SEARCH FOR THE NEXT

Associate Dean for Research & Director of the Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station

College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources

2018

University of Missouri
THE SEARCH

The College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (CAFNR) at the University of Missouri (MU or Mizzou) seeks a highly-respected scholar and champion for research to lead the college’s efforts in expanding and enhancing the pursuit of interdisciplinary scholarship in traditional and non-traditional agriculture disciplines. The Associate Dean for Research will serve as an academic administrator, ensuring the College’s faculty are resourced, supported, and led to new levels of scholarship and creative research endeavors. This leader will also serve as the Director of the Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station, providing administrative oversight for the agricultural research centers, and interacting with key statewide leaders and personnel in meeting the land-grant mission afforded the university.

THE UNIVERSITY

The University of Missouri was founded in 1839 in Columbia as the first public university west of the Mississippi River. Today, with an enrollment of more than 30,000 students, 13,000 full-time employees and 300,000 alumni, MU is a $2.2 billion enterprise and an important investment for the state and nation. MU students represent every Missouri county, all 50 states, and 120 countries.

Based on quality of teaching, research and scholarship, MU is one of only 60 public and private U.S. universities invited to membership in the prestigious Association of American Universities (AAU). The state’s largest and most comprehensive university, Mizzou has more than 300 degree programs – including 89 online options – through 18 colleges and schools and is one of only six public universities nationwide that can claim schools of agriculture, medicine, veterinary medicine, and law on the same campus.

The university’s nationally prominent faculty bring discoveries into the classroom, publish more than 1,600 books and scholarly articles each year and expend $237 million annually on scientific research; they account for about 70 percent of the research dollars flowing to the state’s public universities. Research facilities include: the internationally recognized University of Missouri Research Reactor, a 10-megawatt facility that is the most powerful among dozens of research reactors located on our nation’s university campuses; and the Bond Life Sciences Center, a 230,000 sq. ft. building that enables 41 faculty investigators from 12 academic units to solve problems in human and animal health, the environment, and agriculture. The University of Missouri also houses many core facilities that play vital roles in a variety of research fields.

Graduate programs, professional schools and the discovery of new knowledge through research add unparalleled value to an MU degree. Students benefit from hands-on learning while contributing 250,000 hours of community service annually, participating in undergraduate research, and taking advantage of one of many study abroad programs.
Worldwide supporters invest in MU by making private gifts for scholarships, academic programs, facilities and life-changing research. Hundreds are participating in the university’s $1.3 billion Mizzou: Our Time to Lead campaign to endow resources for MU’s future, support signature research centers and institutes, and fuel a campus renaissance.

Designated a botanic garden, MU’s 1,262-acre main campus features more than 42,000 plants and trees in numerous thematic and special collection settings. Many university buildings are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Citizens across the state connect with Mizzou by participating in extension programs in every county, visiting MU Health Care specialists, competing in state competitions at MU facilities and cheering on the Missouri Tigers at athletic events. A member of the Southeastern Conference, Mizzou's NCAA Division I athletic program has 20 sports, many ranked in the top 25 nationally. The University of Missouri’s Extension and Engagement program is the university’s largest connection to the people of Missouri. As such, it delivers information and experiences to one million Missourians each year. Its online publications, e-learning and informational web pages reach an additional 2.5 million people. With programming in all 114 counties, extension and engagement programs leverage an $80 million budget with internal and external partnerships. The result is an 11-fold return in public value for every dollar invested.

MU offers strong cooperative extension programs in agriculture and natural resources; family health and nutrition; 4-H youth development; and community development. Beyond cooperative extension, MU Extension and Engagement has a strong business development program that reaches nearly 32,000 business people. A robust array of continuing education programs provide more than 75,000 learning experiences each year to professionals in medicine, nursing, business and public safety (law enforcement, fire and rescue).

THE COLLEGE

Founded in 1870, the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (CAFNR) has developed into a collection of academic programs merging personalized teaching and advising, advanced research with global reach, and extension programs with a sustained impact on Missouri’s economy. CAFNR has over 190 faculty members in six academic units: Animal Sciences, Biochemistry, Applied Social Sciences, Food Systems and Bioengineering, Plant Sciences, and Natural Resources. Degree programs are offered to approximately 2,400 undergraduate and 435 graduate students. Interdisciplinary research and teaching is a hallmark of CAFNR, promoting a collaborative environment within the College and across campus.
RESEARCH at CAFNR

CAFNR is the nexus of MU’s AAU aspirations and its land-grant mission. MU is a member of the prestigious Association of American Universities; one of only 17 public, land-grant universities. As the major research engine at MU, with over $40M in annual sponsored research expenditures, CAFNR is a major contributor to the campus AAU metrics. Our researchers average more than $28M in annual expenditures from AAU-eligible federal competitive grants. Of CAFNR’s six academic divisions, two are among the top three programs on campus in AAU-eligible expenditures, four are among the top ten and five are among the top 14. The college operates 17 agricultural research centers across the state to facilitate research and demonstration projects across the diversity of Missouri’s soil types and climatic zones.

The College is leading the way in many fields, ranking among the top 15 programs in the world for animal and plant science research. The College is a part of the North Central Research Association – a group of forward-thinking colleges that is advancing agriculture bioscience research entrepreneurship and rural and family business development.

CAFNR has grown into a research powerhouse, where cutting-edge, diverse and impactful programs build bridges into and across the university’s portfolio of colleges, schools, and core research centers. The College is involved in a number of campus-wide interdisciplinary research endeavors, including the Interdisciplinary Plant Group, comprised of 60 researchers representing three academic units: College of Arts and Science, College of Engineering, and the School of Medicine, as well as the USDA-ARS Plant Genetics Research Unit that is housed at MU. The college is also the home of the National Swine Resource and Research Center and the Animal Reproductive Physiology Group, which includes 30 faculty from three academic units: College of Arts and Science, College of Veterinary Medicine, and the School of Medicine.

The University seeks to enhance its standing within the AAU by doubling its campus-wide research expenditures in the next five years. The next Associate Dean for Research and Director of the Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station (AES) will lead CAFNR’s efforts to form new research initiatives and collaborations to meet this goal and to address the grand challenges facing the state and the nation.

CAFNR is changing core components of society impacting what we eat, where we live and how we’ll face tomorrow. Our innovative research spans the globe, blending traditional and high-tech agricultural science, food and natural resource policy, and directly impacts our future, from animal and human health breakthroughs, to sustainable agriculture techniques, to food security and safety.
and support thriving rural communities. Our signature research programs provide a rich platform for discovery and dissemination and support the human dimensions of our greater societal needs.

CAFNR faculty consistently lead other campus divisions in annual sponsored research expenditures with annual expenditures in excess of $40M. CAFNR is internationally recognized for its strengths in plant science, animal science, food and agriculture policy, biochemistry, and temperate agroforestry.

The Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station operates 17 Agricultural Research Centers, totaling more than 14,500 acres. These centers support agricultural field research across the state of Missouri and enhance the college’s research portfolio to help the state, region, nation, and globe meet the research and demonstration needs of agricultural producers and natural resource managers.

THE ASSOCIATE DEAN for RESEARCH and DIRECTOR of the MISSOURI AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

The University of Missouri invites applications and nominations for the position of Associate Dean for Research and Director of the Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station in the College of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources (CAFNR). The University seeks an innovative leader with a demonstrated commitment to advancing transformational and transdisciplinary efforts across the research mission of CAFNR. Research in CAFNR plays a vital role in the broad and dynamic interdisciplinary collaborations that are uniquely found in the College.

The Associate Dean for Research and Director of the Missouri Agriculture Experiment Station will guide the College’s participation in university-level investments in food production and security, health and wellness, and energy and the environment. As a newly created position, the Associate Dean and Director has an opportunity to play a defining role in shaping the future of the research platform within the College and across the state.

Responsibilities

Reporting directly to the Vice Chancellor and Dean, the Associate Dean and Director is a key member of the leadership team that is collectively responsible for the establishment and execution of programmatic priorities that enable CAFNR and more broadly MU, to fulfill its land-grant mission around research, innovation and translation of knowledge.

The Associate Dean and Director is the principal administrative officer of the CAFNR research enterprise and will provide programmatic oversight and drive the future strategy for enhancing and expanding research within the College. The Associate Dean and Director works collaboratively with the other members of the leadership team of the College, including division directors and faculty members, to further the successful and comprehensive research programs in place. Additionally, he/she will provide administrative oversight of CAFNR’s 17 agricultural research centers located across the state to provide regionally-relevant research and demonstration projects for the state and beyond.
The Associate Dean and Director will work collaboratively with members of the College leadership team and others to achieve collective goals. The responsibilities and goals of the Associate Dean and Director include, but are not limited to the following:

- provide programmatic leadership for the College’s research enterprise;
- advance relationships with the MU Office of Research, research faculty and peers across the many colleges and schools of the comprehensive AAU institution to identify and cultivate collaborations through innovative programs and administrative leadership/support;
- develop strategies for the promotion and success of multidisciplinary research efforts across the College and University and among multiple institutions, government agencies, and nongovernment organizations (NGOs);
- manage federal capacity funds (Hatch, McIntire-Stennis, Animal Health, and Multistate projects) as the Director of Missouri AES and represent CAFNR and the University in the regional and national network of Experiment Station Directors;
- oversee mechanisms of accountability for capacity funding, and work collaboratively with research supervisors, field staff, and regional advisory board and community members to ensure long-term success of the research centers human capital and infrastructure;
- function as an advocate for the University and College to the large variety of constituents and strive to communicate the needs of these constituents to the campus to allow for University research to better serve the associated communities;
- mentor, guide, and develop successful research-active faculty;
- develop and implement comprehensive strategies to identify funding opportunities and secure funding for research and graduate education, evaluate and engage philanthropic, foundation, and grant proposal opportunities;
- identify and support the ongoing comprehensive and coordinated investment in facilities and infrastructure to advance research, teaching, and outreach efforts and contribute to meeting the University’s sustainability goals;
- strengthen and/or establish relationships with state, federal, and international funding partners in order to grow the overall research enterprise;
- develop and implement comprehensive strategies to enhance business and industry relationships to support sponsored research and coordinate College resources and capacities to engage industry partners. Support and enable the creation of start-up businesses based on innovations generated from the research enterprise;
- encourage a culture of diversity and inclusion that promotes collegiality and collaboration among colleagues and enables faculty to fully utilize their research potential and focus on contributing to solving pertinent societal issues;
- work collaboratively with the Associate Deans of Academic Programs and Extension, as well as CAFNR academic units to expand outreach to underrepresented groups and promote a welcoming, inclusive, and respectful environment within the College that fosters growth in research partners and graduate education programs;
- provide leadership for faculty with primary efforts focused on the research enterprise of the College;
- identify and implement best practices for graduate education that address recruitment, retention, funding, professional development, and career preparation;
- bolster and expand opportunities for undergraduate research and foster engagement of students at all levels in the research enterprise.
Qualifications

The College is seeking a dynamic leader who exhibits passion for the convergent disciplines that fuel the success of the College, an understanding of sustainable practices, and an innovative and entrepreneurial mindset. Candidates should have a PhD degree in a discipline related to CAFNR’s academic disciplines, a distinguished record of research and administration, and be eligible to qualify for an appointment as full professor with tenure in an appropriate academic department.

Candidates should have significant experience and demonstrable skills in leading and managing progressive change in complex environments such as those that exist within a modern land-grant university. Candidates should have budget and personnel management experience, and preference will be given to those candidates with experience as department/division chair, research center director, or related roles.

Nominations and applications may be sent in confidence to the University’s executive search team:

Tim McIntosh, Director for Executive Recruitment
University of Missouri System
1000 W. Nifong, Bldg #7 Suite 3000
Columbia, Missouri 65211
Umhreexecutivesearch@umsystem.edu

Electronic submission of materials is strongly encouraged.

The University of Missouri is fully committed to achieving the goal of a diverse and inclusive community of faculty, staff, and students. We seek individuals who are committed to this goal of collaboration and inclusion and value the many unique qualities and experiences a diverse environment offers.

Equal Opportunity is and shall be provided for all employees and applicants for employment on the basis of their demonstrated ability and competence without unlawful discrimination on the basis of their race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, protected veteran status, or any other status protected by applicable state or federal law. This policy shall not be interpreted in such a manner as to violate the legal rights of religious organizations or the recruiting rights of military organizations associated with the Armed Forces or the Department of Homeland Security of the United States of America.