

NEWS

From GEORGIA TECH'S ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION

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GEORGIA TECH OPENS OFFICE IN PHILIPPINES

For Immediate Release

ATLANTA, GA.....For the first time in its history, Georgia Tech will be operating out of a foreign country. *10,000 miles away from home*

Dr. Gerald Hein, head of Tech's Engineering Extension Laboratory, announced that as of Sept. 17 Georgia Tech has an office located at the University of the Philippines in Manila.

Hein says that this move makes it easier for Tech to supervise the programs it conducts in a number of Asian countries. The move also anticipates Tech doing much more work in Asia.

Tech is now involved in more than a million dollars worth of research work in Asian countries. This includes a pyrolysis project in the Philippines where rice hulls are used to produce gas and charcoal, various pump projects in Indonesia and the Philippines that involve the manufacture and installation of low-cost, manually operated water pumps, and an industrial extension project in Korea.

Most of the funding for these projects comes from the U.S. Agency for International Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Korea Credit Guarantee Fund.

Georgia Tech has been participating in international programs since the early 1960's in South and Central America and Africa, and since 1973 in Asian countries. Programs are set up so that Tech professionals travel to foreign countries and foreign nationals come to Atlanta to visit the Tech campus

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for instruction. Assistance covers such things as applied research, economic development, education and training, industrial development, and technology transfer, particularly energy technology transfer.

Most of the work Tech does is based on a country's level of development. Countries in the Asian area range from developed ones like Australia and Hong Kong, to medium developed like Taiwan and Korea, to less developed like Indonesia and Sri Lanka.

Ross Hammond, who will head the Asia Office of Georgia Tech, says that most countries are interested in practical or appropriate technology. This is technology that is adapted to the needs and capabilities of individual countries and includes such things as adequate water pumps for drinking and irrigation and simplified applications of solar energy.

It will be Hammond's job to find out what the countries want and how Tech can help them. Although he will be the only Tech representative on a full-time basis in the islands, he will call on the entire Tech community to help when it's needed.

The stateside job of coordinating Tech's efforts will be managed by Nelson Wall, chief of the International Programs Division of the Engineering Extension Laboratory.

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