Beginning the Journey
College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources

Since its establishment in 1870, the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (CAFNR) has historically embraced the three missions of the land-grant university — providing accessible educational opportunities available to Missouri citizens, conducting applied and basic research to address the needs of Missourians, and delivering research-based information to enhance the quality of life and economic well-being of all Missourians. The Journey Begins … with Directions that are subsumed within the goals and objectives set forth in the May 1999 Strategic Plan of the University of Missouri-Columbia. Through conversations with stakeholders, students, staff and faculty, the Direction of our new journey will evolve into College goals.

**Vision**

We will be recognized as a customer and employee caring College that discovers and enlightens through excellence in teaching, research, extension and outreach in agriculture and natural resources programs that are socially sensitive, environmentally responsible, economically viable and efficiently productive.

**Values**

CAFNR’s core values — respect, responsibility, caring, discovery and excellence — embrace the “Statement of Values” established by the University of Missouri-Columbia. In addition, CAFNR focuses on:

**Developing human resources**

CAFNR’s ultimate goal is to improve the quality of life — including socioeconomic status, self-esteem, health and leadership abilities — for Missouri citizens. It is dedicated to providing the educational opportunities and science-based information to the public to meet the challenges of the new millennium.

**Managing, sustaining and using Missouri’s production and natural resources**

Food, fuel and fiber generation depend on the efficient and sustained use of soil, solar energy, water and air. CAFNR seeks to improve the management and conservation of Missouri’s natural resources, including agriculture, that affect human welfare through education, research and service.

**Developing food and other agricultural products for value-added and new uses**

CAFNR’s programs teach Missouri’s citizens how technology is used to increase the market value of food, fuel and fiber products.

**Enhancing environmental quality**

Through education, research and service activities, CAFNR seeks to improve management and conservation of regional and global air, water and land systems that affect human welfare.

**Assessing social and economic changes**

CAFNR’s programs will examine how present and future research, education and public policy in agriculture and natural resources affect Missouri citizens and their communities.