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News Release from:
University of Minnesota
University of Minnesota, Morris
Morris, Minnesota

For Immediate Release

June 1

The University of Minnesota, Morris will offer pre-agriculture and pre-forestry programs beginning in the fall, Rodney A. Briggs, Dean, has announced. The sequences have been designed in cooperation with the College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics on the University's St. Paul Campus.

Dean Briggs' announcement coincided with the Minnesota Legislature's voting to approve funds for the continued operation of the University of Minnesota, Morris.

Five basic pre-professional areas to be offered are agricultural education, agricultural business administration, forestry, fishery and wildlife management, and agricultural science. The agricultural science sequences leads eventually to a wide choice of majors in specialized fields of agriculture such as agronomy, agricultural economics, animal husbandry, horticulture and soils.

While all of the programs differ from one another, they all have in common a heavy emphasis on the basic sciences, mathematics, English and economics, making them among the most difficult sequences offered.

Two years of course at UMM will be offered in each of the agricultural areas with the exception of agricultural education. In this sequence the student takes one year of work at UMM, then transfers to the University's St. Paul Campus for three additional years of study. Students may take two years of course work at UMM, then transfer to the St. Paul Campus for the final two years in all other agricultural areas and forestry.

To clear up an occasional misconception, Dean Briggs explained that the University facility at Morris is both an agricultural experiment station and a liberal arts college but not an agricultural college. There are no current plans to offer professional degrees in agriculture at UMM, he said.

(MORE)

As a liberal arts college, the basic academic courses, comprising approximately two years of work, may be taken on the Morris Campus as they may at many Minnesota colleges. However, the final two years of professional training in agriculture must be completed at the University's College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics in St. Paul -- the only Minnesota institution offering degrees in agriculture and forestry.

The strong research program of the University experiment station at Morris will continue, Dean Briggs concluded.