

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**REQUEST TO AWARD AN HONORARY DOCTOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE
AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY**

Action Requested: Consider approval of the request by Iowa State University to award an honorary Doctor of Science degree to Eugene G. Sukup at Fall 2015 Commencement.

Executive Summary: Iowa State University wishes to recognize Mr. Sukup for his outstanding contributions to state, national, and global agriculture and agricultural challenges, particularly in grain storage and handling through the ground breaking innovations created by his company, Sukup Manufacturing.

Details on Mr. Sukup's Accomplishments:

- ◇ Mr. Sukup was born in northeast Nebraska in 1929 but has lived in Iowa since 1938. He graduated from Hansell High School in 1946 and by 1952 he purchased a 160 acre farm which was his first step in fulfilling his life goal of becoming a successful farmer.
- ◇ Mr. Sukup and his wife, Mary, founded Sukup Manufacturing Company in 1963 with their first product, the *Stirway* stirring auger, which allowed farmers to dry a deep bed of wet corn rapidly to enable storage without spoilage. During the next 50 years, Mr. Sukup received 40 U.S. patents and 10 foreign patents; he currently has five patents pending. Sukup Manufacturing holds an additional 44 patents which do not include Mr. Sukup's name. The Sukup Grain Bin is now found across the Midwest.
- ◇ Mr. Sukup's technical ingenuity has evolved from solving basic food grain production problems which will help feed and house people around the world. The latest patent issued to the company was for the Sukup Safe-T-Home, an application of the Sukup Grain Bin technology adapted to sustain hurricane force winds. The homes have been shipped to Haiti, the Philippines, and Kenya.
- ◇ Sukup Manufacturing, with headquarters in Sheffield, Iowa, employs 550 people. It is among the top three grain bin manufacturers in the United States, and has sales in every state and 50 countries.
- ◇ While Mr. Sukup's honorary degree is based on his groundbreaking contributions to grain handling and storage and his significant impact on the agriculture industry, the Sukup family's continued support to Iowa State University is paramount. The Sukups have generously supported a number of initiatives at ISU, including research and outreach programs in Uganda; research on hermetic corn storage; funds for a new pipe organ in the Music Department; the Sukup Basketball Complex; the Sukup End Zone Club; the Hixon-Lied Student Success Center; and Sukup Hall and Atrium, the new home for the Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering.
- ◇ Iowa State University wishes to recognize Mr. Sukup's extraordinary achievements in industry through innovations and dedicated and focused efforts.