January/February Issue >>>

- Changes to Degree Programs in 2010
- FAEIS partner showcase:
 Sul Ross State University
- Help Desk Q & A
- Tips for Report Builder
- Final Thoughts by Dr. Eric Smith

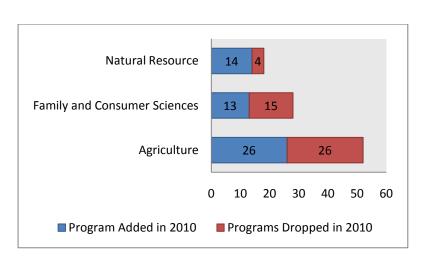


A Monthly Insight into the USDA's Food and Agricultural Education Information System

FAEISNews

Changes to Degree Programs over the 2010 Academic Year

Over the 2010 academic year, the agricultural and life science programs within the FAEIS partnering institutions have undergone a number of changes. The programs that have been dropped and added over the past year were tabulated, excluding those programs that have been incorporated into other programs. The programs were categorized into program areas in agriculture, natural resources, and family and consumer sciences.



Added Programs. Overall, agriculture programs had the highest number of degree programs added over the past year (n=26). The bulk of these were bachelor degrees (n=12) and masters degrees (n=10). Added programs topics included sustainable agriculture, agribusiness, and horticulture. Natural resource programs had the next highest number of degree programs added (n=14). These programs were predominantly at the certificate level (n=7) and the masters degree level (n=3). Family and consumer science programs had the smallest number of programs added among the topic areas (n=13). These programs were mainly bachelor degrees (n=7) and masters degrees (n=4).

Dropped Programs. Agriculture programs had the highest number of degree programs dropped in 2010 (n = 26). The majority of these programs were bachelor degrees (n=10), associate degrees (n=7) and masters degrees (n=7). The topics included agribusiness, food science, and animal science. Programs in family and consumer sciences had the next highest number of programs dropped over the past year (n=15). These programs were predominantly track options within existing programs (n=7) and bachelor degrees (n=3). Natural resource programs had the fewest programs dropped (n=4). These were primarily at the bachelor degree level (n=3).

To review the data for this report click here. To view the full summary report click here.

School of Agriculture and Natural Resource Sciences Sul Ross State University



The School of Agriculture and Natural Resource Sciences at Sul Ross State University serves students interested in pursuing careers associated with the production, processing and distribution of food and fiber, the management of natural resources, agricultural business, and agricultural education.

A broad range of degrees are available through the Animal Science and the Natural Resource Management departments, including associate of applied science, bachelor of science, master of agriculture, and master of science degrees. Close to 15% of Sul Ross State University's students are enrolled in the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

The Borderlands Research Institute

One unique feature of the School of Agriculture and Natural Resource Sciences is the partnership that has been built between the school and the Borderlands Research Institute for Natural Resource Management. The Borderlands Research Institute operates as a sister institution to the Natural Resource Management Department within the School.



The Trans-Pecos region of Texas offers a broad diversity of climates to research alternative land management techniques. The terrain of the Institute includes mountain peaks topping over 8,000 feet and areas of flat desert. The varied landscape is matched by the broad range of plant and animal species.

The region serviced by the Institute posseses over 2,000 plant species, 500 species of birds, 170 reptile and amphibians, and 120 mammals. This vast environment Institute lies within one mile of the main campus in Alpine, Texas.

The Turner Range Animal Science Center

Another interesting component of the School is the 500-acre Turner Range Animal Science Center. The Turner Center includes classrooms and laboratories, with special facilities for veterinary technology, farrier technology, meat technology, reproductive physiology, equine science, and swine facilities.



A renovation and expansion of the Turner Center was completed in 2006 and offers a 50-foot show ring, a treadmill to study horse physiology, and a state-of-the-art meat processing facility.



Tips for the FAEIS Report Builder

Running a report of faculty headcounts in family and consumer sciences program areas by academic rank

This report will review the change in the number of faculty in each of the family and consumer sciences program areas. The report below shows that the number of full professors and associate professors are declining while the number of assistant professors is rising.

This is promising for recent Family and Consumer sciences Ph.D graduates because it appears that institutions are currently hiring assistant professors in this field of study.

To compile the report in the FAEIS Report Builder, follow the steps below.

- 1. Log in to Report builder with FAEIS username and password
- 2. Click on "LAYOUT" button to select variables for report
- 3. Choose Faculty from the "SURVEY TYPE" drop down menu
- 4. Click "Set Survey"
- 5. Select boxes for years 2007, 2008 and 2009
- 6. Click "Set Years"
- 7. Choose 'Year' from the "COLUMNS" drop down menu
- 8. Choose 'Academic Rank' from the "ROWS" drop down menu
- 9. Choose 'Table Cells: Headcount' has been chosen from "OPTIONS" drop down menu
- 10. Click "Set Report"
- 11. Click on "ACADEMIC FILTERS" button at top of page
- 12. Click on "Select Program Areas" button
- 13. Choose "Family and Consumer Sciences/Human Sciences" from list
- 14. Click "Set"
- 15. Click "View Report" button at top of page

Faculty Count in at All Institutions			
	2007	2008	2009
Rank			
Professor	519	476	470
Associate Professor	498	487	440
Assistant Professor	499	509	518
Other Faculty	213	227	218
Instructor	213	227	218
Institutions Contributing to Report: 90			

Surveys Now Open >>>

- 2010 Student Enrollment
- 2009/2010 Degrees Awarded
- 2009/2010 Placement of Graduates
- 2010 Faculty Survey

DUE March 1st, 2011



The Everett E. Turner Range Animal Science Center at Sul Ross State University in Alpine, Texas.

Ask the FAEIS Help Desk >>>

when I report student
enrollment and degrees
awarded, which semester
should the data come from?

The data for student enrollment for 2010 should come from the Fall 2010 semester. The degrees awarded for 2010 should come from academic year 2009-2010.







The FAEIS team has hit the ground running with the start of the new semester. The student and faculty surveys are in full swing, and we thank all of our participating organizations that have already entered in data.

The FAEIS team was also busy creating and presenting a beautiful poster entitled, "Studying agriculture abroad: Tracking international study abroad program areas." for the 3rd annual Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy held at Virginia Tech. I personally have been swamped with preparing for the FAEIS team's big trip to Washington D.C. We will be presenting in front of members of our funding organization, the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), on April 7th.

This will be followed by our first ever FAEIS Statistical Panel on April 8th. We look forward to meeting with friends and colleagues on our travels and hearing new approaches we can explore and apply to our FAEIS data.

Best Wishes.

Dr. Eric Smith

FAEIS Co-Principal Investigator Chair, Virginia Tech Statistics Department

Issue Contributors >>>

Special thanks to:

Robert Kincucan Sul Ross State University

Photos courtesy:

Sul Ross State University Virginia Tech

Editors

Dr. Mary A. Marchant Dr. Timothy P. Mack Dr. Eric Smith Bill Richardson Dr. Eric Vance

Jolene D. Hamm

Reporter

Lisa Hightower Ashley Bell Katie Griffin

Data Analyst

Yu-Ming Albert Shen

Graphic Designer Lisa Hightower Ashley Bell

Food and Agricultural Education Information System

Virginia Tech, Mail Code: 0198 400 Turner Street, Suite 102 Blacksburg, VA 24060 http://faeis.usda.gov

Contact the FAEIS Help Desk: 540-231-4941 or faeis@vt.edu

FAEIS is funded by



United States Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture

FAEIS is housed at

