

Md. ag has ties with Brazil

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — The University of Maryland at College Park is acquiring a network of formal agreements for cooperation with public institutions of higher education around the world.

These agreements call for an exchange of scholars and research workers in specific subject areas. The subject areas vary according to the needs identified and the expertise available at each institution.

In nearly every case, agriculture is one of the major interests, reports Dr. John R. Moore, assistant provost for international programs in the Division of Agricultural and Life Sciences.

As an example, Dr. Moore cites an agreement signed this year with the Federal Rural University of Rio de Janeiro, located in the Brazilian state of Rio de Janeiro. Rio has been designated as a sister state of Maryland under the Partners of the Americas linkage program.

Signed last March, the agreement involves joint research projects on fish diseases and agricultural by products. Extension teaching projects in agricultural education and home economics will become a reality next year. An integrated pest management control project involving plant protection and apiculture (beekeeping) also is planned.

Dr. Moore foresees joint projects in animal health, remote sensing of forests and farmlands, plant propagation, and animal science —

including poultry.

Several non-agricultural projects involving two other public universities in Rio de Janeiro also have been proposed. The two additional universities officially were included in the agreement when University of Maryland administrators visited Brazil in August under auspices of the Partners of the Americas' university linkage program.

Specified among the non-agricultural projects will be coastal surveys and a study of contamination in Brazil's tidal bays and rivers.

Ten years ago, the University of Maryland signed an exchange agreement with its counterpart in Sri Lanka, an island nation off the coast of India. That document has formed the basis for similar agreements in more recent years with four institutions of higher education in China, six in Egypt, and the three in Brazil.

In addition, Maryland signed an exchange agreement in November 1981 with the Asian Vegetable Research and Development Center, headquartered on the island of Taiwan. The Center is partially funded by the Agency for International Development in the U.S. Department of State.

In October, the University of Maryland was designated as the lead campus for a consortium of 34 academic and research organizations providing technical assistance to small farmers in the West Indies under a \$2 million Caribbean grant from US AID.

Dairymen honor director

OXFORD — Members of Inter-State Milk Producers Co-Operative District 11 held a retirement drop-in to honor Horace L. Prange, Cochranville, who retired from Inter-State Board of Directors after fourteen years of service.

Newly elected director, Lee Brown, Oxford, served as master of ceremonies when many fellow dairymen and fellow directors expressed gratitude and appreciation to Horace for his faithfulness and service to the dairy industry.

He and his wife Laura own and operate a farm of 120 acres with a herd of 50 Holsteins in Upper Oxford Township, Chester County. They are the parents of one son and two daughters, who were both former dairy princesses in Chester county.

Horace also serves on other local cooperatives. He is committeeman for Agway, Inc., and for the dairy committee for State Grange.

The Pranges were presented a



Horace L. Prange, left, retiring Inter-State Director of District 11, receives a plaque from newly elected director Lee Brown.

wooden plaque shaped like a milk can decorated with the Inter-State emblem, was made by Nancy Yarnall Gray, Oxford. Also a cake, designed and decorated with Holstein cows.

Helfrick returns as Senate Ag chairman

HARRISBURG — Sen. Edward W. Helfrick, R-27, has been renamed to serve as chairman of the Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee. He will be responsible for a committee that plays a key role in dealing with legislation that affects the largest industry in the state.

"I can think of no one in the Senate who is more able to serve as chairman of this most important committee," said Sen. Robert C. Jubelirer in announcing committee chairmanship assignments. "Since he assumed this role after being elected to the Senate in 1980,

Senator Helfrick has served with the kind of dedication that clearly shows his concern for the health and future of farming and rural life in Pennsylvania."

Helfrick, a former dairy farmer from Northumberland County, sponsored many measures aimed at preserving the family farm and the efforts of the agricultural community in Pennsylvania.

"Agribusiness is the state's top industry," Helfrick noted. "It is an industry in transition. And, it is an industry that is constantly threatened by skyrocketing costs."

"The family farm, the very heart of what built this state and put it among the nation's top agricultural states, is seriously threatened as well. These concerns are what we take into a new legislative session."

Helfrick concluded by stressing his strong beliefs in the need for the legislature to work toward farmland preservation, and for preserving the family farm and way of rural life in Pennsylvania.

"I accept this committee assignment with a commitment to move forward in these efforts," he said.

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