AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

About the College

Richard Roush, Dean, College of Agricultural Sciences

The College of Agricultural Sciences (CAS) was the first college established at Penn State and awarded the nation’s first baccalaureate degrees in agriculture in 1861. Students can earn degrees related to animal and plant sciences; ecosystems and the environment; food and fuel; human and veterinary health and medicine; business, government, and nonprofits; teaching and extension; engineering; and more. The CAS is home to nine academic units with eighteen graduate programs and participates in eleven Intercollege Graduate Degree Programs (IGDP) and ten Dual-Title degree programs. The CAS had research expenditures in excess of $112.8 million and faculty received over $103.7 million in grants and contracts awarded in fiscal year 2017. Graduate students have received numerous fellowships and awards from both federal and state agencies and other private foundations. More than one-third of masters’ degree recipients go into government or public-sector jobs, another third work in industry or private sector positions, and the remainder continue their graduate education. More than half of doctoral degree recipients go into academia, one-third enter industry or the private sector, and the remainder work in government or public-sector positions.

Mission and Goals

The mission of Penn State’s College of Agricultural Sciences is to discover, integrate, translate, and disseminate knowledge to enhance the food and agricultural system, natural resources and environmental stewardship, and economic and social well-being, thereby improving the lives of people in Pennsylvania, the nation, and the world. Our goal is to assert leadership and foster innovation through organizational improvement and change. By strategic investment of resources, we aim to address the changing needs of the Commonwealth.