

Comparing Curriculum using the FAEIS Survey

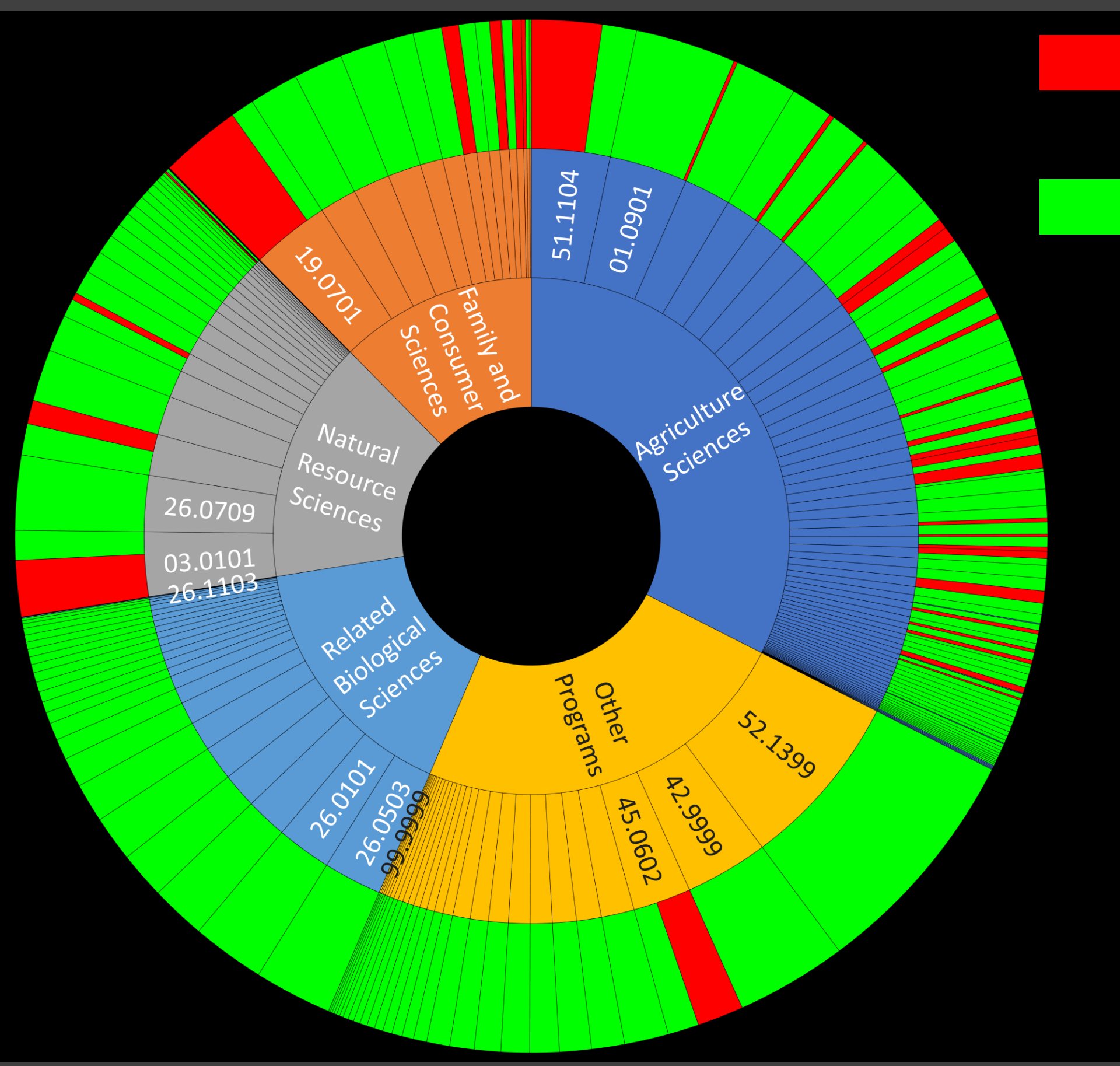
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Introduction

- Comparing curriculum to academic peers is important to university administrators and faculty members for benchmarking, curriculum development, and strategic planning.
- The Food and Agricultural Education Information System (FAEIS) surveys and collates data related to enrollment and degrees awarded from approximately 230 institutions of higher education disaggregated by Classification of Instructional Program (CIP) code.

Objective & Method

- **Objective:** To explore enrollment trends and conduct comparisons between agriculture colleges or departments at peer institutions.
- **Method:** A cluster analysis examines the student enrollment and CIP code diversity of 57 land grant institutions to assess the validity of peer selection.

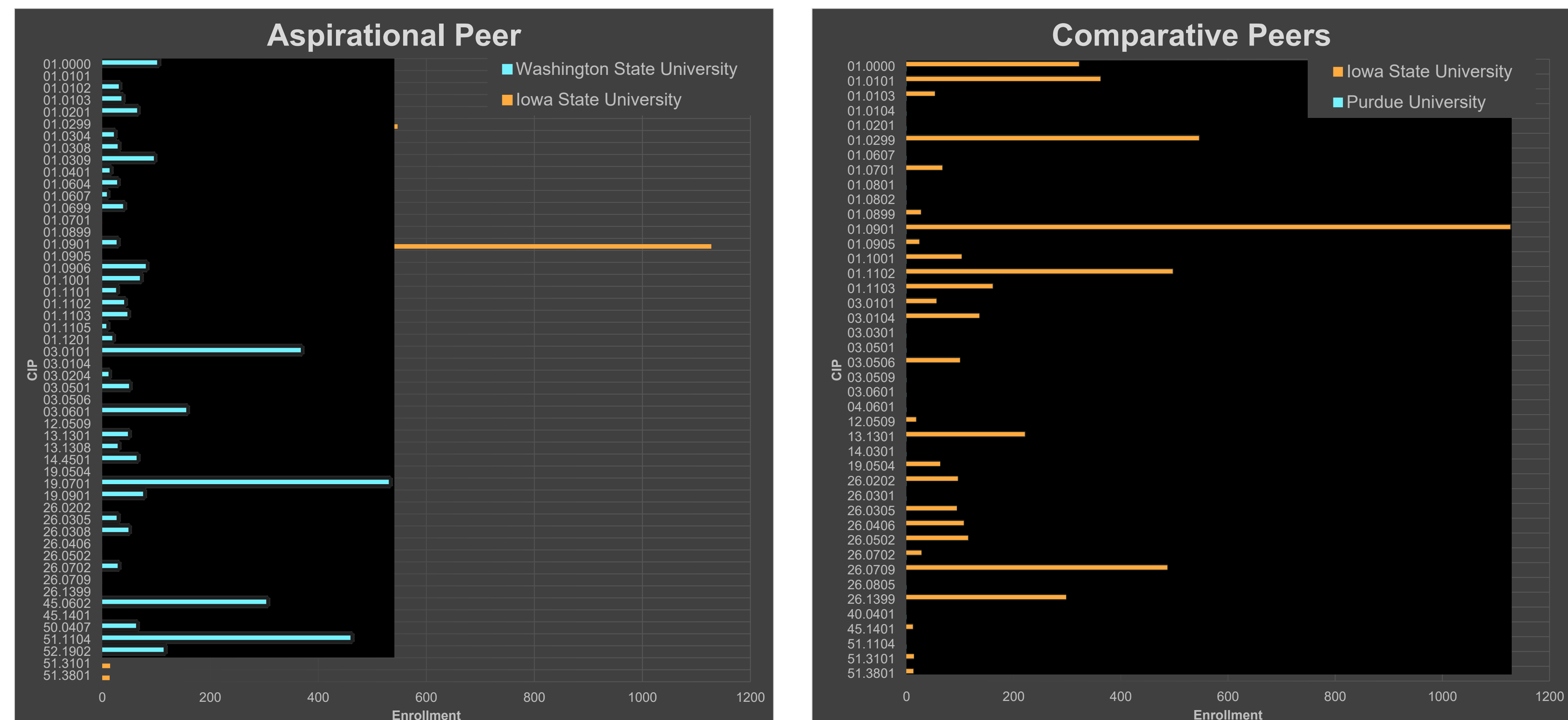


■ Washington State University College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resources Sciences programs.
 ■ Programs in all WSU CAHNRS peer colleges.

All programs weighted by enrollment. Top enrolled CIPs listed.

In this case study, WSU CAHNRS has some of the top enrolled programs amongst its peers in Agriculture Sciences, Natural Resources, and Family and Consumer Sciences with 51.1104, 03.0101, and 19.0701 respectively. WSU has a range of programs in Agriculture Sciences that are comparable in size and number to its peers. At the same time WSU CAHNRS has no related biological sciences and only one other program when its peers have a number of large programs in these two areas.

Results



Statement 1: Enrollment within agricultural colleges that consider each other peers at 1862 Land-Grant institutions are approximately within 15% of each other. This percentage increases when the peer status is one-sided.

Statement 2: Among the 57 land grant institutions, 264 unique six-digit CIP codes exist in agricultural academic units. These units offer unique programs not traditionally found in colleges of Agriculture, including Registered Nursing and Automotive Mechanics Technology.

Conclusions

- Peer institutions serve different roles. Some peers serve as comparators while others are aspirational.
- Peer institutions have a commonality in traditional program offerings that vary as much as 2 to 3 times the size of the home institution.
- Non-traditional programs tend to be unique to one institution in a peer group, yet can be exceedingly well attended, and as much as 4 to 5 times the enrollment of traditional programs.
- The voluntary data FAEIS makes publicly available facilitates peer analysis and provides transparency to the academic community. The data enables and enhances student enrollment discussions and comparisons at a national level.



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Peer charts for your home institution and college have been configured by the FAEIS helpdesk. Please contact FAEIS for an account or assistance. faeis@vt.edu

Explore your college peers!

<https://apps.cals.vt.edu/faeis/comparison/peer/>