



# Agricultural Products Development Center and the Northern Crops Institute: *A Winning Partnership*



## HISTORY

North Dakota State University has a long, rich history of agricultural product research. For more than 60 years, Harris Hall (built in 1954) has been the center for grain and food science research on campus. With milling and baking, pasta processing and wheat quality testing, malting and brewing, and more, the research in Harris Hall is vital to support the growth and prosperity of North Dakota agriculture.

Across campus is Shepperd Arena (built in 1952), home to the NDSU meats laboratory. Here animal science students and faculty work to improve the quality and safety of meat products.

For decades, the synergistic collaboration between the Northern Crops Institute (NCI) and NDSU spans multiple departments and units. NDSU faculty routinely provide expertise for NCI international trade teams and visitors who come to explore opportunities for purchasing North Dakota agricultural products. NCI also brings domestic and international corporate partners and businesses to campus to solve technical problems, engage in training programs and develop value-added ventures.

The partnerships among NDSU, NCI and industry, grower groups and producers have resulted in advances that have fueled agriculture in this region. However, the facilities that house them are not adequate for 21st-century needs.

## THE VISION

To address the challenge of a growing world population and food security, we need to bring together scientists, teachers, producers, customers and students who will develop innovative solutions to these complex problems. Co-locating NDSU's food, meat and grain science laboratories and NCI under one roof will create the environment to meet this objective. Having highly talented NDSU scientists collaborate with domestic and international customers means greater revenue and market access for North Dakota farmers and ranchers.

## WHO BENEFITS?

- North Dakota farmers and ranchers
- North Dakota agribusinesses and food processing companies
- Domestic marketing companies and exporters
- Rural communities
- Students
- Consumers
- Taxpayers

## THE FUTURE with the Agricultural Products Development Center and NCI

Expanding and enhancing research and teaching capacity at NDSU through the Agricultural Products Development Center (APDC) and co-locating it with the Northern Crops Institute will ensure a prosperous future for North Dakota's agriculture community, including:

### ■ Growth of New and Existing Markets —

Developing new and growing existing markets is critical to agricultural success. The people brought together in this facility will provide research and development to support this need, including expanded testing and developing new and better uses of these ingredients. Improvements in product quality open new markets and enhance existing markets.

### ■ Contemporary Facilities for Work and Discovery —

The building will feature modern classrooms and laboratories designed to provide the best teaching, research and product development experience in the region. The meat science laboratory will be designed for live and online demonstrations of carcass breakdowns. The food-grade laboratories will feature modern testing, milling, processing and baking equipment, allowing students to work in spaces that mimic the industry as well as giving them entrepreneurial opportunities for product development. The addition of a sensory science laboratory to the meat, grain and food science programs will be a catalyst for product development, allowing researchers to gather insights on consumer reactions to product characteristics.

### ■ More Graduates Ready for the Workforce —

The APDC will increase research opportunities and the number of students graduating from the grain, food and meat science programs. This facility will ensure graduates are ready to fill the industry's vast and ever-changing needs.

### ■ Enhanced Value-Added Opportunities and Partnerships with Industry —

The technical expertise of NDSU scientists and NCI professionals helps existing businesses grow, assists with development of value-added businesses and creates entrepreneurial opportunities. Further processing of our agricultural commodities provides economic opportunity and growth for rural areas, creates jobs, and grows and diversifies the tax base. A long-term outcome of this investment will be further enhancements in value-added agricultural processing businesses across the state.

### ■ Improved Ability to Educate Foreign and Domestic Customers —

North Dakota has long been known for excellent quality agricultural commodities. NCI's role in educating our customers will be expanded and enhanced. Foreign and domestic buyers will learn from experts about the quality of our products, how to best use them in their product lines, and how to manage purchases and logistics from regional suppliers. This translates into market access as well as enhanced revenues for North Dakota farmers and ranchers, and rural communities.

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