

MISSION STATEMENT

Why do we exist?

The University of Illinois College of ACES Alumni Association inspires meaningful engagement and advocacy amongst the ACES family to advance the College of ACES.

1. Fellowship/Alumni Engagement

Provide meaningful activities, events, and opportunities to develop and strengthen relationships among alumni and between alumni and the College.

- A. Host up to 4 district events per year throughout Illinois. Districts will host events every other year in an effort to engage alumni as part of an ACES in Places event. Additionally, provide opportunity for new college administration and ACES Advancement staff to provide meaningful updates about critical issues impacting ACES and the University
- B. Evaluate the value of district events to attendees. Create survey to send to alumni post-event.
- C. Investigate new regional representatives in large populated cities where ACES alumni reside. Create a "Illini in a Box" to provide to regional representative to host game watch or ACES gathering.
- D. Add two new ACES Alumni Board of Director positions to engage Ag Communications and Ag Education programs with alumni association.
- E. Host a caravan for new College of ACES Dean to visit alumni and industry to engage new Dean.
- F. Create Young Alumni focus groups to determine needs for young alumni engagement – Chicago and in-state.
- G. Continue to build and enhance communication with Vocational Directors and departments within the College to increase alumni involvement across the College
- H. Engage Deans and Department Heads at least once per year to discuss needs with ACES Alumni Board of Directors.
- I. ACES Alumni Board to visit each department to learn about current educational programming, challenges and meet faculty/staff.
- J. Understand and evaluate role of international alumni engagement and determine how best to strategize alumni engagement.
- K. Remain engaged in promoting advocacy to alumni and friends of the College of ACES through the Illinois Connection program at UIAA.

2. Awards & Recognition

To recognize and publicize/promote excellence and inspire alumni and students.

- A. Solicit applications to maintain existing awards and make selections to recognize outstanding alumni
- B. Streamline awards and recognition process with new award application or possibly one application.
- C. Continue outline for a new professional/career alumni award.
- D. Continue efforts with the ACES Round Barn Society to keep members informed and engage them in activities.

3. Student Engagement

To increase awareness of the ACES Alumni Association among the ACES student body and facilitate engagement throughout a student's academic experience.

- A. Continue engagement with the Student Advancement Committee and college students to increase awareness of the Alumni Association
- B. Make real-world connections for ACES students to connect with ACES alumni
- C. Connect students and recent graduates with College of ACES board members to know who represents their district or hometown.

4. Fundraising

With decreased state funding, the ACES Alumni Board of Directors will seek funding to support ongoing alumni programs and activities through fundraising initiatives and event sponsorships.