

**World Food Problems**

**Fall 2009**

*The World Food Problem: Toward Ending Undernutrition in the Third World.*

Leathers and Foster, 2009 (4<sup>th</sup> Edition)

**Assignment #2 – Science, Technology, and Culture**

**Assigned: September 30, 2009**

**Due: October 28, 2009**

**Resources:**

- Information from the lectures by Drs. Pardey on Sept 30, Easter on Oct 7, and Hassel on Oct 14, and Porter on Oct 21
- The supplemental readings available on the class web site, <http://www.apec.umn.edu/faculty/kolson/apec4103.html>

Please answer the following questions using no more than 1 typewritten page per question (double spaced, 12 point font).

1. Why should we be concerned about the level of agricultural research and development (R&D) in the world?
  - Why has the mix of public and private agricultural R&D changed over time?
  - Why should developing countries be involved in agricultural R&D for their own countries rather than just taking what is done in developed countries?
2. Why is water so important? Why are water resources so prized in the world?
3. What does culture have to do with feeding the world?
4. Briefly describe your understanding of "agricultural productivity" and the factors that contribute to a productive agriculture.