

Students: Who, how, and why

Enhancing Food Security in the Northeast through Regional Food Systems

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Education Objective

Prepare students with diverse skills needed to develop sustainable food systems

Four strategies

1. Integrate material into existing courses
2. Develop new courses
3. Paid internships
4. Engage students in teaching and research



Strategy 1: Target existing courses

Concepts in Nutrition

Delaware State University

- Field trips, food labs, and material on agriculture and food systems

Food Products Marketing

Penn State University

- Material on food access, food security, and non-traditional food systems

Fundamentals of U.S. Agriculture

Agricultural Science and Policy II

Food Systems Modeling and Analysis

Tufts University

- Material on local and regional food systems, approaches to modeling food systems



Strategy 2: Offering new courses

EFSNE Directed Study

Tufts University

- Research-focused
- Independent projects
- Interaction with EFSNE collaborators

Sustainable Food Systems

Delaware State University

- New course listed for Spring, 2016
- Jointly offered
 - Dept. of Ag. & Nat. Resources
 - Dept. of Human Ecology
- Using CLF Food Systems text book



Strategy 3: Paid Internships

Penn State University

- Conducted review of academic & practical literature
- Assembled list of “promising practices”
- Interns at Pittsburgh site summers 2013, 2014, 2015
- Key: “Internship triangle” between intern(s), site supervisor & academic advisor
- Cross-disciplinary intern pairs = collaborative learning



Strategy 4: Engaging students in teaching and research

- Trainees at all levels
- Engaged through multiple venues
- Across 7 universities and USDA
- Encouraged full participation in project
- Cross-institution collaborations emerged
- Networks grew beyond trainees' institution



Student survey

To capture the learning that occurs among students and trainees engaged in the project

- Idea emerged midway through project
- Included undergrads, grad students, and postdocs
- Sent to 48 individuals engaged in EFSNE research, teaching, or outreach
- Survey completed in summer 2015



Four Stories

- **Ryan Lee**, Johns Hopkins University
- **Emily Piltch**, Tufts University
- **Sarah Rocker**, Penn State University
- **Houman Saberi**, Columbia University

