

February 27, 2009

The Honorable Richard G. Lugar
United States Senate
306 Senate Hart Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Lugar:

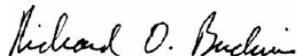
As Congress begins the Fiscal Year 2010 Appropriations process, Purdue University respectfully submits for your consideration the International Center for Food Technology to Expand Markets initiative.

This center will be the global leader focused on developing and using new processing technologies to enhance food quality and to expand markets in countries of strategic and humanitarian interest to the United States. Housed at Purdue University's Department of Food Science, the center will involve efforts across Purdue and national and international research centers as they relate to advancing food security by reducing food losses and enhancing markets for new and traditional processed (i.e., value-added) foods. Through a link to the federal government and with the support of foundations, this center will address needs in food production, product preservation, and market development to grow local economies in developing countries that are of great interest for the foreign affairs and security of the United States.

The center is very consistent with the globalization goals in Purdue's new strategic plan and will have components that advance global learning, discovery, and engagement, increasing our interaction with universities and institutions in developing countries. As a result of this work, our current relationships with leading institutions in Africa and India focused on food processing and utilization will be further strengthened. Moreover, small businesses throughout Indiana that manufacture food processing equipment also will benefit economically as the center has the potential for expanding exports and imports.

On behalf of President France Córdova, I thank you for your support of the students, faculty, and staff at Purdue University. We look forward to working with you to translate the technological advances made on our campuses into economic drivers for the State of Indiana.

Sincerely,



Richard O. Buckius
Vice President of Research