

UADA Policy 216.0
Internal/External Advisory Boards/Committees

Purpose

This policy sets forth the requirements for establishing and maintaining internal or external advisory boards/committees (hereafter referred to as “boards/committees”) to further the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture’s (“UADA”) mission of teaching, research, and service. These boards/committees are crucial connections between administration and external/internal expertise that can offer vital guidance to help our institution navigate through the complex challenges facing UADA in the future to continue to strengthen agriculture, communities, and families by connecting trusted research to the adoption of best practices in Arkansas.

Scope

This policy applies to external individuals selected to serve on boards/committees that the Division of Agriculture establishes. The policy describes how membership will be determined to serve on these boards/committees.

Policy

UADA will benefit substantially from the advice, perspectives, and support provided by board/committees. To make sure that the boards/committees are established and operate properly, compliance with this policy is essential.

UADA boards/committees provide advice, perspectives from stakeholders, community members, constituencies, experts, industry/business leaders, and others. Fundraising development and lobbying entities, as well as internal advisory groups comprised of faculty and staff, are not covered by this policy.

UADA advisory boards/committees established pursuant to this policy have no legal authority to commit UADA to any course of action. Accordingly, UADA advisory boards/committees are advisory in nature and may provide input but have no direct or indirect authority to: (1) set policies, procedures, guidelines, protocols, values, or the like for UADA; (2) direct, limit or constrain UADA work or programs; or (3) interfere with the mission of UADA.

The Vice President for Agriculture, or designee, has the sole authority to approve the establishment or re-establishment of UADA boards/committees. The appropriate Senior Associate Vice-President (SVAP) will retain documents establishing the boards/committees, describing the roles and missions of the boards/committees, and other documentation.

Serving on these boards/commissions are open to all in accordance with UADA’s non-discrimination policies. When considering those to serve on these boards/committees, careful thought should be given regarding a person’s knowledge, skills, reputation of honesty and integrity, and their specific area of expertise.

Board/committee members need to be willing to work collaboratively and to provide constructive feedback to each other and to the board/committee. They should also be open to differing points of view, be patient and responsive, and be willing to engage.

All board/committee members with conflicts of interests, or perceived conflicts of interest must disclose the conflict immediately. This is an ongoing duty.