

University Undergraduate Council

May 10, 2024 1:00 - 3:00 PM

Zoom

Minute Attendance

Committee - Voting Members					
✓	Ladrica Menson-Furr (CAS)	✓	Trent Harper (CSD)	✓	Brad Harrell (NURS)
	Denis Grélé (CAS)	✓	Nichelle Robinson (COE)	✓	Candace McGowen (NURS)
✓	Kendra Murphy (CAS)		Sandra Cooley-Nichols (COE)	✓	Joanne Gikas (CPLS)
✓	Andrew Mickelson (CAS)	✓	Russell Deaton (HERFF)		Lorraine Meiners-Lovel (CPLS)
✓	Greg Boller (FCBE)	✓	Claudio Meier (HERFF)	✓	Marian Levy (SPH)
	Caitlin Porter (FCBE)	✓	Larry Weiss (CHS)		Jennifer Turchi (PUBH)
	Rahul Pandey (FCBE)	✓	Melissa Puppa (CHS)	✓	Eli Jones (Faculty Senate)
✓	Jenna Thompson (CCFA)	✓	Brandt Pence (CHS)		
✓	Sonin Lee (CCFA)	✓	Michael Hutchison (KWS)		
✓	Christina Moss (CCFA)	proxy	Carol Silkes (HPRM)		
Committee - Non-Voting Members					
✓	Carol Danehower (Chair)		Karen Weddle-West (SAS)	✓	Sofiya Dahman (Library)
	Alletha Davis (Registrar)		Dale Williams (ACC)	✓	Stormey Warren (CAS)
	Darla Keel (Registrar)		Trellis Morgan (AAN)		Michelle Coffee (Lambuth)
✓	Keri Kerr (Registrar)		Sean Holden (OIR)		
✓	Victoria Tardugno (Registrar)		Bailey Sanders (SGA - Student Rep)		
✓	Tara Buchannon (Disabilbility Services)		Melinda Jones (Un. Honors)		
Guests					
2	ASL Interpretors		Rika Hood	✓	
	Jennifer Mendell				
	Shawn Brown				
Proxies					

University Undergraduate Council

Meeting Minutes

May 10, 2024

1:00 p.m. Teams

I. Call to Order –Carol Danehower, Chair

- Meeting called to order at 1:00 pm.

II. Old Business

- Minutes from April and May's meeting will be posted in Curriculog for review and voting in September 2024.
- Microcredentials Workshop in April was well attended.
 - Guidelines forthcoming from Carol to help in proposal formulation for Fall 2024 to get us started; full blown policy may be needed for SACSCOC purposes

III. New Business

- Spotlight on a new initiative: Jennifer Mandel and Shawn Brown from the Department of Biological Sciences presented about the new initiative called Agricultural and Conservation Research (ACRE). Will be launching a minor and new courses. They are hosting a symposium on September 19-20.

IV. Updates/Announcements/Reminders

- CIP codes were discussed. Informational sheet is forthcoming. In the state of TN CIP codes are assigned by THEC.
- Tori informed the council that the Curriculog/Curriculum forms are being updated. The Special Topics Request forms are active. We will have "bring your proposal(s) meetings" both in a group and one on one. We will have more training on using Curriculum Schema on the Program Proposals.
- Carol thanked all of the council for being with us this year.

UUC Meetings 24/25 –September meeting may be in person, other monthly meetings most likely on TEAMS; All on Fridays at 1:00 – 3:00 PM.

September 13

October 11

November 8

December 13 (final date for new proposals)

January 17 (clean up)

February 14

April 11

May 9

Curriculog due dates – roughly 2 weeks prior to UUC meeting

V. Adjourn

- Moved to adjourn, seconded, and passed. The meeting adjourned at 1:34 PM.

Agriculture @ the UofM

2023: How to make this work?



EPICPIVOT.COM

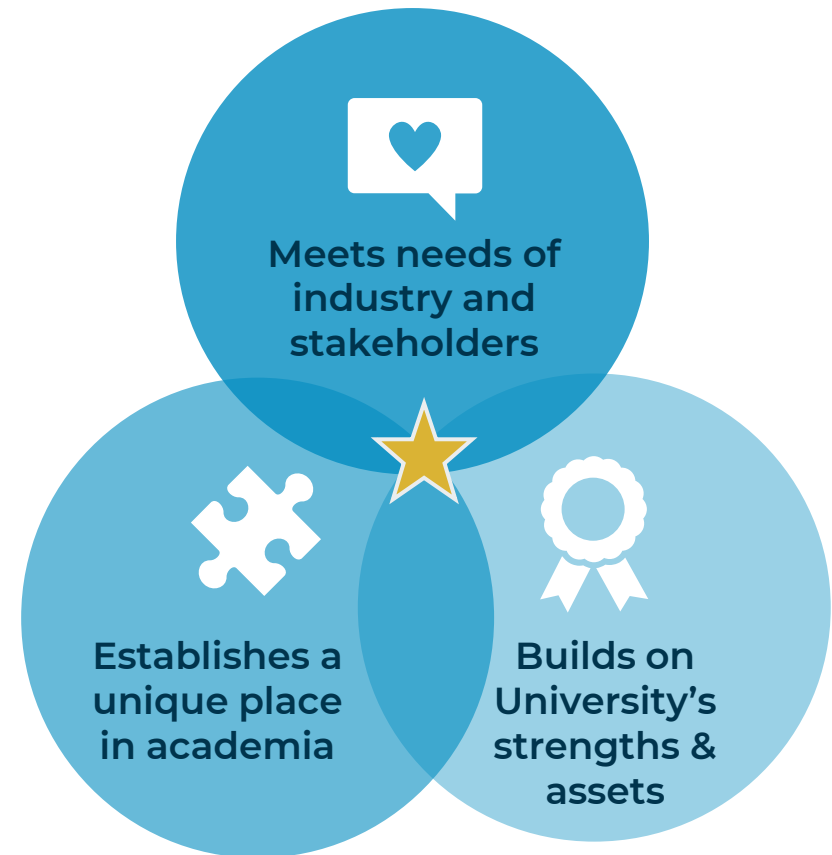
Project Overview

Project Background

To identify key areas where the University of Memphis can specialize and serve as a leader in agriculture research, innovation, education, and training.

Project Goals

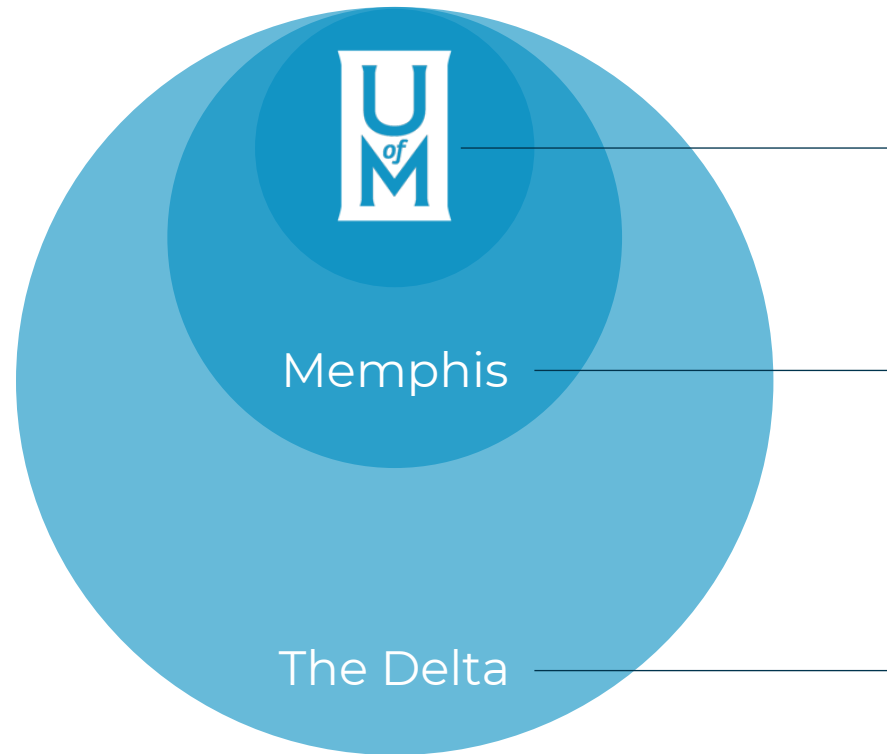
Identify opportunities for agricultural programming that (1) Meet the needs of key industry stakeholders (farmers, businesses, nonprofits, etc.); (2) Represent an underpenetrated space in the academic/professional landscape; and (3) Builds on your current strengths and assets and aligns with projected funding trends.



UofM sits at epicenter of a prime opportunity

UofM's key strengths and identity are well-aligned with the needs of our city and region.

With a history of applied research and strong local partnerships, **UofM is positioned to become the epicenter for a stronger, more forward-thinking agricultural ecosystem that helps transform agricultural science and practice to meet the future head-on.**



- Diverse student body; focus on equity and access
- Applied research, hands-on "doing," employable skills
- Strong programs in Business, Logistics, Biology, Engineering, Tech/Robotics

- Diverse workforce
- Disparities in education, training, and employment
- Prime economic and logistics hub with emerging agribusiness ecosystem
- Local infrastructure and assets for agricultural research, innovation, and application

- Rich, fertile soil with ideal growing conditions
- Strong agricultural economy; large concentration of farms
- Disparities in education, training, employment, and opportunities for black and minority farmers
- Existing networks and infrastructure for farm research and agricultural innovation

Conservation and Agriculture Local Assets

Memphis and the MidSouth have an abundance of existing businesses, assets, and networks, with many potential partners having already expressed interest in working with UofM on agricultural research and innovation.

Business

- More than 1,500 ag and food companies within 150 miles, including Indigo, Helena, Cargill, Drexel
- “Supply Chain Capital of the World”
- Several AgTech and Ag Innovation companies (AgLaunch, The Seam)

Infrastructure

- Ducks Unlimited
- Agricenter International Research Farm
- Over 52 crop varieties and 19 million acres of growing space in the MidSouth
- Large investments in AgTech and Innovation

People

- Diverse workforce (e.g., largest concentration of Black logistics/supply chain talent of any major US metro)
- Strong local food culture and traditions
- History of civil rights and social justice



The University of Memphis Institute for Agricultural and Conservation Research and Education (ACRE)

The Institute's mission is to advance scientific discovery, innovation, and workforce development while supporting thriving agricultural ecosystems for food security, environmental stewardship, and economic vitality across Memphis and the Mid-South.

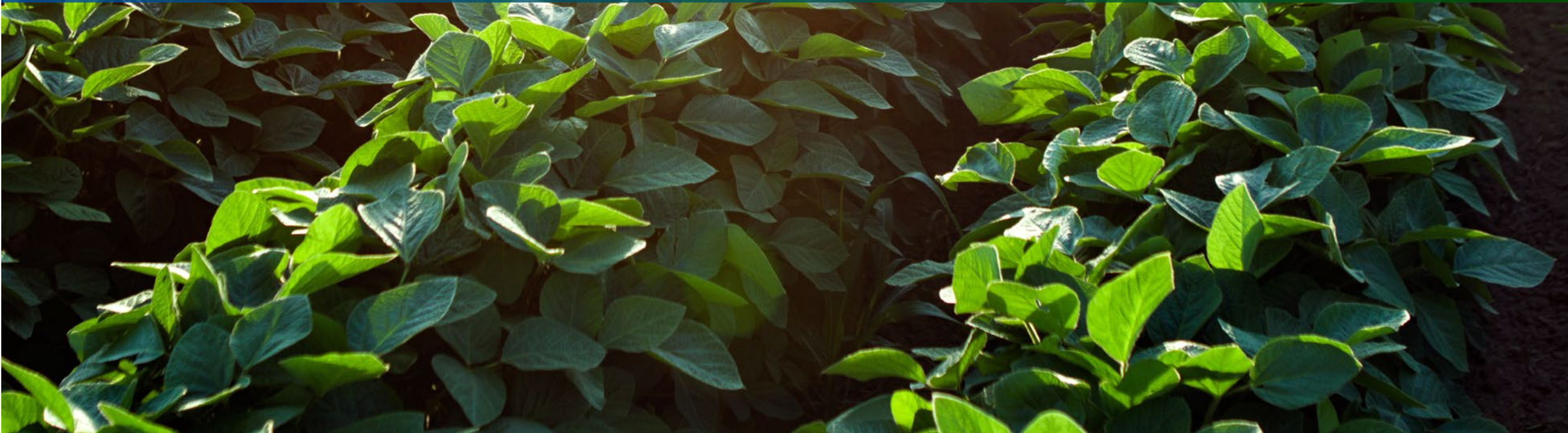
Institute for Agricultural and Conservation Research and Education (ACRE)



Driving Innovation for Critical Food and Agriculture Challenges

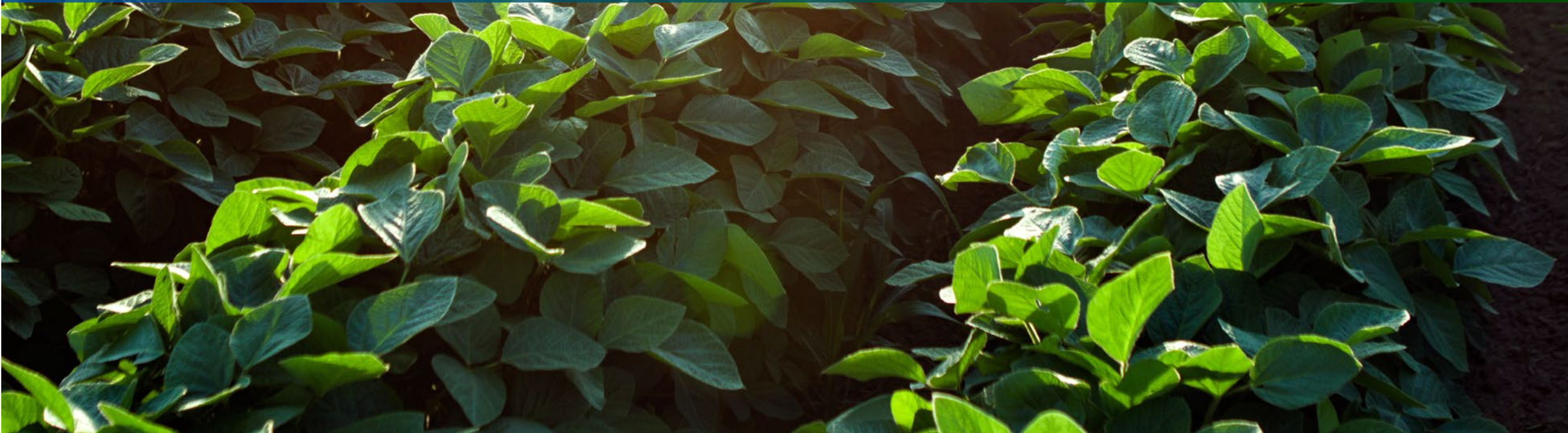
I. Conservation and Soil Health

To reduce production impacts on climate, soil health, water, and biodiversity; create new monitoring tools; and develop nature-based solutions to reduce synthetic chemicals for integrated pest management



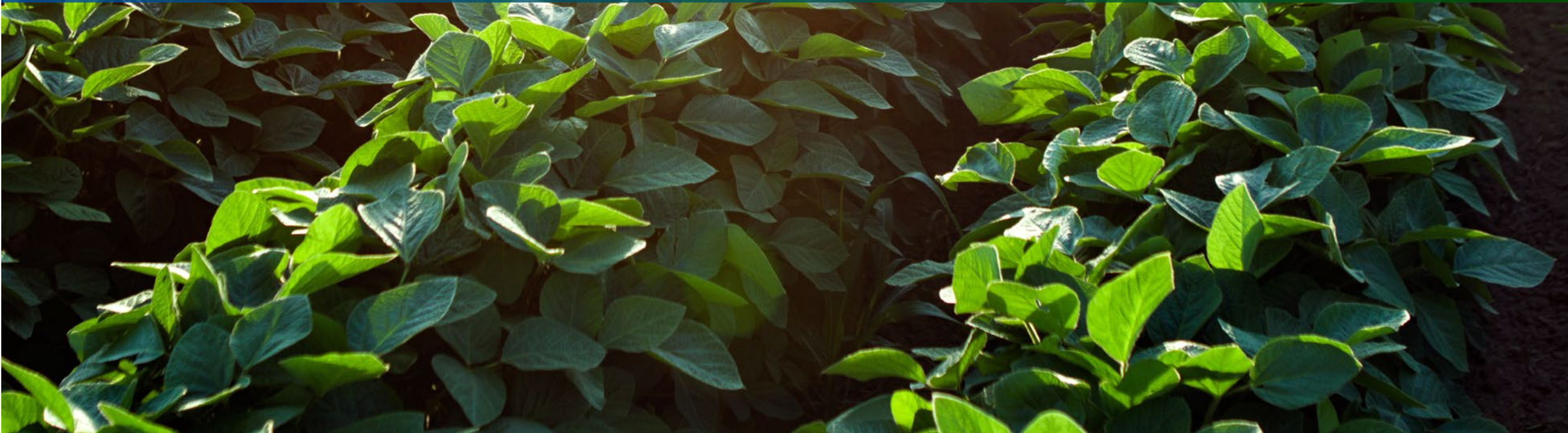
2. Climate Resilient Food Systems

To increase crop resilience, efficiency, and production while reducing ecological footprint; enhance food/nutrition security; and bolster farm income



3. Biomanufacturing

To investigate plant-microbial interactions
that lead to innovations in biological
products for crop protection and nutrition



2024 Initiatives

- Interdisciplinary Minor
- Conservation Career Pathways
- AgriSTEM Career Development
- Specialty Crop Production & Processing



Minor in Agricultural Studies

An interdisciplinary minor to prepare students to pursue professional STEM careers in the agricultural industry



- Develop skills in agricultural sciences
- Incorporate science & technology with societal challenges
- Gain an understanding of policy & management concerns

New Class! Introduction to Agriculture Studies

BIOL 1009, MW 9:10-10:35AM

No prereqs!

Broad survey of:

Sustainable Food Systems

Conservation and Soil Health

Climate Resilient Agriculture

Supply Chain Traceability

Contact Dr. Jennifer Mandel for questions

jmandel@memphis.edu

FALL 2024

