

The James Underwood Crockett Agricultural Technology Growth Fund

James E. Mulcahy

Clerk and 1960 Stockbridge School of Agriculture Graduate

James Underwood Crockett was a student at the Stockbridge School of Agriculture in the class of 1935. The James Underwood Crockett Agricultural Technology Growth Fund (aka the Jim Crockett ATG Fund) was established in his honor and memory after his untimely 1979 death. The non-profit public-charity status as an IRS 501(c)(3) tax-exempt entity was achieved in 1982. The IRS account number is 04-2754324. The first contributions arrived promptly, and the first grant was made in 1983. The fund continues to solicit annual donations as well as asking for bequest in the wills of supporters.

The donations have been received and invested by the Personal Trust Department of the State Street Bank & Trust Co. in Boston. In December 2003, the Personal Trust Department became a part of the U.S. Trust Co., with the same trust officers, headed by Francis M. Barrett Assistant Vice President, and with the same

mailing address at 225 Franklin Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. The trust account number is 52-010157. All donations become the principal or corpus of the trust for perpetual investment to generate principal growth as well as producing earnings of interest and dividends for distribution.

The trustees meet twice a year and vote to grant about 5% of the value of the fund from the earnings to non-profit organizations, schools, etc. that are in the northeast U.S. and that are involved in some phase of agriculture. See the web site at www.jimcrockett.org.

Since 1983, \$120,600.00 has been distributed by the trustees in mini-grants to 34 grantees in 96 grants, usually in the \$500 to \$2,000 range. Over half have been given to various parts of the UMass College of Natural Resources & the Environment, both on the Amherst campus as well as to UMass research sites in Belchertown, Waltham, and Wareham.

Editors' Note: The Jim Crockett ATG Fund has been a generous contributor to fruit activities at the University of Massachusetts, including contributions to purchase equipment for teaching, to establish new plantings for educational purposes, to erect a new I-181 sign, and to help build the Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association endowment in support of the UMass Cold Spring Orchard Research & Education Center. We are very grateful for this long-term support.

