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Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources

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Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources

IANR Vision

The Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources serves Nebraska by providing internationally-recognized science and education to assure the state's competitiveness in a changing world.

IANR Mission

To fulfill this vision with its firm focus on Nebraska, we must achieve world-class excellence in: the life sciences, ranging from molecular to global systems; sustainable food, fiber and natural resource systems that support a bio-based economy; economics and environments for a sustainable future; and human capital development of children, youth, and families.

We do that by: advancing knowledge along the continuum from fundamental research to application and education necessary to meet the current and emerging needs of the state; preparing professionals for the future; creating and implementing solutions to critical problems; expanding partnerships across UNL, the NU system, and beyond; and cultivating public-private partnerships. In short, we fulfill our mission by being at work for Nebraska.

History of IANR

In 1973 the Nebraska Legislature, recognizing the tremendous importance agriculture and natural resources play in the state, passed LB149, which led to the Institute's formation the following year. The impetus came from a coalition of activists that was concerned that agriculture was not getting enough attention from the university. It was actually the culmination of at least a couple of decades of discussion.

The Institute was established with a vice chancellor as its chief administrator. Although it is statutorily a part of the University of Nebraska system, it has been placed under the administrative structure of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Duane Acker was the first vice chancellor of IANR, with Martin Massengale and Roy Arnold, and Irvin Omtvedt following in that position. John C. Owens held the position of vice chancellor until June 30, 2010. Ronnie Green is the current vice chancellor of IANR.

Institute faculty and staff have appointments in the following: Agricultural Research Division, College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, College of Education and Human Sciences, Extension, School of Natural Resources, Nebraska Forest Service and Nebraska Statewide Arboretum.