

## *Agency Proposal pertaining to Extension*

Ext.

### 2. The University Extension program

As mentioned earlier, this is a varied program addressing many critical issues for Armenia. Examples of the extension courses planned for next year are the following:

a) a training course for the 24 operators of the atomic power plant. Rather than being a technical training course (they have received such courses), it is a human behavior program involving such topics as "Organization Behavior", "Human Resource Management", "Labor and Management Relations", "Leadership and Group Decision Making", and "Interpersonal Dynamics/Conflict Resolution". This course will be offered at the request of the vice premier, Mr. Viken Chitechian, who stated to us that the Chernobyl accident was a human error and not a technological problem, and the operators of the plant should have training for responsibility and decision making. He said that AUA is the best institution to provide this training.

b) English for Parliamentarians. Parliament deputies and staff need a good knowledge of English in order to read international literature as they formulate the laws of the country. Constitutional law, commercial law, criminal law, and civil and municipal law, are areas for which literature is being compiled, but the command of the English language is lacking. Translations into Armenian are slow, and they cannot be comprehensive. We have been asked by the Parliament president to provide this training.

c) Symposium on Armenia in transition to the 21st century. This symposium will bring together experts from Armenia and the Diaspora for discussing the following topics: The vision for Armenia's future, in social, economic, and political arenas. What must be done to take positive and constructive steps. What types of agreements are needed with inside and outside agencies. What are the recommended steps for government planning. What is the role of the private sector. This symposium is being planned at the request of the First Lady of the Republic.

d) Conference on Energy Options. This will be the sequel to last year's conference that was co-sponsored by AUA and the Ministry of Energy and Fuel. A critical year with

---

important decisions for energy options is ahead of us. Atomic power, low head hydroelectric power, and alternative sources are being seriously planned. But there are also problems in distribution and conservation. AUA's role in a cooperative program with the Armenian government has been acknowledged as a result of last year's successful conference.