

Introduction

The following are assessments of our programs in education and research. Education programs include undergraduate, graduate, and extension education. Research programs are identified by our two primary groupings of expertise; earth system science and crop science.

Faculty and staff were asked to address the following questions as they reflected on these programs and provided their vision for the future:

Where we are now: (provide overview of the program, actions taken in response to the 2002 CSREES Review, and current program focus). This section allows us to inventory the current status of our programs so that we can develop plans that enhance the strength and relevancy of these programs for the future.

Where we want to go: (identify and discuss the direction of our programs over the next decade based upon our strengths and our ability to predict future needs)

How we will get there: (identify the strategies to achieve our goals over the next 10 years)

The five documents have either explicitly addressed each of these questions in the text as headings (documents: undergraduate education, extension education, earth system science, crop science) or have blended these questions within the discussions but not as separate headings (graduate education). Both approaches achieved the same goal, to develop a shared vision for future direction.