ACES will be recognized as the global leader in learning, discovery, and engagement in the most promising areas of scholarship broadly relevant to agricultural, consumer, and environmental sciences.

GOALS AND INITIATIVES

1. Enable exceptional discovery research that is purposefully translated into practice.
   a. Build faculty capacity and excellence.
   b. Restore support for mission-oriented research.
   c. Lead interdisciplinary initiatives addressing key societal issues.
   d. Foster collaborative research with industry and other institutions.
   e. Create international research opportunities.

2. Prepare globally competitive undergraduate, graduate, and midcareer students.
   a. Enroll high-quality freshman and transfer students.
   b. Offer innovative graduate, professional, and online educational experiences.
   c. Emphasize transformative learning experiences and study abroad opportunities.
   d. Promote student diversity and enrichment.

3. Be the preferred source of knowledge that informs sound individual and collective decisions, transforms lives, and deepens cooperative relationships to achieve positive societal outcomes.
   a. Transform and strengthen University of Illinois Extension.
   b. Innovate approaches to educational outreach and knowledge transfer.
   c. Cultivate external and community partnerships.

4. Steward and invest resources for leadership in areas of innovation and interdisciplinary strength.
   a. Maintain an effective capacity for brand and marketing management to serve ACES.
   b. Focus and enhance development efforts.
   c. Enhance and restore vital facilities.
   d. Make strategic program investments.

5. Create an inclusive work environment.
   a. Develop a representative workforce.
Discovering, advancing, and integrating new knowledge to ensure nutritious and safe food, sustainable and innovative agriculture, strong families and communities, and environmentally sound use of natural resources to benefit the people of Illinois and the world.

ACES THEMATIC EXCELLENCE

Strategic themes in the College of ACES intersect with important societal issues in our domains of scholarship. We strive to be essential contributors to the campus vision for future excellence. Several themes have emerged for ACES relating to these and other key areas of inquiry, such as

- Sustainable food systems
- Food security and safety
- Health, nutrition, and wellness
- Renewable energy and bioprocessing
- Sustainable water and land use
- Financial security and risk management
- Family resiliency and youth development

ACES FUNCTIONAL EXCELLENCE

ACES comprises seven academic departments and two interdisciplinary units that serve undergraduate and graduate students. In addition, the college is the administrative home for the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station and University of Illinois Extension. This allows the college to apply a range of disciplinary expertise to fulfill the university’s missions.

Discovery/Research

- Excellence in basic and applied research across biological, physical, and social sciences
- Leadership prepared to address emerging issues
- Affiliations with premier allied programs among other campus units, scientific surveys, and federal partners

Learning/Education

- Distinctive, highly ranked educational programs
- Highly qualified, increasingly diverse students, both domestic and international
- Undergraduates very well prepared for graduate and professional education
- Outstanding merit-based scholarship support
- Excellent record of student advising and placement at graduation

Engagement/Extension

- Dedicated local extension support for sustained and effective statewide outreach
- Unique partnerships among urban and rural constituencies
- Longstanding public and private partnerships
- Strong track record and capability for international outreach

Economic Development

- Graduates who contribute to economic development in Illinois and the nation
- Applied research focused on the adoption of knowledge for economic benefit
- Research translation, development of advanced technology, and commercialization
- Effective integration of research and outreach to achieve progress

ACES
College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

www.aces.illinois.edu