

# 'Budget Crisis' Is Topic At MU Breimyer Seminar, May 16

**COLUMBIA, MO.**

“Implications for Agriculture of the Governmental Budget Crisis” will be discussed by economists, academics and political leaders at the University of Missouri, May 16.

The annual Breimyer Seminar will consider the “real and current crisis,” said Ron Plain, MU Extension agricultural economist. “Years of overspending and promises of future retirement and health-care benefits for retired workers have created serious budgetary problems for government.”

Some 14 speakers will tackle the problems facing agriculture, Plain said. Speakers include economists, academics, politicians and farm organization leaders. The program starts at 9:30 a.m. and adjourns at 5 p.m.

“At some point, large reductions in government spending will be unavoidable,” Plain said. “This seminar will look at implications of these potential cuts for Missouri agriculture.”

The seminars were started by Harold Breimyer, who taught agricultural economics at MU after a career at the USDA in Washington, D.C. Tough topics facing agriculture were his favorites.

Breimyer served in USDA starting in the New Deal, which was formed to solve problems of the Great Depression.

Seminars named after him aim to draw diverse ideas on how to solve policy issues. Breimyer believed audience participants as well as scheduled speakers should be heard.

After Breimyer died in 2001, the popularity of the seminars brought about an endowment to continue the discussions.

Advance registration is required, with enrollment limited. The \$30 fee includes refreshments and lunch.

To enroll, contact Joyce White, 220 Mumford Hall, MU, Columbia MO 65211, or email [whitej@missouri.edu](mailto:whitej@missouri.edu) or call 573-882-6533. Δ