

USDA NIFA AWARD No.2011-38422-31204

Award Title: Watershed Management Experiential Learning for USDA Careers

Lead Agency: Cal State San Bernardino University Enterprises Corporation (FF20717)

Award Period: 09/01/11-08/31/15

CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITIES

External Evaluator:

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

1. At the end of each project year in Years 1-4, ***data will be collected*** from participating faculty and researchers, as well relevant data from all the collaborating USDA agencies, to evaluate the degree to which the methods employed enhanced the quality and effectiveness of teaching programs, specifically in terms of measurable gains in retention, graduation and USDA career attainment.
2. The ***evaluation will be both formative and summative***.
3. The ***formative evaluation*** will focus upon the methods and objectives detailed above. It will be both quantitative and qualitative.
 - a. The quantitative evaluation will include the number of students enrolled and retained in the internship program and the dollars spent for stipends.
 - b. The number of graduates produced including their academic success (measured by student GPA) and the number of graduates employed after graduation will also be quantified.
 - c. The qualitative evaluation will include feedback from students who participated in internships, faculty and researchers at the fourteen Hispanic-Serving CSU Institutions, and supervisors from collaborating agencies.

CLOSE-OUT ACTIVITIES

1. The ***Final Report*** will include indicators of success and lessons learned related to capacity building including an evaluation of efforts related to scientific research, information that has been provided by collaborating agencies, and the results of periodic surveys with key stakeholders.
2. Student outcomes that will be evaluated include the graduation rate of interns vs. non-program graduates, intern performance on standardized assessments (GPA) and satisfaction levels with the objectives of the internship program (increases in retention, graduation, continuation to graduate school, USDA job readiness and USDA job acquisition) six months after graduation.

Meta Data Consultant:

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

1. Annual work conducted by a Meta Data Consultant retained and compensated by all the 4-year 2011 Regional or National Collaboration (RONC) awardees is also included as requested by the NIFA National Program Direction.

Hispanic Youth Initiative Consultant:

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

1. A consultant, such as the Hispanic Youth Initiative, will be retained who will *assist with recruiting high achieving Hispanic high school students to USDA degree programs* as requested by the NIFA National Program Direction.