FY 2006

Resident Instruction Grants Program for Institutions of Higher Education in Insular Areas

Description of Funded Projects

Higher Education Programs
Science and Education Resources Development
Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C.

June 2006
A Regional Pacific Island-Hawaii Partnership to Strengthen and Expand Capacity in Applied and Vocational Aspects of Aquaculture and Marine. This work proposes to strengthen the current capacity of the College of the Marshall Islands to work with current and new university and agency partners to strengthen capacity in aquaculture education and expand capacity to include applied aspects of marine science, vocational aquaculture, resource economics and coastal studies. The end goal is to increase the number of students from under-represented groups entering professions related to aquaculture and the marine sciences, and to provide them with job-related skills to increase the likelihood of success in these roles. This work also aims to achieve a multiplicative effect in the community by providing training to adult and non-traditional students and trainees such as government employees, private sector members and community leaders to allow for continuing education in marine resource management, conservation and aquaculture.

Phase II - Developing Resident Instruction in Food and Agricultural Related Sciences at Land Grant Institutions in the Pacific and Caribbean Islands. The five educational need areas were selected and voted on by the eight insular area institutions in Honolulu, HI at our grant writing workshop. The objectives that all institutions would work on are: 1) to enhance courses of study and degree programs, new and improved curricula, and instructional materials and technology; 2) to advanced faculty development in the areas of teaching competency and leadership, subject matter, or student recruitment and advising skills; 3) to develop and use of alternative methods of delivering instruction; 4) to provide student and faculty in science-oriented courses with suitable, up to date equipment; and 5) to enhance educational equity and strengthen student recruitment and retention. This allows each of the 8-consortium insular institutions to work together on one or more of the five selected educational need areas.