelsey (5). When not tied down with cows, pigs, goats, crops, or kids, Jenna enjoys traveling and reading.



Kim McClintic, MS, RD, LDN

Registered Dietitian

Kim serves as the dietitian for the Center for Healthy Lifestyles at OSF St. Joseph Medical Center. Kim holds a bachelor's degree in dietetics/nutrition from Iowa State University, as well as a master's degree in public health administration from Drake University. She is a member of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, the Central Illinois Dietetic Association, the Mclean County Wellness Coalition and the Unit 5 School District's Wellness Committee.

She has promoted health and wellness through conferences, workshops, publications, radio, television, and educational videos. She is a recipient of several awards from health and wellness-related organizations. Kim presents nutrition and health topics throughout the community at schools, businesses, community organizations, support groups, conferences, and via local media.



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Paul Stoddard

Paul Stoddard is a Lecturer in Agribusiness in the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign. He teaches courses in Agricultural Marketing, Food and Agribusiness Management, Personal Financial Planning, and Farm Management. Almost 7,000 students have enrolled in Paul's courses since 2001. He has received numerous teaching awards and has been recognized for 34 consecutive semesters on the U of I's List of Teachers Ranked Excellent by students.



Paul joined the University of Illinois fulltime in 2012 following a 30-year career in agricultural real estate, commodity trading, farm management, and agricultural lending. He spent 14 years with Farm Credit Illinois, most recently serving as Chief Appraiser.

In addition to his academic duties, Paul operates a consulting, brokerage and appraisal business specializing in agricultural real estate. He also provides Hedging & Options Training and Leadership Coaching within the Farm Credit System.

Paul is a resident of Monticello, Illinois where he grew up on the family farm. He has served as both Lead Facilitator for the LeaderShape national leadership program and Mentor for the Illinois Leadership Center.

Cari Rincker

Cari Rincker is a general practitioner with concentrations in food, farm and family law. She is also mediator, prolific writer, and articulate speaker. Cari is a nationally recognized food, farm and family attorney. She is currently an adjunct professor at Vermont Law School teaching an online agriculture and environmental law course and is a past adjunct professor at New York University, Department of Nutrition and Food Studies teaching an undergraduate food law course. Before starting Rincker Law, PLLC, Cari was an associate at Budd-Falen Law Offices, LLC in Cheyenne, Wyoming where her broad practice areas ranged from agriculture, environmental and natural resource issues to federal lands, wind energy development, crop insurance, property law, commercial law, and probate with clients located all over the west.



Cari's passion for agriculture issues is deeply rooted. She grew up on a seedstock Simmental cattle operation in Shelbyville, Illinois where she spent significant time working on her family's farm. She showed cattle through 4-H and FFA at both the local and national levels and was involved with the American Junior Simmental Association. Cari went on to attend Lake Land College in Mattoon, Illinois where she received her Associate's in Agriculture Science and had a successful career on its livestock judging team. Cari then transferred to Texas A & M University where she received her Bachelor's of Science in Animal Science. After Texas A & M, Cari came back home to the University of Illinois to complete her Masters of Science in Ruminant Nutrition where her concentration was in beef feedlot nutrition. Due to her passion for law and policy, Cari decided to complete her *Juris Doctor* from Pace University, School of Law, in White Plains, New York. At Pace, Cari completed certificates in both Environmental Law and International Law.

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Tim Maiers, Maiers Ag Consulting

Tim grew up on a grain and livestock farm near Payson, IL in Adams County. After graduating from the University of Illinois with an Ag Economics degree, Tim started his career in 1994 as the Manager of the Christian County Farm Bureau. In 1998 he began working for the Illinois Pork Producers Association as the Director of Public Relations, where he worked for 17 years also serving as the Interim Executive Director.



Tim and his wife, LeAnn, started Maiers Ag Consulting in October 2015 to utilize the 20 plus years of experience in communications and public relations. They have worked on a variety of projects including organizing Open Houses for new livestock farms on behalf of the Illinois Livestock Development Group, as well as developing a Resource Guide on the IL EPA Livestock Rules for the Illinois Agricultural Coalition (IL Farm Bureau, IL Pork Producers, IL Beef, & IL Milk).

As a third-generation farmer, Tim raises corn, soybeans and hay on his family farm and has an 80-head cow-calf operation. In 2017, he also started farming with his uncle raising grain and contract finishing pigs.

Tim and LeAnn have three children – Trevor, a sophomore at Iowa State University; Megan, a senior in high school; and Amanda, a freshman in high school.

Kim Bremmer

Kim Bremmer is the owner of Ag Inspirations, LLC where she travels and speaks about sustainable agriculture and the role of science, technology and innovation in how we grow and raise food. Kim grew up on a dairy farm in north central Wisconsin. She is a mother of two, graduate of UW-Madison and was a dairy nutritionist for 15 years. Kim is an academy member of the National Speaker's Association, the Wisconsin state coordinator for Common Ground, a regular contributor on Rural Route radio, and is the president of Wisconsin Women for Agriculture. She is a business development specialist for U.S. Farmers and Ranchers Alliance and serves on the Executive Advisory Counsel for the American Dairy Coalition and in the EPA Animal Agriculture Discussion Group. Kim specializes in communication and connecting with everyday consumers AND is a vocal champion of agriculture everywhere she goes...from the grocery store to the airport.

