

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
Activities Offered in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences
May 2004

Recruiting/Retaining Minority students

We have a MANRRS student organization to support and offer leadership opportunities for the minority students in the College. Some of the activities for this past year include: participating in Welcome Week activities to recruit new members from outside of CFAES, hosting six high school group visits, participating in Phone-a-thon for prospective students of color to CFAES and 14 students volunteered for Scarlet & Gray Ag Day.

The College has also emphasized creating a positive multicultural climate in the College. We administered a college climate survey to all senior level students in CFAES for the 2003 – 2004 academic year. Also all FAES 100 classes discussed the importance of diversity/multiculturalism with diversity inserts placed in all freshmen and transfer college orientation class folders. MANRRS also sponsored a university-wide trip to the African American Museum Cultural Tour to Wilberforce, Ohio. Thirty three (33) people attended this event.

This academic year we have also developed a Visiting Faculty Multicultural Scholar program. We have had two scholar visits thus far, M. Ray McKinnie, North Carolina A&T State University, and Marybeth Lima, Louisiana State University.

Related to Student Leadership in CFAES, we held a 3-day leadership planning retreat for multicultural student leaders in the College. The Student Leadership group also planned student leader retreat activities for 2004 retreat.

Scholarship Programs

It has always been the intention of The College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences at The Ohio State University to help our students in all aspects of their education. To do so, we look beyond the classroom. Since the early 1900's, we have offered many scholarships for aiding the education of our students. Today we offer more than 350 scholarships on a yearly basis. These scholarships have been established in a variety of ways and for a multitude of reasons. The award amount varies from scholarship to scholarship as does the criteria for which each recipient is chosen. In 2003-04, the college awarded more than 800 awards totaling over \$1,300,000 in scholarships to over 500 students.

Recruiting Undergraduates, Including those Outside of Agriculture

A program was initiated in 2001 to target the recruitment of students from high school science programs, particularly in urban and suburban areas. A decision was made to reach these students via connections made with their science teachers. Efforts include:

A series of week-long summer courses were developed for science teacher to introduce them to the breadth of science content found within our academic programs and to provide them with real-world, hands-on experiments and demonstrations that can be transferable to their classroom.

Development of a "Get Real about Science" day, a day-long recruitment/field trip to introduce high school science students to the various fields of scientific inquiry and discovery taking place throughout the college and engage them in hands-on activities similar to those provided to their teachers during the summer courses. A pilot of this activity was held in November 2003; two dates are being scheduled for larger scale events during the 2004-05 academic year.

During the summer of 2004, a new segment is being developed on the CFAES website devoted to providing, among other things, a searchable database of articles, fact sheets, videos, etc. that would be

useful to science teachers in their courses and to science students as they prepare for science fair projects.

As of May 3, 2004, undergraduate recruitment of new first quarter freshmen (NFQF) is up by 6.6% for students in the AGR component of CFAES. Freshman recruitment takes shape in many forms including a personalized visit program which pairs prospective students with current students in their major for a shadowing experience called Experience College For a Day (ECFD), College Day open house, Pre-Vet Day open house, various booth presentations through youth organizations such as the FFA, alumni efforts to contact prospective students, weekly tours of CFAES called the CFAES Overview, scheduled mailings every three weeks about CFAES opportunities, and various open houses and efforts provided by academic departments.

Recruitment efforts targeted at current OSU students outside the College and transfer students have escalated this year. Presentations to the exploratory groups are the primary focus to recruit current OSU students. Attending open house programs at the OSU regional campuses has aided the transition to Columbus for our regional campus transfer students and similar activities at other universities has eased the transfer process for our non-OSU transfer students. Our College has taken the lead in developing OCAGE (Ohio Collegiate Ag Education) a consortium of two year and four institutions offering Ag and Natural Resource programs in Ohio. We meet quarterly and have improved communication between institutions, articulated course equivalencies and educated ourselves about each other's programs so that students can receive information about all programs offered that may meet their needs.

Career Services

The College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences Career Services Center provides a variety of services to students, employers, and faculty and staff. We are a decentralized office working to provide the best service possible to all constituents of the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences and the School of Natural Resources.

Every year, over 1,000 employers-large and small, local and national-take advantage of the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences Career Services Center (CFAES CSC) to identify and interview talented CFAES students. Whether they are seeking an entry-level employee, an enthusiastic internship student, or a graduate-level candidate, we make it easy for employers to recruit from an excellent pool of candidates. Employers register with the Hireabuckeye online automated recruitment system to fully utilize this system from any computer with internet access. The system allows them to market their opportunities to candidates, pre-select candidates online, monitor interview schedules as student's sign-up online, e-mail individuals or groups of candidates, and more.

For students we assist them in their search for full-time employment, internships, and cooperative education experiences. In addition to this service, we offer a variety of seminars presentations at student clubs and organizations along with workshops such as resume writing, interviewing, salary negotiations, and other job search related topics. We are dedicated in assisting students with their career opportunities.

On-campus recruiting begins in early October and continues through June. Each year employers conduct interviews at CFAES CSC with OSU College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Science students.

Programs to Integrate new Freshman and Transfer Students

One of the ways CFAES integrates new freshmen and transfer students into the OSU community is through the University Survey course (FAES 100/100T/H100). In addition to teaching new students the policies, procedures, and resources of the University essential for their success, camaraderie is developed through in-class interactions between students and visiting faculty and staff, as well as through assignments designed to foster valuable relationships with faculty advisors and with student groups and leaders specifically within CFAES. Since this course is required of all new students, it guarantees the development of a strong connection with the College office, as it is taught and facilitated by the College Academic Counselor.

Another invaluable integration opportunity for many students is the FAES Living-Learning Program, a clustered dormitory environment (Norton House – approximately 175 residents) exclusively for students enrolled in CFAES and the School of Natural Resources. The learning environment is extended beyond the classroom door as residents interact with students of similar academic background and intent, with Faculty Friends, and with visiting scholars, and have the opportunity for participation in ecological paradigm field excursions. Experiences have included canoeing at Big Darby Creek, visiting the Krohn Conservatory, Cincinnati Zoo, Kentucky National Horse Park, and the Ohio Tobacco Museum (all in one whirlwind weekend!), and discussing biomass energy conversion at the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center followed by an overnight stay at Malabar Farm.

Leadership Development Programs for Students

Alpha Zeta Partners is a student honorary in the College providing a two year leadership development experience for students. In addition to planning and participating in service projects each quarter, students attend seminars focusing on diversity and pluralism, transformational leadership and personal leadership philosophy, and organizational change. A study abroad experience to Brazil provides an opportunity to further study each of these areas within a global context.

CFAES Student Council provides students with an opportunity to learn about service, community, and leadership by planning activities which serve the student body of the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences. During the 2003-2004 Academic Year, the CFAES Student Council organized a leadership workshop for student organization officers, held a leadership development dinner which included instruction in dining etiquette and a presentation about diversity, hosted three faculty/staff appreciation breakfasts, hosted the annual student recognition program, and organized a free night at the Columbus Zoo for 4,300 members of the OSU community.

The CFAES Ambassador Team fosters leadership at the College level through training students to serve in a public relations capacity. Students on the team provide tours of the CFAES facilities, serve as greeters at College-wide functions, help organize recruitment events and activities, travel to high schools to present, and present at select Office of Development functions.

The highly developed CFAES student organization structure provides students with opportunities to learn about leadership, organizational behavior, their chosen major, and themselves on a daily basis. Learning occurs through event planning, serving as an officer, guest speakers, field trips, and socializing.

Faculty and Staff Development

Faculty development experiences provided under the auspices of the Price Chair for Teaching, Advising and Learning include a quarterly "learning lunch" experience for probationary faculty, an annual teaching symposium, best practices luncheons, a teaching improvement grants program, and a "scholarship of teaching" group.

Through grants from College administration, two departments are implementing "faculty development prototypes", designed to revitalize mid and late-career faculty members' research, teaching, and extension programs and to support change in programmatic focus.

Annually we offer Departmental Advising Workshops, a Freshman Adviser workshop and a New Adviser Workshop.

Pre-Medicine and other Pre-Professional and Honors Programs

20% of our students go on to professional or graduate school. Many of our majors offer excellent pathways to Vet School, Med School and Law School. CFAES serves as the largest feeder to OSU's College of Veterinary Medicine. A combination of the general education, major and minor allows our students to be competitive for admission.

The College has an Honors program and this year the College's Honors Committee spent considerable time developing a cohesive honors philosophy and reviewed the honors program and its opportunities. Effective Autumn 2004, the college has new Honors Program admission criteria, clearer expectations, identified an Honors Program Coordinator for every department and will be offering more options for the honors exam. Students must have a minimum of a 3.5 CPHR and an approved Honors Curriculum to be admitted. They must maintain a 3.5 CPHR and it is expected that they will complete an honors research or development project with an Honors Exam and Honors Thesis.

In the spring of each year there is a scholarship competition for junior honors students. They are encouraged to submit their research proposal for competition. Ten Students were awarded scholarships for next year based on their honors project proposal. They will complete their research product during their senior year.

International Programs

This College is committed to International exposure whether it be through coursework or study abroad. The rapid globalization of the U.S. economy makes it imperative for our graduates to enter the workplace with an appreciation for and competence in the international setting. All students must complete two international issues courses one of which must be a non-western or global course. The other may be another non-western or global or a western (non-us). Also, the Office of International Education and International Programs in Agriculture sponsors a variety of study abroad programs designed for the interests and professional needs of CFAES students. Students are encouraged to participate in a study abroad and with planning may substitute the credits earned from the study abroad for a portion of the General Education, major or minor depending on the experience. The College offers study abroad programs in Australia, Brazil, Czech Republic, China, Dominican Republic, England, Mexico Poland, and Southern Africa. Most of these programs are for six to eight weeks and students earn 15 quarters hours of credit. The College is beginning to look at short term opportunities with a course in history, culture, arts and language the quarter preceeding short term programs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jill A. Pfister, Assistant Dean, Academic Affairs and Honors
Director
Pfister.1@osu.edu

Marilyn Trefz, Assistant Dean organizational Development
Trefz.2@osu.edu

Pat Whittington, Director of Career Services and Financial Aid
Whittington.6@osu.edu

Pamela Thomas, Coordinator Minority Recruitment
Thomas.8@osu.edu