UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

About The University of Maryland

The University of Maryland College Park (UMD), Maryland, is a major public research university located on 1,250 acres of rolling land along the Baltimore-Washington, D.C. high-tech corridor.

UMD is a “public” university, supported in part by taxes on Maryland residents, student fees, and with grant and contract funds from private companies and the U.S. government.

Students have a variety of courses and disciplines to study at UMD. Students can earn Bachelors, Masters and Doctoral degrees. Like many major American universities, UMD is made up of many colleges and schools. Among its 13 colleges and schools are an engineering college, agriculture, computer, education, business and journalism colleges. Among public undergraduate universities, UMD’s Smith School of Business is ranked 18 nationwide, and 91 of UMD’s programs are ranked in the Top 25 university programs. According to U.S. News & World Report, Maryland has moved from being ranked 30th in 1998, to being ranked 18th in 2007 on USNWR’s ranking of top public universities.

The list of UMD colleges and schools follows:

A. James Clark School of Engineering

College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation

College of Arts and Humanities

College of Behavioral and Social Sciences

College of Chemical and Life Sciences

College of Computer, Mathematical and Physical Sciences

College of Education

College of Health and Human Performance

College of Information Studies

Philip Merrill College of Journalism

Robert H. Smith School of Business

School of Public Policy

College of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Academics • Research • Extension

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (AGNR) is one of 13 colleges or schools at the University of Maryland. AGNR conducts its work through three related areas: Academics, Extension, and Research.

EXTENSION

The mission of the University of Maryland Extension (UME) is to provide information to consumers, farmers, and the public about a wide variety of topics: how to manage pests, teaches farmers to grow better crops, how to prevent agricultural run-off, or how to prevent the spread of disease among animals. Overseeing youth after-school programs, counseling families on financial security, nutrition and home gardeners issues also areas Extension agents provide advice in.

RESEARCH

AGNR operates 4 research centers in Maryland and also conducts research in 4 academic departments. Research in academic departments is focused on degree-related subject matter. The research centers provide scientific expertise to deal with environmental and natural resource issues. Researchers test pesticides, study the environmental relationships between soil fertility and crop management systems, improving crops, developing technology for alternative and emerging agricultural industries, such as aquaculture.

The Center for Food Safety and Security Systems (CFS3) is an independent, nonprofit, center housed within AGNR. CFS3 conducts training for professionals in food processing and trade professionals on the latest research on food safety, and security. CFS3 works closely with the Joint Institute for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, which is also housed at the University of Maryland and funded by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

ACADEMICS

Seven departments make up the AGNR college. Each of our Academic Departments and Professional Programs offer their own fields of study, and support their own research and extension activities.

Undergraduate students: 1111

Graduate Students: 349

Animal and Avian Sciences From the cloning of sheep to fish farming, students in animal sciences explore ways to improve not only management and productivity of domestic animals but also basic mechanisms in biology. Classes in animal care, equine studies, and animal biotechnology are offered.

Agricultural and Resource Economics International agriculture, business management, food production, farm production, environmental and resource policy, political process are areas of expertise.

Environmental Science & Technology Soil and watershed sciences, ecosystem science and management, ecological design and technology, and environmental health are topics for study.

Nutrition and Food Science Dietetics, food science, and nutritional science are topics for study.

Plant Science and Landscape Architecture Landscape architecture, plant sciences, horticulture and crop production, conservation of soil, water and environment, landscape management, urban forestry, environmental science and policy, and agricultural sciences and technology are all topics of study.

Department of Veterinary Medicine Students may pursue a Master's or PhD degree in biomedical or veterinary sciences.

Environmental Science and Policy is a non-research Bachelor's degree program that is multidisciplinary and coursework is drawn from four colleges at UMD. The AGNR-ENSP courses focus on Environment & Agriculture, Environmental Economics, and Environmental Restoration & Management. Soil, Water & Land Resources, Wildlife Ecology & Management.

Two professional level programs are under AGNR as well:

Institute of Applied Agriculture Offers six majors: Golf Course Management, Equine Business Management, Agribusiness Management, Landscape Management, Turfgrass Management , and Ornamental Horticulture.

Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine. A four-year program which leads to the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine. Students may pursue a Master's or PhD degree in biomedical or veterinary sciences.

UMD's Proximity to Government and Research Agencies is Major Advantage with Finding Jobs, Internships

The University of Maryland is within easy access to some of the world's most important agricultural, environmental and health organizations. The USDA's Beltsville Agricultural Research Center and the National Agricultural Library are two miles from the main campus.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is collaborating with the college in a Joint Institute of Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (JIFSAN).

UMD has partnerships with the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), NASA, and the National Security Agency, all located in the area.

These relationships have created numerous research opportunities for the university including:

- taking the lead in the nationwide research initiative into the transmission and prevention of human and avian influenza
- creating a new research center to study the behavioral and social foundations of terrorism with funding from the U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security
- launching the joint NASA-University of Maryland Deep Impact spacecraft in early January 2005.

In addition, the World Bank, located in Washington, D.C., and the U.S. embassies or hundreds of countries are only a few miles away. The Smithsonian Institution and the National Zoo are also a few miles away, as is the National Science Foundation (NSF).

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Committed to offering exemplary teaching programs. Conducting internationally renowned research. Coordinating outstanding extension/ outreach efforts. Engaging individuals, groups, and communities to improve quality of life in Maryland and beyond.

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International Programs in Agriculture and Natural Resources (IPAN)

The Office of International Programs in Agriculture and Natural Resources (IPAN) facilitates agreements with foreign universities and non-profits working in international agriculture. IPAN also has agreements with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service, and the U.S. Agency for International Development to conduct projects in foreign countries, such as modernizing curricula, organizing conferences, and improving education through the use of innovative technologies.

IPAN was instrumental in developing an AGNR internship program with the Chengdu Base for Giant Panda Breeding, China, in which animal sciences graduates work at the Panda Base, and assist with research.

Through IPAN's efforts, several AGNR faculty established an internet-based Distance Learning Center in southern Russia where Russian veterinarians can go for training. IPAN has also assisted with modernizing the agricultural

college curricula in Republic of Georgia and publishing the countries first Extension brochures. Through IPAN, AGNR has worked with Moscow State Agro-Engineering University to develop an electronic journal on agriculture, food safety and other issues. Agro-Magazine publishes joint works of Russian and foreign scientists. The articles are published in Russian and English.

Through projects such as these, IPAN seeks to advance scientific knowledge, create opportunities for farmers and agri-businesses, and build capacity in foreign countries.

Faculty and Student Exchanges

IPAN has created student and faculty exchange agreements with universities in China, Russia, and India.

Exchanges allow researchers and students to observe conditions in their field of study while in the foreign country, make contacts with other professionals or students who share their interest.

Training Programs

A Meat Safety Conference in Moscow in 2006 focused on informing U.S. and Russian government and industry officials about meat and poultry processing and inspection and creating a forum to discuss harmonization of food safety standards. Researchers, meat and poultry processors, and government officials attended the conference.

Government officials from across Romania spent a week at the University of Maryland, learning about water quality and nutrient management. The group also toured modern and organic dairies, and went to a farm that generates electricity from animal waste.

Extension agents from Turkey took an intensive 3-week business management class at AGNR, which was arranged by IPAN and a non-profit, HasNa, Inc.

Curricula Development

Strengthening the teaching methods and course offerings at foreign agricultural colleges is another of IPAN's activities. We are able to draw on UMD's position as a leading research university and provide access to the latest developments in agriculture.

Please contact IPAN for more information:

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