March 1, 2019

We are excited to be able to provide this annual report to you on behalf of the Leopold Center. Despite the lack of state funding, the center is still mandated to conduct and sponsor research to encourage sustainable agriculture and to share the findings. This report details the outcome of projects started before the defunding, but also features a future path.

After listening sessions and stakeholder meetings, the board in a statement last December reinforced the center’s priority to enhancing resiliency for Iowa farms and rural communities. The statement, on page 4, concludes:

Therefore, the objective of the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture moving forward will be to leverage its continuing support from the community to focus on the education and research of alternative approaches and practices to promote resilient rural communities across Iowa.

To do that will require funds, I urge you to donate to the Leopold Center so it can continue its legacy featured on page 10 and add to the accomplishments included on pages 12 to 14.

The best way to make a gift is online at the ISU Foundation website (https://www.foundation.iastate.edu/s/1463/giving/start.aspx). This site includes instructions for making a gift or pledge. The established account number 0125322 should be used to designate gifts for the Leopold Center.

Donors also may give stock, real estate or personal property, or may choose to make a deferred commitment through a will bequest, charitable remainder trust or other gift planning vehicle. Please contact me to discuss major gifts to the Leopold Center, 515-294-3711, markras@iastate.edu.

Thank you,

Mark Rasmussen
Director