



2006–2007

The Agribusiness Department's College Based Fee Committee has established some important priorities for the Agribusiness Department to follow in their allocation of these CBF funds, and we'd like your input on future decisions. Please feel free to contact us, as we'll be meeting throughout the year to review and reallocate funds each year. If you are interested in serving on the College Based Fee Committee, please contact the CBF Committee Advisor, Ms. Marcia Tilley at mtilley@calpoly.edu. We will post updates on the Agribusiness home page (<http://www.agb.calpoly.edu>).

The College of Agriculture, Food, & Environmental Sciences (CAFES) College Based Fee Committee allocates 95% of the funds to the major departments, and the Agribusiness Department has reviewed and committed funds to several projects. A committee of eleven Agribusiness majors (Edward Drehsen, Jessica Harris, Elena Hart, , Patty Maldonado, Evan Marthedal, Brian Medeiros, Nisha Noroian, Andrew Pulford, Amanda Rankin, Matt Sabatasso [chair], Jena Silva, and Andy Tack), Agribusiness Department Chair Wayne Howard, and Agribusiness faculty member/committee advisor Marcia Tilley identified priorities and then established the amounts that would be allocated to each priority. Previously, student members were selected randomly from the database of all Agricultural Business majors attending school. This year we recruited and appointed new committee members. We try to maintain the composition of the committee as three from each class level (Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors). Right now, we are short one Freshman. The faculty advisor assists the members in making their informed decisions. The students research costs of specific allocations and use this information to determine their realistic priorities.

Where we spent this year:

- We hired all part-time lecturers through College Based Fees.
- We offered summer school (funded through College Based Fees).
- Facility renovation continued.
 - 10-203, 204, 206, and 215 are now “smart rooms.”
 - We purchased a new computer and software program (ACT) for tracking internships and establishing contacts with the industry. This computer is housed in the Internship Coordinator's office (10-255).
- AGB 301 and AGB 554 students continue to participate in *Trade Sim*, a market simulation program published by the University of Illinois. Each quarter, each student enrolled in these classes had a subscription to this program.
- Ten *Wall Street Journal* subscriptions were funded and placed in 10-202 (The Market Information Room), to be used by all AGB students for the entire year.
- Field Trips were increased in the department.

- Several classes enjoyed field trips in the guise of Ropes Courses, which are communication skills experiences leading to team building and help develop leadership skills.
- Many students took advantage of increased field trips, specifically in AGB 303 (Introduction to Horseracing Industry), AGB 410 (American Ag Credit Loan Contest), and AGB 440 (Field Studies in Agriculture, which is supplemented through College Based Fees).
- Reserve Textbooks were purchased; our intent is to supply at least two for each class in the core curriculum. Several instructors have put books on reserve courtesy of this funding. We will continue this effort.
- We again gave \$35,000 to the library to provide improved multimedia research vehicles for our students. We are very proud of what we have been able to offer for student research.
- Executive Lecturers were hosted in several classes this year. The students enjoyed having agribusiness professionals give current, real examples of the theories they've been learning in class.
- Student Team Support benefited the Food Distribution Research Society team, AAEA Quiz Bowl team, and the West Coast Marketing team.
- Professional Development
 - The Committee approved \$52,000 to enhance the professional development of 27.5 full-time equivalent faculty at \$2,000 each and prorated for part-time instructors. This professional development encompassed subscriptions to professional journals, dues to professional societies, and travel to conferences which provided information to be shared in the classroom.

Where are we going:

- The Committee is still very interested in helping provide enough faculty to teach the classes necessary to achieve efficient throughput. They have committed funds to provide for more lecturers.
- We will fund AGB Summer Quarter 2007.
- Renovating/updating rooms 10-202, continues to be a priority
 - The Committee committed \$50,000 to renovate the Market Information Room (10-202). A sub-committee of faculty members (Hurley, MacDougall, and Rickard) was appointed to research and develop plans for the renovation of 202. Of particular interest was removing the DTN that is currently used and obtaining some type of computer-generated, real time prices for all commodities, not just the limited range which we currently get from DTN. This would include the live feed video display and a dedicated terminal. This project has bogged down due to the difficulty in reaching consensus on what we want in this room.
- AGB 301 Market Simulation—We are using University of Illinois' *TradeSim*. This is a \$15/student subscription and the expenditures will fluctuate according to the enrollment in AGB 301. We will continue to fund this, although we continue to pursue other similar programs.
- We will continue funding the *Wall Street Journal* issues to be placed in 10-202 and used by all AGB students.
- Field Trips: we will continue to fund trips to increase student/industry exposures.

- Reserve Textbooks will continue to be purchased, at least two for each class in the core curriculum.
- We plan to continue funding \$35,000 for the library to continue their research acquisitions in 2007-2008.
- Executive Lecturers will be utilized more next year. It's difficult to use these funds the way we envisioned, as we are not able to charge any hosting fees, *e.g.*, taking the instructor to dinner, etc. We use this fund for paying for their sponsored guest parking and travel (transportation, lodging, and honoraria).
- Dr. Howard proposed hiring two new positions: An Academic Advisor and an External Relations Coordinator. The committee was intrigued, and continues to await further information (and faculty's approval of idea). Dr. Howard assured the committee he would solicit student input prior to pursuing recruitment activities.
- Speakers' Forum
 - It is very time-consuming to coordinate a Speakers' Forum and we identified a student subcommittee in charge of developing and coordinating these forums.
 - We are participating in the funding of the "Thursday Seminars."

We hope to generate more awareness of the College Based Fees by having instructors announce in class that books on reserve, field trips, etc., are being provided by College Based Fees.

Table 1 below gives a summary of the 2006 through 2007 expenditures.

Table 1: Agribusiness College Based Fees Expenditure Summary 2006-2007

Description	Spent
Classroom Enhancement	5,185
Executive Lecturers	5,512
Facility Renovation--Upgrading computing facilities in labs (10-203, 204, 214, 215) and computer presentation facilities in 10-206	4,793
Faculty Labor	500,370
Field Trips	16,811
Library Enhancement	35,000
Faculty Professional Development	23,638
Recruitment	9
Student Team Support	16,849
Web Development	1,200
Total	\$609,367
Budget	\$626,847
*Difference	\$17,480

***The remainder will be "rolled forward" to 2007-2008 AGB College Based Fees.**