

## **Healthy Food Systems, Healthy People Initiative Update**

### **Background:**

On July 23, 2014, as a result of the recommendations from the 2014 Joint COPs meeting, the BAA's Policy Board of Directors, together with the Board on Human Sciences, established the Healthy Food Systems, Healthy People steering committee. The charge to this committee was to develop a broad-based initiative to improve human health and reduce chronic disease by integrating agricultural, food, and nutrition systems with health care systems through alignment of science, education, community engagement, and strategic partnerships, for which funding will be sought in 2018. The Committee is co-chaired by Richard Linton, Dean, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, NCSU, and Christine Ladisch, Dean, College of Health and Human Sciences, Purdue. This action was taken to build on initial work by ECOP's Health Task Force who identified several recommendations as to how Extension could create programs to better address issues related to human health and chronic diseases. The steering committee focused on identifying knowledge gaps and research needs that could support future education and community engagement activities related to human health and would facilitate integration across agriculture, food, nutrition, and health care systems. They also identified a significant number of public and private partnerships that would be essential to move this initiative forward. The research priorities were integrated with Extension programming needs identified by the ECOP task force to develop the final report, which is expected to be submitted to APLU by October 1, 2015.

**Action:** For information only