

USAIN's Statement of Support for Public Access to Scientific Information and Data

The United States Agricultural Information Network (USAIN)¹ joins with the Association of College and Research Libraries², the American Association for the Advancement of Science³, the Union of Concerned Scientists⁴, and other professional societies - both scientific and information-related - to support the continuation of uninterrupted, open access to all federally-produced and publicly-funded scientific information and data. The value and integrity of public science transcends any particular administration or political viewpoint. Access to our federally-employed scientists, their expertise and information, is every taxpayer's right, not a revocable privilege. Specifically, USAIN calls upon Scott Pruitt (administrator, Environmental Protection Agency) and Sonny Perdue (nominee, Secretary of Agriculture) to support the continued funding and regular communication of impartial scientific research for which the EPA and the USDA are known, and to sustain taxpayer access to the information and data produced by these organizations. Citizens of the United States are best served by access to authoritative information and data from federal scientists.

Approved by the USAIN Executive Council on March 9, 2017.

¹ USAIN takes a leadership role in the formation of a national information policy as related to agriculture in its broadest sense (<http://usain.org/>).

² See

http://www.acrl.org/acrlinsider/archives/13255?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+acrlinsider+%28ACRL+Insider%29

³ See <https://www.aaas.org/news/aaas-ceo-champions-merit-scientific-integrity-house-testimony>

⁴ See <http://www.ucsusa.org/center-science-and-democracy/promoting-scientific-integrity/open-letter-president-elect-trump#.WLM-JPL2PQU>