

**Michigan State ag chairman:****Commitment needed for energy research**

By Mary Louise Knapp

Researching energy conservation programs is Donald M. Edwards' main goal as chairman of Michigan State University's Department of Agricultural Engineering.

Edwards recently resigned his post position as associate dean of UNL's College of Engineering and Technology. He had been director of UNL's Energy Research and Development Center, and had been an editor of the Nebraska Energy News since its first publication in July 1978.

"Six months ago, I had no intentions of leaving UNL," Edwards said. "I went to Michigan primarily because it offered some new challenges. The agricultural engineering program here has tremendous potential, but it does not have the status it once had as the top ag engineering program in the country. I would like to help build the program back up again."

Edwards said that during the three weeks he has been at Michigan State, he has been trying to plan goals and objectives for the department, determine its needs, and obtain its finances.

**Outside gifts**

"One resource that Michigan State has not tapped as well as Nebraska has is the potential for outside gifts and contributions," he said.

Edwards said that the agricultural engineering program at Michigan State is "More like a college itself than like a department."

The department offers five different programs, including an agricultural engineering technology program that Edwards believes is the only one in the nation offering a Ph.D.

"This department puts out more ag-engineering Ph.D's than any other department in the world," he said. "this semester we have 500 undergraduates and 50 or 60 graduates, half of whom have Ph.D's."

Edwards said that his experience in agricultural engineering at UNL will help him in Michigan.

"I think I have a broader picture of what is going on because I have been with a large college," he said. "What I hope to create is the best possible environment and retain quality faculty and students."

Edwards said that he is still new to Michigan State's faculty to determine all the goals that need to be met in energy conservation, but he thinks a firm commitment of students and faculty is imperative.

"Cooperative work and commitment to research are needed," he said. "Both Michigan State and UNL have accomplished a lot along these lines."

**Personnel contributing**

Edwards said the main asset UNL has in dealing with energy problems is the number of personnel contributing.

"UNL has an excellent multi-disciplinary program," he said, "but they still need to do a lot more with it."

Michigan State and UNL should encourage people who want to do energy research and try to apply alternate energy resources to agriculture, he said.

"One of our concerns now is the conservation of renewable resources, such as solar power and wind power," he said.

"Energy audits have been done at Nebraska, and we should be doing them here."

Edwards said that he sees a great deal of similarity in the energy options available to Nebraska and Michigan.

"We have little renewable energy in either state," he said. "We can generate electricity, but we import most other energy sources."

Michigan contains large supplies of oil and gas, he said.

"I sense a real concern in both schools about energy conservation, very good attitudes from both students and faculty," he said. "People are trying to reduce driving, even though Michigan is the auto capitol of this country. We still have a long way to go, but we're moving in the right direction."

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## Experts to discuss quakes problem

The Association for Unity, Research and Awareness, in cooperation with the UNL Division of Continuing Studies, is sponsoring the "National Earth Changes Conference" Oct. 10-12. A gathering of experts and general audiences will address itself to the problem of earthquakes and geological upheavals.

Conference speakers include Jeffrey Goodman, of Tucson, Ariz., director of Archaeological Research Associates, Inc., and author of "Psychic Archaeology," "We Are the Earthquake Generation," and "American Genesis," John W. White, of Cheshire, Conn., editor, lecturer, and author of several books including the present best-seller, "Pole Shift," and David D. Zink, of Virginia Beach, Va., prehistorian, lecturer, explorer, film consultant, and author of "The Stones of Atlantis" and "The Ancient Stones Speak."

The speakers will present lectures and slide programs, introducing the latest information from a wide number of fields of study, including geology, archeology, underwater exploration and psychic phenomena.

For more information on this national conference on earth changes, contact Curt Brandhorst, Department of Conferences and Institutes, 205 Nebraska Center.

**Correction**

The story in Monday's Daily Nebraskan entitled "Architecture College builds up old problems," inaccurately stated that Mary Kihl was named chairperson of the department of architecture at Arizona State. She was named assistant dean at Iowa State.

Roger Schluntz is chairman of the architecture department at Arizona State.

Also, contrary to the story, W. Cecil Steward, dean of the UNL College of Architecture, is a registered architect.