

Agricultural Sciences Department

Five Year Vision

Vision Statement:

To be respected as a leader in educating students for a dynamic agriculture industry by offering students learning experiences from quality people using the best resources and technology available.

Major Initiatives:

Sustainability

- Finding property to secure the integrity of the farm lab from urban infringement must be a priority in the next five years.

Student Success

- A system for measuring student assessment needs developed and implemented.
- A method of tracking alumni success will need to be in place.
- All department personnel will need to be in place.

Resources

- Prepare for increasing enrollment pressure on lab facilities and animals.
- Develop a management system for intensive animal use and care, and land.
- Construction of a horticulture complex, including new greenhouses, is the highest facility priority.
- New partnerships with business and industry will be necessary to supplement governmental funding.
- Present resources will have to be utilized by multiple programs.
- Growth of revenue generating initiatives, such as the Iowa Equestrian Center, will be possible.

Curriculum

- New programs designed to meet specific needs of industry, community, and students will need developed.
- Present programs will need evaluated for relevance and efficiency.
- Enrollment management will be necessary to ensure quality programming and matched resources.
- New technologies will need infused into curriculum as they become available.
- Programs may have to expand with professional CE's and workshops to meet customer demands.
- Curricula will move toward a holistic education for students while maintaining technical expertise (more integration of soft skills).

Dashboard Indicators:

- Additional land will be purchased to buffer the farm from housing developments.
- A horticulture complex will be constructed.
- Faculty and staff will have professional development opportunities.
- A new program based on technology will be started (biotechnology).
- A student success measurement method will be adopted department-wide.
- Partnerships will be added or expanded beyond those of today.

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3/18/2005