

Contact

www.linkedin.com/in/alexismegantaylor (LinkedIn)

Top Skills

Strategic Communications
Public Policy
International Relations

Alexis Taylor

Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs |
Agricultural Policy | Government Relations | Promoting the Safety,
Security, Sustainability & Viability of the Agri-Food Industry
Salem, Oregon, United States

Summary

I'm a purpose-driven agri-food industry executive with a career built around setting vision, driving strategy, and leading teams in implementing programs, plans, and policies that promote the safety, security, sustainability, and viability of the agricultural and food sectors.

As a team leader, I deeply enjoy galvanizing diverse groups around the mission then inspiring them to deliver their absolute best work (while also growing individually). As a thought leader, I serve as a vital voice in helping public and private sector stakeholders understand the potential risks, opportunities, and impacts of policy and legislation.

Key Skills: Strategic Planning, Agricultural Policy, Government Relations, Strategic Communications, Program Development, Operations Management, Budget Management, Marketing, Trade Promotions, International Relations, Diversity & Inclusion, Sustainability.

I welcome you to with me connect here.

Experience

USDA

Under Secretary

January 2023 - Present (8 months)

Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Oregon Department of Agriculture

Director

January 2017 - November 2022 (5 years 11 months)

Salem, Oregon, United States

Appointed by Governor Kate Brown as senior executive over the state's agricultural sector. Manage a \$145M (biennial) budget and 500-member statewide team dedicated to carrying out the agency's threefold mission of ensuring food safety and consumer protection, protecting natural resources, and marketing Oregon's agriculture products across the state, U.S., and abroad.

Set vision then devised and implemented a new ODA strategic plan, sustainability plan, and agency rebrand -- measures that have fostered a more inclusive organization and enabled the agency to stay focused on delivering quality programs through times of uncertainty.

USDA

3 years 8 months

Delegated the Duties of the Under Secretary, Farm & Foreign Agricultural Services (FFAS)

March 2016 - December 2016 (10 months)

Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Served on an interim basis as senior executive of USDA's Farm & Foreign Agricultural Services division. Accountable for 14,000+ employees (spanning 2,100 U.S. and 94 global locations) within the Farm Service Agency, Risk Management Agency and Foreign Agricultural Service. Led and developed six senior executives and an oversaw an office staff of seven.

Deputy Under Secretary, Farm & Foreign Agricultural Services (FFAS)

November 2014 - March 2016 (1 year 5 months)

Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Promoted into an role focused on USDA trade policy, international food security (including the Obama Administration's Feed the Future Initiative), and capacity building. Led a team of 900 with accountability for a \$2B annual budget.

Leveraged \$220M+ international market development funding to support new market opportunities, working in partnership with private sector food and agricultural providers and state government agencies. Also led the successful negotiations of the Transpacific Partnership (TPP) negotiations as well as those for the international food aid text at the 10th World Trade Organization ministerial.

Chief of Staff, Farm & Foreign Agricultural Services (FFAS)

May 2013 - October 2014 (1 year 6 months)

Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Served as senior policy advisor to the top executive of FFAS on strategic and administrative matters. and as senior advisor to the USDA secretary on the FFAS portfolio.

Pivotal in FFAS' efforts related to the 2014 Farm Bill implementation, including moving 18 regulations through the interagency process and rolling out permanent livestock disaster assistance programs within 60 days.

United States Senate

Legislative Assistant - Senator Max Baucus

January 2011 - April 2013 (2 years 4 months)

Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Recruited to support the 2012 Farm Bill on behalf of U.S. Sen. Max Baucus, a member of the Senate Agriculture Committee. Demonstrated strong negotiation skills through key meetings that ultimately resulted in the passage of the Senate version of the bill (which would become the 2014 Farm Bill.)

U.S. House of Representatives

5 years 2 months

Legislative Director - Congressman Leonard Boswell

June 2009 - December 2010 (1 year 7 months)

Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Led a team in developing and implementing the congressman's agenda and represented him successfully in key meetings through the 2008 Farm Bill negotiations.

Legislative Assistant for Rep. Leonard Boswell

November 2005 - June 2009 (3 years 8 months)

Washington, District of Columbia, United States

United States Army Reserve

8 years

U.S. Army Reserves - 299th Engineer Company

2005 - 2006 (1 year)

Fort Belvoir, Virginia, United States

Honorable Discharge (2006)

U.S. Army Reserve, 389th Combat Engineer Battalion

1998 - 2005 (7 years)

Dubuque, Iowa, United States

(Active Duty 2003-2004)

US Army

Active Duty

2003 - 2004 (1 year)

Iraq

Operation Iraqi Freedom

Education

Iowa State University

Bachelor of Arts - BA, Political Science (Minor: Communications)

Harvard Business School Online

Certificate, Sustainable Business Strategy