

Project Name:	Agriculture and Applied Economics – Natural Resources
MIU Round:	Round 2
Sponsor(s):	College of Agricultural & Life Sciences
Coordinator(s):	Ken Shapiro (Year 1), Ian Coxhead (Year 2)
Report Date:	Year 1, July 2011; Year 2, June 2012; Year 3, July 2013

Project Specific Goal and Measures

Project Impact Measure(s)	<p>Increase the level and quality of service to students majoring in Agriculture and Applied Economics (AAE) and AAE courses by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing access to resource and environmental economics courses by increasing the available seats and frequency of offering in AAE 343 Environmental Economics. • Increase the number of internship opportunities for AAE students and funding available for internship students. • Improve undergraduate advising by offering more opportunities for students to meet with advisors and more timely advice than the current faculty advising model. • Plan and implement a Certificate in Agribusiness Management.
Project Impact Data Source(s)	Departmental reports and APIR-provided data on course offerings and staffing levels.
Baseline Measure(s)	2009-10, prior to any MIU funding.

General MIU Goals and Measures (applicable to project)

A	Increased access in bottleneck areas	Covered in project goals (AAE 343).
C	Increased capacity for high-impact practices	Covered in project goals (increase internship opportunities).
D	Increased student learning and teaching excellence	Funding for TA support in large lecture courses will allow AAE to explore alternative content delivery such as hybrid course models involving distance learning technology, discussion sections and plenary sessions for current events and guest lectures. TA support will also allow a discussion section to be added to AAE 350, a course with controversial and emotional topics that would benefit from more personal reflection and discussion time. AAE is moving towards course exams that require demonstration of understanding that is beyond replication of lecture and reading material.

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E	More tenured, tenure-track faculty teaching undergraduate courses	Both new faculty hires will teach undergraduate courses.
F	Decreased achievement gaps	AAE is in the process of learning about achievement gaps that exist in departmental courses.
G	Attention to diversity in new hires	Department Chair attended WISELI recruiting workshops and briefed members of the search committee and shared WISELI materials. Because the first recruit was for an advanced assistant or associate position, all departmental faculty were asked to provide names of likely candidates and other contacts in the field in an effort to increase the number of minority and female candidates. All names that were provided received a personal invitation to apply. The position was also advertised in <i>Job Openings for Economists</i> (from the American Economics Association), <i>The Exchange</i> (from the American Agricultural Economics Association), the <i>Chronicle of Higher Education</i> , and ResEcon (listserv for resource and environmental economist).
I	Unintended benefits	One of the faculty members hired with MIU funding has expertise in economics and law dimensions of Native American resource management and is one of a small number of such experts nationally. Although not directly related to the main purpose of MIU, this faculty member's expertise is leading to interest from Native American graduate students.

Progress Reports

Year 1, 2010-11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conducted successful search for a senior hire (joined faculty in January 2012).• Conducted successful search for a 50% undergraduate Student Services Coordinator.• Offered AAE 343, Environmental Economics, in both fall and spring 2010-11 (pre-MIU, AAE 343 was only offered in the spring term). Enrollments in AAE 343 more than doubled between 2009-10 and 2010-11 (from 104 to 217).• Cultivated internship opportunities and funding for AAE majors. In summer 2011, four AAE students are participating in internships.
Year 2, 2011-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Offered AAE 343, Environmental Economics, in both fall and spring 2011-12 for a total enrollment of 334 students.• Offered AAE 344, The Environment and the Global Economy, to 95 students with a faculty instructor. This course had not been offered for the previous two academic years.• Offered AAE 671, Energy Economics, in Fall 2011 with a faculty instructor and in spring 2012 with an instructional academic staff instructor. Previously, AAE 671 was only taught in the spring semester and not by a faculty instructor.

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Year 2, continued

- Placed 23 undergraduate students in internships. 19 were AAE students and 4 were from other departments.
 - 17 undergraduates conducted research with faculty members.
 - Revived the undergraduate AAE/Ag Business Management Club in January 2012, mentored by an AAE academic staff member. Around 24 students regularly participated in the club activities.
 - Conducted a successful recruitment for a junior faculty hire (joined AAE faculty in August 2012).
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Year 3, 2012-13

- Offered faculty-taught AAE 343, Environmental Economics, in both fall and spring 2012-13 for a total enrollment of 341 students.
 - Again offered faculty-taught AAE 344, The Environment and the Global Economy, to 91 students. This is the second year this course has been offered after not being offered due to lack of instructional resources. During 2012-13 AAE restructured this course which will be offered in subsequent semesters as AAE 244. This will enable more freshmen and sophomores to access this course as an introduction to environmental economics.
 - Offered AAE 671, Energy Economics, in Fall 2012 with a faculty instructor and in spring 2013 with an instructional academic staff instructor. Previously, AAE 671 was only taught in the spring semester and not by a faculty instructor.
 - Offered faculty-taught AAE 531, Natural Resources Economics, to 19 students in Spring 2013. This is the first time in five years this course has been able to be offered.
 - Developed AAE 246, Climate Change Economics and Policy, to be offered starting in 2013-14. Planned enrollment is 100 students in Fall 2013 with eventual enrollment of up to 200 each fall. AAE is working with the FIG program to incorporate this course into a climate change-related first-year interest group.
 - Placed 19 undergraduates in internships (17 from AAE and 2 from other departments).
 - Assessment: No assessment of student learning outcomes was reported.
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