

## **Ag Law Association Announces New Board**

The American Agricultural Law Association recently welcomed its new president-elect, Tyler Buswell of Utah, and directors, Ashely Ellixson of Arizona and Paul Goeringer of Maryland. They took office during the association's annual educational symposium, Nov. 12–14.

They join the association's new president, Pat Dillon of Iowa; immediate past president, Mike Traxinger of South Dakota; and returning directors Jake Parker of North Carolina, Ross Pifer of Pennsylvania, Kimberly Bousquet of Missouri, and Joe Miller of Indiana on the 2020–2021 board of directors.

Finishing their service on the board are past president Amber Miller of Texas and retiring directors Erin Herbold-Swalwell of Iowa and Blair Dunn of New Mexico.

“Thank you to all the candidates who put up their names for consideration during this year's election,” said A. Miller, who chaired the nominations committee. “We appreciate the nominees, new and outgoing board members, and the many volunteers who devote service to AALA.”

Buswell is a real estate attorney and shareholder at Kirton McConkie in Salt Lake City, Utah. His nationwide practice includes all aspects of real estate acquisitions, dispositions, and leasing, with an emphasis on agricultural properties and production companies. He frequently presents legal education programs about real estate and agricultural topics. In recent years, he has presented about farm and ranch acquisitions, agricultural leases, and agricultural security interests at Utah and national conferences. He received his Juris Doctor from the University of Utah's S.J. Quinney College of Law and his bachelor's degree in American studies from Utah State University. He grew up in Topeka, Kansas, and Great Falls, Montana.

Buswell has been an active member of AALA. He has served on the symposium planning, membership, finance, and strategic planning committees. He also served as a member of AALA's board of directors from 2017 to 2019. As president-elect, he will chair the planning committee for the next symposium in Salt Lake City, which is scheduled for Nov. 2–6, 2021.

Ellixson is the executive vice president of legal and risk management at United Dairymen of Arizona, a dairy producer-owned cooperative representing 90% of the fluid milk-based in the state. She was born and raised on a dairy near Gilbert, Arizona. After completing a bachelor's degree in business finance at Arizona State University, she attended Texas Tech University School of Law, where she received a Juris Doctor with a certificate of science, engineering, and technology law before receiving a master's degree in agricultural and food law from the

University of Arkansas School of Law. She oversees UDA's human resources and safety departments, and she is responsible for government relations, working closely with state and national lobbyists and industry groups; all legal issues that may arise, including lease agreements, joint-venture opportunities, food safety concerns or milk-supply contracts; and the cooperative's sustainability efforts. She currently serves on committees and task forces for the Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy, National Milk Producers Federation and the International Dairy Foods Association.

Ellixson has been a member of AALA since 2011, when she attended the symposium in Austin, Texas, during her master's program. She served on the membership committee since 2017, co-chairing it in 2019 and 2020. She also has served on the symposium's planning committee since 2013.

Goeringer is a senior faculty specialist and an Extension legal specialist at the University of Maryland. He grew up on his family's wheat and cattle farm in western Oklahoma. He attended Oklahoma State University and graduated with a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics. He graduated with a Juris Doctor from the University of Oklahoma. After law school, he received master's degrees in agricultural law and agricultural economics from the University of Arkansas. He is licensed to practice in Oklahoma. Since joining the faculty at the University of Maryland, he has written more than 200 Extension publications, is a regular speaker at Extension meetings around Maryland and the Mid-Atlantic region about agricultural law issues, and is a regular contributor to a number of regional and national popular press publications about agricultural law issues.

Goeringer has been a member of AALA since 2008 and co-chaired the membership committee from 2017 to 2018. He has co-chaired the Ag Law Update committee since 2019. He also served on the symposium planning committee since 2012.

*The American Agricultural Law Association (<https://www.aglaw-assn.org>) serves as the premier association for agricultural law and policy professionals. Its mission is to inform and engage the law and policy professionals who serve all facets of the agricultural and food communities.*