

# Food and Business Economics

## GRADUATE PROGRAM



School of Environmental  
and Biological Sciences

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Graduate Program in Food and Business Economics resides in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics (DAFRE) in the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences (SEBS). The objective of the program is to develop the ability of students to apply economic theory and high levels of quantitative and analytical skills to significant problems facing society in the areas of: economics of biotech/ pharmaceutical sectors, production and marketing of agricultural and food products, land/environmental policy and management, and international development, among others.



### Students in the program

- ▶ develop an advanced understanding of microeconomic theory
- ▶ demonstrate the ability to apply quantitative methods to economic theory and practice,
- ▶ develop an in-depth understanding of an area within economics, and
- ▶ utilize both oral and written communication skills to effectively communicate such understanding in a variety of formats.

Because of the program's problem-solving focus, policy analysis is emphasized. With this training as applied economists, students are prepared for careers in either industry or government. With proper planning by the student, the program can also provide the necessary preparation for entry into Ph.D. programs in Agricultural Economics, Economics, or a related field.

## DEGREE OFFERED

The program offers a Master of Science degree which requires 2 years of post-baccalaureate studies. An accelerated 5-yr BS/MS program is available for all current Rutgers University undergraduate students (details below). A dual master's degree arrangement is available with the Graduate Program in Urban Planning and Policy Development. Students interested in this dual degree arrangement must also apply for graduate admission to the Urban Planning and Policy Development Program.

### Program Advantages

- ▶ Small class size, world class research, practical solutions.
- ▶ Outstanding preparation for advanced studies and for the real world.
- ▶ Great flexibility in career choices available.
- ▶ Excellent quantitative and analytical skills, that promote longevity of our graduates in the private sector at rates higher than graduates of some comparable fields.

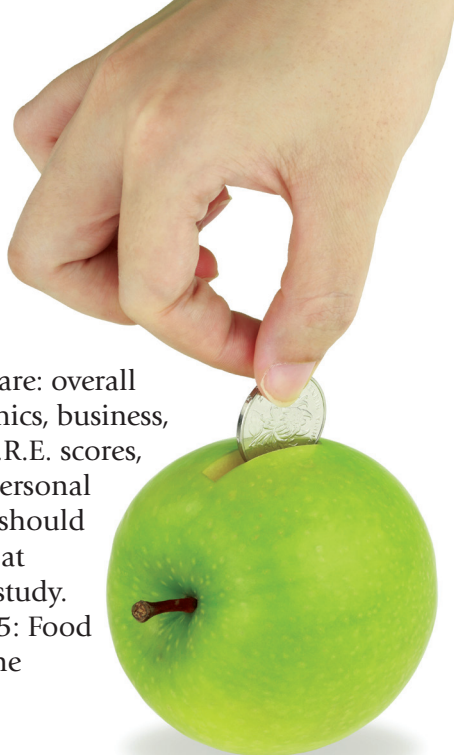




## ADMISSIONS

Admission to the program is competitive. The Food and Business Economics Graduate Committee reviews all applications and makes admission recommendations to the Dean of the Graduate School.

Factors used in evaluating applicants are: overall undergraduate GPA; grades in economics, business, mathematics, and statistics courses; G.R.E. scores, letters of recommendation, and the personal statement. ALL application materials should be submitted to the Graduate School at Rutgers – New Brunswick ([www.gradstudy.rutgers.edu](http://www.gradstudy.rutgers.edu)). Our program code is 395: Food and Business Economics. Details of the application process is available at [dafre.rutgers.edu/grad\\_apply.html](http://dafre.rutgers.edu/grad_apply.html).



## 5-YEAR BS/MS PROGRAM

This 5-Year BS/MS program allows students to earn both a bachelor's degree in any of the majors at Rutgers University and a master's degree in Food and Business Economics in five years rather than the usual six years ( $4+2=6$ ). Students must apply while they are in their junior year. Many SEBS undergraduates, particularly those who major in EBE, seek careers in the region's financial, pharmaceutical, and food industries as well as careers with marketing and consulting firms. These students have an opportunity to attain a MS degree where they will obtain high levels of quantitative and analytical skills in the economics of biotech/pharmaceutical sectors, production and marketing of agricultural and food products, land/environmental policy and management, and international development.



This 5-yr BS/MS program also provides an excellent alternative to the typically more expensive M.B.A. program. In addition, this program will equally prepare those who seek to pursue doctoral programs in the fields of agricultural and resource economics, economics, agribusiness, and public policy.



Students interested in this 5-yr BS/MS program need to know the following.

1. Discuss the program with the Graduate Program Director, Department of Agricultural, Food & Resource Economics. Contact information for the GPD:  
Email: [dafregpd@aesop.rutgers.edu](mailto:dafregpd@aesop.rutgers.edu).
2. GPA of 3.0 or better at the time of application.
3. Successfully complete either Intermediate Microeconomics (01:220:203) or Demand and Price (11:373:422) no later than Spring Semester of their junior year.

Students should apply to the program in the Spring Semester (May 15th deadline) of their junior year (need to make sure that they are applying to the 3-1-1/MS program and NOT to the traditional MS program). Students must use the separate application form available from the Graduate Program Director in Food and Business Economics. This form is available at [dafre.rutgers.edu/grad.html/311application](http://dafre.rutgers.edu/grad.html/311application).

## JOB PLACEMENTS

Some of our recent graduates have found placement in the following areas:

- ▶ **Academia:** major Ph.D. programs in North America
- ▶ **Agri-food sector:** M&M, Cargill, Whole Foods, and others
- ▶ **Financial sector:** Merrill Lynch, Goldman Sachs, AmEx, and others
- ▶ **Health and Bio/Pharma Sectors:** Bristol-Myers Squibb, Merck, and others
- ▶ **Public and Non-profit sectors:** USDA, ERS, state governments
- ▶ **Other:** advertising, telecommunication, and marketing research



## FINANCIAL AID

Graduate research and teaching assistantships are offered to qualified students on a competitive basis. Students need to indicate their need for merit-based financial aid at the time of application. Please contact the Graduate Program Director for additional information.



# FACULTY LIST

*with areas of interest*

## **Sanjib Bhuyan, Associate Professor**

University of Connecticut

bhuyan@sebs.rutgers.edu

*Economics of food markets, cooperatives, and food marketing systems.*

## **Robin Brumfield, Professor/Extension Specialist**

North Carolina State University

brumfiel@njaes.rutgers.edu

*Greenhouse Economics and Horticultural Marketing*

## **Michael J. Camasso, Professor**

Pennsylvania State University

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*Social and human capital development, cultural economics, and returns to human capital investment.*

## **Paul D. Gottlieb, Associate Professor**

Princeton University

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*Land use and economic development*

## **Ramu Govindasamy, Professor**

Iowa State University

govindasamy@sebs.rutgers.edu

*Agricultural marketing (domestic and international)*

## **Gal Hochman, Associate Professor**

Columbia University

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*Sustainable development, energy, and environmental economics*

## **Yanhong Jin, Associate Professor**

University of California, Berkeley

yanhong.jin@rutgers.edu

*Applied Economics on Food, Health and the Environment*

## **Barbara O'Neill, Distinguished Professor/ Specialist in Financial Resource Management**

Virginia Polytechnic Institute

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*Financial planning and impact evaluation of financial education programs*

## **Carl Pray, Distinguished Professor**

University of Pennsylvania

pray@sebs.rutgers.edu

*Science and technology policy and food and agricultural policy*

## **Brian Schilling, Associate Professor**

Rutgers University

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*New Jersey farm viability and agricultural economic development and food system security and bioterrorism.*

## **Edmund M. Tavernier, Professor**

University of Minnesota

etaverni@sebs.rutgers.edu

*Agricultural trade policy and land use policy*

## **Isaac Vellangany, Assistant Professor**

University of Baroda, India

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*Microeconomics and public policy toward food Industry*





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