

FAEIS Newsletter

March 4, 2010

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Thanks again to all who have submitted their 2009 FAEIS surveys so far. Your student and faculty survey data has been loaded into FAEIS Report Builder as the preliminary dataset for 2009. Survey data from 2009 will be updated as more institutions (who requested extensions) continue to report to FAEIS.

Exploring the Supply of Faculty and Graduate Students For the NIFA Priority Area of Sustainable Energy

Last month we focused on how the FAEIS data could relate to one of the new NIFA priority areas (Food Safety). For the March FAEIS newsletter, we thought we might follow the same idea by looking at one of the other NIFA priorities, Sustainable Energy.

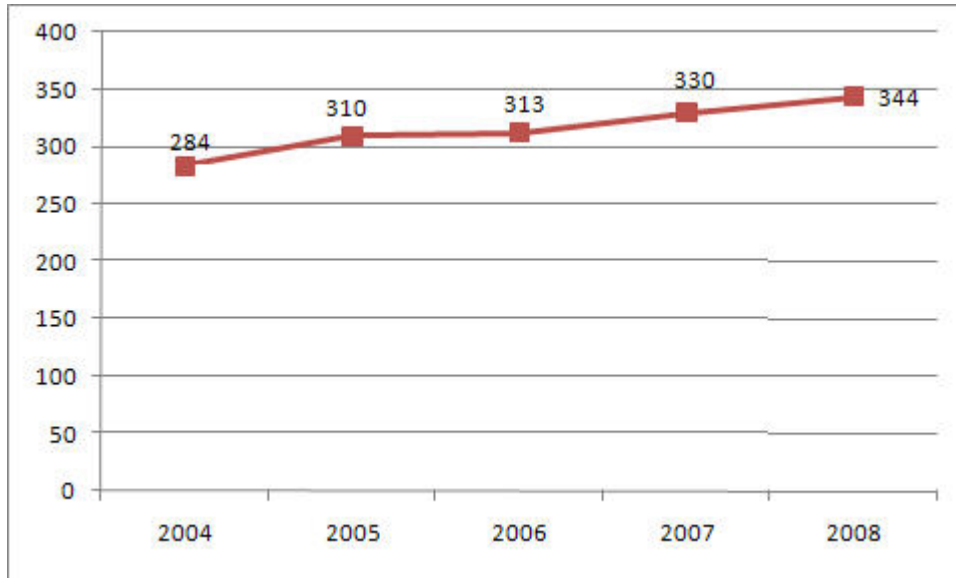
We used the FAEIS data to track the trend of faculty and graduate students in agricultural engineering and agricultural product processing disciplines. We choose these disciplines because a significant amount of the biofuels work is taking place in Agriculture Engineering departments in colleges of agriculture. Obviously, faculty in a number of disciplines besides agriculture engineering and agriculture products processing are and will be working in the sustainable energy field. And also obviously, not all agriculture engineers will be working on sustainable energy. However, we thought that this use of FAEIS data can shed a bit of light on how we might be prepared to work in the sustainable energy field.

The disciplines included are: Agricultural Engineering; Agricultural Mechanics and Equipment / Machine Technology; Agricultural Mechanization and Engineering, Other; Agricultural Mechanization, General; Agricultural and Food Products Processing.

There are 48 institutions in FAEIS with faculty counts in these disciplines. In order to develop a trend analysis, we limited the analysis to the 28 institutions that had data for the five successive years of 2004-2008.

Here is the trend of faculty in agriculture engineering and agricultural products processing disciplines:

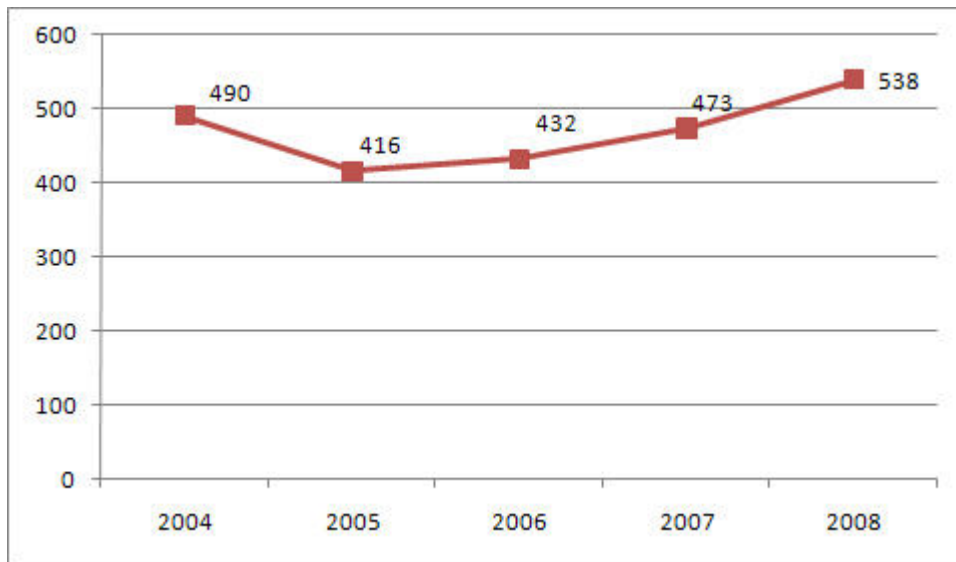
Faculty Count in Agriculture Engineering and Agricultural Products Processing



[Click here to see the list of Institutions represented by the chart above.](#)

We took the same approach with graduate student (MS and PhD) enrollment in these fields. We only included those institutions that had 5 successive years of data. Here is the trend analysis:

Graduate Student Count in Agriculture Engineering and Agricultural Products Processing



[Click here to see the list of Institutions represented by the chart above.](#)

Based on this analysis faculty and graduate student numbers in the agricultural engineering and agricultural product processing disciplines are growing and can positively contribute to the work in sustainable energy.

2009 Survey Data Available in Report Builder

Preliminary data from the 2009 FAEIS Student and Faculty surveys are now available in FAEIS Report Builder. Approximately 80% of the expected data has been collected.

[Login to FAEIS Report Builder](#)

Examples of Custom Reports

This is a new section for the FAEIS newsletter, where we feature a set of reports we recently prepared for a FAEIS user.

The following reports were generated for Dr. Allan Goecker, Assistant Dean and Associate Director Academic Programs, College of Agriculture, Purdue University, who asked for "Summaries that will help our employment opportunities panel evaluate what is in the educational pipeline at our "colleges of agriculture" as broadly defined."

- [BS Enrollment in Agriculture Academic Areas for Institutions with 6 Years of Data](#)
- [MS Enrollment in Agriculture Academic Areas for Institutions with 6 Years of Data](#)
- [PhD Enrollment in Agriculture Academic Areas for Institutions with 6 Years of Data](#)
- [BS Enrollment in Natural Resources and Conservation Academic Areas for Institutions with 6 Years of Data](#)
- [MS Enrollment in Natural Resources and Conservation Academic Areas for Institutions with 6 Years of Data](#)
- [PhD Enrollment in Natural Resources and Conservation Academic Areas for Institutions with 6 Years of Data](#)

Comments from Dr. Goecker:

"Thank you for the excellent and instantaneous response to my request for enrollment data! These summaries will be especially useful as we attempt to build a forecast of future employment opportunities for college graduates in food, agricultural, and natural resources areas."

Need a report?

[Ask FAEIS](#)



[Food and Agricultural Education Information System](#)

Virginia Tech, Mail Code: 0169
Corporate Research Center, Building VII
Blacksburg, VA 24061
Help Desk: (540) 231-4941
faeis@vt.edu, <http://faeis.usda.gov/>

**National Institute of
Food and
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