# Ag college dean sees expanded land grant role

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — A larger international role for colleges of agriculture at the University of Maryland and certain other land-grant could universities significantly ease the problem of world hunger.

With both educational and research capabilities, their faculty members are problem-oriented—they are good both at identifying needs and developing practical methods for solving problems.

So says Earl Brown, Dean of the College of Agriculture at the University of Maryland in College Park. Brown testified recently in Washington, D.C., before the House appropriations subcommittee on foreign affairs, chaired by Congressman Clarence D. Long (D-2nd district), Maryland's senior House member.

The hearing was conducted to hear outside witnesses in support of proposed fiscal year 1981 appropriations for foreign assistance and related agencies. Maryland's Dean Brown had been invited to testify on behalf of the National Association of State **Universities and Land-Grant** Colleges, the American **Association of State Colleges** and Universities, and the University of Maryland.

In his prepared statement for last week's hearing on Capitol Hill, Brown called attention to the serious problem of world hunger and malnutrition-especially in the less-developed countries where population is increasing rapidly.

"There is considerable evidence that the world's food system is not working well," he said, "and food production in the lessdeveloped countries must be increased to avoid largescale malnutrition and starvation.

"Some countries will have to double their available food supply by the year 2000 just to maintain per capita food consumption at current levels," he declared. "If one adds to this the problem of malnutration resulting from nutritionally unbalanced diets, the combined problems are staggering."

Brown said he agrees with the President's Commission on World Hunger that the United States should make elimination of world hunger the primary focus of its relationships with developing nations. Here are the main reasons:

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capability to be of assistance, and therefore a moral responsibility to do

Increased agricultural productivity in Third World nations will lead to increased trade as their purchasing power builds up;

Alleviating hunger and malnutrition problems can help to insure world peace.

Zeroing in on the role of the University of Maryland, Brown noted its College of Agriculture lies next-door to the Nation's Capital and virtually adjacent to the world-renown Beltsville Agricultural Research Center of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

He declared that the university needs to expand its international dimensions in the realm of agriculture for under-developed coun-

Brown noted the College of Agriculture's international dimension could be enhanced by "having more foreign students in our classes and having professors travel and work in foreign countries."

He also called for international additions to the

We have a unique University of Maryland libraries and altering the content of courses to give better understanding of agriculture, problems and

cultures in other nations. Brown commented, "It is reasonable and legitimate for the citizens of a state to support an expansion of the international dimension of their state university to the extent that it enriches domestic teaching, research and Extension programs for the benefit of its citizens.

"But it is not realistic to expect the citizens of a state to subsidize a foreign teaching program, provide technical assistance, or help University of Marylandto build and develop foreign instutitions that are not of direct benefit to the state. This is more legitimately a national responsibility and should be supported with federal funds."

The Maryland spokesman believes that the best results will be achieved through a cooperative program between the Agency for International Development and U.S. colleges of agriculture with both state and federal funding of a long-term nature.

Furthermore, educational institutions—like the

which have had limited experience in international agriculture, need special help to get started. Continuation of a program to strengthen U.S. universities in this regard—under Title XII of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1975—is

declared. He emphasized that colleges of agriculture, and their faculty members, can be most useful in helping the less-developed countries develop and strengthen their own capacity to educate

absolutely essential, Brown

their citizens and conduct

research to solve their local problems. Brown came to Maryland on Aug. 15, 1979, after 18 months as a U.S. program

State.

leader with the Board of International Food and Agricultural Development, which operated in conjunction with the Agency for International Development in the U.S. Department of

Prior to that, he had been associate director for instruction in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell University, Ithaca, NY., since 1972.

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Box 109AA, R.D. 1 Tulpehocken; and Chris Kauffman, Tulpehocken.



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## Tulpehocken tops Berks FFA land judging

READING — Thirty-four members from Berks County FFA Chapters. competed in the land judging contest. Each contestant had to fill out a score card. determining the slope, stoniness and drainage of the soil. They each had to measure the depth of the topsoil and subsoil, and make a list of the limiting factors for the land to be used for agricultural purposes. They had to tell what

land be used for and what conservation practices they would use. The team placings were as follows: 1. Tulpehocken: 2.

Twin Valley; 3. Kutztown; and 4. Conrad Weiser. Individuals placings in the top 10 were as follows: 1. William Lesher,

Tulpehocken; 2. Kim Noyes, Twin Valley; 3. Gary Beck, Tulpehocken; 4. Steve Snyder, Twin Valley; 5.

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