



# UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND AGRICULTURE LAW EDUCATION INITIATIVE

MPOWERING THE STATE

## June 2014 Update for the ALEI Advisory Panel

- ALEI welcomes Dean Donald Tobin (Law School), Barbara Gontrum (Law School), Wele Elangwe (UMES), Debbie Haugan (UMCP), and Ashley Newhall (UMCP).
- The Initiative secured \$500,000 from MPowering the State for FY 2015 to help expand and improve the resources and services provided to the Maryland agricultural community.
- Launched the [InfoLine pilot program](#) May 1<sup>st</sup>, which will run for six months to provide resources, publications, and information to callers.
- Maryland State Bar Association's Section of Agriculture Law published a [directory of attorneys](#) in Maryland who have experience in handling agricultural law issues.
- Will Pons and Paul Goeringer presented at DPI Grower's Committee Meeting on liability issues.
- Sponsored two workshops with UM Extension's Poultry Program covering liability issues for producers.
- Hosted the American Agricultural Law Association regional meeting on June 6<sup>th</sup> at UM Carey Law; pictures are available [here](#) from the event.
- Paul Goeringer received a grant from the Northeast Risk Management Education Center to conduct seven leasing workshops across Maryland in 2014-15.
- Launched a Maryland [Agricultural Law blog](#) to cover issues as they arise.
- Developed social media presence to promote activities, news, and other info to keep the Maryland ag community informed: [Twitter page](#) and [Facebook page](#).
- Sponsoring a [series of webinars](#) with MSBA's Section on Ag Law to educate Maryland attorneys on legal issues relating to agriculture; takes place during June and July.
- Published an Agriculture Labor fact sheet entitled [A Guide to Agricultural Labor Laws: How best to comply with the Relevant Federal and Maryland State Standards](#) by William Pons.
- Continuing to collaborate with the MDA's ACREs Program and Maryland Farmlink to educate county realtor associations.
- Updated Howard County Farm Bureau, University of Maryland Extension, and Association of County Ag Agents on the status of current projects of the Initiative.
- Published a Mineral Leasing Extension Bulletin entitled [State of Review of Environmental Impacts Could Result in Mineral Leasing Opportunities in Maryland](#) by Paul Goeringer.
- The ALEI Working Group and Advisory Panel held their spring meeting at the Maryland Department of Agriculture in Annapolis on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- ALEI representatives attended the Maryland State Bar Association annual meeting in Ocean City June 11-13 to inform participants about the Initiative.
- In September, the Initiative will participate in the Urban Agriculture Law Conference hosted by UM Carey School of Law and the Community Law Center, Inc.
- ALEI will structure itself with an Executive Committee (Kairo, Tobin, Wei), and the Working Group with a Leadership Team (Gontrum, Kugler, Schwarz) and, for now, Subgroups for Education and for Publications.

Thank you for your time and consideration.