

### Future of the Land-Grant University and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

VA State Feed Association & Nutritional Management Cow College

February 21, 2013





# Land-Grant University

*The land-grant university system is built on behalf of the people, who have invested in these public universities their hopes, support, and confidence."* Abraham Lincoln at his signing of the 1862 Morrill Act (Land-Grant College Act)

•Federal legislation of 1862, 1890, and tribal colleges in 1994

•Hatch Act, 1887

•Smith-Lever Act, 1914



#### Founded in 1872 as a Land Grant University

#### **TEACHING**









- Ranks 28<sup>th</sup> among US public universities and 71<sup>st</sup> among all US universities (US News & World Report)
- Colleges
  - Agriculture & Life Sciences
  - Architecture & Urban Studies
  - Business
  - Engineering
  - Graduate School
  - Natural Resources & Environment
  - Science
  - Liberal Arts & Human Studies
  - Veterinary Medicine
  - Medical (joint with Carilion Health)

65 bachelor's degree programs 145 masters and doctoral degree programs More than 3,100 faculty members and researchers



## Enrollment

- 23,690 undergraduate students
- 7,316 graduate & professional students
  - 58% male and 42% female
  - 2,269 international (113 countries)
    - o 1,807 graduate; 462 undergraduate





# **College of Agriculture & Life Sciences**

- > 2,700 undergraduate students
- > 500 graduate students
- Ag Sciences research expenditure is ranked in top 10 nationally by NSF
- Sponsored awards \$45M
- Virginia Cooperative Extension and the Agricultural Experiment Station are major components of the College



## **CALS** Academic Departments

- Ag Technology (2 Year)
- Agricultural and Applied Economics
- Agricultural and Extension Education
- Animal and Poultry Sciences
- Biochemistry
- Biological Systems Engineering
- Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences

- Dairy Science
- Entomology
- Food Science and Technology
- Horticulture
- Human Nutrition, Foods and Exercise
- Plant Pathology, Physiology, and Weed Science



#### **Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station** and its **Agricultural Research and Extension Centers**



College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Virginia lech Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station

#### Virginia Cooperative Extension

Publication AREC-4 Revised November 2011



## Virginia Depends on Agriculture

\$55 Billion Industry 357,000 jobs

VA Commodities & Products that rank in top 10 of all U.S. States: Tomatoes (fresh market) Tobacco (leaf) Turkeys Apples Potatoes (summer) Beans (snap) Grapes Peanuts **Broilers** Cucumbers (fresh market)





# **Grand Challenge** - Food, fiber, feed, and fuel for 9 billion people by 2050

- Abundant yields (genetics, technology, improved agronomics....input costs, environmental footprints, efficiency of water use)
- Managing pests, pathogens, and invasive plants
- Adaptation to climate variation
- Producing safe & nutritious food; reducing food waste
- Managing alternative energy production
- Adequate workforce at all levels





## **CALS Strategic Plan**

#### **MISSION:**

The College creates, integrates and shares knowledge to enhance:

- life sciences, food and agricultural systems
- the economic prosperity and life quality of the greater community
- the stewardship and health of land, water, and air for future generations
- student learning through diverse, hands-on experiential opportunities

#### **VISION:**

We address current and emerging issues in agricultural and life sciences, by building on the land grant commitment of developing leaders and creating and sharing knowledge through diverse handson applications.



## **CALS Strategic Plan**

- **Goal 1:** Provide a comprehensive agricultural and life sciences undergraduate and graduate educational experience
- **Goal 2:** Strengthen Discovery capabilities to successfully address local, state, national and global needs
- **Goal 3:** Develop and disseminate science-based knowledge and innovative services through engagement with stakeholders and partners
- **Goal 4:** Create a stable and sustainable resource portfolio for the college and seek continuous improvement in organizational effectiveness



## CALS Strategic Plan

#### Focus Areas:

Agricultural Profitability and Environmental Sustainability

Food, Nutrition, and Health

**Biodesign and Bioprocessing** 

The Green Industry

**Infectious Diseases** 

Community Viability



#### **Emphasis Areas:**

Safe and Sustainable Food Systems Aging Healthfully Climate-Induced Environmental Change Bioprocessing/Bioenergy and Bio-Products



## Student Enrollment in Major Public Research Universities



NSF, 2012

# Growing demand for ag graduates will continue...



2013

Sources: Virginia Tech (enrollment); Bureau of Labor Statistics (employment projection Bloomberg (photo)

## Ag graduates are in demand...



Factors shaping the market:

Macroeconomic conditions and retirements Consumer preferences for nutritious and safe foods Food, energy, and environment public policy choices Global market shifts in population, income, food, and energy

USDA, 2010

## **Employment Opportunities**



# **Complete Graduate**



**Interpersonal Skills** 





# Student Success

- Recruitment/Development/Retention
- Products:
  - engaged alumni
  - community leaders
  - world citizens



Contribution to economic development











## **CALS Students**

- 2,700 total undergraduate students
  - 481 incoming Freshmen Fall 2012
  - 126 transfer students Fall 2012
- ~500 total graduate students

 Future growth to 3,000 undergraduate and 850 graduate students

# Agriculture & Life Science Research Programs

**Discovery** that **expands** the realm of **knowledge** and **develops solutions** to problems relevant to the agriculture, food, health, and natural resources sectors

Quality of Life

Johal Corn rootworm susceptible mutant

Economic Development

Student Learning Experiences



Giant ragweed plants surviving herbicides







# **Discovery to Delivery**

- Infrastructure Investments
  - People faculty & staff
    - Established senior scientists vs Early career high-achievers



- Facilities
  - An environment conducive for succes
  - State-of-the-art facilities
- Interdisciplinary teams
  - Grand challenges require grand approaches
  - Requires strong single disciplines
  - Removal of barriers at all levels
- Funding
  - New approaches
  - Industry partnerships
    - R&D outsourcing growth
  - Multi-institutional (domestic & international)









## **CALS faculty**

## >Tenured/tenure-track faculty

≻July 2010 – 178

≻Currently – 212

Includes 26 at ARECs (5 new AREC hires since 2010)

August 2013 – anticipate 226

Anticipate 27 at ARECs

## Field extension faculty

≻July 2010 – 179

Currently – 230 (searches underway)

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# Human & Agricultural Biosciences Building 1



UirginiaTech HUMAN AND AGRICULTURAL BIOSCIENCES BUILDING ONE SOUTHEAST PERSPECTIVE

#### **Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station** and its **Agricultural Research and Extension Centers**



College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Virginia lech Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station

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#### **Interdisciplinary Graduate Education Programs**



# **Examples of Regional Collaboration**



- Peanut Variety Quality Evaluation
- Viticulture for the mid-Atlantic
- Irrigation pathogens
- Box Blight
- Pasture-based beef production for Appalachia
- Seafood safety training

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# Total U.S. agriculture and food research, development, and extension expenditures by research funder and performer for 2009

Public entities fund 39% and perform 46% of ag research. Private entities fund 61% and perform 54% of ag research.



#### Federal funding of agriculture-related research to universities

Lower bound = ag research; Upper bound = both ag and biological research



#### Distribution of the R&D portfolio across Federal funders of ag research

USDA \$2.3B, DOD \$68B, DOE \$9.9B, DHHS \$36B, NASA \$5.9B, and NSF \$6.1B.



#### USDA Research, Education, and Economics (REE) Funding



## **National R&D Investment**





## Agricultural Research Spending Slowdown



## State Appropriations at Public Research Universities



### State Appropriation has Failed to Keep Pace



Virginia Tech, 2013

## CALS External Funding/FTE

#### **Awards Received**



## **CALS Research Expenditure Growth**



## Sources of CALS Research Awards FY 2012



#### Distribution of CALS Proposals by Size Fiscal Year 2011





# Addressing the Grand Challenges of Agriculture

Strategically grow the education & research programs at our land-grant universities

Increase the integration of the land-grant missions

Expand partnerships internally and externally

Adopt new funding models





# Thank you!

