Initial Information and Proposed Process for Developing Guidelines Regarding
Industrial Hemp and Medical Marijuana

College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (CAFNR)
University of Missouri
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1) Industrial hemp
    a. CAFNR's guidelines regarding industrial hemp will evolve with federal and state regulations, to the extent possible.
        i. The Missouri Department of Agriculture (MDA) is developing state regulations regarding producer participation in Missouri's industrial hemp pilot program. The approved applications should allow the cultivation, handling, and sale of industrial hemp to begin in 2020. In addition, new federal regulations will be developed by the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) with the passage of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018. These new federal regulations will help to further define CAFNR's industrial hemp guidelines.
        ii. Once MDA establishes final regulations, CAFNR will – in concert with the rest of the University of Missouri - develop guidelines for research centers, campus laboratories or other facilities managed by the college.
        iii. CAFNR will develop protocols for its testing/diagnostic laboratories for industrial hemp starting in 2020.
    b. CAFNR faculty recently received a grant to determine the economic feasibility of industrial hemp funded by the Missouri Agricultural and Small Business Development Authority (MASBDA). This feasibility study reaches across many CAFNR divisions and will help frame the college's future portfolio.
        i. The study intends to identify markets for industrial hemp.
        ii. The study will provide an economic assessment of the potential industrial hemp market in Missouri.
    c. CAFNR faculty can pursue research opportunities with industrial hemp as long as they inform the Office of the Vice Chancellor and Dean of CAFNR prior to submission of any grant applications.
    d. CAFNR faculty can provide unbiased and research-based advice on industrial hemp as part of teaching and/or extension events.

2) Medical Marijuana
    a. CAFNR's guidelines regarding medical marijuana will evolve with federal and state regulations, to the extent possible. In cases where the federal and state regulations conflict, we will seek council from MU legal to guide specific activities.
        i. In Missouri, the Department of Health and Senior Services (MDHSS) regulates medical marijuana. Presently, MDHSS expects to develop regulations regarding the cultivation, processing, dispensing and sale of medical marijuana in August 2019. The MDHSS expects medical marijuana sales to begin in early 2020 implying medical marijuana will be grown in Missouri in late 2019.
        ii. Once MDHSS establishes the regulations, CAFNR will – in concert with the rest of the University of Missouri - finalize guidelines for research centers, campus laboratories or other facilities managed by the college.

b. CAFNR faculty can pursue research opportunities with medical marijuana as long as the research complies with all Federal, State and local regulations. For those projects handling medical marijuana samples, the principle investigators will need to obtain a waiver or permission from federal authorities (see Controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C. § 811) prior to submitting a grant application. Faculty and staff considering research projects on medical marijuana are strongly advised to investigate any possible restrictions, necessary permitting, record keeping requirements, and other regulations before submitting any grant applications or handling any samples. In addition, faculty wishing to pursue research on medical marijuana should alert the Office of the Vice Chancellor and Dean of CAFNR prior to submission of any grant applications.

c. CAFNR faculty and staff should exercise caution when asked for advice on the cultivation, processing, and sale of medical marijuana. Federal statute currently prohibits the cultivation and sale of marijuana. It is possible that federal funds – which partly provide financial support for CAFNR – could be jeopardized if inquiries are not handled appropriately.