

The Giannini Foundation at 76

Presentation to the Annual
Meeting of the GF

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Director

Perspective on Our Mission

- Building Human Capital
 - Conducting Research
 - Outreach
 - Assembly of, and Access to,
Agricultural Data and Knowledge
- ... in Agricultural and Resource Economics
with an emphasis on California*

Activities

- Building Human Capital - ***Student Support***
- Conducting Research - ***Mini-Grants***
- Outreach - ***ARE Update, Publications, and Conferences***
- Assembly of, and Access to, Agricultural Data and Knowledge - ***Libraries***

Performance

- Building Human Capital **A+**
- Conducting Research **A** *quality and flexibility*
Are we as relevant as can be?
- Outreach - **ARE Update** **A** *needs more visibility*
 - **Publications** **B-** *few home runs, many strikeouts*
 - **Conferences** **A** *not enough*
- Assembly of, and Access to, Agricultural Data and Knowledge - **Libraries** **A**
 - *Has been an A performer for a long time.*
 - *How does it fit in the Internet and web era?*

Performance (Cont.)

- Giannini allows our two departments to be the best, but the Giannini brand is losing its luster in California.
- Maybe it is OK. There are complements.
 - the Ag Issues Center
 - the Executive Education programs

How do we fit in?

- *Our relative advantage is creation and dissemination of ideas and economic analysis*
 - *Not consensus building*
 - *Not leadership education*
- *Need to identify cost-effective activities and emphasize them*

Perceived Successes

- Mini-grants and student support
- *ARE Update*
- Siebert books on economics of California ANR, McCalla-Johnston GF Special Report on the future of CA agriculture
- Conferences: the 75th, Zwane's Sacramento Workshop, Phil Martin's labor conferences
- The water economics workshop

Future Challenges

- To expand the relevant output and “impactful” knowledge we generate
 - Should we initiate studies on major issues? with partners? (AIC, government, foundations)
- Build critical mass of knowledge and research in various fields
 - Workshops on various topics (with economists in government and private sector?)
- Reach out to scientists (water, biotech, etc.); joint ventures with other groups (Kearney?)
- Reach out to counties to increase economic literacy in ANR and Cal ag activities
 - Need more specialists and economists as farm advisors

The Financial Picture



Governance

It has been 7 years since our last review.

Many improvements -

- Documentation
- Budgeting
- There is accountability
- More initiative

But we need clearer procedures for transition

Mechanisms for assessment and evaluation (another review?)

Clear objectives and performance criteria

Thanks

- The Board: Karen Klonsky, Rich Sexton, and Jeffrey Williams
 - Editorial Board: Peter Berck and Julian Alston
 - Libraries: Susan Garbarino, Barbara Hegenbart, and Grace Dote
 - ARE Update Crew: Julie McNamara, Rich Sexton, Steve Blank, Alix Zwane, Dave Sunding, and David Roland-Holst.
 - The Chairs: Jeff Perloff, Jim Chalfant and Richard Howitt
 - Amor, Justine, Karen, Angie, Diana, Carmen, Bessie, and the rest of the Berkeley staff
 - Carol Guthrie, Manju Kaul, and Sue Brugh from Davis
- Alex and Phyllis McCalla and Warren Johnston for 75th Anniversary Event