

Transforming Education Into Expertise

Experiential Learning in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences



The Vision

Imagine fields, forests and farms across California and around the world, where students are putting their UC Davis education to work. At the Cosumnes River Preserve, Trent counts sandhill cranes as they migrate down the Pacific Flyway. Anika researches the effects of ocean acidification on sea life at the Bodega Marine Laboratory. Jorge and fellow students develop their startup idea for food-waste reduction by researching the international market landscape at the Specialty Food Association annual meeting. And Dana tags rainbow trout as part of ongoing efforts to restore the Fall River ecosystem.

Hands-on experience beyond the classroom—also known as experiential learning—enriches students' education by demonstrating the complexity of the issues they study and laying the groundwork for future career success.

The College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences has a vision to make experiential learning central to every student's education. With the support of alumni and friends, our students will grow their professional skills, spark innovation, and jump-start successful and meaningful careers.

An Invitation

We invite you to consider a campaign gift to the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences that will significantly expand access to professional development opportunities for all students.

Philanthropic gifts of \$25 or more to the **Experiential Learning Fund** and **Dean's Circle Fund** will provide **undergraduate and graduate students with the experiences they need to catalyze long-term success in any industry.**

With your partnership, we will prepare the next generation of leaders, innovators and problem-solvers poised to change the world.

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Small Scale, Big Impact

A rapidly changing global economy requires graduates to be skilled in technology, fieldwork, research methods and interdisciplinary collaboration. To be competitive in their chosen industries, our students must have educational experiences that allow them to cultivate tomorrow's professional skills.

However, these opportunities are often out of reach for students whose budgets may not have the flexibility for transportation costs or summer housing—or for those who can't risk losing income while completing an unpaid internship.

To ensure that every student can benefit from hands-on learning, the college provides financial support through the Experiential Learning Fund and Dean's Circle Fund. Small grants from these funds offset the costs of these opportunities, enabling undergraduate and graduate students to hone their professional skills and gain valuable career experience. In 2019, our college provided nearly 45 grants averaging \$1,500 each to support experiential learning activities, from day trips to summer residential programs.

The UC Davis Difference

Experiential learning is at the core of our college's educational paradigm, and we are ideally positioned to prepare future leaders who will tackle our planet's most urgent challenges.

Immersed in our culture of interdisciplinary collaboration and comprehensive breadth, Aggies have abundant opportunities to weave hands-on learning into their education. UC Davis' graduate schools of medicine, veterinary medicine, and management, as well as our research centers, institutes and facilities, allow students to partner beyond disciplinary boundaries to solve complex problems.



The College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences: Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders

- No. 1 worldwide for plant and animal sciences
- Among the top 7 U.S. universities in horticulture, ecology, toxicology, environmental sciences, soil science and nutrition
- 2,300 acres devoted to agricultural research and teaching
- 22 research centers and institutes affiliated with the college