



**TASK FORCE
ON EDUCATION, TRAINING
& PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

OWEN ROBERTS

Faculty Member, University of Illinois



Task force chair Owen Roberts is past-president of the International Federation of Agricultural Journalists, and a senator in the Canadian Farm Writers' Federation. Owen is an instructor and faculty member in the Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communications program at the University of Illinois. He is active as a journalist and as a columnist with daily, weekly and monthly print and online media.

ADALBERTO ROSSI

Secretary General of IFAJ



For the past 30 years he served as agricultural writer, radio host and digital editor. He has been President of the Argentine guild of Agricultural Journalists between 2013-2020, and during the same period he was the Argentine Delegate at IFAJ. During his tenure with the Argentine guild, the first online training program for agricultural journalists in the world was created, in which the members of the entity had the opportunity to access full scholarships on training related to journalism and agriculture.

RACHEL MARTIN

Agriland Media



Rachel Martin chairs the Irish Guild of Agricultural Journalists' northern section. She works for digital farming news publisher Agriland Media as the firm's Senior Northern Correspondent, and specialises in covering dairy, agri-business, agri-technology and environmental issues. She features regularly on mainstream media outlets as a commentator on rural issues in Northern Ireland and was selected for the IFAJ Young Leaders programme in 2017. In 2019 she won the IFAJ Caterpillar AgTech Reporting Award.

AGHAN DANIEL

Media for Environment, Science, Health and Agriculture (MESHA)



Aghan Daniel is the Chief Executive Officer at the Media for Environment, Science, Health and Agriculture (MESHA) which is a Kenya-based and registered association of science journalists and communicators, whose membership includes journalists, editors, scientists and communicators. He has been a journalist writing on agriculture, health and environment since 1996.

FARAH ATYYAT

Al-Ghad Daily Newspaper



Farah has been working since 2004 in the Al-Ghad Daily Newspaper covering the Ministry of Environment and Municipal Affairs. She recently received her master's degree from the Jordan Media Institute in the field of journalism and new media and was awarded the title of Ambassador of Jordan for Earth Day by the global Earth Day network. Farah has earned multiple Arab and international awards for her journalistic work and is a certified trainer in media issues.

ED CASSAVOY

Toronto Star



Ed Cassavoy has held a variety of Editorial jobs in North American newspapers, magazines and digital media organizations over the past three decades. Since 2021, Ed has worked at The Toronto Star, Canada's largest newspaper. He currently manages content partnerships for all Torstar newsrooms including the Star, 6 regional dailies, 80 community newspapers and digital media sites across Canada. He also manages Torstar Syndication Services.

As an Editorial consultant with Thomson Newspapers, he was responsible for 65 newspapers across Canada, many serving rural and farm communities. He is currently based in Toronto, Canada.

SAM TOWNSEND

The Land



Sam is senior writer for The Land, Australia's largest agricultural paper telling the stories about those on the land. It's print edition is primarily targeted to people who live in regional and rural NSW while online caters for both rural and metro audiences. Her role is to break news and inform primary producers about the latest technology that makes them more productive. Sam also serves on the Australian Council of Agricultural Journalists executive committee as secretary and is a mentor to young journalists at Nine (formerly Fairfax) agriculture mastheads and is an active participant in her family's beef farming operation.