

Land grant school

(Continued from Page A1)

providing quality graduates in education, law, and dentistry

The University currently has about 1100 students. It began in 1854 as Ashmun Institute. The name was changed to Lincoln University in 1966. In 1972, the institution attained state-related status.

Black land grant colleges in neighboring states are operated both in Maryland, at University of Maryland Eastern Shore, and in Delaware at Delaware State.

Some concern has been expressed that Lincoln University, should it be given land grant status, would be in competition for ag funding now given Penn State's College of Agriculture.

But sources at the neighboring land grant schools say there is minimal competition for funding

At Maryland, for example, UMES is seen as one of the University of Maryland's campuses and is administered through the University of Maryland

The situation in Delaware is somewhat different

There is coordination in research and in the ag experiment station. Federal funding, as at other schools, is administered by the Cooperative Research Division of USDA.

In addition, there is a program to review projects to prevent duplication or overlap on formula money.

Competitive grants are another story

As at Maryland, competitive grants are not run through a

committee at Delaware, so there can be some rivalry on similar projects.

In Pennsylvania, any such conflict probably would be in the home economics area

But as Delaware's Associate Dean William J. Benton noted, "There is no reason to spend money on the same thing. So Delaware and Delaware State try to complement one another rather than compete"

There is no indication Lincoln and Penn State would follow either the Maryland or the Delaware format. Indeed, there are almost as many systems of handling the 1862 and 1890 land grant schools as there states with both types of institution

Branson said he sees no reason for rivalry

"As far as we know, Penn State is our friend, mentor, and aide," Branson said. "I understand they are neutral about the pending legislation"

Branson said the bottom line for Pennsylvanians would be millions of dollars flowing into the state over a period of years to provide better research and education for its citizens.

Branson also said Lincoln will be at an advantage starting off fresh with its land grant funding

Because the school is not tied into long term agreements or continuing programs which should be eliminated, Lincoln can begin its own programs aimed at current and future problems and needs

"One bad thing about an aging institution is its continuing

Young Farmers elect officers

BERMUDIAN SPRINGS — Members of the Bermudian Springs Young Farmers Association recently elected officers. Elected as president is Daniel Leer, a dairyman in R1 York Springs, vice-president, Lester Millar, a livestock farmer in R4, Gettysburg; secretary, Lester Miller, a poultry and livestock farmer in R2, New Oxford; re-elected as treasurer, Charles Klunger, a dairy farmer in R2, New Oxford and Director of public relations, Edwain Shearer, a dairyman in R2, Dillsburg.

The election took place following a Milk Marketing Workshop.

The group consists of adults engaged in farming and agribusiness who are interested in

programs," Branson maintained. "We are rethinking our position. We can get in fresh"

The new land grant funded programs may provide attractive alternatives to major university programs, resulting in a slowdown of the skimming drain on Lincoln and other black schools in the nation, which are struggling to maintain a good image in the black community and to increase their academic standards

It also will mean a second land grant university for Pennsylvania

being up to date with modern agricultural knowledge and technology

The Pennsylvania Young Farmer Convention is scheduled in Hershey on Feb 9 & 10, 1981. The function of this event is to have members of all chapters gather to determine adult young farmer education policy, coordinate state activities and contests, attend planned technical agriculture seminars, visit agricultural business displays and to share ideas with one another.

The next scheduled meeting will feature Poultry Technology Update on February 12, 1981 in the vocational agriculture classroom at the Bermudian Springs High School beginning at 7:30 p.m.

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Why we have black land grant schools

OXFORD — Pennsylvania may be in line for its second land grant school

Why two, when Penn State is one of the larger and finer colleges of agriculture in the nation? Where did black land grant schools get started? Will Lincoln University, proposed to be the second school in Pennsylvania with land grant status, battle with Penn State for research funding?

The bottom line is money and any land grant school is eligible for a great deal of federal funds

Lincoln University probably will receive \$750,000 a year in federal revenue if it is declared a land grant school

Lincoln University is a black school, established in 1854 as Ashmun Institute. It shares with other black universities the problem of "skimming," or seeing its best prospective students and teachers skimmed off by bigger schools, like Penn State, which can offer more in scholarships, programs, and incentives. Financial considerations are the base of the problem and may be part of the remedy

A look at how the land grant system evolved may help explain the situation. In 1862, eight years after Ashmun Institute was founded, the Morrill Act was passed

The Morrill Act set aside land to be used or sold to get money for states to put up universities. These grants of land from the federal government gave the schools their names

Penn State University is the land grant school in Pennsylvania. Most other states also set up a state college under the Morrill Act

In 1877 federal legislation was passed which set up agricultural experiment stations in each state

Then, in 1890, Congress passed a second land grant school act. While primarily aimed at black schools in the south, it can apply to any black university such as Lincoln

University.

The 1890 land grant act was passed six years before the "separate but equal" ruling of 1896, so had nothing to do with that

By 1914 the US Congress realized a wealth of information was being compiled by both the 1862 and 1890 land grant institutions, but none of it was getting out to the public

The Smith-Lever act established the cooperative extension service to do the job of bring research data to the farm and general public

At the same time there was established an extension service in the black 1890 institutions. After desegregation, the two extension services were brought together

The term "cooperative" in the extension name refers to funding partly from USDA money, partly from state funds, and partly from local county budgets

Experiment stations were funded from USDA and the state. Other parts of the University budgets come from state funding

At present there are 13 black land grant institutions, plus Tuskegee Institute

But of all the states, Pennsylvania ranks dead last in its support to its colleges, whether land grant, state, black or white

Although Lincoln University became a part of the state school system in 1972, its new status did not mean great riches. And financial pressures mounted. A five cent boost in heating oil prices earlier this week means \$300 a day more in costs to heat classroom buildings at Lincoln

And so, the scramble for funds continues. Land grant school status, under the 1890 Act, could give Lincoln some continuing and substantial financial support — the expected \$750,000 represents about one-fifteenth of the University's total operating budget

If the money is available to black schools, Lincoln University sees no reason why it shouldn't grab for it. —CH