



December 15, 2016

SUBJECT: Appointment of Jill R. James as Associate Director for Information Products at the National Agricultural Library

TO: Administrator's Council
All National Agricultural Library Employees / Contractors

FROM: Paul M. Wester, Jr. *Paul M. Wester, Jr.*
Director

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Jill R. James as the Associate Director for Information Products at the National Agricultural Library (NAL). Ms. James's appointment is effective Sunday, December 25, 2016. She currently leads the Digital Resources Division for the Law Library at the Library of Congress.

Jill is a librarian with 12 years of federal experience enhancing online access to government information resources and data. She loves challenges that bring together communications, customer experience, information technology, and library collections.

From 2010 through 2015, prior to her appointment at the Library of Congress, Ms. James served at the U.S. Department of Education as the web manager and senior web editor for ED.gov. She also was chair of their open data/open government work group and segment owner for information dissemination on their IT Planning and Investment Review Working Group. She also represented the Department of Education on the interagency Open Government group and the Federal Web Managers Council.

In 2004 Ms. James joined the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), where she worked on the online catalog and other digital projects for eight years. In 2010 Jill became NARA's first social media manager and led a vibrant community of practice for social media practitioners at the agency.

Ms. James graduated magna cum laude from the University of Delaware with an honors B.A. degree in English Literature and French Studies and a minor in History. She earned a Master of Library Science and a Master of Arts in U.S. History from the University of Maryland. Her graduate assistantship in the University of Maryland Libraries was supported by a cooperative agreement between the University of Maryland and the National Agricultural Library.

Ms. James lives in College Park, Maryland with her family. In her spare time she volunteers as a Girl Scout Brownie troop leader and a Cub Scout den leader. Jill enjoys travel, baking, and reading.

Please join me in welcoming Jill to this very important leadership position at NAL.