

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 AI-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.



Cultural burns informed by Indigenous traditional knowledge contribute to climate resilience.



Novel food systems can address emerging climate and health threats.

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.

Reimagining the Land-grant University

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.

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.