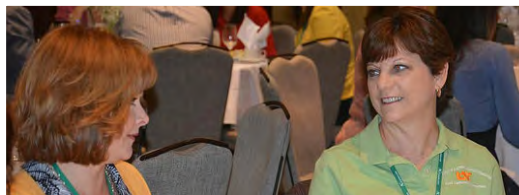




The 2014 Ag & Food HR ROUNDTABLE RECAP

presented by **AG**
Careers.com



Participants consistently rank networking as one of the most beneficial aspects of the Roundtable.

THE 2014 ROUNDTABLE featured excellent networking, loads of valuable information sharing and a great turnout!

More than 230 human resource professionals, university and college career services staff and industry association representatives gathered in Minneapolis, August 5-7, 2014. Thanks to our host, CHS Inc., the downtown location provided an excellent venue and a lot of entertainment that helped to enhance the networking experience.

The conference started off with a bang. Sarah Wilson, a Farmer on a Mission, set the stage with her passion for the agriculture industry and how important it is for all of us to help 'AGVOCATE' for the industry. She provided a number of examples (some of them quite unique) that we all can try within our own communities. Next up was a returning favorite from last year, Nicole Price from Cy Wakeman. Nicole's energy and wit provided a great way to cap off the first day of the conference. She shared insight into the realities of the workplace and how we can all be more accountable for ourselves as well as those we may lead. There were plenty of takeaways on how individuals can give back to their organizations, but also how to get more personally out of the experience.

Wednesday was a full day as usual. We started with a very thought-provoking presentation from futurist, Bob Treadway. From comments from the participants, it sounds like he opened many of their eyes to factors that will impact our industry as well as how the industry could change in the coming years. He shared a recent study of jobs within and/or related to the agriculture industry that are susceptible to computerization. It was also good to see the list of jobs that had a low probability of computerization. To wrap up, Bob brought it all back to 'talent.'

General sessions for the day concluded with two panel discussions. The first featured several students from varying universities and majors. The focus for this discussion was on effective student recruitment. Who better to share that insight than students themselves? The audience asked a lot of questions and the students were very open and honest with their responses. Moderating the panel was Paula Beecher from Clemson University.

The second panel highlighted unique talent pools. The unique talent pools our panelists represented were military, non-ag university/majors, special populations and 2-year colleges. This panel also sparked a lot of good conversation and it was apparent that our industry is still exploring

and trying to tap into as many resources as possible. Carlos Gerle, Murphy-Brown LLC; Anthony Hunter, Cargill; Jennifer Neef, University of Illinois; and Brad Schloesser, Southern Minnesota Center of Agriculture were panelists.

On Thursday we kicked off the final day with a talk on compensation and its impact on retention. As our presenter, Ann Bares with Altura Consulting Group, said with a little sarcasm to begin her presentation, "Compensation is fun stuff." It may not be the most exciting, but the information shared and the advice provided gave participants plenty to think about as it relates to their organization.

Continued on page 2

Save the Date

**2015 Ag & Food HR
Roundtable**

August 4-6 • St. Louis, MO

Hosted by Monsanto

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Continued from page 1

The remainder of the conference session time was filled with a variety of concurrent sessions that participants were able to choose from. There were sessions just for university/college staff, small and mid-sized organizations, large organizations, sessions focused on recruiting and sessions on HR management.

We also had plenty of fun — from our opening Welcome Reception, to the Table Topics and Best Practices breakfasts, to our evening dinner at Mill City Museum.

We are so pleased to meet new participants and welcome old friends each year. Join us for this one-of-a-kind networking and educational event for the agricultural industry; mark your calendars and **plan to attend next year's AgCareers.com Ag & Food Roundtable, August 4-6, 2015 in St. Louis, Missouri hosted by Monsanto.** To take advantage of all the conference offerings, be sure to register early.



Attendees participate in a variety of educational sessions, such as presentations, panel discussions and small groups. Participants can receive continuing education credits from SHRM for attendance.

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