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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Maryland Farm Bureau Shares Thoughts with Incoming Dean at University of Maryland's College of AGNR

DAVIDSONVILLE, MD (September 8, 2015) – Over the last five months, a workgroup of leaders within Maryland Farm Bureau drafted recommendations for the future in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (AGNR) at the University of Maryland (UMD). The workgroup product was endorsed by the MFB Board of Directors in August and delivered to Dr. Craig Beyrouthy, the College's new Dean as of November 1, 2015.

"Maryland Farm Bureau believes that the College of AGNR should be a leading institution that provides student instruction, agriculture research and agricultural extension to meet the needs of today's agriculture industry in Maryland," said Chuck Fry, MFB President.

The seven page report is broken into two categories: The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and University of Maryland Extension. The prevailing recommendation is that AGNR should put strong emphasis on production agriculture education and extension delivery at the farm level. Other recommendations cover research and funding, recruitment and admissions, courses and programs, faculty and staff, and partnerships in the College of AGNR. The report makes specific suggestions on Extension operations, the role of an extension agent, the budget and the term "cooperative extension."

Dr. Beyrouthy has been involved in teaching, research, and extension for more than 35 years. He joins the University of Maryland from Colorado State University, where he most recently served as Dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences. In that role, Dr. Beyrouthy was the chief administrative and academic officer for the college, leading and overseeing the college's programs, budgets, and related activities, including resident instruction, research, outreach, and international activities.

"The members of Maryland Farm Bureau look forward to working with Dr. Beyrouthy in the future to ensure a strong partnership for agriculture in our state," said Chuck Fry. "We look to the College of AGNR as a resource for education, research and extension – the mission of a land-grant institution."

To learn more about the University of Maryland, College of AGNR, visit <https://agnr.umd.edu/>. For more information about Maryland Farm Bureau, visit www.mdfarmbureau.com.

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Maryland Farm Bureau is a private, non-profit membership organization. It is controlled by its members through the democratic process and is financed by voluntary membership dues. Its strength comes from the active participation of over 36,000 member families that belong to the state's 23 county Farm Bureaus.