

**College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences
Clemson University**

Helping Farmers survive tough times – Uncertainty over weather, trade policy and prices are making earning a living increasingly tough for South Carolina’s farmers, but Clemson University agribusiness experts told a roomful of farmers that there are possibilities for growth and both domestic and global market expansion during the S.C. Ag Outlook, Nov. 16.

(<https://newsstand.clemson.edu/mediarelations/clemson-agribusiness-experts-help-farmers-find-opportunities-amid-travails-of-trade-war/>)

Grad student research – Sarah Holladay, a master’s student from Florence who is studying plant and environmental sciences with a focus in agronomy, is working with Clemson Extension Service and USDA-Agricultural Research Service to determine if pima cotton can be productive in South Carolina after an almost 100-year absence. (<https://newsstand.clemson.edu/clemson-student-studies-extra-long-staple-cotton-for-growth-in-south-carolina/>)

Packaging Science student success – Three Clemson University packaging science students have designed a new way for people to “Share a Coke” and their concept garnered first place in the 48-Hour RePack Student Design Competition. The break-away modular design allows people to “Share a Coke” without ever having to touch the ice-cold aluminum surface of cans. The NEW Break and Take Pack can be operated using just one hand.

Feeding a growing global population – Stephen Kresovich, the Robert and Lois Coker Trustees Endowed Chair of Genetics in Clemson’s plant and environmental sciences department, has been named director of a new USAID Feed the Future Laboratory, and Dil Thavarajah, Clemson associate professor of pulse crop quality and nutrition, will co-lead the lab’s trait analysis team. The project will serve as a model for introducing advanced agricultural technologies at scale to countries around the world. (<https://newsstand.clemson.edu/mediarelations/new-feed-the-future-innovation-lab-aims-to-boost-food-security-and-alleviate-poverty-in-developing-countries-with-leadership-from-clemson-scientists/>)

Tracking endangered seabirds – Clemson University researchers went on a trailblazing expedition among an international team of seabird experts to capture black-capped petrels at sea for the first time and outfit the endangered birds with satellite transmitters. The work is part of a larger effort to better understand the distribution and ecology of the endangered seabirds. (<https://newsstand.clemson.edu/mediarelations/clemson-researchers-take-pioneering-trek-to-track-endangered-little-devil/>)

Land-Grant Press™ by Clemson Extension provides science-based, peer-reviewed publications written by Extension personnel and university scientists for professional and academic audiences, as well as owners and managers of livestock, horses, timber, and land. Land-Grant Press publications feature expert content from the array of Clemson Extension’s public outreach programs including agriculture; natural resources; horticulture; agribusiness; food safety, nutrition, and health; and youth development. Examples of publication types that are invited include technical briefs (fact sheets and bulletins), guides, educational material, booklets, short communications, and variety trial reports. Full research articles are not accepted at this time.

Division of Agriculture Forestry and Veterinary Medicine Mississippi State University Update

Research Portfolio: Data released by the NSF late last year shows MSU ranks #11 nationally in R&D Expenditures in Ag Sciences, Natural Resources and Conservation. Expenditures were just over \$105 million, and this marked the 22nd consecutive year for the Division of Ag. Forestry and Veterinary Medicine to rank in the top 12 nationally. FY-19 was a near record breaking year for our Faculty and Staff in the Division in Grants and Contracts. Our Division faculty received more than \$87 million to support their research. It was the second highest ever received in our division.

New Construction: We are about to conclude the best four-year run on new construction the Division has ever experienced! In July 2018, we moved into the new Meat Science Lab. In September 2019, we cut the ribbon at the new Animal and Dairy Science building, and we think by June 1st we will be moving into the new Poultry Science building. The total cost of these new facilities is about \$35 million. This construction was funded with State Bond money and, will be a new record for the division. Our current Bond Funding request is \$8 million for renovation and/or demolition/new construction of the old Meat Science Lab. We currently have \$4 million for the project and we think we will be able to complete the project for an estimated \$12 million. We normally receive \$7-8 million in Bond Funding annually.

College of Veterinary Medicine: Besides their large research portfolio (that was a part of the numbers mentioned above) the College of Veterinary Medicine operates 4 diagnostic laboratories that saw almost 34,000 submissions and conducted almost 374,000 laboratory tests on these submissions. We award over 90 DVMs each year. During the past year, 99% of our CVM graduates passed the National Board Exams. Those students also scored substantially higher than the national average.

Enrollment Increases: We are also pleased to report that all three colleges in the Division recorded all-time highs in enrollment last Fall! The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, The College of Forest Resources and The College of Veterinary Medicine all set new highs and help push the Division total to almost 3,700 students!

Significant Extension Event: In December, a couple of our Extension Faculty members and their team conducted the 2019 Row Crops Short Course here on campus. More than 750 farmers and other ag professionals attended where the latest farming technology was presented! This is one of the best row crop meetings in the Region and it continues to grow each year.

Vice President Search: The search for a Vice President for the Division of Agriculture, Forestry, and Veterinary Medicine was announced by our president on January 22. You should be receiving a position announcement/solicitation for nominations in the next few weeks. We don't have a specific timetable for filling this position but mid-summer to early fall seems realistic

FY21 State Funding Request: The MS Legislature is currently in session and the session will probably extend through April 15. We are asking for a seven percent increase in general fund appropriations for FY21 for all four of our separately budgeted units. We only received a 1.7% increase for the current fiscal year so IHL and our president have given us permission to ask for a substantial increase. A seven percent increase will allow us to give our people a reasonable raise and fill some critical positions that have been vacant for several years. Total revenue collections by the state for July-Dec 2019 were about 5-5.5% above the previous year. The Rainy-Day Fund is currently filled to its Legislative mandated capacity.

The **UT Institute of Agriculture** provides Real. Life. Solutions. to some of society's most pressing issues. Through its statewide presence and its international work, the UT Institute of Agriculture is creating a global impact. UTIA is home to the Herbert College of Agriculture, UT AgResearch and its ten centers across the state, the UT College of Veterinary Medicine, and UT Extension, which has a presence in all ninety-five Tennessee counties. It also boasts the Smith Center for International Sustainable Agriculture as well as the State Botanical Garden of Tennessee. Through teaching, research, and outreach, UTIA seeks to support food, fiber, and energy systems; enrich the economy; enhance biodiversity and environmental quality; develop the workforce; and strengthen the health of humans and animals.



OUR MISSION

As a land-grant institute, we provide Real. Life. Solutions. through teaching, discovery, and service.

OUR VISION

Over the next decade, we will excel as an Institute by developing solutions and services that advance agriculture, education, natural resource management, human and animal health, and our communities.

To accomplish our vision, we will . . .

- Connect across strengths within UTIA and with partners.
- Focus on grand challenges and established priorities.
- Help people and communities adapt to an ever-changing world.

STRATEGIC GOALS

1. DRIVE DISCOVERY

Cultivate innovation and invention to meet the grand challenges of tomorrow by collaborating within our organization and with outside partners and by building on existing strengths.

2. EXPAND REAL LIFE LEARNING

Develop students and professionals to be lifelong learners and leaders in the agriculture, natural resource, and public and animal health industries.

3. RAPIDLY DEPLOY SOLUTIONS

Rapidly deploy practical, cutting-edge solutions through effective use of innovative educational and outreach methods across a variety of platforms.

4. DELIVER PROGRAMS THAT IMPROVE LIVES

Deliver programs that improve health and well-being, conserve natural resources, and help Tennesseans adapt to a rapidly changing world.

5. GROW AND DIVERSIFY RESOURCES

Strengthen our relationships with funding partners by demonstrating relevant impact; diversify our sources of funding through entrepreneurship and new partnerships.

6. IMPROVE INSTITUTE EFFECTIVENESS

Reinforce a positive work culture, increase efficiency and productivity, and simplify administrative processes.





HOW WE PROVIDE REAL. LIFE. SOLUTIONS.

HERBERT COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

Preparing tomorrow's leaders for careers in agriculture, natural resources, and other areas.

- 1,399 undergraduates
- 164 master's students
- 81 PhD students

UT EXTENSION

Delivering science-based information to our communities.

- Located in **all ninety-five counties** in Tennessee
- Home to the largest 4-H club program in the US with approximately **185,000** members
- Tennessee Saves adult and youth money management program impact is estimated at **\$26.3 million**
- Total estimated economic impact of UT Extension's beef cattle programing in 2017 was more than **\$109.3 million**

UT GARDENS

Named the official State Botanical Garden of Tennessee in 2013.

- Locations in Knoxville, Crossville, and Jackson
- Estimated **more than 100,000 visitors** each year

UT COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Improving animal, human, and environmental health.

- Strong graduate student enrollment
- **338** DVM students
- **8** master's students
- **33** PhD students

Veterinary Medicine caseload continues (2017-18)

- **17,161** small animals
- **3,045** exotic animals
- **3,368** large animals
- **11,688** equine and farm animals

UT AGRESEARCH

Creating knowledge through basic and applied research programs.

- **10 AgResearch Centers** located across the state
- Partnerships with **UT Knoxville** and **Oak Ridge National Laboratory**
- **New discoveries** are improving crop and livestock yields, minimizing weed and pest impacts, reducing water demand, and ensuring a safe food supply.
- **Two new research centers** (Genomics and Synthetic Biology) established for the advancement of agriculture.

SMITH INTERNATIONAL CENTER

Advancing international engagement by empowering our faculty and staff to think and act globally.

- **\$7 million** Smith family endowment
- **\$1.75 million** USAID/Rwanda and Africa Sustainable Agriculture Project Foundation
- Record numbers of students studying abroad—**more than 20 percent** of the graduating class

FY19 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

SOURCE	HERBERT	CVM	RESEARCH	EXTENSION
State	\$4,987,105	\$21,750,558	\$30,010,792	\$36,651,817
Federal	----	\$22,095	\$7,121,093	\$8,767,110
County	----	----	----	\$8,722,754
Sales	----	\$18,676,080	\$4,508,101	\$6,326,497
Sponsored	----	\$3,938,264	\$23,200,089	\$14,344,562
Tuition	\$4,887,104	\$12,844,169	----	----
Gifts / Endowments	\$2,066,720	\$1,302,887	\$1,844,020	\$3,756,692
TOTAL	\$11,940,929	\$58,534,055	\$66,684,097	\$78,569,433



**UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA**
College of Agricultural &
Environmental Sciences

Meeting the Challenge – One year ago, Georgia elected a new governor who is the first UGA College of Ag alumni to serve as Governor of Georgia. In his first few months in office, he publicly declared that he intended for “the University of Georgia to have the #1 agricultural college in country.” We’ve been working steadily over the past year to help reach that goal. In rankings just released from Niche, the University of Georgia is now at #3 behind Cornell and Florida.

Industry Advisory Council – We have developed a very active group of young, innovative leaders in Georgia to serve on an advisory council specifically focused on helping us develop new and meaningful partnerships with industry in Georgia, across the U.S. and globally. We will soon bring on board a director of industry partnerships who lead those programs forward.

UGA Innovation District - UGA has established a new focus on innovation including the Innovation Gateway that helps faculty move new technologies to the marketplace where UGA is now #1 in successfully introducing products to the market. A new Innovation District provides an ecosystem that brings talented faculty and students from across disciplines together to turn ideas into inventions, startup companies and solutions to our grand challenges. The College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences is one of the first leading players in the new district. Find out more: <https://innovation.uga.edu/>

Making Athens the Epicenter of Poultry Science – We are in the design stages of a much-needed new poultry science facility on campus. When the new facility is complete, our #1-ranked poultry science unit, coupled with our partners in UGA Vet Med, the USDA Poultry Research Center and the largest poultry-producing region in the nation, is primed to help Athens become the epicenter of poultry science in the world.

Raising the profile of UGA Ag Research – Over the past 18 months, we have made a concentrated effort to raise the public profile of our research and experiment station enterprise. We have launched a branding effort that includes a new database to track and record research projects at all of our facilities, new websites across the research spectrum, and a concentrated communications and media effort across multiple platforms to deliver our research success stories. Partnering with a graduate student researcher from our ALEC department, we developed a method to measure our research publication and grant footprint and correlate our strongest research themes to how we package and deliver research information for public consumption. Our target audience has grown steadily, especially in the number of potential graduate students and scientific partners visiting our websites for information.

External review to create a communications unit for the future – We have recently contracted with an external firm to review our college communications needs for the future and to help design the positions, staff profile and strategies needed to efficiently and effectively grow our college’s brand and reputation. Hopefully, we will have a report on that process by the Summer AHS meeting.

A Few Updates from Virginia Tech – S-AHS Meeting, February 3, 2020

Faculty Cluster in SmartFarm Innovation Network:

Virginia Tech's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences is seeking applicants for tenure track positions as part of its SmartFarm Innovation Network faculty cluster hire. The cluster hire of 13 new faculty positions will be filled over multiple years within several academic units and Agricultural Research and Extension Centers. This will create a statewide network of interconnected faculty, partners, and resources for scientific discovery and developing and deploying new technologies. The goal is to increase overall efficiency, resiliency, sustainability, and economic value of food, agriculture production systems, and natural resources and expand Virginia Tech's global leadership in this rapidly evolving domain.

<https://www.cals.vt.edu/research/innovation-smartfarm.html> ; <https://vtnews.vt.edu/articles/2019/05/cals-smartfarm.html> ; <https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/view/faculty-cluster-hire-smartfarm-innovation-network-at-virginia-tech-1592046933>

Global Agricultural Productivity Initiative at Virginia Tech:

Virginia Tech's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences is expanding its global reach with the GAP Report. Created by the Global Harvest Initiative in 2010, the Global Agricultural Productivity Report® (GAP Report®) was produced for the first time in 2019 by Virginia Tech. The 2019 GAP Report examines the pivotal role of agricultural productivity – increasing crop and livestock production using existing or fewer inputs – in achieving global goals for environmental sustainability, economic development, and improved nutrition.

<https://globalagriculturalproductivity.org/>

Controlled Environment Agriculture Innovation Center Established in Danville:

The Institute for Advanced Learning and Research (IALR) has partnered with the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences' School of Plant and Environmental Sciences and the Virginia Seafood Agricultural Research and Extension Center to launch a Controlled Environment Agriculture Innovation Center on IALR's campus in Danville, Virginia. The Innovation Center will leverage technology and research to accelerate advancements, economic development, and regional participation in the developing industry of indoor farming.

<https://vtnews.vt.edu/articles/2020/01/cals-ialr.html>

Funding Secured to Replace Virginia Seafood Agricultural Research & Education Center:

A \$3 million grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration is being combined with \$1.5 million from the City of Hampton, \$2.5 million from the Commonwealth of Virginia, and \$2 million from the Virginia Tech Foundation to construct a new state-of-the-art Virginia Seafood Agricultural Research and Extension Center (AREC) in Hampton, Virginia. The new comprehensive \$8.4 million project will be located adjacent to the AREC's current location. This new 21,700-square-foot facility will have expanded seafood technologies/processing and microbiological laboratories, upgraded aquaculture and fisheries research facilities and water chemistry labs, expanded classrooms, outreach/ demonstration and training facilities, and additional workstations and accommodations for visiting faculty, students, and industry collaborators.

Center for Food Systems and Community Transformation Opens at Virginia Tech:

The Center, administered by the Department of Agricultural, Leadership, and Community Education in Virginia Tech's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, was established by a group of partners across Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, and the Commonwealth to explore partnership, solidarity, and possibility for social equity and sustainability in food and farming systems. The Center facilitates community dialogues, which provide an open space for community-university discussion around healthy food access, farm system viability, ecological sustainability, community engagement, and social equity in our food and farming systems. https://www.alce.vt.edu/content/dam/alce_vt_edu/dept-news/Press%20Release-Center.pdf

College of Agriculture, Food and Environment
University of Kentucky
Southern AHS Brief

Fighting the opioid epidemic - Kentuckians said substance use and its related effects was the most significant issue facing the commonwealth today in extension's recently released community assessment survey. To assist in the fight, UK CAFE Extension has hired the nation's first extension specialist for substance use prevention and recovery. Extension has successful programs in place that teach gardening, nutrition and life skills education to those recovering from substance use addiction and support programs for families with a loved one with a substance use disorder. [A new \\$1 million grant will help to further those efforts.](#)

Partners in workforce development - Jim Beam® Bourbon and UK have established the James B. Beam Institute for Kentucky Spirits. The institute will educate the next generation of distillers through a curriculum that covers the skills needed to succeed in the distilled spirits industry at the undergraduate, graduate and professional levels. Valued at \$3 billion, bourbon contributes \$8.6 billion to Kentucky's economy each year, including \$1 billion in payroll, and \$235 million in state and local tax revenue. The bourbon industry also provides more than 20,000 jobs in the state. The institute's goal is to maintain the welfare, prosperity, and sustainability of Kentucky's spirits industry for generations to come. [Inaugural James B. Beam Institute Industry Conference coming in February](#)

Equine emphasis - Horses and the horse industry are ubiquitous to Kentucky and research efforts at UK CAFE focus on all things related to the health and safety of these wonderful animals. Through recent partnerships with the Keeneland Association, National Thoroughbred Racing Association Charities, Stonestreet Farm and others, we are researching safe and consistent racing surfaces, launching a world-class equine drug research and testing program, and conducting bisphosphonate research.

Excellence in Grain and Forages - The seed of an idea between a farmer and researcher came to fruition with the fall 2019 opening of the Grain and Forage Center of Excellence. Grain and forage industries play key roles in Kentucky's economy and the investments made in the center will move those sectors forward in the state. The center uses cutting-edge research and outreach efforts to help Kentucky grain and forage producers use sustainable, intensive production practices to better meet the needs of a growing world with minimal environmental impact. The \$30 million center was made possible by partnerships with government, individual farmers, commodity groups and agribusinesses. <http://news.ca.uky.edu/article/uk-celebrates-opening-grain-and-forage-center-excellence>

Animal Agriculture - Animal agriculture is a key part of the state's economic base and 25 percent of students at CAFE are enrolled in degree programs related to the field. CAFE's faculty earned nearly \$4.9 million in external grants and awards in fiscal year 2019 to support animal agriculture and food science research. Extension faculty, agents and staff have contributed more than 65,000 hours and made more than 558,000 contacts supporting animal agriculture in Kentucky. Yet we believe there is more to do. A beef task force began work in late 2019 to review and make recommendations on how the college can modernize and gain new facilities.

New directions in Extension- Every four years, all 120 Extension office prepares a plan of work that includes gathering information from community members as well as secondary data to inform the plan. Our state is changing, and new areas of need are emerging. To standardize the process, a committee of Extension personnel and community members developed the community needs assessment process to

formalize that data gathering portion. More than 38,000 people completed the survey. More than 500 interviews and focus groups were conducted. This information is being used in 2020 for local plans of work as well as regional and statewide initiatives to make a positive impact in the lives of Kentuckians. <https://extension.ca.uky.edu/communityassessment>

Battling pests - No one wants to bite into an apple and find a worm. Researchers at the University of Kentucky are studying noninvasive ways to improve detection methods for the codling moth in apples with funding from the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture. Codling moths are the most devastating insect pests of apples. Not only will the research help U.S. growers but it can also help U.S. inspectors rapidly scan apples coming into the U.S. from other countries to ensure that those apples are also insect free. <https://news.ca.uky.edu/article/uk-researchers-studying-better-ways-detect-worms-apples>

**College of Agriculture
Auburn University
Southern AHS Brief
February 3, 2020**

Miller Poultry Research Center – The College of Agriculture expects to complete the \$30 million poultry research complex by August 2020. Currently, a chamber/battery house, hatchery, three floor pen houses, a processing plant, necropsy lab, and support buildings are under construction. The processing plant will be an approximate 19,000 square foot facility, including further processing facilities. It also includes a controlled atmospheric stunner. These facilities join the current two floor pen houses, feed mill, equipment-testing house, and administration building on the site. Alabama is the second leading poultry producer in the United States and poultry production is the largest agricultural enterprise in the state.

Faculty Hires – The College launched 19 searches this academic year. To date, three hires have been completed. One new position includes a plant genomicist that will be based in the laboratories of the HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology in Huntsville, Alabama. This program is expected to help advance plant breeding programs in the College.

Biological and Agricultural Technology Management (BATMAN) – The College launched a new major through the Department of Biosystems Engineering this fall, the bachelor of science in biological and agricultural technology management (BATMAN) program. This program will provide students with depth in the agricultural sciences and technologies used in agriculture and manufacturing, along with a strong complement of business skills. This program responds to the growing need for enhanced technology skills in agriculture and manufacturing.

Legislative Session – The Alabama legislative session opens on Tuesday, February 4. The university is expected strong support from the legislature this session. Unemployment has reached a record low in Alabama and tax revenues are up. There are also discussions underway for state issued bonds to support capital projects in higher education.

Highlights from past year at University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

- The UF/IFAS Industrial Hemp Pilot Project established the first hemp plants to be legally grown in Florida since the 1950s. Researchers are looking to identify hemp varieties suitable for Florida, develop industrial hemp management practices for growing hemp in the state's diverse growing environments, and assess the risk of hemp being an invasive plant.
- In fiscal year 2019, UF/IFAS earned \$161.3 million in research grants and contracts, down from its record-high level of \$166.2 million the previous fiscal year.
- We expanded the Alan and Cathy Hitchcock Field & Fork Food Pantry with additional refrigerated space that will allow it to offer much more fresh produce for hungry students and employees.
- UF/IFAS and the Florida Foundation Seed Producers released new cultivars, including a machine-harvestable blueberry with great early yield potential, an oat with potential for forage, grain, and conservation tillage in the Southeast, a new sweet orange variety, a tomato that shows great tolerance to heat and to Fusarium wilt, and a zoysiagrass that holds its green color in winter and tolerates shade.
- New developments in genetic research by Alan Chambers in Homestead will give South Florida growers an opportunity to experiment with a large variety of vanilla bean species as early as February 2020. If all goes as planned, growers could find themselves starting a niche market that has been dominated by Madagascar.
- After 15 years of study, a UF/IFAS weed scientist released Brazilian peppertree thrips, the first biological control insect released in Florida for the invasive plant, on a ranch near Fort Pierce. Over time, these insects will decrease the need for heavy machines and chemicals to control the invasive tree.
- The UF/IFAS Citrus Research and Education Center launched a citrus nutrition program that offers free soil and leaf sample testing to help growers better manage HLB through fertilization practices.
- University of Florida agricultural engineer Yiannis Ampatzidis developed artificial intelligence-based software that analyzes data collected by drones to help farmers find the best places to plant crops and to identify fruit and vegetable varieties that perform better against diseases.

- Entomologist Andrea Lucky was honored with the Early Career Teacher Award by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA-NIFA). UF continues to hold more total (national and regional combined) USDA-NIFA teaching awards than any other institution.
- UF/IFAS celebrated the 50th anniversary of running the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program administered by NIFA.
- Three UF/IFAS faculty members were elected members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.
- UF/IFAS facilities continued to recover from Hurricane Michael, with Extension offices such as that in Bay County reopening a year after the hurricane.
- UF/IFAS hosted a visit from NIFA Director Scott Angle for a whirlwind two-day tour during which he told us, "There is no program anywhere in the country better than IFAS in conducting both applied and basic research."
- Senior Vice President Jack Payne convened a Florida Climate Smart Agriculture Working Group. It is a producer-led discussion on how farmers can identify, implement, and incentivize climate-friendly practices in agriculture and become leaders in providing solutions to the climate crisis. The group hosted a forum featuring the chair of the U.S. House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis.
- The USAID-funded Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Livestock Systems completed its fourth year of work in eight African and Asian nations and is pursuing a five-year renewal of what was a \$49 million grant (and later supplemented by a Gates Foundation grant) led by UF/IFAS.
- A search committee has formed to solicit candidates to become the University of Florida's next vice president for agriculture and natural resources. Campus visits for a handful of leading candidates are being scheduled for as early as this month.

Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources Oklahoma State University

Items of Interest – Southern AHS meeting, February, 2020

1. Announced a [\\$50 million gift](#) from the Ferguson Family Foundation, with half going towards a campaign to raise funds for a new Agricultural Hall, and the other half (an estate gift) going towards a permanent endowment for the College. With this gift, the OSU/A&M Regents approved renaming the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources to the Ferguson College of Agriculture, effective immediately. The Division name remains unchanged.
2. The [New Frontiers fund-raising campaign](#) went public with the Ferguson announcement, with current pledges and gifts at \$31 million, towards a \$50 million fund-raising goal. The new building is in design phase with a large faculty team involved in discussions about classroom, teaching laboratory and research laboratory designs. The goal is to design a building that helps to transform the way faculty teach and conduct research. Construction is scheduled to begin in spring, 2021, with completion in fall, 2023.
3. Dr. Claud Evans, OSU CARET Delegate, former chair of CARET and alumnus of the Ferguson College of Agriculture, will be inducted into the OSU Hall of Fame on Friday, February 7, 2020. <http://agriculture.okstate.edu/news/osu-alumni-association-inducting-dr-claud-d-evans-into-the-osu-hall-of-fame>
4. Undergraduate enrollment is holding steady at approximately 2,800 students for the fourth consecutive year. Freshman enrollment increased 9% over fall, 2018, raising expectations for increased enrollment over the next four years. Graduate enrollment declined slightly to just over 400, a continuing result of decreased faculty numbers following 25% reductions in state funding.
5. Three department head searches are under way or completed. Dr. Justin Quetone Moss was named new department head of Horticulture & Landscape Architecture from a national search following Dr. Janet Cole's retirement; interviews have been completed for Agricultural Economics, following Dr. Mike Woods' retirement, and interviews are about to begin for Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering, in anticipation of Dr. John Veenstra's term ending.
6. Oklahoma Cooperative Extension restructuring is nearing completion, with a commitment to staff one educator and one administrative assistant in each of 77 counties. Investments in technology include a redesigned OSU Extension web platform, which went live in a soft launch on Jan. 30.
7. Research productivity from DASNR continues to lead OSU, accounting for 33% of all OSU research expenditures, and 85% of royalties from OSU intellectual property.
8. A new [Greenhouse Learning Center](#) with state-of-the-art technology was opened for fall semester, 2019, providing new hands-on opportunities for students in all plant-based curricula.
9. Faculty from the Division are leading a university-wide [Rural Renewal Initiative](#) to apply research and training efforts to the challenges facing Oklahoma's rural communities. The initiative was awarded the top rating in the OSU selection process for top tier integrated research and Extension projects.

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS SYSTEM

February 3, 2020

1. Rick Cartwright, CES Director, has announced his plans to retire. So, we are in the search process to recruit a new Director of the Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service and Senior Associate Vice President for Agriculture.
2. In last six months have successfully recruited three new Department Heads. Dr. John Anderson has assumed the role as Head of Agricultural Economics & Agribusiness; Dr. David Cardwell has joined us the Director of our Poultry Center of Excellence and Head of the Department of Poultry Science; and Dr. Jayem Subbiah is our new Head of Food Science.
3. The Governor has announced that in the upcoming fiscal legislative session he will add \$3 million to our recurring base funding.
4. The Arkansas Research & Extension Center in Fayetteville was dedicated and renamed as the Milo J. Shult Research & Extension in honor of the many contributions that the late Dr. Shult made to Arkansas in his 19 years of service as the Vice President for Agriculture.
5. We are in the last six months of Campaign Arkansas and with the Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences, have currently raised just over \$100 million and have goals to finish the campaign at \$125 million. Among the gifts during the campaign have been funds for capitol projects to add a new Northeast Rice & Extension Center, the Don Tyson Center for Agricultural Sciences, and a number of upgrades and additions to our poultry farm. Major contributors are the Rice and Soybean Research & Promotion Boards, Tyson Foods and the Tyson family and many others.
6. We are also in process of redirecting long term assets that have not been effectively used in the recent past to new facilities and assets that can be more effectively utilized in fulfilling our mission in the next 20 years.
7. The University of Arkansas System is transitioning to a system wide electronic records platform. We will be going live with the new Workday platform on July 1. The implementation of the new system will also be accompanied by harmonization at the system level of many policies and operational protocols.

8. Note: Arkansas State University announced an intent to explore a partnership with Adtalem Global Education (<https://www.astate.edu/news/a-state-explores-partnership-with-adtalem-global-education-to-deliver-first-in-state-veterinary-medicine-school>) to create veterinary medical school. Plans are to enroll classes of approximately 120 students each year.
9. **U of A Fall 2019 Enrollment** –27,559 down 229 students or 0.8% from Fall 2018.

Bumpers College of Agriculture, Food & Life Sciences -- Fall 2019 Enrollment – 2,233 up 0.99% overall. 1 of only 3 Colleges to increase. 18 years of consistent increases in student numbers. Total applications up about 17% so far.

2019 Undergrad – 1,923 up 2.6%. from 2018. Expecting excellent growth for Spring, 2020 given positive net transfer student numbers.