



UC Davis Grand Challenges

Catalyzing Solutions for the World's Most Urgent Problems

Every day, all over the world, people face food insecurity, disease outbreaks, climate-related disasters, systemic injustice and other deep-rooted problems that seem to defy lasting solutions. The impacts of these and other threats to our planet and its inhabitants grow in severity each year.

At UC Davis, we envision a world where everyone can access the resources that support a vibrant life. A planet that thrives from the sea to the soil to the sky—not in spite of human intervention, but because of it.

The Right Time and the Right Place

With transdisciplinary breadth, depth and excellence as our core competitive edge, UC Davis is ideally positioned to develop, test and implement bold solutions.

We launched **Grand Challenges** to strategically build and strengthen scholarly collaborations universitywide and establish a pipeline for research innovations to grow beyond the campus for substantial, realworld impact. Grand Challenges positions us to build new bridges among our colleges and schools and connect with industry and policy makers to scale new solutions for implementation. Our Grand Challenges Solutions Hub will be at the center of it all.



UC Davis: An Interdisciplinary Research Powerhouse in the Heart of California

From leading a nationally recognized pandemic response to engineering drought-resistant rice cultivars that sustainably feed a growing world, UC Davis experts partner across the disciplines to confront the grand challenges of our time.

With top-ranked programs in critical areas including plant and animal sciences; environmental, biological and agricultural engineering; and numerous health-related fields, we are proud to be:

- #1 nationally in agriculture and forestry
- #1 nationally in veterinary medicine
- #1 in the world for campus sustainability

At the epicenter of public policy for California—the world's fifth-largest economy and climbing—our top-tier research guides solutions and informs decision making to effect meaningful change across our state, nation and globe.

Your philanthropic partnership will advance leading-edge, collaborative solutions to the world's most pressing problems.

UC Davis Grand Challenges

We have selected four grand challenges—for which UC Davis is uniquely suited to advance solutions—as our initial priorities. With your partnership, innovations in these interconnected areas can be scaled to create global solutions that advance a safer, more equitable and sustainable world for all.

Climate Solutions

Assess impact, identify strategies for mitigation and adaptation, and implement solutions regionally with an emphasis on equity and social justice.

The ever-intensifying impacts of climate change are resulting in destruction, disease, hunger and displacement, with disproportionate impacts on the most vulnerable communities. From creating energy efficient technologies to guiding policy change, every school and college at UC Davis is developing solutions.

Sustainable Food Systems

Cultivate nutritious, affordable and environmentally sound food systems that feed the world's growing population equitably and sustainably.

More than 700 million people face chronic hunger due to global conflict, climate, and other causes. Nourishing the world requires solutions from technology and policy. From Al-enhanced soil sensors and vertical farming to the economics and politics of food injustice, UC Davis is rising to the challenge of feeding the world.

Grand Challenges Solutions Hub

The Grand Challenges Solutions Hub
is the planned physical home for our vision.
It will bring the brightest minds from
institutions worldwide together at the heart
of the Davis campus, to solve today's grand
challenges and prevent tomorrow's.

Equipped with state-of-the-art labs, innovator spaces and continually upgraded technology, the Grand Challenges Solutions Hub will advance creative collaboration in service of innovative, holistic solutions.



Novel food systems can address emerging climate and health threats.

Emerging Health Threats

Develop products, services and policies to aid in early warning, prevention and preparation for disease outbreaks and other impending health concerns that threaten human well-being.

With new threats constantly emerging, a focus on prevention and rapid response is a key priority for our time. UC Davis is acting today to improve outcomes for the health challenges of tomorrow.

contribute to climate resilience. Reimagining the

Land-grant University

Indigenous traditional knowledge

Cultural burns informed by

Establish a new model for scholarship and community impact that addresses the harmful origins of the land-grant university system and promotes justice and equity.

Land-grant universities were funded using nearly 11 million acres of lands taken from Indigenous people—with the promise of innovation and education for public good. The time is now to create future-facing remedies with a new model for how universities can benefit all communities.

