New Interdisciplinary Major in Sustainable Agriculture to Launch Fall ’21

Development of the new major was led by InFACT Faculty Director

The College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences has added a major in Sustainable Agriculture to the Ohio State roster of more than 200 academic majors following official approval from the Ohio Department of Higher Education. The major will become available beginning in fall 2021, and will help to advance InFACT’s efforts to lead agri-Cultural transformation among an important demographic: students—and future farmers and practitioners of sustainable agriculture.

Read the Story

President’s Prize Winners Highlight Projects to
Ohio State President Kristina M. Johnson has awarded the prestigious President’s Prize to two graduating seniors—both of whom are working to improve the Columbus food system in different ways. Christina Allen and Dominique Hadad were chosen for the prize, which is the highest recognition the university bestows on outstanding students focused on social change. Each winner receives a $50,000 living stipend and up to $50,000 in capital to jumpstart their social change enterprises in the year following graduation.

That both prizes will advance work related to food is a boon for the university that has made transformation of the food system an institutional priority by way of InFACT’s inclusion among the Discovery Themes initiatives.

Read the Story

InFACT's Plan for Supporting Food System Transformation

InFACT was launched over five years ago and soon began strategic planning for how our Discovery Themes initiative would achieve the aspirations stated in the founding proposal. A faculty hiring plan came first, in January 2015, and the outline of the strategic plan was ready by February, 2017, after Executive Director Brian Snyder joined InFACT. Since then the plan has continued to evolve and focus our work, especially since we were all faced with a national health emergency that makes clear
how essential the work of InFACT is for Ohio and elsewhere. It seems fitting, then, to pause for a review of the essential elements of our strategic plan.

[Read the Plan Summary]

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Provost's Discovery Theme Lecture Program Featuring Tressie McMillan Cottom  
January 27, 2021

OEFFA's 42nd Annual Conference, Our Time: Essential Links for a Strong Food Chain  
February 10-15, 2021

The Power of Food: Cultivating Equitable Policy through Collective Action  –  
Kansas City, MO  
September 20-22, 2021

**FUNDING & OTHER OPPORTUNITIES**

Annual Ohio State Energy Partners (OSEP) Awards  
Deadline: January 29, 2021

Health, Ecosystems and Agriculture for Resilient, Thriving Societies (HEARTH)  
Deadline: February 14, 2021

USDA’s Economic Research Service 25 Years of Food Security Measurement RFP
Deadline: February 19, 2021

**NSF's Smart and Connected Communities Solicitation**

Deadline: February 24, 2021

**Warner Grants for Sustainable Agriculture**

Deadline: March 1, 2021

**NIFA's Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program Sustainable Agricultural Systems (SAS)**

Deadline: July 1, 2021

**NIFA's Agriculture and Food Research Initiative - Foundational and Applied Science**

Deadline: July 29, 2021

*Learn More About Funding Opportunities*