

Fall 2016

FOCUS

THE MAGAZINE OF OSU COLLEGE OF FORESTRY



Oregon State
UNIVERSITY

Branch Out: the philosophy behind the design
of the Oregon Forest Science Complex

Dean's Column



Since I was named the Cheryl Ramberg-Ford and Allyn C. Ford Dean of the Oregon State University College of Forestry five years ago, the college has launched a number of initiatives to help shape the way the world approaches the management of our working forest landscapes.

One of our biggest initiatives has been the design, development and construction of the Oregon Forest Science Complex, a \$65-million project that will provide current and future students with a transformative educational experience across a full range of degree programs.

Our students, who already know the importance of gaining experience in the fields, will soon have a state-of-the-art classroom and research experience as well, as construction of "new" Peavy Hall and the A.A. "Red" Emmerson Advanced Wood Products Laboratory has begun. The new complex will remind us that we are a college without a brown and green divide and that our different views about natural resources management are respected and celebrated. Our new home will express our collaborative efforts to foster healthy ecosystems and communities to the Oregon State community, the nation and the world.

Despite the commotion and noise we now hear from construction, the college remains unfazed and is forging ahead to provide our students a world-class education while conducting meaningful and impactful research programs.

Experiential learning is an important part of our students' experience. In this issue of *Focus on Forestry*, you will learn about Kristina Hossley, who gained invaluable experiences studying abroad in Australia and completing several internships with Weyerhaeuser. Hossley turned those opportunities into her first

professional job with the Federal Highways Administration in Alaska.

Back home at Oregon State, Jeff Hatten and Matt Betts were awarded the first Institute for Working Forest Landscapes (IWFL) Research Professorships. The IWFL professorships fund world-class researchers in the early part of their careers to lead collaborative research efforts, promote effective communication and to strengthen research leadership at the highest academic levels.

Betts will use his award to establish a Forest Biodiversity Research Network at Oregon State, while Hatten will continue to oversee and mentor talented students like Amanda Allen-Kahl, a senior studying natural resources. Allen-Kahl works as part of Hatten's research team to help analyze soil samples and says that participating in research has taught her organizational skills that have benefited her in the rest of her coursework.

We continue to strive to create a diverse, inclusive and equitable community for the entire college and the work of Randi Shaw is key to these efforts. A graduate student pursuing her master's degree in forest ecosystems and society, she founded the college's Diverse Perspectives in Forestry Group and is a key member of our diversity, equity, and inclusion strategic planning committee.

Finally, as you may know, I have spent the last three months away from my position to deal with some health issues, and I want to express my gratitude to the faculty, students and staff of the college for continuing the college's great and important work on our many initiatives. I'd especially like to thank Jim Johnson, senior associate dean, who stepped into the role of acting dean during my absence.

It's an exciting time in the College of Forestry as we see our goals met and initiatives moving forward. I hope you find yourself enthusiastic and passionate about the college's work as you read through this latest issue of *Focus on Forestry*.

Thomas Maness, Ph.D.
Cheryl Ramberg-Ford and Allyn C. Ford Dean

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College News & Notes

Attention Job Seekers and Employers!

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The Cover: Design for the
new Oregon Forest Science
Complex



Branch Out

College of Forestry leadership discusses the philosophy behind the design of the New Peavy Hall and the A.A. “Red” Emerson Advanced Wood Products Laboratory

Designs are finalized, and construction of the Oregon Forest Science Complex (OFSC) is underway. Comprised of a new and improved Peavy Hall and the A.A. “Red” Emerson Advanced Wood Products Laboratory, the complex will feature state-of-the-art teaching and laboratory space including 20,000 square-foot dedicated to the creation of wood products like cross laminated timber. When completed in March 2018, the complex, designed by Michael Green Architecture, will feature advanced wood products and reclaimed materials from the old Peavy Hall.

“For me personally, the new building represents a rebirth of the profession of forestry,” says Dean Thomas Maness, who spearheaded the effort to create the OFSC, including raising funds to cover its nearly \$65 million cost. “The way we thought about forestry in the past is very different from how we think about forestry now. We understand things like the impact that forests have on mitigation of climate change, and the total ecosystem value of forest systems in Oregon and throughout the world, along with so many other critically important ideas.”

Left page: Oregon Forest Science Complex design; Right page top clockwise: Peavy Hall; AWP Lab backside; AWP Lab front.

Michael Green agrees.

“One of the exciting things about how wood products have evolved is that we no longer need to cut down giant trees,” Green says. “For the most part, we’ve moved on to engineering wood to make it stronger and also using younger trees and different types of trees that we didn’t use before.”

The building won’t look like others on the Oregon State campus.

“Most of the buildings on campus are brick,” Green says. “Even Richardson Hall is primarily brick, with just a bit of wood, and with the OFSC, you’ll see the opposite. There will be a lot of different kinds of wood, and innovations in wood products will even be visible on the exterior.”

Maness says the OFSC will be attractive to current and prospective students alike. Because of the materials used and planned interactive displays, as they walk inside, students will begin to learn about forestry even before setting foot in a classroom.

“Our goal from the beginning was to create a building that would make anyone who walked by say, ‘Whoa, what’s going on in there? I want to study in there,’” he says. “We’re saying that visitors will get a college credit’s worth of information about forestry just by experiencing the building.”

Informal space for learning and socializing are important. Maness says the new building will include places for students to hang out and chat.

“You could actually do work if you want, but it’s the idea that the spaces in between classrooms are often where much of the learning takes place,” he says.

An arboretum and outdoor classroom are also in the plans.

“It’s designed to bring the outside in, and take the inside, out, and will display information about our history, even going back thousands of years,” Maness says. “This building is about recognizing how much our knowledge of forestry has grown and continues to expand as we move into the future.”



Randi Shaw: diversity and inclusion in environmental action



Shaw

Shaw honored for her work with Diverse Perspectives in Forestry Group

On Earth Day, Randi Shaw and the Diverse Perspectives in Forestry Group (DPFG) led a caravan of seven vehicles up winding roads to Beazell Memorial Forest. Tall conifers swayed in the breeze of the misty morning as the 40 volunteers piled out of the vans. Their mission was to find and eradicate Scotch broom, one of the most visible invasive plant species in Oregon.

The Scotch broom needed to be removed in order to preserve the habitat of the endangered Taylor's Checkerspot butterfly, and Shaw and the other members of DPFG decided to take the opportunity to build community within the College of Forestry and better connect to the larger Oregon State and Corvallis community.

Shaw recently completed her master's degree in forest ecosystems and society, but this project was not part of her research.

"This is love and extra time," she says.

Shaw cofounded the DPFG with fellow student Jamie Mosel during her first year at Oregon State.

"When I applied to graduate school, I made a decision that I wanted to make a commitment to work on issues related to diversity and equity and

inclusion, even though I didn't know very much about what that meant, at the time," she says.

The mission of the DPFG includes exploring and promoting diverse viewpoints, people and approaches in environmental work. For their first meeting, Shaw said she anticipated about five people, and was instead greeted by over 20 including Dean Thomas Maness. Shaw says the club has continued to grow.

Because of her work with the DPFG, and in recognition of her outstanding leadership abilities, Shaw was awarded the 2016 Frances Dancy Hooks Award at the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Peace Breakfast in January and was asked to help lead the college's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Strategic Planning Committee.

The award was initiated in 1994, when Frances Dancy Hooks and Dr. Benjamin Hooks served as keynote speakers for the King celebration. The award recognizes students, staff or faculty who exemplify Frances Dancy Hooks' work or promoting diversity through leadership.

Shaw hopes to continue promoting diversity, equity and inclusion in the future.

"I want more diverse people in environmental work because all kinds of people are affected by our environment," she says. "All kinds of people should have the chance to be part of solving our environmental problems, and to enjoy working outside."



A volunteer works to eradicate Scotch broom.



Opportunities help undergrads find their path

Kristina Hossley

Forest Engineering and Civil Engineering student Kristina Hossley worked hard this summer at a job with the Federal Highways Administration in Alaska. She was an ideal candidate for her position because of the skills, knowledge and experience she acquired during her time at the Oregon State College of Forestry to date. She says studying abroad in Sydney, Australia and her internships with Weyerhaeuser set her apart from the pool of other first-time applicants.

In Australia, Hossley studied at the University of New South Wales, a strong engineering school. She also enjoyed learning about the cultures of Australia and the many others represented in the nation's largest metro area.

"The experience opened my eyes to different educational environments around the world," Hossley says. "My engineering classes in Australia took a more hands-on approach than the theory-based American curriculum."

While interning with Weyerhaeuser, Hossley had invaluable experiential learning opportunities.

"That experience taught me there is always more than one way to think about or learn something," she says. "When I was interviewing for my job, I was able to talk about that, and about my experiences. I think that really set me apart."

Herman Flamenco

Experiential learning completely changed Herman Flamenco's path at Oregon State and in his career. He came to Oregon State with hopes of becoming a park ranger. After delving into the forest management program and participating in internships, he's on a new path to one day become a forest manager.

"The program opened up my world to so many more opportunities that I was unaware of," he says. "It put me in a position to begin to fulfill my new goal."

After completing his undergraduate degree in forest management, Flamenco decided to pursue a master's degree in sustainable forest management. He hopes to eventually work abroad, and he's already on his way thanks to a wealth of international experience gained at Oregon State.

Flamenco's first internship was with the U.S. Forest Service in South Dakota. Next, he headed south to Argentina to work with a government agency to research wood density in Douglas fir stems.

Soon, Flamenco will head to Spain to study international forestry.

"I'm fascinated with the different ways forestry is handled around the world," he said. "And I hope I can learn more as my career continues."



Hossley

Experiential learning makes a difference for undergraduates



Flamenco



Orange-crowned warbler

New collaborative effort takes flight

Matt Betts will create Forest Biodiversity Research Network at Oregon State

Matt Betts knows all of the songbirds in the forest by ear, but at Chip Ross Park in Corvallis, he stands silently and picks out the song of an orange-crowned warbler.

“In some parts of its range, it’s declining faster than the spotted owl,” he says of the bird. “Researchers don’t know exactly why it’s declining, although it’s likely due to habitat loss.”

Betts, an associate professor of wildlife and landscape ecology, is researching the factors that cause biodiversity to decline in Oregon and around the world. He wants to learn what can be done from a management perspective.

As an undergraduate, Betts planted trees in northern Canada where he worked for months at a time in clearcut areas.

“Some of these clearcuts were huge, heavily sprayed, and we replanted with just a single species, black spruce,” he says. “The wisdom at the time was that these practices were necessary to grow trees properly, but it seemed to me that there must be alternatives that were better for wildlife. I went back to school to discover whether this was possible.”

His experience in reforestation stoked his interest in biodiversity, and Betts arrived at Oregon State eager to explore the many complex relationships found in the forest.

Betts’s current priority is to establish a Forest Biodiversity Research Network (FBRN) at Oregon State. This effort is supported by his recent award, the Institute for Work Forest Landscapes (IWFL) Research Professorship. The IWFL professorships fund world-class researchers in the early part of their careers to lead research, promote effective dissemination and strengthen research leadership at the highest academic levels.

Betts says the goal of the FBRN is to connect professors across disciplines working in the field of forest biodiversity, to highlight the importance of the work, seek non-traditional funding, and prioritize a research agenda for biodiversity conservation.

“Oregon State has more high-impact forest scientists and conservation biologists in one location than anywhere in the world and a perfect geographical location in between the fantastically productive and diverse forests of the Coast Range and Cascades,” Betts says. “We will combine our efforts and take full advantage of the collective intellect of everyone working on campus and in adjacent government institutions including the Forest Service, U.S. Geological Survey and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. That’s the vision, and I’m excited to explore where it leads.”



Betts



Allen-Kahl

Amanda Allen-Kahl: digging into undergraduate research

Natural resources student Allen-Kahl works to analyze soil

Senior natural resources student Amanda Allen-Kahl climbs up a slope cut from the reddish-brown earth below her feet and hops down into a pit in the soil. It looks as if a bulldozer took a bite out of the ground, exposing layers of various-colored dirt. Allen-Kahl picks up a clod and rolls it between her fingertips. She explains that the red dirt is called a B horizon, but she says it's difficult to be sure.

"The way to actually tell [what it is,] is to put it in your hand, get it wet and do a ribbon test," she says.

The non-traditional student moved her family to Corvallis from Bend to study natural resources.

"Just being in a place as different from Bend as Corvallis was challenging," she says. "But over time, I've come to appreciate the learning opportunities here that I couldn't have received



Allen-Kahl analyzes and studies soils.

anywhere else. The curricula for the natural resources program at Oregon State are so broad. They provide nearly endless options – this was extremely important to me because it meant I could study what I'm passionate about."

Undergraduate research analyzing soil samples has been an important part of Allen-Kahl's Oregon State experience.

She's learned about forest soils while working in Jeff Hatten's research group. Hatten, an associate professor of forest watershed management, was recently awarded one of the first ever Institute for Working Forest Landscapes (IWFL) Research Professorships. The three-year award, offered to early-career professors, allows Hatten to continue to employ talented, hardworking students like Allen-Kahl and to strengthen research leadership. It includes \$50,000 in annual research funding and a three-credit reduction in teaching duties.

"One of the benefits of working with Jeff's group has been that I've learned organizational skills that have benefitted me in the rest of my coursework," Allen-Kahl says.



She's designed her own option which she calls, "a multicultural outlook on the study of flora and fauna."

After graduation, she is interested in working for the U.S. Forest Service or the Bureau of Indian Affairs, while continuing to research forest soil.

"I think it's good for people to be around soils," she says. "There's just something to it."



Riggio

Growing up in Italy, Mariapaola Riggio has been always exposed to the allure of art, design and history –restoration of historical buildings later became the focus of her career. Riggio, an assistant professor of wood design and architecture, comes from a family of engineers. “I grew up in my father’s office, basically,” Riggio said. “I was there in kindergarten drawing on a small table while he was working on the big one.” “When I was a graduate student at the Faculty of Architecture in Florence, I met a professor who was an expert on historical timber structures, which increased my interest in them,” she says.

Riggio earned her Master in Architecture with a focus on restoration of wooden vaults and spent several years spent working both in Italy and Germany and began studying for a Ph.D. in timber engineering.

“Now I try to integrate engineering and architecture perspectives in my research,” she says. Riggio studied the application of different methodologies for analysis and restoration of existing timber structures, which led directly to her research at Oregon State. She arrived in

Mariapaola Riggio: on the ground floor of advanced wood products construction

Researcher uses digital technologies to analyze current and prospective behavior of mass timber structures

September 2015 and is currently evaluating the long-term performance of mass timber buildings using integrated monitoring methodologies.

“We want to analyze not just the current condition of a building, but also its prospective behavior,” she says.

Mass timber structures, which use advanced wood products including cross-laminated timber and glued laminated timber, are becoming popular across the country. These products can compete with traditional materials used in mid- and high-rise construction including steel and concrete. Timber structures sequester carbon and are much lighter than concrete structures, which is an advantage in case of earthquake.

Because these advanced wood products are relatively new to the U.S., there are still many questions about their behavior and performance on the long-term.

“I just started work on a project for the Institute for Working Forest Landscapes on the structural health assessment and monitoring of mass timber buildings,” she says. “It’s a highly interdisciplinary group, with members specializing in different areas of study, including weathering effects on engineered wood products, the dynamic behavior of mass timber components, and overall energy efficiency of mass timber buildings.”

During her two-year study Riggio will install sensors in new buildings to measure environmental parameters, vibrational behavior, and other factors which can affect components’ durability, building performance and occupant comfort. “One of the aims of the project is to verify the usability and robustness of sensors that could be embedded in engineered wood components” she says. The sensors would make wooden structures ‘smart,’ informing users about their performance. Riggio says she hopes to inform designers about the behavior of advanced wood products in real-world applications.

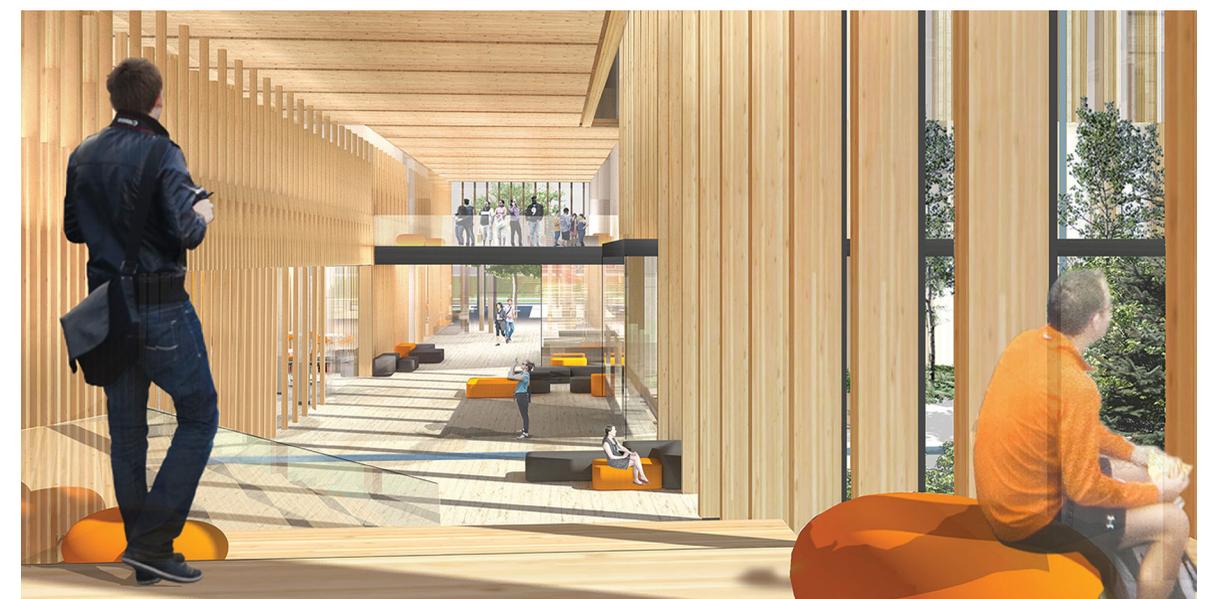
“We’ve already been contacted by outside designers who have an interest in collaborating with us,” she says. “We’re continuing to advance our definition of what it means to be sustainable, and part of that is exploring and embracing new technologies that help us create high-performing buildings using renewable resources.”



Piece of cross-laminated timber. (OFRI)



CLT floor installation for Albina Yard in Portland.



As part of her research, Riggio will conduct a structural health assessment and monitor the performance of the Oregon Forest Science Complex.



Davis and her dog, John Day.

Emily Jane Davis: conversations on collaboration

Emily Jane Davis, assistant professor and extension specialist in the Department of Forest Ecosystems and Society, researches natural resources collaboration. Her research takes her all over the state as she studies and assists with collaboration in small communities.

Describe your unique position with the College of Forestry.

My position was just created two years ago. It's a blend of research and providing assistance through the Oregon State University Extension Service, not just one or the other. My focus is on collaboration.

What does it mean to study collaboration?

I study and provide assistance on collaboration, or the way in which people work together. Collaboration in environmental governance can mean a whole range of things, depending on what you're talking about, but at its core, involves some element of group decision making. It emerged in public policy as a response to the failure of top-down solutions that didn't take into account diverse stakeholders and constituencies.

How did collaboration increase in light of these failures, especially in regard to land use?

In Oregon, prior to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, there weren't many avenues for public input in public lands forest management. While the National Environmental Policy Act created some capability for people to give input on decisions, it also encouraged people to dig in their heels to try to get what they wanted individually, instead of talking together and trying to find common ground. Unfortunately, the Northwest Forest Plan of 1994 was similar. After that point, I think it became clear to people that it was more effective to actually sit down together, interact with each other and find a collective opinion to share with the government rather than a bunch of conflicting and competing opinions. At least that way, they would stand a chance to get some of what they wanted.

What are some examples of natural resources collaboration that we see today, especially as a strategy for private landowners to interact with federal agencies?

My research project, funded by the Joint Fire Science Program is a great example. I'm studying rangeland fire protection associations (RFPAs) in Oregon and Idaho. These are groups that allow local ranchers to work with federal agencies to fight fire. It's about neighbor ranchers cooperating with each other and with the government.

We wanted to highlight an emerging model of collaboration between ranchers and land management agencies and show what it means to live with fire on the range. Rangeland communities are often out on the front lines actually fighting fire themselves. This project studies how they do that.



Southwest Idaho near Mountain Home. (USDA Forest Service)

Where did RFPAs come from?

The first ones in Oregon started way back in the 1960s, but most of them began much more recently. The idea of RFPAs was fueled by ranchers who wanted to fight fire. While many ranchers have permits to graze on federal lands, technically they couldn't fight fire on that federal land. Fire would be threatening their own private land, the federal land they worked on, their cattle and their livelihood, but they couldn't legally take any action, which created a lot of frustration. In Mountain Home, Idaho, one of the communities I've been studying, ranchers were fighting fire anyway and clashing with the BLM. In 2012, ranchers from the region organized into that RFA after years of fighting, feeling that they could find a better way to deal with these issues together with the BLM than they could apart.

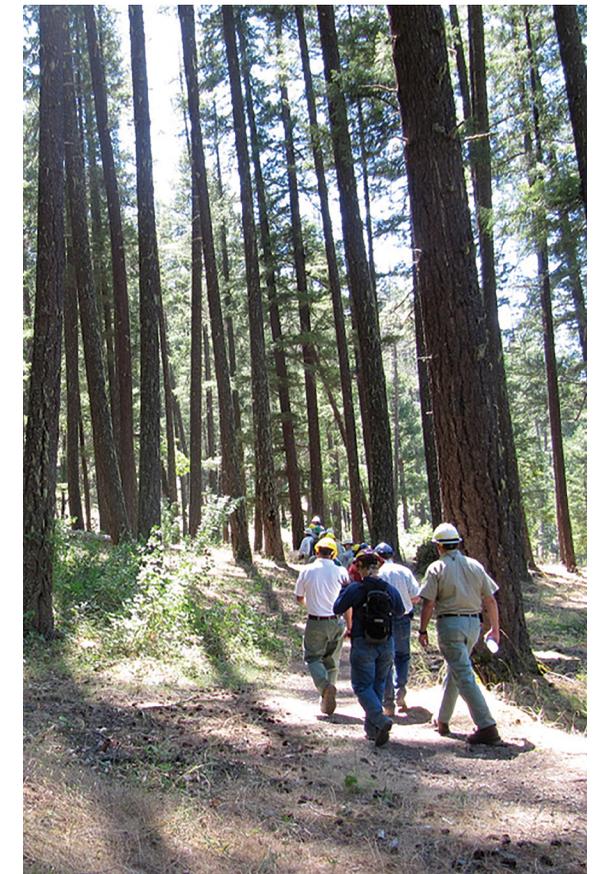
What were some outcomes from the Mountain Home RFA?

The most important outcome was that ranchers and the federal agencies signed agreements to work together to fight wildfire on federal lands. Ranchers received actual wildfire training and now they also bring their own resources to the fire, enhancing the capabilities of the agencies.

Now they deal with many fires every year, especially along the I-84 corridor, which is one of the most fire-prone areas in the whole United States.

What are some factors that enable successful collaboration between diverse stakeholders like the kind you've observed with the Mountain Home RFA?

Successful collaboration requires a strong core of diverse, local leaders – people who are committed to putting the time in. If you start with that and a willingness to find solutions, you're off on the right foot.



Forest Service staff tour the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest.

College News and Notes



ANTHONY S. DAVIS NAMED ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR RESEARCH

The OSU College of Forestry has named Anthony S. Davis as associate dean for research. Davis

joins OSU from the University of Idaho, where he served as the director of the Center for Forest Nursery and Seedling Research and as an associate professor of native plant regeneration and silviculture in the Department of Forest, Rangeland, and Fire Science.

Under Davis' guidance at Idaho, the Center for Forest Nursery and Seedling Research became a world-recognized leader in forest nursery science. Davis, who earned his doctorate at Purdue University, has conducted research to improve nursery production practices of native plants, restoration of degraded forests, and has studied the effects of environmental stresses on seedling growth and development.

In his position at OSU, which begins on June 30th, Davis will be responsible for the strategic development and the execution of innovative, effective, and respected research programs to help achieve the research mission of the college, Forest Research Laboratory, and the Institute for Working Forest Landscapes. During

the 2015 fiscal year, the college received \$15.19-million in research revenue, with \$13.13-million from sponsored research awards and \$2.06-million from research cooperative dues and revenues.

Davis succeeds Steve Tesch, who will retire in 2017 after a 36-year career with the college.

KAITLYN HICKAM RECEIVES OSU OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARD FROM THE OREGON SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS

Hickam received the OSU Outstanding Student Award at the OSAF Annual Meeting in Coos Bay. Hickam is a senior in the College of Forestry's natural resources program and is closing out her academic career. During her time at OSU, she has worked with the college's student services office throughout the academic year and actively volunteers as a chapter leader for the OSU SAF chapter. Last fall, Hickman was the primary lead coordinating the college's SAF student chapter Job Fair.

The OSU Outstanding Student Award is presented annually to a forestry student who is a member of the SAF; participates regularly in SAF activities, including a leadership role of some kind; represents the OSU SAF student chapter at state or national SAF gatherings; and who demonstrates good academic standing, good citizenship, and excellence in extracurricular and professional work activities.



DR. ROBERT "BOB" BUCKMAN PASSES AWAY.

After retiring from a distinguished career in the Forest Service that began in 1955 and culminated as Deputy Chief

for Research, Bob moved to Corvallis and joined the College of Forestry faculty in 1986. Among many interests, he was a champion for international forestry and helped initiate our current international forestry course. He guided several graduate students through the program until his retirement in 1995. During his time at OSU, he served as vice president, then president, of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (1986-1990) representing 15,000 forest scientists in 110 countries.

Bob was recipient of a number of awards in recognition of his contributions to forestry, including election as Fellow in the Society of American Foresters, Fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science and Honorary Member of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations.

In 1950 Bob married Marie L. Eidenschink, a marriage that lasted over 60 years until her death in 2011. He is survived by two daughters, two sons and six wonderful grandchildren.

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