

*Farms and Food for the Future*

**UW-Madison  
Center for Integrated  
Agricultural Systems  
(CIAS)**

**2017 Annual Report**

*Impact*

**122**

new farmers trained

**13**

CIAS reports, journal articles, book chapters

**1.5 million**

regional participants in Great Lakes Great Apple Crunch

**3,250**

people reached through conferences, workshops and events

**\$19,500**

awarded to 12 graduate students for research in sustainable agriculture and food

**4,035**

people reached through CIAS email lists and e-newsletters

**87,448**

people reached through CIAS social media and website

*Financial*

**\$55,317**

donations to CIAS

**\$19,675**

donations to Wisconsin School for Beginning Dairy and Livestock Farmers

**\$3.6 million**

grants administered by CIAS

**\$337,500**

for first year of new CIAS cover crop project with USDA Dairy Forage Research Center and Michael Fields Agricultural Institute

**\$750,000**

grant to initiate School for Urban Agriculture with nonprofit partners

**“I’ve been working with CIAS since its earliest years. From training for beginning farmers to research on the food system and the financial and production aspects of managed grazing, CIAS continues to make a difference for family farmers like me.”**

Rick Adamski,  
Full Circle Farm, Seymour



CENTER for INTEGRATED  
AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS



College of  
Agricultural & Life Sciences  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

# From the CIAS Director



Dear friends,

It has been another busy year at CIAS. As I reflect on our accomplishments, I'm struck by the importance of people and communities in all we do to promote sustainable farming and food systems.

CIAS was founded at UW-Madison in 1989, in the wake of the 1980s farm crisis, to lead research and outreach that benefits family farmers. Over the years, we've stayed true to that purpose, particularly during challenging times for agriculture. We work closely with farmers, business owners, workers and organizations across Wisconsin to identify innovative ideas and research opportunities. These relationships ground our work in real-world needs. Our beginning farmer schools, as well as our support for student leaders at both the College of Menominee Nation and UW-Madison, prepare the next generation of sustainable farmers and researchers.

We're looking forward to an important milestone: in 2019, CIAS will celebrate 30 years of advancing sustainable agriculture and food systems. Despite changes in the agricultural landscape, CIAS remains firmly committed to the values we've held from the start: farmer leadership, participatory approaches, and furthering the Wisconsin Idea. We look forward to our next thirty years of collaborative research and outreach to sustain family farms and businesses.

Sincerely, Michael Bell, CIAS Director

## **CIAS Citizens Advisory Council**

Rick Adamski, Full Circle Farm, Seymour  
Kat Becker, Cattail Organics, Athens  
Dan Cornelius, Intertribal Agriculture Council  
Andy Diercks, Coloma Farms, Coloma  
Mark Eslinger, Loramar Farm, Stanley  
Andy Gehl, Contract Comestibles, LLC, East Troy  
Greg and Wendy Galbraith, pasture-based dairy, Aniwa  
Clara Hedrich, La Clare Farms, Malone  
Clare Hintz, Elsewhere Farm, Herbster  
Chris Holman, Nami Moon Farms, Custer  
Kevin Kiehnau, Organic Valley, Sturgeon Bay  
Joel Kuehnhold, Lonely Oak Farm, Milladore  
Sarah Lloyd, Wisconsin Farmers Union, WI Dells  
Laura Paine, Paine Family Farm and Dairy Grazing Apprenticeship, Columbus  
Tony Schultz, Stoney Acres Farm, Athens  
Daniel Smith, WI DATCP  
Jim Stute, Michael Fields Ag Institute, East Troy

## **CIAS Staff**

Nadia Alber, dairy/livestock school  
Michael Bell, Director  
Sandy Bennett, administration  
Cris Carusi, communications  
Dick Cates, Associate Director, dairy/livestock school  
Amy Cottom, administration  
Lindsey Day Farnsworth, food systems  
John Hendrickson, vegetables, schools  
Vanessa Herald, farm to school  
Kelly Maynard, food systems  
Ruth McNair, communications  
Michelle Miller, Associate Director, food systems  
Pam Porter, perennial systems  
Leah Potter-Weight, perennial systems  
Gregg Sanford, WICST  
Elly Voigt, food systems  
Phil Warsaw, food systems

**plus 54 faculty associates** across campus



The 2017 summer Citizens Advisory Council meeting was at Joel Kuehnhold's farm near Milladore.



Yuhui Wang used a CIAS summer mini grant to study downy mildew resistance in cucumbers.



In 2017, CIAS published its seventh report on the status of organic agriculture in Wisconsin.



CIAS hosted the 2017 Green Lands Blue Waters Conference, focused on keeping cover on the land.

## Our 2017 supporters

Anonymous	Laurel Kieffer	Laura and Bill Paine
Rick Adamski and Valerie Dantoin	Richard Klemme	Kathryn Pereira
Michael Bell and Diane Mayerfeld	Margaret Krome and Steve Ventura	Mary and Frank Reuter
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CIAS makes its best effort to include all donations made between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017. If your name has been omitted, please contact us so we may properly show our appreciation. Thank you to our past and present donors for your generous support!

We couldn't do what we do without the support of our donors! Your generosity allows us to continue our programs. Gifts of all amounts are much appreciated: [supportuw.org/giveto/cias](http://supportuw.org/giveto/cias).



**UW-Madison Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems**

**1535 Observatory Drive**

**Madison, WI 53706**

**[www.cias.wisc.edu](http://www.cias.wisc.edu)**