



American Agricultural Editors' Association

Professional Improvement Foundation

August 2013 Report

Recent PIF Fund Recipients:

- \$2,500: Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow mid-winter meeting sponsorship
- Travel for International Chair Steve Werblow to attend IFAJ meeting in Berlin
- \$9,000: Six stipends for Karen Simon (International Committee co-chair), Jenni Latzke, Brent Olson, Mark Moore, Kathy Huting and Charles Johnson to attend the 2013 IFAJ Congress in Argentina
- \$7,000: Four Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow scholarships including the top Jim Evans scholarship (Ellen Reeder, University of Illinois) and three Past Presidents scholarships (Courtney Leeper and Kari Weis, University of Missouri; Maggie Jo Pruitt, University of Arkansas)
- \$4,000: Legacy interview videos
- \$2,500: Grant to fund the Andy Markwart Horizon Award co-sponsored by John Deere (see right)
- \$4,000: IFAJ Master Class sponsorship (see right)
- \$11,000: Stipends for two summer interns (see right)

CONTACTS:

PIF Chair Gil Gullickson,
 gil.gullickson@meredith.com, 515.284.2687;
 AAEA executive director Den Gardner,
 aaea@gandgcomm.com, 952.758.6502



AAEA PIF Trustees:

Bottom row: Sally Behringer, Corey Geiger (co-chair), Kelly Schwalbe (secretary-treasurer), Holly Martin, Gil Gullickson (chair); *Top row:* Harlen Persinger, Van Holmes, Kurt Lawton, Steve Fairchild, Jennifer Vincent, Jim Patrico, Steve Goldsmith; *Not pictured:* Steve Mercer, Des Keller, Steve Werblow

2013 Andy Markwart Horizon

Award recipient: Christy Couch Lee, Cee Lee Communications (2012 recipient: Jennifer Shike, University of Illinois)



Master Class:

Our \$4,000 grant to sponsor a participant from a developing country to travel to the International Federation of Agricultural Journalists (IFAJ) Congress for its Master Class went to Yajaira del Socorro Aguirre Morales from Nicaragua. Ms. Aguirre Morales is an ag journalist with UNAG, Nicaragua's national farmer's association.

AAEA Summer Interns:

Stuart Estes, University of Arkansas, spent the summer with High Plains Journal as the editorial intern. Casey Drodny, Kansas State University, spent the summer with Morgan & Myers as the marcomm intern. Both also helped with Ag Media Summit.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO PIF:

- \$20,000: AAEA through Ag Media Summit net revenue
- \$5,500: Donations through member renewals
- \$4,000: Jack Pitzer, earmarked for Legacy video interviews
- \$3,600: Past presidents contributions