Our mission

Our distinct mission, as Missouri’s only state-supported member of the Association of American Universities, is to provide all Missourians the benefits of a world-class education enriched by service and global interaction. We are stewards and builders of a priceless state resource, a unique physical infrastructure and scholarly environment in which our tightly interlocked missions of teaching, research, service and economic development work together on behalf of all citizens. Students work side by side with some of the world’s best faculty to advance the arts and humanities, the sciences and the professions. Scholarship and teaching are driven by a sense of public service — the obligation to produce and disseminate knowledge that will improve the quality of life in the state, the nation and the world.

We are MU — Missouri’s Flagship University

We are a diverse group of students, faculty and staff who value the excitement and learning that come from interaction among people with richly different backgrounds and ideas.

We challenge talented undergraduates to stretch their minds and imaginations with the unique strengths of a major research university.

Our students experience an interwoven web of learning experiences — in classrooms, in residence hall learning communities, and in collaborative research and creative, artistic and service projects with faculty.

We develop the world leaders of tomorrow through rigorous graduate and professional programs across the broadest range of disciplines offered on a Missouri campus.

We ensure improving the quality of MU through a financial model that supplements taxpayer support with rational tuition and student aid, public-private partnerships and aggressive fundraising. Our responsible fiscal planning assures both excellence and access for all well-prepared students, regardless of socioeconomic status.

We live and work in a community of scholars. We treasure our core values of respect, responsibility, discovery and excellence.

As a 21st century land-grant university, we are an economic engine for Missouri. We generate businesses and jobs by creating and disseminating the knowledge that fuels the new economy.

We use our unique intellectual resources to improve the civic, economic, health and educational well-being of Missourians from all walks of life and all corners of the state. We are committed to improving the quality of life of students and their families and communities through the creative and performing arts and the application of new knowledge.