



KARUCO
Agriculture Curriculum Team



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As the Director of International Programs with the College of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resource Sciences (CFANS) at the University of Minnesota, Pedro Bidegaray shares his expertise with Educate Tanzania. Graduated as a Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Kentucky, he has worked around the world with academic institutions and international organizations as an educator, researcher and outreach expert. As an anthropologist he worked in rural Peru, Ecuador and Costa Rica researching and promoting community development. He interacted closely with rural families and local organizations from the perspective of social and economic strategies that supported the livelihood of local settlers in those parts of the world.

Pedro's experience in education results from his involvement with EARTH University, an innovative academic institution in Costa Rica that teaches leadership and entrepreneurial skills to youth from the developing nations of Latin America and Africa. He developed courses that promoted global understanding, engaged citizenship and relied on an experiential learning based on the realities at the community level. Pedro coordinated Service Learning in collaboration with faculty where students served the needs of neighboring communities. Much of this program involved agricultural innovation and capacity building at the local level. He also coordinated curricular reform initiatives at EARTH and abroad, (funded by the Kellogg Foundation). He became Director of International Programs at EARTH and integrated international dimensions into academic programs there. This led to worldwide partnerships that provided students and faculty with opportunities to gain global experience at the local levels.

As the current Director of International Programs at the University of Minnesota, Pedro facilitates development of a strategic plan for international programs at the College of Food, Agriculture and National Resource Sciences. This plan will help the University of Minnesota continue with a tradition of global engagement dedicated to the identification and generation of solutions for the promotion of world sustainability.