



GLOBAL FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL CHALLENGES: STRATEGIES FOR RECRUITING AND TRAINING STUDENTS IN THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

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- ❑ PROPOSAL AWARD NUMBER: 2010-38821-21470
- ❑ AMOUNT: \$150,000.00
- ❑ NIFA\USDA Relevant Priority or Mission Area

ACTIVITIES

1. Establish the Ag STARS (Shaping Tomorrow's Agricultural Research Scientists) Mentoring Program in the College of Agricultural Family and Consumer Sciences (CAFCS) at Southern University-Baton Rouge (SUBR)
2. Recruit and mentor 20 undergraduate students per year pursuing degrees in agricultural sciences at SUBR.
3. Help students to develop their writing, analytical, critical-thinking, interpersonal, and oral communication skills.
4. Involve students in designing and conducting scientific research, and in presenting research findings at professional meetings.
5. Provide an avenue for the faculty to develop their teaching skills.

MANRRS PARTICIPANTS/AWARDEES



Ag STARS finished first, second, and fourth in Division II of the oral undergraduate research competition at the 27th annual Minority in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS) Conference held in Atlanta, March 29-31, 2012.

TEACHING PROGRAM NEED AREA

Student Experiential Learning

Student Recruitment and Retention

Faculty Preparation and Enhancement for Education

EVALUATION

1. The number of sophomores recruited into the Ag STARS Program who completed their degrees within 3-4 years.
2. The number of Ag STARS participants enrolled in graduate or professional schools, or employed in their fields or allied fields after graduation.
3. The number of posters, papers, presentations, publications, internships, and nonparticipants mentored.
4. Participants' perceptions of the Program's effectiveness will be assessed with a survey instrument.
5. Development of brochures, recruiting materials, and webpage.

OBJECTIVES

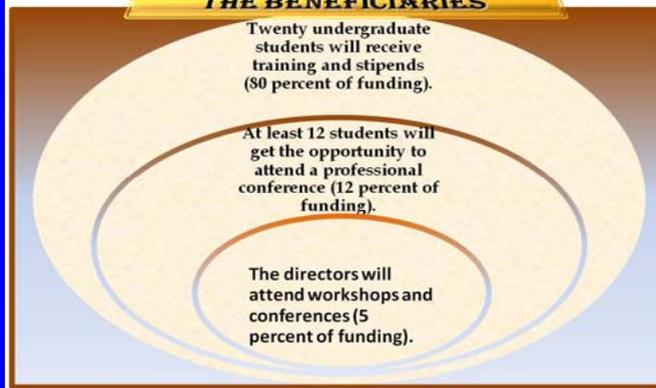
1. To recruit 20 minority students to pursue B.S. degrees in agricultural economics or agricultural sciences and to graduate at least 90 percent of these students within 3-4 years.
2. To provide experiential learning experiences through multidisciplinary collaboration to pipeline students into graduate and professional schools and into the global workforce.
3. To provide professional development opportunities for students to attend and make presentations at professional meetings and for faculty mentors to attend teaching-related workshops so that they can keep abreast of pedagogic changes and broaden their knowledge on the psychology of learning.

Ag Stars
CALLING ALL FRESHMEN, SOPHOMORES AND JUNIORS
DO YOU HAVE A 2.5 GPA AND NO DECLARED MAJOR?
Why not pursue an exciting degree in agricultural sciences and become a member of our **Ag Stars Mentoring Program?**
Ag Stars participants will earn \$1,000 stipend per semester!!!
Apply Today
Fisher Hall - Room 113

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MEASURING THE IMPACT...
Ag Stars
Shaping Tomorrow's Agricultural Research Scientists

BENEFICIARIES & QUANTIFY THE BENEFICIARIES



EXPECTED IMPACT

- Well-rounded graduates who will have the skills to meet the challenges of the 21st century workplace.
- Graduation of highly knowledgeable and analytically-trained students for entrance into professional schools.
- Increased enrollment in agricultural sciences.
- Greater faculty collaboration among CAFCS, Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center, and other colleges on the SUBR campus.
- Increased educational collaboration between the University and the Federal Government.