

WHAT THE INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES CAN DO TO SUPPORT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES' DEVELOPMENT GOALS

by

Anne O. Krueger

FORWARD

Our dear friend and colleague Vernon Ruttan died on August 18, 2008. In honor of his extraordinary lifetime contributions in Development and Growth Economics we were pleased to host the The Vernon W. Ruttan Memorial Lecture on Science and Development Policy and Remembrance Reception, December 3, 2008 in the McNamara Alumni Center at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN. We invited his colleagues, friends and family for an afternoon of reflection on Vernon's remarkable contributions to issues of world growth and economic development.

We were delighted and honored to have Professor Anne O. Krueger present a lecture on international development economics, focusing on aspects that were central to Vernon's interests.

Vernon touched the lives of his colleagues, students and family.

VERNON W. RUTTAN (Aug 16, 1924 – Aug 18, 2008)

Vernon was born on a farm in northern Michigan. He received his B.A. from Yale University in 1948 and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Chicago in 1952 and 1954. Vern's first academic appointment was at Purdue University in the Department of Agricultural Economics in 1955 where he quickly rose to the rank of professor in 1960. In 1965, Vernon joined the faculty in Agricultural and Applied Economics at the University of Minnesota as Professor and Head of the Department. From 1978 to 1986 Vernon was also Professor in Economics at the University of Minnesota and was named as a Regents professor in 1986.

Among Vernon's substantial contributions to development through authoring well over 200 books, articles and reports, is his book with Yujiro Hayami, *Agricultural Development: An International Perspective*, published by Johns Hopkins University Press, 1971 and 1985. This book is a basic reference in the field of agricultural development and has been translated into four other languages. Vernon made impressive contributions to assuring world food supplies. His ideas on induced innovation, science and technology policy, and development aid and institutions helped shape public and private investments and policies that have contributed to the tremendous achievements in food security during the past half century.

All who knew Vernon personally or professionally were touched by his incisive insights, his tenor chuckle and his true interest in others. He was generous of his time with students and colleagues. He was always the first to encourage and the first to congratulate. We will miss him deeply as a friend, a scholar, a colleague and a true gentleman.

Vernon is survived by his wife Marilyn, son Christopher, daughters Lia, Alison and Lore, and five grandchildren.