

TRANSCRIPT: TOM W. SMITH INTERVIEW

Tom W. Smith · Fmr. President & CEO of Calcot, Ltd.

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Interview with Mr. Tom W. Smith, President and CEO of Calcot, LTD. Smith is a 1957 graduate from Texas A&M and an inducted member of the Tyrus R. Timm Honor Registry.

This video was posted August 17, 2011 on the Tyrus R. Timm Registry YouTube Channel.

My name is Tom Smith, and I graduated from the Department of Agricultural Economics in 1957. I went to work for Calcot Unlimited right out of A&M. And Dr. Ty Timm was instrumental in my getting that job because he pointed out a letter that was on the bulletin board to me, and I followed up and was hired. So, I spent 45 years working for Calcot, and 25 of those was spent as president and CEO.

What was your educational experience like at Texas A&M?

Well it was a, it was a very interesting process. Certainly, the classes that, that we took, you know, were varied: economics, business, of course with the other, other courses. And, and I think they, they really gave me a good foundation as far as an education is concerned. I was very fortunate in my career where I was able to use everything that I studied getting my degree at Texas A&M

What kind of advice do you have for current students?

Well I think, obviously, you know, learn as much as you can right here in school because, you know, you're going to be very busy afterwards. And, and get as, as broad of an education as, as you can because the field is, you know, very different nobody cited where you're going to wind up in a career. So, get the preparation that you can go in many directions and I think that will serve them more.

What about for students just about to graduate?

Well I think, obviously the job is very important. Getting, you know, a job in a, in a era – area that that they will enjoy working in I think is very important. I, I see people who wind up in jobs that they really don't like, you know, the industry of the company. And, and their life is not very happy, but if you can find an area and a company that you will enjoy working with, I think that will mean a lot in your life.

How does the future look for agricultural economics?

Well I think it's a very bright future because, as I said, it covers a very wide area. I think agriculture is going to be very important in the world as we go forward. Even more so than it has been in the past. So, that – I think it offers a lot of opportunity throughout the world for people who have a good basic education and, and understanding of the combination of agricultural and economics. I don't think there's any limit as to what the career could – or what the major could offer in a career.

Thanks for listening.

Mr. Tom Smith | Transcript
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August 12, 2020