Getting Occupational Student Training in Agricultural Research Through Novel Workshops (Go START NOW)

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GO START NOW

USDA-NIFA HSI grant
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Identify the Opportunities:

2001: my experience as an Asst. Professor

Students ready for research and that would consider graduate school

Addressing Hispanic Students and Parents resistance to relocate

Students willing to take jobs with USDA

Expanding the Vision to Impact more Hispanic Students located in southern regions of U.S.A.

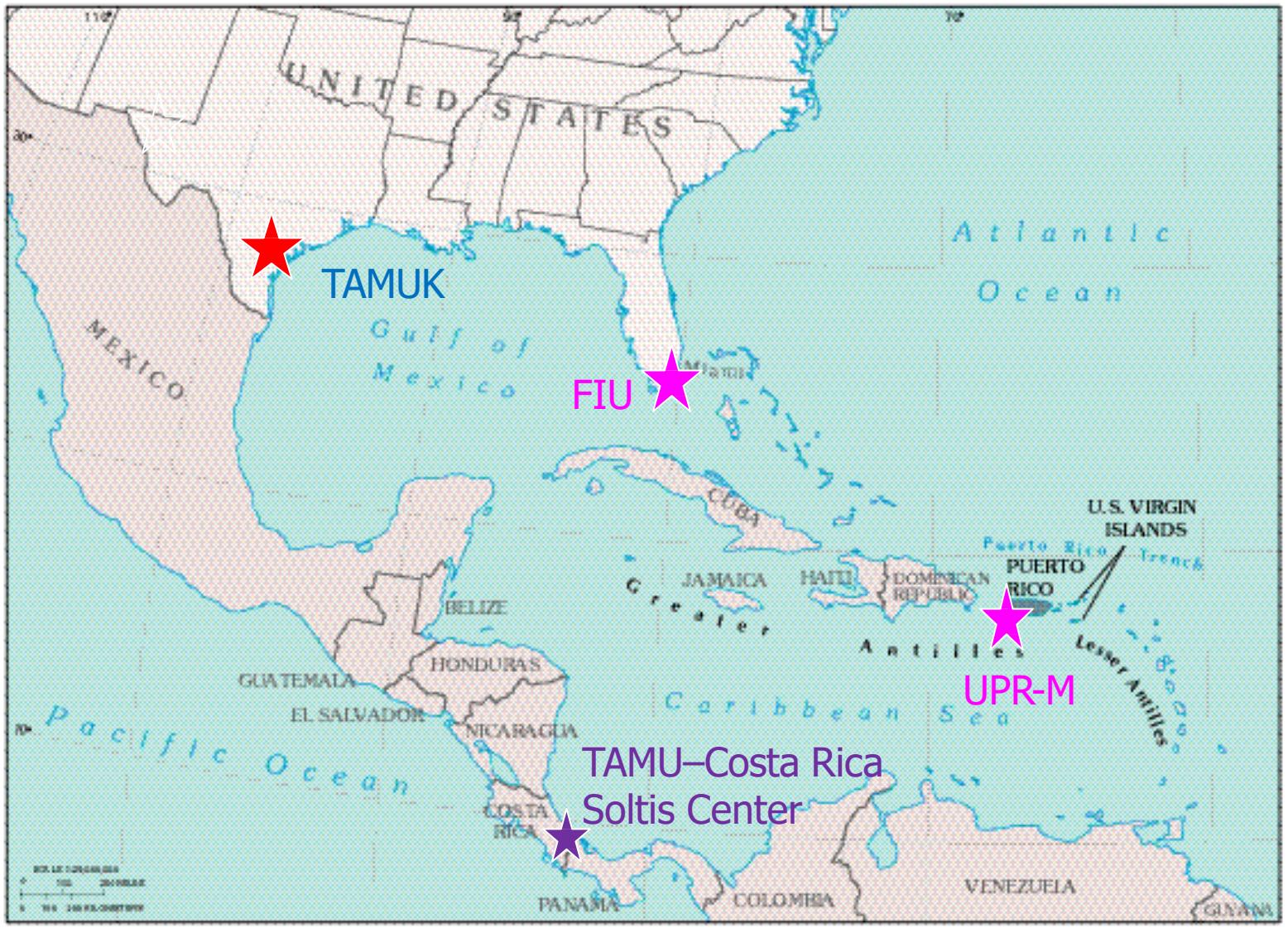
Outline:

Example of a successful model for multi-state collaboration among Hispanic Serving Institutions

The Impact of a Collaborative HSI network on increasing student participants in USDA careers and graduate school

Discussion about how TAMUK has been successful in USDA-NIFA HSI funding support

2021-2025: GO START NOW program
Multi - HSI Collaborative Partnership



Major Project Objectives

Project Goal:
To empower underrepresented students through research training in the animal, plant, soil and natural resource sciences to encourage Hispanics to enter careers in USDA-NIFA Priority Science Areas.

Activities:
1: Research-based experiential learning with faculty
2: Professional Internships with USDA agencies
3: Multi-HSI-Institutional Career Preparation through international workshops

Audience served

The project serves an underserved Hispanic student population that is underrepresented in USDA careers within the US.

Hispanic student body population demographics:
69% Texas A&M University-Kingsville
67% Florida International University
91% University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez

Partnerships with USDA Agencies for Summer Internships Across the U.S.A.

- -NRCS
- -ARS
- -APHIS
- -AMS
- -FS

Undergraduate Research Internships

USDA-APHIS-VS Laredo, TX

USDA-ARS, Beltsville, MD

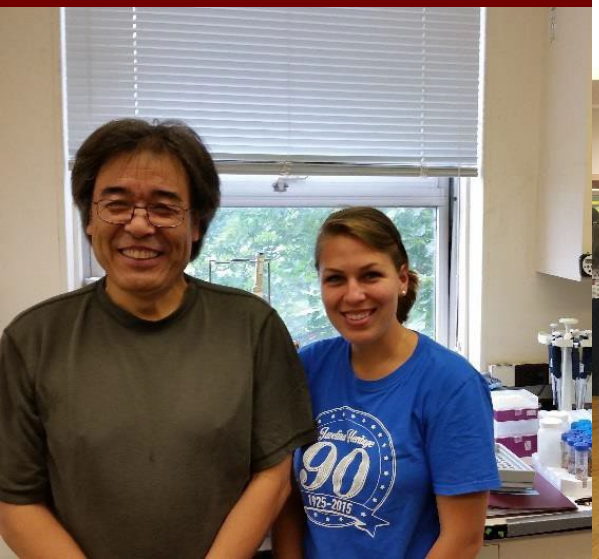
USDA-AMS, Washington, DC

USDA-NRCS, Texas

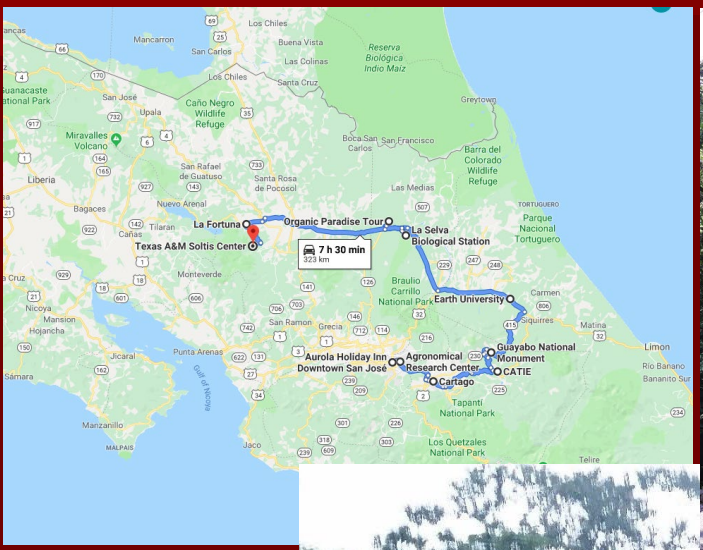
USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services, Fort Collins, CO

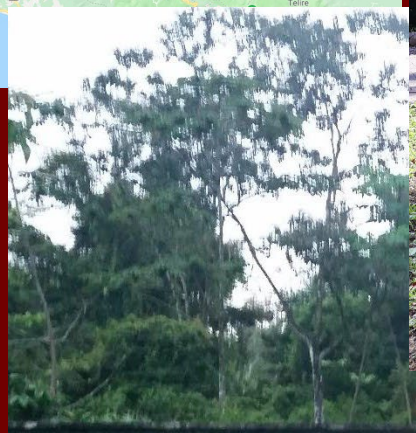
USDA-ARS-MARC, NE

Washington DC summer internships and Professional Development Skills

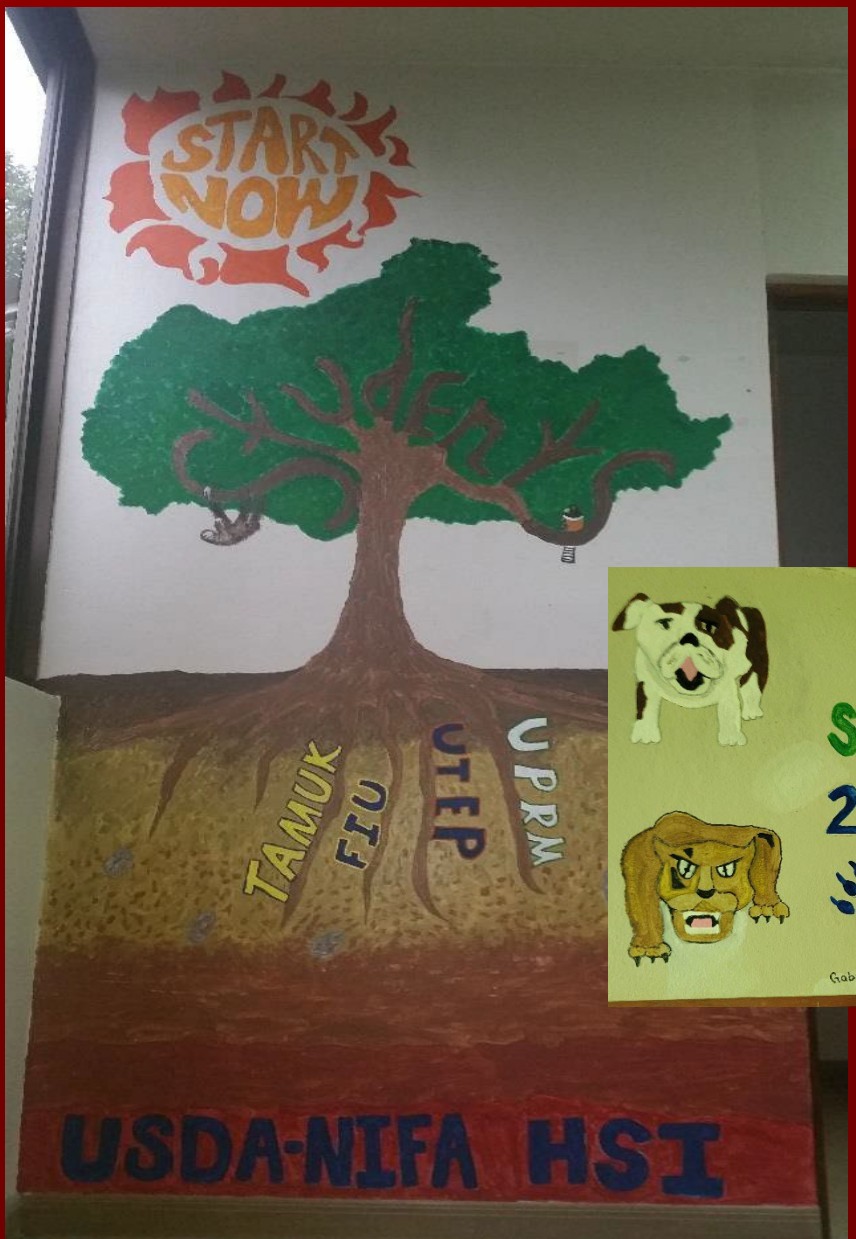


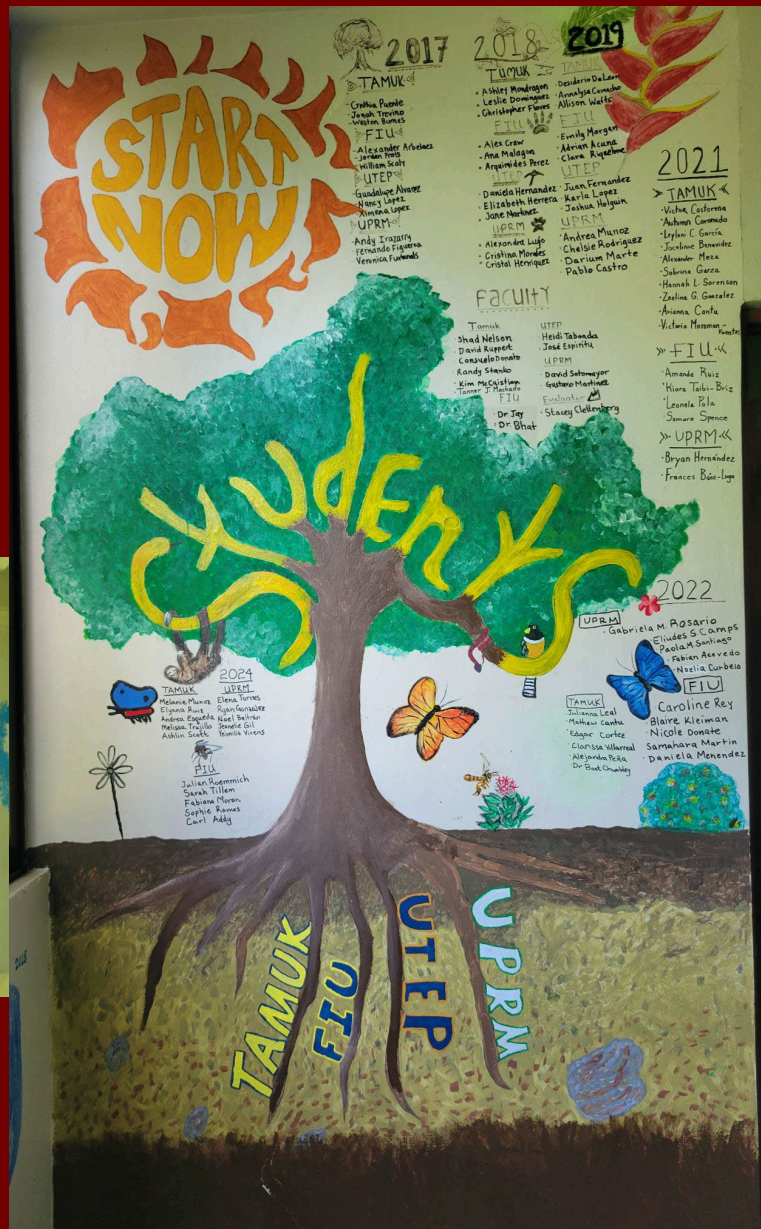
International Workshops: Costa Rica





TAMU Soltis Center: Costa Rica Workshops





Initial Workshops: Student Presentations

Faculty Educational Training Workshops:

Animal Science

Forage , Nutrition

Beef Cattle Production

Animal Science

Local Farm to Market Dairy: Mozzarella Cheese Making

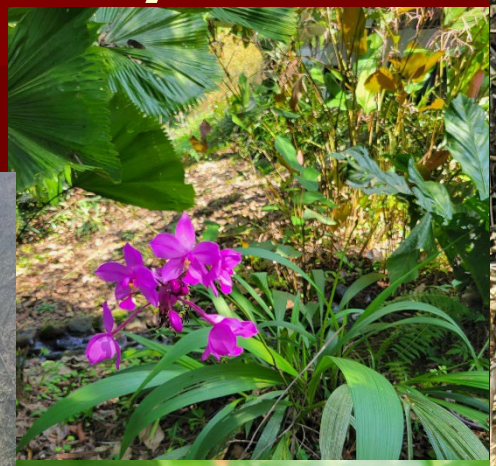
Food Sciences

Large Dairy Factory:
Ice Cream, Yogurt, Milk

Plant Sciences

High Elevation-Cloud Forest Crops

Rainforest and plant biodiversity



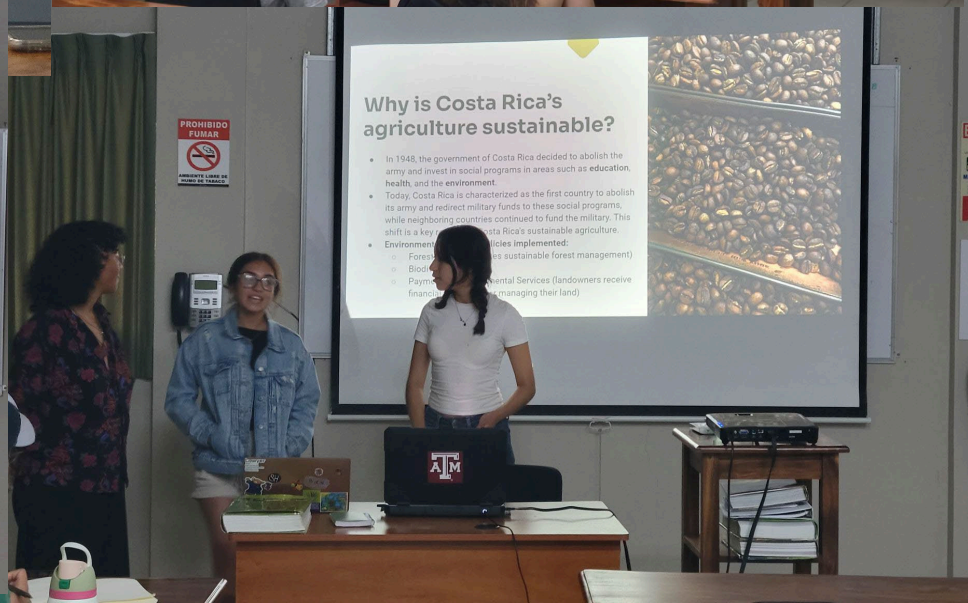
Coffee roasting & quality evaluation

Soil & Water Sciences






Final Workshops: Student Research Presentations



Final Defense: Student Research Presentations

Transition to Graduate School:

Impact of Faculty:Student 1:1 time

Twice as many undergrads go onto grad school with both faculty led tours coupled with USDA internships than internships alone.

The USDA-NIFA HSI Collaborative grants program

This collaborative approach has branched out to other grant funding programs to support faculty-led science experiential training tours, internship and graduate school preparation programs

Brazil
Colombia
Guatemala
Mexico
Puerto Rico

Collaboration Among HSIs: The Mechanism for Student Success

- Hispanic Serving Institutions Collaborating Together can Serve as a Model to the Nation of how research with USDA agencies and Industry partners can help prepare our students for the career opportunities and/or graduate school in the agricultural, natural resources and biological sciences

If you are an advocate for Student Success and their professional development:

We encourage you to follow this model

GO START NOW !!

The USDA-NIFA HSI grants program is an excellent example of how we can strategically advance Hispanics and diversify the American workforce in the USDA or other Federal agencies.

There is a critical need to continue and enhance funding towards "faculty:student driven" higher education programs of excellence through funding sources like the USDA-NIFA HSI grant program

Many Thanks to:

USDA-NIFA Hispanic Serving Institutions grants program

and

Dr. Irma Lawrence
and her dedication to advancing
the mission of the USDA workforce

Questions?

Multi-State Soil Judging Teams

Soil Judging Team