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Instituto Universitário da Beira Interior

PURDUE UNIVERSITY PROJECT AID NE-C-1701

Quarterly Report - I,U,B.I.

September 30, 1981

1. Status of work

- a. Dr. Behery completed his short term assignment and returned to Clemson. His course for staff and several upper level students on Color Science was especially helpful in setting the stage for strengthening the teaching program in this area. He left valuable teaching aids. His series of seminars on Non-wovens was attended by both staff and industry people. Industry contacts were established which should prove useful in the future. Dr. Behery also assisted in planning for short term consultants from Clemson and in preparing the short term bolsa for José Lucas.
- b. Drs. Frist and Pricer concluded their activities and returned to the U.S. Dr. Frist spent several days at Vila Real consulting with their extension people. Dr. Pricer discussed proposals for future activities with members of the Management staff at I. U.B.I., then spent several days at Évora. There is interest in his returning as a joint I.U.B.I.-U.E. consultant.
- c. The Extension Workshop Program Committee met and developed plans for publishing a proceedings and continuation of his kind of activity.
- d. A great deal of time was spent in arranging for José Lucas and João Lisboa to begin studies in the U.S. They departed Portugal on August 15. Marques Mendes decided not to study in the U.S. and is now in England working on his doctorate.
- e. I was invited to present a seminar to the Economics and Extension staff in Évora. This provided an opportunity to get better acquainted and to discuss Dr. Sanders' work with him. My impression is that he is working effectively with staff members in both Economics and Agronomy.
- f. Dr. Trovão do Rosário of MEC visited the I.U.B.I. to discuss the future direction of the project.
- g. Plans were begun for the annual project review.
- h. Plans had to be cancelled for a consultant in Management. The person who had been selected for this job found that his work could not permit him to accept the assignment. Then, as plans firmed up for several Management staff members to begin post graduate work, it became apparent that this consultantship should be postponed.

2. Analysis of progress and problem areas

The "winding up" in July of activities which began earlier makes this quarter one of reasonable progress. The August-September lull was not an appropriate time to begin new activities.

It was gratifying, after overcoming various expected and unexpected obstacles, to

send 2 people to the U.S. for post-graduate study. A third bolsista has been identified but will have to make considerable improvement in English in order to be admitted for the 1982-83 academic year.

The Extension Workshop in and of itself, was successful but one must wonder if we got the cart before the horse. Dr. Sanders is concerned about the shortage of technical information available at Evora to support a farmer extension program. At Vila Real, relatively little staff time is available for general extension work although they are having considerable success with service type activities like soil testing and animal health. Here at I.U.B.I., Dr. Pricer feels that there is considerable opportunity for developing a small/medium business management extension program but a lack of staff interest and/or available time. On the other hand, most of the workshop participants were (and are) involved in some extension activities and felt that the workshop was very useful.

There is a line of thought here at I.U.B.I. wich goes as follows: Our immediate concern is to establish good undergraduate programs. In order to do this (and to assure the staff of job tenure), the staff must be stimulated and assisted in beginning post graduate studies. This will produce research results and lead to additional research. Extension activities can then be started to put research results to use. This implies that the priority use for Project resources is in staff training. The argument has been made for more long term bolsas but more emphasis need to be given to using the remaining Project resources to assist in staff training (and related research) in Portugal. It is remarkable that 18 or 19 staff members are engaged in post graduate studies but disturbing, from the viewpoint of economy and a balance between domestic and foreign trained staff, that only one of these persons is studying in Portugal. Can Project activities be planned to assist staff members in developing and pursuing doctorate programs in Portugal?

Plans for next quarter. Dr. Paul Farris, head of the department of Agricultural Economics, plans to visit all three locations of the Project in October. This will be a side trip in connection with a trip to Africa. His main objectives are (1) to assist the Long Term Advisers in their program of activities and (2) to gain a better understanding of the staffing needs, especially in Economics.

Dr. Woods Thomas is expected to spend most of November in Portugal for the annual Project review.

Discussion is underway on starting a seminar series in Management.

No short term advisers or bolsas planned for next quarter.

Additional English training will be provided for the prospective long term bolsista who plans to apply for admission to Clemson University early next year.

Decisions will be made by the Textiles group regarding Dr. Behery's suggestion for short term adviser early in 1982.

The Project coordinator is studying in England not available for collaboration in writing this report.

J. H. Atkinson
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Professor