Providing Critical Support for Ag Research and Extension

Maintenance and operations funding
AES $4.12M  
CES $2.14M

CAES requires a funding increase to meet maintenance and operations (M&O) requirements necessary to support our facilities across Georgia. Ag Experiment Stations and Cooperative Extension have nearly 3.1 million square feet of building space. The M&O funding shortfall has forced us to defer necessary facilities projects that MRR funds could not cover. Despite an aggressive demolition plan for clearing subpar facilities from our inventory — which will result in a 16% infrastructure reduction in Ag Experiment Stations — projected M&O needs still far exceed available funding.

To adequately address CAES M&O requirements, we request additional permanent funding of $4.12M for Ag Experiment Stations and $2.14M for Cooperative Extension beginning in FY18. These requirements are based on square footage rates of $4.27 for AES and $4.50 for CES, established in FY10. For comparison, the UGA rate is $7.31 per square foot. CAES has never been fully funded at the lower prescribed rates. The current budget provides $4.8M for AES and $2.2M for CES, creating the shortfall. Funding CAES to the established rates will address this shortfall.

Full funding for professor positions added in FY17
AES $84,000  
CES $126,000

The FY17 Georgia state budget added five tenure track faculty positions to CAES. These positions each cost $168,000 for a total annual cost of $840,000. The FY17 budget appropriated 75% of that amount ($630,000) for the first year. We request the legislature permanently add the balance of $210,000 to our funding lines beginning in FY18: $84,000 for AES and $126,000 for CES.

AES Poultry Research Center small cap building request
CAES $5M

Georgia’s $5.5 billion poultry industry represents nearly 40% of all agricultural farm-gate receipts in the state. The CAES Poultry Research Center requires updated facilities to remain a vital resource for poultry research and regain its place at the forefront of innovation for the poultry industry, which contributes $38 billion to the state’s economy and employs 138,000 Georgians.