

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Photo Opportunities Available
October 15, 2010



For more information, contact:
Krystal Caron, Communications Director
651.905.8500 or kcaron@agrigrrowth.org

Agri-Growth Speakers Conference Showcases Food and Agriculture Accomplishments with a Diverse Range of Industry and Political Speakers

The 2010 Annual Event is expected to draw a crowd on Nov. 4 with speakers ranging from U.S. Senator Klobuchar to the newest recipient of the "Genius Grant."

WHAT: Minnesota Agri-Growth Council Annual Meeting and Speakers Conference

The 2010 Minnesota Agri-Growth Council Annual Meeting and Conference is the organization's premier annual event, bringing together key stakeholders in the food and agriculture industry from Minnesota and the Upper Midwest. More than 400 industry leaders, news media, government relations professionals, commodity group and farmer leaders and public officials and staff gather to learn about current industry trends and topics. The event is a comprehensive one-day program, which includes a membership meeting, speakers conference and exhibitors. The speakers conference is open to the public.

This year's event will highlight *AgriCulture*. Agri-Growth President, Daryn McBeth, remarked, "The food and agriculture industry is one that is under a constant, and often very critical, spotlight. We forget to take stock of where we've come from and the rich history we bring to our future endeavours in the agricultural arena. This year's Annual Meeting will give our members and key stakeholders the chance to do just that, while also gaining insight on where our industry is headed." Speakers and panelists will address the past, present and future through the lens of four key pillars: Global, Policy, Technology and Business. Panelists include the CEO of a Fortune 500 company, the co-inventor of Roundup technology, the President of the organization responsible for the "Nobel Prize of Food and Ag," and a Former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture. Full speaker details included below.

WHO: Notable speakers include:

- Luncheon Keynote: **U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar**
- Genius Award Recipient for Honey Bee Research: **Dr. Marla Spivak**, Distinguished McKnight Professor, **University of Minnesota**
- **Minnesota's Governor-Elect**
- **Scott Kilman**, Reporter, **Wall Street Journal** and Co-Author, [Enough – Why the World's Poorest Starve in an Age of Plenty](#)
- Keynote Panel: *AgriCulture: A proud past, a strong today and a vibrant tomorrow.* Moderator: **Kerri Miller**, host of *Midmorning*, **Minnesota Public Radio**
 - Business Pillar: **Chris Policinski**, CEO, **Land O'Lakes**
 - Technology Pillar: **Dr. Steven Padgette**, VP and Global Biotechnology Lead, **Monsanto**
 - Global Pillar: **Kenneth Quinn**, President, **World Food Prize Foundation**
 - Policy Pillar: **Secretary Dan Glickman**, Senior Fellow, **Bipartisan Policy Center**

Agri-Growth will be announcing its **Distinguished Service Award Winner** during the luncheon program. This award recognizes individuals who significantly contribute to strengthening Minnesota's food and agriculture industry.

WHEN: Thursday, November 4, 2010

Please view the detailed speaker schedule times here: <http://www.agrigrrowth.org/annual>

WHERE: The Minneapolis Convention Center, 2nd Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55403

The Minnesota Agri-Growth Council (www.agrigrrowth.org) is an advocate for the state's food and agriculture industry. Founded in 1968, the Council is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that represents the shared interests of its 200-plus members, which include food and agriculture businesses, organizations and producers, as well as the service industries that support them.

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Note: Press is welcome to attend the full day's events for \$75. If joining after 2:00 there is no charge. Please RSVP with your intent at info@agrigrrowth.org to gain access. Interviews and photos of the speakers and/or attendees can be arranged. Please contact Krystal Caron at 612.940.6643.



For more information, contact:

This event is made possible through platinum sponsor Gislason & Hunter. Gislason & Hunter is a full service law firm specializing in production agriculture and food industry matters, with offices in New Ulm, Mankato, Mapleton, and Minneapolis, MN, as well as Des Moines, IA. In addition, the current premium sponsors include ADM, Inc., AgStar Financial Services, CHS, Inc, Council for Biotechnology Information and Hormel Foods, Inc. A special thanks also goes to the panel sponsor, Faegre & Benson.

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