

# FOCUS

Fall 2014

THE MAGAZINE OF OSU COLLEGE OF FORESTRY

Forestry students are jumping  
at the chance to study abroad

**Oregon State**  
UNIVERSITY



# Dean's Column



“Buildings, too, are children of Earth and Sun.” With that simple statement, architect Frank Lloyd Wright summed up much of what is truly great about the rediscovery of building tall buildings with wood.

It seems like every day there’s more news about the sustainability and economic potential of wood—building construction, energy production, climate change mitigation, and jobs for rural communities. Even mainstream magazines such as *Popular Science* are running articles with headlines like “The World’s Most Advanced Building Material is Wood”—arguing that wood construction is going to change our skylines. People all over the world, and here in the United States, are starting to see the possibilities of, and open their minds to new ways of attaining our goals for constructing locally sourced, “greener” and healthier

buildings by using wood in advanced and innovative ways.

Louis Sullivan coined the term “form follows function,” and from there began modern architecture. But Alvar Aalto’s curved imagination followed with “*form must have content, and that content must be linked with nature,*” and he proved it possible with many beautiful designs with wood. We seek this vital linkage with nature; thus we wish to both conserve natural landscapes and live in buildings made of earth and sun. Good stewardship makes this possible.

As we move forward with new designs for Peavy Hall and our Advanced Wood Products Manufacturing and Design Center, the College of Forestry is looking toward the future and leading the way for a resurgence in the U.S. wood-products manufacturing sector. Last March, I attended a White House event called “Building with Wood: Jobs and the Environment,” hosted by USDA Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, Chair of the White House Rural Council. During the event, Secretary Vilsack announced a new partnership to train architects, engineers, and builders about the benefits of advanced wood building materials. He’s asked me to join the select committee that will design and evaluate a \$1 million prize competition to build high-rise wood demonstration projects. This spring, the college co-sponsored the fifth annual Sustainable Structures Symposium in Portland, bringing together architecture, engineering, and green building experts to talk about strategies for innovative sustainable building and for educating future architects and engineers in this area.

Our faculty members are at the leading edge of research on cross-laminated timber (CLT) panels and other sustainable building materials, making the College of Forestry a go-to center of excellence that will be an invaluable resource to the U.S. manufacturing industry as it positions itself to compete in the growing domestic and global markets. Our students will benefit from these connections as they prepare for forestry careers in the new economy. As the new school year kicks off, I’m looking forward to the new ideas they’ll develop that will truly make a difference in our communities.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas Maness". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Thomas Maness, Ph.D.

Cheryl Ramberg-Ford and Allyn C. Ford Dean

# FOCUS

THE MAGAZINE OF OSU COLLEGE OF FORESTRY

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Cover: *Camille Moyers '14 celebrates her study abroad trip to Anafi, Greece in the Cyclades Islands. See story on p. 6. Photo: Camille Moyers.*

## ATTENTION

### JOB SEEKERS & EMPLOYERS

The Student Services Office offers an employment site where alumni can find job announcements and employers can advertise their open positions.

See what's available at [jobs.forestry.oregonstate.edu](http://jobs.forestry.oregonstate.edu)

Or call 541 · 737 · 1594 to advertise your open position(s).

# Keeping People in the Forestry Picture

**Institute for Working Forest Landscapes researches new ways to balance ecological, social, and economic needs in rural communities**

By *Scott Swanson*

Thomas Maness stands in a grove of hardwood trees on a slope near the South Santiam River, east of Cascadia, and gazes skyward. “This stand needs treatment,” says the Dean of the Oregon State University College of Forestry, gesturing toward the boughs above. “It’s a pioneer hardwood stand that has about reached its maximum age. The hardwoods will begin to die and be replaced by softwoods more typical of the mature forest in this region.”

This particular grove includes lots of alder, which has “a lot of economic value,” he notes. It also provides unique habitat for birds and other animals. Sites like these are not common in the Willamette National Forest, where many acres are filled with mature Douglas-firs and few hardwoods.

The hardwood stand is “atypical for this region, and something that has ecological value,” Maness says. “We want to protect that and, at the same time, we are looking for ways to create more economic opportunity in the Willamette National Forest. By doing nothing we lose both the economic and the ecological value. So how can those two goals work together?”

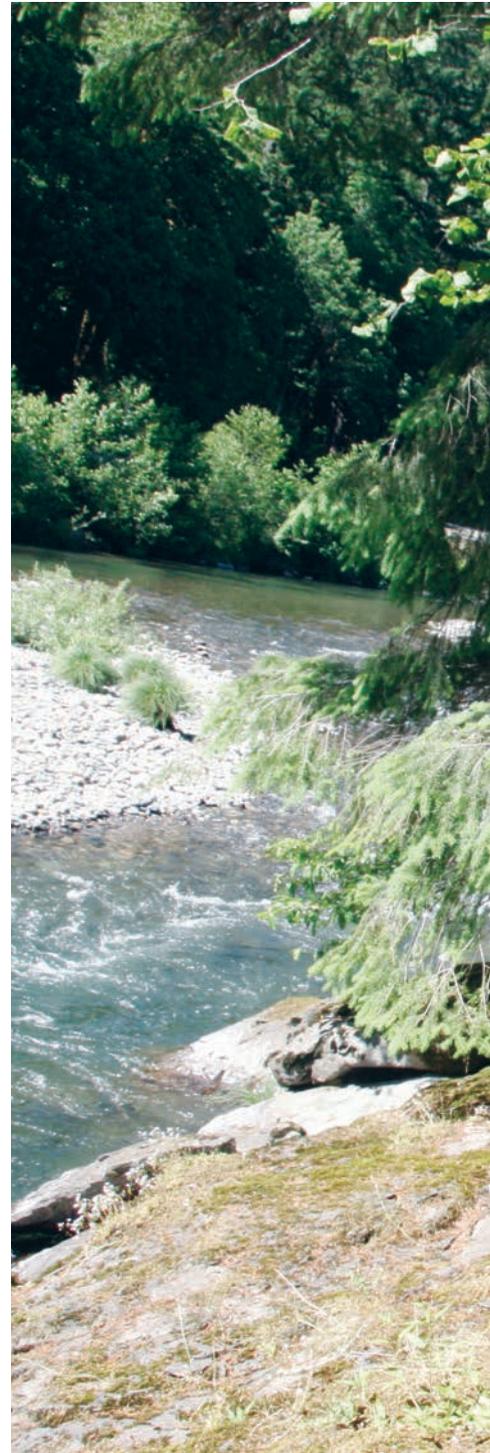
That question is the impetus behind the creation of the Institute for Working Forest Landscapes, a “world-class research and outreach center for healthy landscapes” that the College of Forestry is in the process of establishing in various locations throughout Oregon, including in the forest east of Sweet Home. It will be done in collaboration with other universities, private landowners and managers, and the USDA Forest Service.

“It’s bigger than Sweet Home,” says District Ranger Cindy Glick, of the Sweet Home Ranger District. “We will be a part of it, but so will communities like Oakridge and Blue River—they’re in a similar situation. We hope to be a major part of the work because of location, location, location. We are so close to OSU and we have a lot of infrastructure ready for the university to come and help us.”

Maness, who spent many hours this year in Sweet Home with Oregon State faculty and Forest Service representatives to discuss the project, says the research institute will likely encompass 100,000 acres, which he hopes will include private as well as federal lands across the state.

“This is not just public lands we’re talking about,” he says. “The public/private interface and checkerboard structure of the landscape is vital to achieve our goals. Oregon’s rural economies are forest based—forestry is the highest and best use of the land. Presently the health of our rural communities is in serious decline. We have to do something different to get different results.”

The institute’s purpose is to develop ways to better manage forest resources by balancing ecological, social, and economic needs. It is a response to “a change in attitude around the state,” says Maness, who is working to develop innovative forest policies and practices that balance traditional production with stewardship of natural resources.



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*“I think the word ‘holistic’ is really important to what we’re talking about here. And this is a new approach.”*

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—Dean Thomas Maness



Photo by Scott Swanson

*Healthy watersheds are critical for healthy forests and communities. Sweet Home District Ranger Cindy Glick and CoF Dean Thomas Maness are working with landowners, the Forest Service and community members to keep rivers like the South Santiam thriving.*



*Eric White, assistant professor in FERM, and Emily Jane Davis, who recently joined the college as assistant professor/Extension specialist in collaborative natural resource management, help communities like Sweet Home collaborate on the best approaches to stewarding their forests.*

“There’s a new focus on working landscapes,” he says. “We’re looking at how to make ecosystems more resilient, and at the same time, how to make communities, particularly forest-dependent communities, healthier. The phrase ‘working landscapes’ does not mean that everything is logged. Instead the phrase means that our landscapes are working to produce a wide range of values from wildlife habitat to wilderness sanctuary to family wages. A forester’s job is to have an intimate knowledge of the landscape—including the people living in it—and provide good stewardship.”

In other words, people are a big part of the forestry picture.

“Our code of ethics as professional foresters requires that we work for future generations,” Maness explains. “Everything we do must consider the impact on future generations. So professional forestry is as much about the future as it is about the present.”

Though development of the institute will extend over years, and exact locations have yet to be determined, a plan has been written, outlining its basic structure and focus. The premise, Maness says, is that “individual and community livelihoods are intimately linked to the health and productivity of surrounding landscapes regardless of ownership boundaries.

“The big idea here is that we really need to change the way we think about forestry, from managing a collection of independent stands of trees to managing large complex landscapes. Communities and people are part of the landscape, not just external actors negatively impacting the landscape that need to go away.”

A major goal is to develop collaborative landscape management to produce economical, biological, and socially healthy conditions that will benefit both the forests and nearby communities.

Another goal is to increase public awareness of the need for good stewardship of forests, notes Emily Jane Davis, who recently joined the Forest Ecosystems & Society department as assistant professor/Extension specialist in collaborative natural resource management. She has been involved in a number of collaborative forest-management projects east of Sweet Home in the last few years.

“I think stewardship is more important today than ever, because there are a lot of competing demands for our forests, and conversion, loss of working forest land, climate change—these are some of the things that threaten the productivity and health of forest lands,” she says. “And we also are living with the legacy of some past forest management decisions that today pose a lot of restoration challenges. It can be really complicated to figure out: What’s the best approach? How should we restore this landscape to make it a more resilient forest and ensure its productivity?”

Collaboration is a key facet of the entire plan. “This is a holistic, broad-scale research institute for the College of Forestry that’s designed to pull everyone together to work on all parts of the project simultaneously,” Maness emphasizes. “I think the word ‘holistic’ is really important to what we’re talking about here. And despite what you may hear, this is a new approach. We often hear the word holistic strictly applied to the biotic ecology of a landscape. However, it isn’t holistic management unless it also includes the important economic and social considerations of the region.”

Eric White, an assistant professor in the Forest Engineering, Resources & Management department who specializes in the economics of human interactions with natural resources, believes that expertise drawn from members of the local community will be an invaluable contribution to the success of the institute. “Sweet Home has so much knowledge of the land from people in the forest sector,” he says. “This is a great resource and one I think will really be helpful.”

Both Davis and White emphasize that the focus of the institute will be feet-on-the-ground practicality that involves as many players as possible. Maness and Glick note that university faculty and students, together with Forest Service experts, local communities, and individuals will play a vital role as well. Glick adds that the goal is to initiate discussion that will produce positive results for the forest and its communities.

“Sometimes there’s disagreement in science,” she says. “So how do you work on that, other than

at the same table? That's what we're really hoping, to get everybody to bring their science and figure out what is the best management practice for the South Santiam Watershed."

The institute also supports research into what constitutes a healthy ecosystem. The goal is to determine how forests contribute to everything, from their effects on climate change to clean water to biodiversity protection and mitigation. Maness says research will focus on developing forest management strategies that will "strengthen the connection between communities, people, and the landscapes they inhabit."

In March, Maness attended a meeting with U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, where Vilsack announced a new \$1 million program to help train architects, engineers and builders about the benefits of advanced wood building materials, as well as USDA plans to invest up to \$1 million in a forthcoming prize competition to design and build high-rise wood demonstration projects that could use materials manufactured in Oregon and the U.S. Vilsack has invited Maness to join the select team that will design and evaluate the competition.

Maness, a forest economist, explains that with innovations in state-of-the-art sawmills, the demand for labor is far lower than it used to be. "This isn't a malicious design by industrialists, it is what you have to do to be competitive globally," he says. But manufacturing advanced wood building materials offers additional opportunities for workers. "What we really need is a deeper supply chain—more people employed for every tree we harvest. The challenge is to do this in a globally competitive context."

That's why the institute also focuses on research into competitive and innovative products, Maness explains. The goal is to "not only increase the value of Oregon's natural resources, but also enhance the

overall value added in products manufactured in Oregon's communities."

The institute will partner with the University of Oregon's College of Architecture as well as Oregon State's colleges of Engineering, Business, and Public Health and Human Sciences in developing composites and other new products that contribute to a growing market for "natural" building materials, and researching how they contribute to public health.

In addition to product development assistance and testing services for Oregon wood products companies, College of Forestry scientists have also been involved in developing new commercial uses for western juniper in southeastern Oregon and the development and testing of wood composites.

"The college has a great history of looking at wood products and new technologies," White says. "I think looking at new ways to use traditional resources or added resources that have value will be part of this."

Forums in which stakeholders can discuss the research needs for successful stewardship of working forests will be a key element to successful forest management, Maness says. "All forests are working forests, even congressionally designated wilderness areas. All stakeholders are involved in this. That's why dialogue is good. We just want to make sure that's done respectfully."

"For the last quarter of a century in this country we have focused exclusively on what you can't do. Rural communities have paid the price for this way of thinking. Now, what we're realizing is that the problems that we face are landscape-level issues, and people are part of the landscape. We need to look at the big picture, and we need to start thinking about what we can do."

*This article was excerpted from an article in The New Era, Sweet Home, Oregon. June 25, 2014.*

*Sweet Home District Ranger Cindy Glick leads a discussion of prairie habitat management, First Foods, and other Tribal interests on a public field tour in the Willamette National Forest.*



Photo by Emily Jane Davis



Photo by Ina Chow

College of Forestry senior Camille Moyers took a number of opportunities to study abroad in preparation for a career in renewable materials, where global markets are key. Here she visits Suomenlinna, a UNESCO World Heritage Site near Helsinki, Finland.

## Making Time Count

### RM undergrad maximizes time and opportunities while building toward her dream career

By Bryan Bernart

Many undergraduate students are satisfied completing only one degree and using their out-of-class hours for recreation. Not Camille Moyers. The 22-year-old senior studying both renewable materials and interior design arrived at OSU in 2011 and promptly got involved with academic organizations in addition to her coursework.

Moyers, a SE Portland native, took a fairly straightforward path to Oregon State. “My sister had been at OSU for a few years before it was my turn to start looking at colleges. I was already comfortable with Corvallis from trips I’d taken to visit her,” Moyers says. She didn’t want to be too far from home, and knew that OSU had a strong Interior Design and Housing Studies program. “It seemed almost like a no brainer to come to OSU, given all of the things that I wanted.”

Moyers completed her interior design studies last fall, and now studies full time in the College of Forestry’s Renewable Materials program in the Department of Wood Science & Engineering. Through courses in marketing, processing and manufacturing, and general application of renewable materials in the domestic and global markets, Moyers believes that she and her fellow RM comrades are gaining a well-rounded

perspective on the renewables industry as a whole. Not only that, one of the program’s greatest strengths lies in its ability “to connect students with industry professionals, which allows graduates to have options upon receiving their diplomas,” she says.

When she’s not in class, Moyers is involved with the OSU chapter of the Forest Products Society and serves as the secretary of the International Forestry Students Association (IFSA). In addition, she serves on IFSA’s International Board of Directors—a commitment of 10 to 20 hours per week.

Isn’t it stressful to do so much while still maintaining a high GPA? Moyers acknowledges that while it can be difficult to keep up with it all, she is someone who thrives on challenges and enjoys staying busy: “I find myself most productive when I have so many things to do that I have no option but to organize, color code, and schedule my days hour-by-hour.”

Moyers notes that she has also learned to recognize when she’s stretched herself too thin, however. “I know the importance of taking off time for myself—we all have our limits. I take no shame in making use of my amazing support group of friends, family, and faculty members here at OSU.”

An avid traveler, Moyers would like to find a position in wood products marketing after graduation that will allow her to work internationally. She was able to participate in two travel abroad programs offered by the College of Forestry: a trip to Scandinavia in 2013 that combined her interest in architecture with her RM studies, and to Australia in summer 2014. Within the next three years, she intends to begin work on a master's in sustainable architecture.

Moyers advises new students seeking to follow her example of hard work and academic excellence to be mindful of their goals and stay in touch with themselves. "Make sure that what you're doing really makes you happy," she says. "If it does, it will make the all-nighters and weekend overtime so much more pleasurable." She's quick to add, "If you don't know what that is yet, it's all right to take your time to figure it out. There's no rush in getting through college—these have been some of the best years in my life, and I have found some amazing friends and opportunities I never would have encountered without the College of Forestry or its networking opportunities."

She urges incoming freshmen, as well as all other undergrads, to "build a strong foundation of faculty members and peers that you can rely on. There's a great sense of community in the College of Forestry, so take advantage of it and enjoy it."



Photo: Christopher Hagan

*Camille Moyers' combined interests in design, sustainable building and international study fit well into the Renewable Materials program. (Above) Moyers and Wood Science Assistant Professor Seri Robinson go over her work. (Below) Moyers' study abroad opportunities included a trip to Machu Picchu in Peru with longtime friend Mackie Soulek.*

*(Peru photo by Helmut Fax)*



# Мир В Гостях



Photo by Allan Czinger

## A World Away

### Dual degrees launch international career for WSE alumnus

by Bryan Bernart

Allan Czinger's cell phone rings for a few moments and a boisterous voice picks up. "Hello, this is Allan!" shouts the voice on the other end. The background is noisy, and he explains that he's driving from his home in Portland to Woodland, Washington, where he works. "Even when I'm back in the United States, I'm traveling," he says, chuckling.

Czinger spends much of his time in Krasnoyarsk, Siberia, where he is the director of USNR-Russia, a sawmill and plywood equipment supply company. USNR has offices around the globe, but Czinger is a natural fit in Russia. Though born in the U.K. and raised in the U.S., his keen interest in Russia and Russian culture dates back to his high school years.

"When I was a teenager, it was the early 1990s, and with perestroika (the restructuring of the Soviet political and economic system) in the news, and *Rocky IV* on TV, I was very interested in the Soviet Union," he explains. He visited Russia on an international exchange while still in high school, and was instantly hooked. "The Cold War had just ended, and that's what it was all about.

I think it was a bigger interest for many people back then, since things were just opening up."

At Oregon State, Czinger studied forest products and international studies, with a minor in Russian language. He eventually received two degrees, a BS and a BA. While at OSU, Czinger studied abroad, spending a full year in Russia. He was one of the first students in the College of Forestry to receive an international degree. Czinger also played rugby and was president of his fraternity, Beta Theta Pi.

Echoing the sentiment of many recent graduates, the first thing Czinger wanted, upon finishing his degrees, was "a job with a paycheck." Right out of school, he worked for Roseburg Forest Products, and later for Vanport International, where he supervised lumber and plywood import and export. While with Vanport, Czinger spent two years in China opening an office there. In 2007, he returned home and was hired to head USNR's Russian office, where he worked first in Woodland and then relocated with his family to Krasnoyarsk in Siberia for two years.

Allan and his family are now back in the United States and he currently has the world's longest commute from Washington to Siberia.

"My day-to-day work life is very mobile," he explains. "When I'm in Russia, I'm either meeting with customers or doing things like tradeshows and marketing, which can involve knocking on doors, but I'm also involved in the company's current projects." At the time of this writing, that project involves helping to set up a sawmill in the city of Lesosibirsk, four hours north of Krasnoyarsk. USNR-Russia specializes in installation supervision, selling equipment and then commissioning the equipment, and fine-tuning the machinery so that it works properly. "Right now," he says, "I transition between working with the customer at our mill site, working with USNR equipment specialists, and helping the mill get up and running."

Now in his eighth year with USNR, Czinger is happily married to his wife, Vera, whom he met in Russia, and they have two children. He feels that his wide cultural experiences have informed the way he does business, which he describes as being "a little different" from how things are in the United States. "The thought process, for instance, that a customer will go through when deciding on a purchase is unlike what we experience

domestically," he explains. "Then again, the challenges are also different. For example, infrastructure—power grid, transportation, and mail—we take it for granted here, but where I work, that's not the case. Overall, it's rewarding to tailor a strategy around unique needs and circumstances."

Czinger advises current undergrads to study a language, if they'd like to work internationally, but cautions that taking classes alone won't do. "To learn a second language, you have to just go there," he says. "Immerse yourself, and don't go to a study abroad program where you're surrounded by a bunch of other Americans in a dormitory. Get out there. Go for a homestay with a family, or to a place with no other English speakers—that's the way to pick up a language."

He also believes that more emphasis on study abroad opportunities would be beneficial to OSU students. "It's an international world and things are growing. We'd do well to have more professor exchanges and scholarship programs," he says, before continuing on to another thought: "It helps with employment, too. Our company is always looking for good, technically skilled folks, and international experience would only be a plus. Send us your best and brightest!"

Find out more at [www.usnr.com](http://www.usnr.com)

*Perestroika, along with the 1985 hit movie Rocky IV, sparked Allan Czinger's interest in Russia, where he now provides equipment and helps tailor efficient manufacturing strategies for companies in the wood products industry. (Left) Allan in front of a traditional Siberian log home in Selenginsk, Buryatia, Russia. (Below) Allan on top of a Russian built "straddle-bug" lumber carrier in Ufa, Republic of Bashkortostan, Russia.*



Photo by Sergei Bezprozvannykh



## Troy Hall

### New FES Department Head and accomplished conservation social scientist is ready to lead

by Bryan Bernart

It should be no surprise that the new head of Forest Ecosystems and Society (FES)—a department with a mission that includes developing natural resources policy “reflective of our understanding of the world and the people within it”—is an interdisciplinarian. Troy Hall, who joined the College of Forestry in June, previously served as the head of the Department of Conservation Social Sciences at the University of Idaho. Her diverse background includes anthropology, as well as forestry and botany.

Hall was drawn to the new position for a number of reasons, key among them being the reputation of both the college and the department. “The OSU College of Forestry is top in the nation. There’s a real opportunity to support research, teaching, and outreach on critically important issues related to the complex interactions between social and natural systems,” she says. “The FES department has a very strong tradition of research, and I’m excited to work with top level scientists.”

Hall also notes that she looks forward to supporting the college’s desire to bring together local communities, the forest industry, non-governmental organizations, and scientists. Hall

is a natural collaborator. Her research, which spans the study of the impacts of recreation on vegetation to best processes for science communication, has necessitated working with land management agencies, such as the USDA Forest Service, BLM, NASA, and many other entities. “My research combines basic science, ‘science transfer’—working with resource managers to apply science to land management decisions—and stakeholder involvement,” says Hall. “This background makes me sensitive to the varying needs and expectations of the diverse members of the FES Department.”

Hall considers forest management that provides jobs, while still sustaining the resource base, as one of Oregon’s largest current natural resources policy challenges. “We have to be adaptive and resilient in the face of accelerating social and biophysical changes,” she explains. “We have to find ways to appropriately bring science to bear on decision making, despite the fact that the science of socio-ecological systems is rapidly becoming more complex.”

Other key issues facing the state include engaging more broadly with non-traditional stakeholder groups, climate change (especially changes in hydrologic regimes in the Pacific Northwest), fire, and invasive species, she says. Future forestry graduates, too, will face the same challenges. How will Hall enhance the FES curriculum to best prepare them for careers in natural resources?

“FES has already begun an ambitious and potentially ground-breaking effort to develop a new undergrad Bachelor of Science program,” she explains. “The new program will prepare students to think broadly and critically, anticipate the unexpected, and be able to bring multiple perspectives to bear on any given issue.” Hall also notes that the FES graduate programs are currently being revised to enhance the interdisciplinary rigor that all graduate students receive.

Hall’s other goals include creating high-impact, “in-the-field” learning experiences for students by utilizing resources available near campus, and working to better integrate the FES Department into the overall OSU mission—which, as a land grant institution, includes advancing the science of sustainable earth ecosystems. “By helping expose all OSU students to environmental issues and natural resource sciences, we serve OSU students more broadly,” says Hall. “With strong and focused leadership, we’re poised to really make a difference.”



## Stephen "Fitz" Fitzgerald

**New Director of College Forests  
balances recreation, revenue,  
teaching, research, and public  
engagement**

by Bryan Bernart

As of January 2014, the OSU College Forests, which comprise thousands of acres across eight separate locations state-wide, are supervised by new director Stephen Fitzgerald. "Fitz" arrived in Corvallis with 30 years of Extension forestry experience. We asked him to answer a few questions about the role of the College Forests Director, the challenges of managing forests for a diversity of uses, and his plans for the future.

***What do you see as the director's primary responsibilities?***

I oversee all the College Forests operations and provide overall management direction. The day-to-day, on-the-ground operations decisions are made by the staff who work on the Forests. We are fortunate to have very competent, dedicated professionals working there. Because I am a silviculturist and conduct silvicultural research, I do provide decision-making guidance regarding silvicultural methods and treatments. My goal is create a biologically diverse forest that provides a diversity of teaching, research, and recreational experiences, while also providing revenue to the College of Forestry to support our teaching, research, and public engagement endeavors.

***How do you feel that your career as an Extension forester has prepared you for your new position?***

During my time in Extension I worked in both the coast range and in the eastern Cascades, with a number of stakeholders and user-groups, private landowners, state and federal agencies, and city and county governments, on a whole host of forest and natural resource issues. I've had to facilitate dialogues between many different groups over a number of contentious issues. With my background in science and management, I feel at ease discussing and translating what the appropriate science says, and engaging the various interest groups on how to integrate science with ecological, social, and economic values. My career in Extension prepared me to manage the College Forests, in that doing so requires a commitment to collaboration in order to balance the different ways in which we use the College Forests.

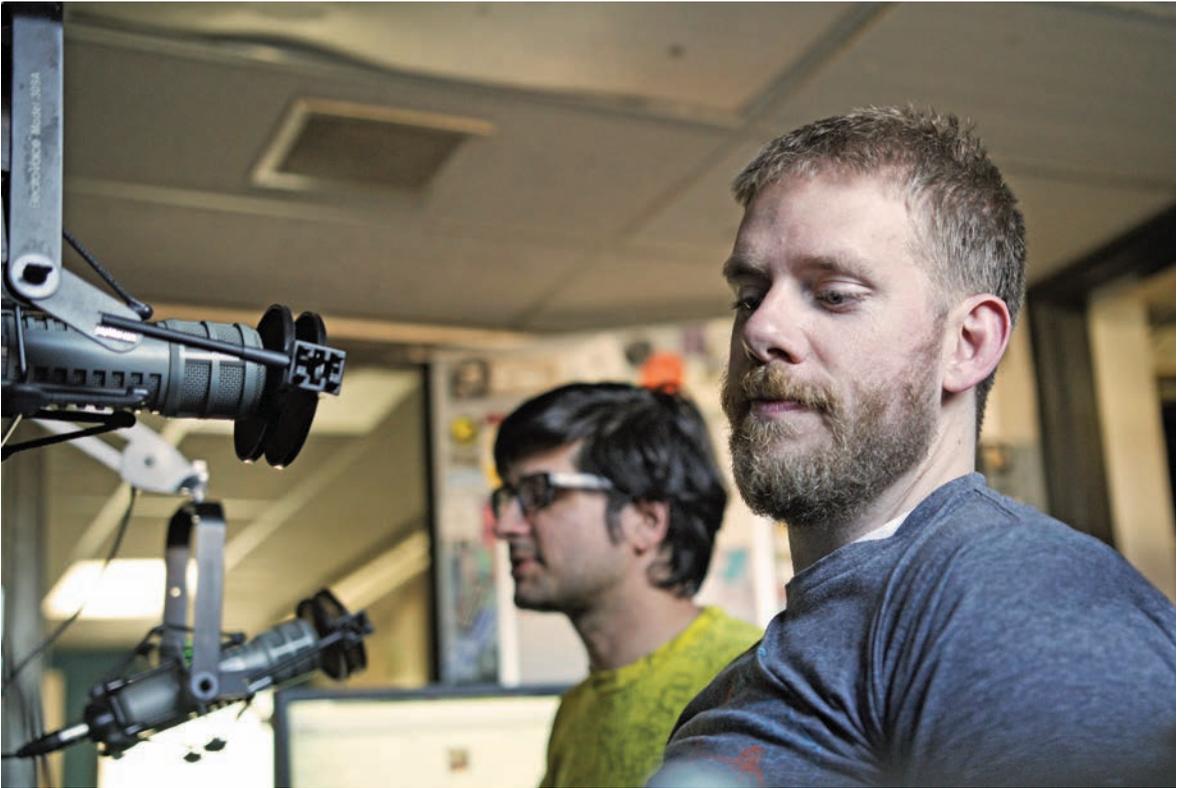
***How challenging is it to balance the different uses of the Forests among different groups? How do you ensure that recreation activities, timber harvest, and researchers from the College and elsewhere "coexist"?***

It's a huge challenge because everyone views the Forests differently and wants to see or emphasize different things. In the past 10 years, it's become even more complicated because the Corvallis populace has discovered that this gem, the Forests, is available for their use and is right outside their own back doors. We have over 100,000 visitor days every year; these visitors each have their own views of how they would like to see the Forests managed. My charge is to help maintain a general awareness that these are "working forests," and that teaching, research, enhancing forest diversity, engaging the public (including recreation activities), and generating income are, all together, our primary objectives. To do so, we communicate with the public using our website, in order to inform them about when and where timber harvests, road building, and other activities take place, in order to avoid conflicts.

***What kinds of opportunities for the public to visit and learn about the Forests do you have planned through the end of 2014?***

We have a number of events happening this year. In May, we hosted the National Get Outdoors (GO) Day in the Forests, which was co-sponsored by the OSU Benton County Extension Service. This was an all-day event for families to come out and learn about camping, geocaching, fire, how trees grow, fishing, and many other topics. This year, 570 adults and children attended the event, which also

*(continued on p. 13)*



## Inspiration Dissemination

**Forestry graduate student Joey Hulbert shares OSU research through award-winning KBVR science radio show**

*by Bryan Bernart*

Joey Hulbert, a graduate student in the WSE Department, walks through an otherwise quiet wing of Snell Hall, preparing for a broadcast. KBVR-FM, located on its second floor, comprises only a cozy one-room studio space filled with microphones and turntables, but the students working there ensure that, despite its modest appearance, KBVR remains a broadcasting powerhouse, filling the airwaves on channel 88.7 FM around the clock. It's just after 6:30 PM on Sunday night, which means that "Inspiration Dissemination," the nationally recognized radio program hosted by Hulbert and Zhian Kamvar, another OSU graduate student, will go live in less than half an hour.

"When we first started out, back in early 2012, we were really just dragging our friends in," says Hulbert, laughing, as he explains the genesis of ID. "There wasn't much of a plan. We sat them down and said, 'Hey, we're going to talk to you about your research for 10 or 15 minutes, so... what do

you do?'" Despite his irreverent tone, Hulbert came to KBVR with several years of college radio experience under his belt, having worked for Washington State's KZUU while completing his bachelor's degree. Following that, when he was applying to graduate schools, Hulbert had to write essays with topics like "How are you going to create a broader impact through your research?" As he says, "It just clicked for me that maybe I should start talking about science on the radio and reach out to more people, and help others communicate scientific information."

In its current format, ID runs for roughly half an hour once a week. Each episode features a different graduate student guest, always from a scientific field. Guests discuss their research, their experiences prior to beginning in their respective programs, and why their work is important. Guests also relate advice to undergraduates who may be listening to the program. Across campus, over 34 departments, including the College of Forestry's own FERM, WSE, and FES, have been represented so far.

So, who listens to ID? “Our target audience is undergraduate students, who might catch our show while driving around Corvallis. We hope that they overhear some of the conversation and come away from listening feeling inspired,” says Hulbert. “But we believe the majority of our listeners are actually other graduate students—they’re interested in the human element of the program, meaning the common experiences that grad students go through, as much as the research.” He explains that to build listenership, the program archives many of its shows on its website, where they’re available for download (<http://oregonstate.edu/inspiration/Episodes>). “We’re fortunate to have an undergrad helper who creates podcasts from our material. It’s interesting to look through the statistics generated; one of our programs has over 2,000 listens.”

In the scant two and a half years since its inception, ID has not only garnered national recognition, having been recently honored by the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System and winning its award for “most innovative program,” but, perhaps even more notably, actually helped its listeners win recognition and additional funding of their own. Jeremy Hoffman, a CEOAS PhD student in Geology, was a guest on the show in 2013 and discussed a major grant he received for his research. Following his appearance on ID, he posted his grant application on the program’s website so that other students could see what he had written. Hulbert says that some time later, he was approached by two undergraduate students who told him that they had followed Hoffman’s advice and won grants of their own.

Speaking about opportunities afforded to graduate students via their participation with ID, Hulbert says that the program allows them to practice communicating to a broad audience—an important and often overlooked facet of graduate-level academia. “Every episode we have, we see how difficult it is to explain the

research very basically,” he says. “I think the most fulfilling part of the show, for me, is seeing students struggle to communicate their research in a way the audience can comprehend. For a lot of our guests, this is their first introduction to media. When they come in, we say ‘give me your elevator pitch,’ and many find it difficult. We hope, though, that every student who comes away from our program has a better idea of how to do that in the future.”

In his own upcoming plans, Hulbert intends to continue working in science communication. “Personally, creating and co-hosting ID has affected me to the point where, even if I’m not doing science podcasting, specifically, I’d like to be doing something similar.” He motions to Kamvar, who has continued prepping the show, which is now about to begin. “We love it. We enjoy doing it, and we think that, wherever we each end up after grad school, we’ll continue in one form or another, provided there’s a radio station that will have us.”

The program begins. This week’s guest takes a seat in front of the microphone, and Hulbert and Kamvar introduce him, their voices carried across the airwaves to unknown listeners near and far. “Inspiration Dissemination” is live.

## Foresters in Action

“Inspiration Dissemination” continues the legacy of forestry students taking to the airwaves to talk about science and student life. In the 1930s, a group of students led by Arthur Harold Sasser (’40) created a weekly radio program called “Foresters In Action,” which combined amusing anecdotes, scientific discussion, humor, and even live music, to both educate and entertain the student body. You can read a collection of their original radio scripts online here:

<http://hdl.handle.net/1957/50349>.

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reached a lot of underserved groups within our community. We also host a STEM Academy (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) for high school students where they can learn about new field-oriented subjects. There are also mountain-biking and trail-running events that occur in our Forests, which, combined with a number of guided hikes, allow for plenty to do over the summer. In the fall, we allow some deer and elk hunting for those hunters who draw a tag for the Dunn Forest.

Of course, even if people are not interested in these larger events, they can always come out and visit the Forests on their own. We have a number of trails that have interpretive signs and allow you to learn at your own pace. There’s something for everyone—come outside and see!

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For more about the College Forests, visit:  
[cf.forestry.oregonstate.edu](http://cf.forestry.oregonstate.edu)

## Dr. Bill Ripple named OSU Distinguished Professor



College of Forestry Professor William Ripple, an internationally known terrestrial ecologist, is one of only two recipients of Oregon State University's 2014 Distinguished

Professor Award. His leading work on the ecology of how top predators, like wolves and cougars, can affect all aspects of ecosystems, and studies on the impact of gray wolves in Yellowstone National Park, have been featured in numerous scientific journals, as well as in popular magazines including *National Geographic*, *Discover*, *Smithsonian* and *Scientific American*. The Distinguished Professor title is the highest designation Oregon State gives to its faculty; he joins Norm Johnson, Jeff McDonnell, Jeff Morrell, John Sessions, Steve Strauss and Richard Waring as College of Forestry honorees.

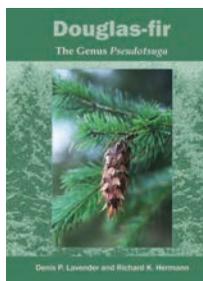
## Forestry Ph.D. Student Named NASA Fellow



In June, NASA named ARCS Scholar and College of Forestry graduate student Logan Berner a NASA Earth and Space Science Fellow. The \$30,000 annual grant will support his work on the impacts of drought on carbon and water cycling in forest ecosystems of the

western U.S., working with Dr. Beverly Law of the Forest Ecosystems and Society Department. Logan was one of only 54 fellows awarded from a competitive pool of more than 400 applicants across the country.

## Douglas-fir: *The Genus Pseudotsuga*, by Denis P. Lavender and Richard K. Hermann



This comprehensive volume on Douglas-fir is the latest publication of the OSU Oregon Forest Research Laboratory. Published in May 2014, the fully searchable color version is online in ScholarsArchive@OSU: <http://hdl.handle.net/1957/47168>. Hardcover

copies (black & white with color cover) are available for a limited time for \$45. Contact [forestrycommunications@oregonstate.edu](mailto:forestrycommunications@oregonstate.edu).

## Award-Winning Field Guides Available – Exclusive Price for CoF Alumni!



In June, the Association for Communication Excellence (ACE) presented their 2014 Gold Award to the field guide *Shrubs to Know in Pacific Northwest Forests*, by CoF Professor Edward C. Jensen. The book, along with Jensen's seminal *Trees to Know in Oregon*, are both available exclusively to College of Forestry alumni at a special rate. Order now at [www.forestry.oregonstate.edu/alumni](http://www.forestry.oregonstate.edu/alumni)

# 2014 Homecoming Tailgater!

Celebrate your place in the Beaver Nation at the 2nd annual College of Forestry Homecoming Tailgate Celebration!

**Saturday, November 1, Reser Stadium  
2 hours before gametime**

Join us for great tailgate food, beer and wine, and a chance to win a weekend getaway, plus other great door prizes.

**See you there!**

**Find out more and RSVP at: [www.forestry.oregonstate.edu/homecoming](http://www.forestry.oregonstate.edu/homecoming)**