

Randy Russell

President and CEO, The Russell Group

Randy Russell is President and CEO of The Russell Group and one of Washington's most trusted advisors on food and agriculture policy. For more than four decades, he has helped leading companies, trade associations, and industry coalitions navigate federal policy and advance strategic priorities across Congress and the Executive Branch.

Before joining the firm in 1986, Randy held senior leadership roles in both government and the private sector. He served as Chief of Staff to U.S. Secretary of Agriculture John R. Block and as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Economics at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Earlier in his career, he coordinated USDA's work on the 1981 Farm Bill and held senior policy positions with the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives and The Pillsbury Company.

Randy is widely respected for his deep understanding of the food and agriculture economy and his long-standing relationships across Congress, federal agencies, and the broader agricultural community. Throughout his career, he has played a key role in shaping policy debates affecting farmers, food manufacturers, and rural communities.

A longtime advocate for public service, Randy is a two-time past Chair and current Board member of World Food Program USA. He previously served on the Board of Governors of the Bryce Harlow Foundation and has been active with Big Brothers Big Sisters and the National Council for Adoption.

Randy attended George Mason University, where he studied Public Administration and Economics. He played catcher on the university's baseball team, where he was a four-year starter and NAIA Honorable Mention All-American. He and his wife, Beth, divide their time between South Carolina and their farm in Round Hill, Virginia. Their greatest pride is their six children and five grandchildren.