

**AIRGRAM**

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**DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

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FROM - RIO DE JANEIRO

SUBJECT - University of Wisconsin - Contract AID/1a-147 -  
Quarterly Report April 1 - June 30, 1966 - Evaluation  
of Contractors report U-510

REFERENCE -

1. A quarterly report covering the period April 1 to June 30, 1966 has been submitted by the Chief of Party of the University of Wisconsin at Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul. The report describes the progress as well as problems in the attainment of objectives of the cooperative project between the University of Wisconsin, USAID and the University of Rio Grande do Sul (URGS).

2. Only 6, six staff and 2 project associates, of a total of 13 positions on the contract are filled. Arrangements are being made to fill some of these vacancies, however most of them will not be filled until January 1, 1967. This poses a real problem since project work is increasing and this together with continuing projects, which were started by the staff which has returned to the home campus, has heavily overloaded the present staff members.

3. The report relative to the attainment of the objective of establishing the land grant college at the URGS is very encouraging. The University is beginning to reach out into the state and be of real service to farmers through the research, extension demonstration and adult education activities. Of particular interest are the studies in soil fertility crops and forage which have demonstrated tremendous increases in yields from the use of fertilizers and improved varieties. Practical research in relation to the flow of credit information to farmer users as well as farm management studies on production problems confronting farmers are underway and should furnish valuable information on which to base extension programs.

Enclosure: Quarterly Report - Univ. of Wisconsin (5 copies)

PAGE 1 2 PAGES  
OF

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PHONE NO. DATE

31-1046 8/9/66

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The teaching phase continues the effective work in developing graduate programs. Contract professors were active in <sup>teaching</sup> graduate courses in Agricultural Communications, Farm Management, Plant Breeding, Forage Crops and Soils and in developing a graduate extension course. Guidance of thesis work of graduate students occupied a major part of their time. A special course in Technical Writing was given to 20 graduate students of the five graduate courses by the U.S. Agricultural Communications professor.

Numerous extension and training activities were carried out and particularly encouraging was increased cooperation with the state extension service (ASCAR).

Assistance was given by the Agricultural Education professor to the National Vocational Agricultural Office (SEAV) in developing vocational agricultural school curriculum and adult farmer courses. Some help was also given the vocational school in Pelotas in the improvement of their farm shop.

4. A total of 23 participants are being prepared for study in the U.S. during the next two fiscal years. Four students for masters degrees and one working for a PhD will leave to enroll in U.S. Universities in FY 1967 and 9 in each category will be ready to matriculate in FY 1968. Four observation study tours are also being arranged. Thus this phase of the program is developing very satisfactorily.
5. Marked progress has taken place as far as institution building is concerned. The Rector of URGS has requested the Chief of Party and Dr. Heizer, Campus Coordinator to submit suggestions regarding reorganization and restructuring the Faculty of Agronomy and Veterinary. A report is being completed and will be submitted to the Rector soon. As a step in this direction a plan for the formation of a Soils Department (Institute) within this faculty is now under study. This would incorporate part of the soils research program now being conducted by the Secretary of Agriculture and strengthen the research, teaching and extension program.
6. The release of CONEAP funds continues to be somewhat of a problem. Releases have been slow in the past, but as the Brazilians administering these funds gain experience and are better informed on how to meet the multitude of regulations imposed in handling them, much less difficulty is anticipated. In fact an important advantage appears to be that the university is rapidly gaining experience in handling funds for this and similar projects.
7. It appears that great  <sup>strides</sup>  ~~strides~~ have been made toward the attainment of the objectives of the contract and all in all the University of Wisconsin team is doing an excellent job.
8. Five copies of the report are attached.

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