

# **NORTH AMERICAN INTERCOLLEGIATE** **Dairy Challenge** *Tomorrow's Dairy Leaders*

January 2, 2015

Dear Sponsors and Volunteers,

Thank you for your continued support of the Midwest Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge. Planning is well underway for the **12<sup>th</sup> annual Midwest Dairy Challenge to be hosted by Dordt College located in Sioux Center IA, February 11 thru 13, 2015.** In addition to your monetary contributions many of you expressed interest in volunteering to help. This letter communicates the areas in which we need assistance and information about this year's Dairy Challenge event.

Once again there will be several opportunities for sponsors and students to interact - during our event on farms, during our evening activities on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, Friday at our Innovation Fair or observing presentations. We will have a sponsor meeting on Thursday afternoon to gather feedback and update you on plans for the 2016 contest.

As always, we will need your help and support through your participation during the event. Volunteers are needed during the event Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

On Friday, we will also be having an Innovation fair for the students. This gives you the opportunity to communicate your employment opportunities and interesting things your company is working on to approximately 80 college students from up to 14 universities around the Midwest who have an interest in Agriculture. Please see the next page for more information about setting up your company display booth.

On behalf of the steering committee, we thank you for your time, energy and commitment to the Dairy Challenge.

If you have any questions, please feel free to give us a call.

Sincerely,

Tom Vander Heiden  
Volunteer Coordinator  
952-378-0518 Mobile

## **HOTEL INFORMATION**

**Econo Lodge, 86 9th St Cir NE, Sioux Center, IA 51250 Phone:(712) 722-4000**

**These rooms will be held until January 11. Please contact the hotel directly to make your reservations for your time with the Dairy Challenge.**

## **MEALS**

Meals will be provided to volunteers during the contest. On the following page, please circle yes or no if you will be eating a meal on the day(s) you will be volunteering.

## **INNOVATION FAIR**

The innovation fair on Friday gives you the opportunity to communicate your employment opportunities to approximately 60 to 80 college students from up to 14 universities around the Midwest who have an interest in Agriculture. Tom Vander Heiden of MBA will be your contact for this event. He will coordinate the setup of your displays starting at 7:30 a.m. Friday. You will need to man your display from 8:30 through 2:00 p.m. on Friday. Please contact Tom by January 30, 2015 if you will need space for a display. (contact info listed at bottom of page)

## **VOLUNTEER INFORMATION**

Many of you have volunteered the time and energy of colleagues and yourselves. Thank you! As we enter the final stages of planning, we are able to identify the areas where assistance is needed. Those areas are: (if you have a volunteer duty preference please circle on the attached sheet and every opportunity will be made to assign you those responsibilities)

1. Farm Volunteers: We need people on Thursday morning to help get the students on buses and keep them moving on the host farms.
2. Support Help: Individuals are needed for Thursday afternoon to assist teams in getting support from IT, questions answered, and schedule meetings.
3. Resource Room: Individuals are needed for Thursday afternoon to assist teams in providing answers to technical questions for their presentations.
4. Room Monitors: We need 6 room monitors for Friday's presentations. These six volunteers are needed to share the coverage of the two presentation rooms from 7:00 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. on Friday.
5. Team Guides: We need 6-8 people to assist getting students to presentations, pictures, debriefing and to visit with sponsors.
6. Debrief Team: We need 6-8 individuals to visit with teams following their presentation for 10 minute debriefing sessions on their experience.

Please complete the attached volunteer form email (listed below) with your commitment to help:

Tom Vander Heiden  
tomvh@midwesternbioag.com  
952-378-0518

If you have any questions, please contact Tom.

