

# FOCUS

Spring 2012

THE MAGAZINE OF OSU COLLEGE OF FORESTRY



Oregon State  
UNIVERSITY

# Dean's Column



We recently held our annual Dean's Award and Retiree Celebration. This event is a powerful reminder of the experience, expertise, and commitment our employees provide to the College and the University. The awards recognize exemplary performance in fostering student success, research, extended education, service, and general support by all levels of employees. Nominations are submitted by other employees, and I make the final selections. The breadth of efforts being written about is insightful, and the fact that co-workers are taking valuable time to write nominations speaks volumes about the collaboration and recognition of effort between employees with different duties and roles.

Ten of our valued colleagues retired in 2011—they had 247 years of service to OSU between them. That is commitment! The College is losing day-to-day contact with some wonderful researchers, educators, leaders, support staff, and friends. Their efforts and impact will be remembered.

Spring is providing a new sense of growth to the College. After years of faculty attrition, I am excited to see a series of searches completed or nearing an end. I expect a number of new faces to arrive in Corvallis this summer. Laurence Schimleck (Georgia) is our new department head in Wood Science & Engineering. Christopher Still (UCSB), Thomas Hilker (Colorado), and Michael Wing (OSU) will add depth for instruction and research. Outstanding finalists for the Spaniol Chair have visited campus. New searches have started for a natural resources geotechnical engineer, a forest soils nutritionist, and a wood anatomist. The search for a new dean is being expedited, so that is another potential summer arrival. We also expect the University to provide funding for several more new positions in coming years.

The article about two USDA grants related to biomass for fuels highlights how we see research programs moving forward in the future. Agencies are funding multi-million dollar projects that involve multiple institutions, federal/state agencies, and industry partners working on multi-faceted issues across geographic regions. Our faculty is well positioned and highly competitive for being the primary leads or significant partners in these large-scale efforts. Their broad mixture of disciplinary strengths with differing emphases in pure research, applied science, and outreach provides a well-rounded task group for the intersecting needs of our environment, economies, and societies. There are more of these large collaborations in development, so I hope we can report additional successes in the year ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Schimleck".

## 2011 Dean's Awards

### Service Individual

Roger Admiral

### Service Team

Natural Resources Advisors:  
Connie Patterson, Marge  
Victor, Terina McLachlain,  
Laurie Holst, Blair Banks,  
Dianna Raschio, JoLyn Scott

### Fostering Student Success

David Smith, David Zahler

### Research/Scholarship

Bianca Eskelson

### Extended and Continuing Education

LeeAnn Mikkelsen  
Nicole Strong

### Support Staff

Sue Plagmann

### Faculty Research Assistant

Matt Gregory

### International Team

Susan Morré and  
David Zahler

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THE MAGAZINE OF OSU COLLEGE OF FORESTRY

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(left to right) Graduate student Kathryn Pfretzschner, Assistant Professor Arjit Sinha, and Professor Rakesh Gupta, Department of Wood Science & Engineering, in the Gene D. Knudson Wood Engineering Laboratory, Richardson Hall, College of Forestry. Photo credit: Logan Bernart (WST, '11).

### Attention Job Seekers and 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).



Damage to wood-frame buildings in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, after the April 2011 tornadoes. Photo credit: Rakesh Gupta.

## Seeking Safer, Sustainable Structures

Tornado season began early this year, as unusually warm January temperatures fueled a series of violent thunderstorms that unleashed twisters across the South and Midwest. With the tornado season now fully underway and hurricane season fast approaching, researchers in the Department of Wood Science and Engineering (WSE) are hard at work on ways to improve the safety of both new and existing homes before the next disaster strikes.

Professor Rakesh Gupta, Assistant Professor Arijit Sinha (who joined the College of Forestry in the fall of 2011), and graduate student Kathryn Pfretzschnner continue to learn more about wood-frame structural design by participating in the rapid assessment teams deployed to document and characterize damage from natural disasters. Gupta, an expert in structural performance of wood structures under extreme loads, was part of the National Science Foundation (NSF) assessment teams that toured the Gulf States after hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005. In April 2011, one of the worst tornado outbreaks in U.S. history tore through seven states, killing hundreds of people and causing billions of dollars in damages. Gupta was called to join the multi-university assessment

team—sponsored by NSF, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), and the International Wind Engineering Association—that was deployed to Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Just a month later, another outbreak of deadly tornadoes swept through the Midwest and South, killing 180 people and causing catastrophic damage, much of it to the community of Joplin, Missouri. Gupta again was part of the rapid assessment team, which also included Sinha and Pfretzschnner.

In each case, engineers and scientists surveyed the structural damage to hundreds of wood-frame buildings. The WSE group closely examined the connections in damaged structures to see how they failed, for example, where nails or screws pulled out or gave way. They also evaluated the performance of different types of materials used in construction, including renewables and alternatives. Finally, they identified potential ways to reuse or recycle some of the huge amount of debris left after the disaster. “Although tragic, the tornado did provide an opportunity to think beyond the destruction and figure out an alternative to divert debris out of landfills,” Sinha says. “The more materials we can reuse or recycle the fewer footprints are we leaving behind.”

The final reports from the assessment teams echoed a striking finding from Gupta's earlier research on hurricane damage: many buildings that should have remained intact instead failed. Failures often were linked to inadequate connections at critical locations, such as from the roof sheathing to trusses, or where trusses or roof rafters were attached to supporting walls or sill plates to the foundation.

"Time and again we've observed inadequate connections that fail under extreme loading conditions," Gupta says. "For example, trusses that were just toe-nailed to the walls failed in the high winds, the roof then blew off, and that allowed the rest of the building to collapse. In some cases there were no anchor bolts between the bottom plate and foundation, allowing the whole building to shift off the foundation."

Building codes and construction and inspection practices all contribute to the problem. Modern building codes are not inadequate, Gupta says, because they are a bare minimum. But during the actual construction process, buildings often are not built precisely to those codes due to inadequate construction work or lack of code enforcement. "In one town in Alabama, I was told there is no inspection of homes by the city building inspector," he says. "Property taxes are very low, inspection is often inadequate, and sometimes that can result in inadequate construction quality and enforcement."

Although more rigorous codes and better building practices are not likely to save buildings in the direct path of an EF5 tornado, they may nevertheless help reduce wind damage to structures nearby. "We can do better," Gupta says. "The damage didn't have to be as bad as it was. We can design and build structures that can withstand wind forces up to 140–150 miles per hour, which would help them resist both tornadoes and hurricanes."

Even where building codes are rigorously followed, however, there still may be local risks and hazards that have not been considered. "A national building code may be convenient, but it isn't always the best for every single town in



(left to right) Arijit Sinha, Kathryn Pfretzschner, and Rakesh Gupta in the Gene D. Knudson Wood Engineering Laboratory, Richardson Hall, College of Forestry. Photo credit: Logan Bernart (WST, '11)

the country," says Sinha. "Just as cities like San Francisco adapt their building codes to consider earthquake risks, many other towns and cities across the nation could create local codes that reflect their specific risks from hurricanes, tornadoes, high winds, or other concerns."

There are relatively easy and inexpensive steps that can be taken during construction to help improve safety and reduce damage from natural disasters, Gupta says. These include the use of thicker plywood sheathing, closer stud spacing and nailing, hurricane ties, and anchor bolts. For existing structures, retrofitting is more expensive and complicated, but he believes homeowners should nevertheless consider it.

"A tornado might be a remote possibility in Oregon, but there are other reasons (e.g., earthquakes) to both improve the safety of existing residential structures and build better new ones," he notes. "As engineers, we will continue to strive to design structures that are not only sustainably built, but that can better withstand lateral loads, whether from windstorms, earthquakes, or tsunamis."

## Congratulations to our Successful Graduate Students

### Ashlee Tibbets, MS in Wood Science

"Implications of the 2008 Lacey Act Amendments: Insights from the Wood Products Industry"

### Jie Ding, MS in Wood Science

"A Methodology for Evaluating Multiple Mechanical Properties of Prototype Microfibrillated Cellulose/Poly(lactic Acid) Film Composites"



Crescent Ranger District, Deschutes National Forest: forest residues (branches and tops) are ground by T2, Inc., of Sweet Home, Oregon. Photo credit: John Sessions.

## Biofuel Goes Back to the Future

"The fuel of the future is going to come from apples, weeds, sawdust—almost anything. There is fuel in every bit of vegetable matter that can be fermented," Henry Ford reportedly told a *New York Times* reporter in 1925.

The future is here at the College of Forestry. In the fall of 2011, two five-year projects to create new aviation fuels and high-value chemicals out of tree plantations and forest residues in the Pacific Northwest were announced by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. These projects provide \$9.8 million in grants to researchers at Oregon State University, primarily at the College of Forestry, as part of a diverse, \$80 million program of research, education, and industrial collaboration involving OSU, the University of Washington, Washington State University, other agencies, and private industry.

The ambitious agenda includes developing new ways to produce biofuels and other chemicals, while protecting forests and the wildland-urban interface, growing new biomass in fast-growing hardwood plantations

of poplars and alders, and putting to use forest harvest residues.

The primary goal of the first project, called the Northwest Advanced Renewables Alliance (NARA), is to "find ways to produce aviation fuel and high-value chemicals using a sustainable supply of biomass," says John Sessions, University Distinguished Professor of Forestry in the Department of Forest Engineering, Resources and Management (FERM) and holder of the Strachan Chair of Forest Operations Management. "The project goal is to create a fuel that's an exact substitute for existing aviation fuel," he says. "This is a large research initiative and an enormous logistical challenge that will require the work of many scientists at OSU and our partner institutions, and ultimately help provide millions of gallons of fuel a year."

Much of the OSU work under NARA will focus on the production and logistics of getting woody biomass or "feedstock" out of Pacific Northwest forests at an affordable cost. Sessions is leading efforts on feedstock logistics. "Calculations

indicate that the cost of delivered forest wood residue is about half of the production cost of the final products,” Sessions notes. “We need to find the best ways to bring residues resulting from harvests and forest health/fuels treatments out of the forests and get them to the processing plants.”

The OSU team includes forestry scientists and engineers who will be involved in many facets of the project, including studies of forest health and hazard reduction; modeling of the biomass supply; protection of long-term site productivity; impacts on wildlife habitat; genetic improvement of conifers; worker health and safety; public education and outreach; and other topics.

Emeritus Professor Darius Adams (FERM) will direct modeling of the biomass supply. Glen Murphy (Stewart Professor in Forest Engineering, FERM), Loren Kellogg (Lematta Professor of Forest Engineering, FERM), and Kevin Boston (Associate Professor, FERM) will contribute their expertise in forest harvesting systems, forest supply chain planning, and operations management.

Assessing the sustainability of feedstock production from a silvicultural perspective are Douglas Maguire (Giustina Professor of Forest Management, FERM), Director of the OSU Center for Intensive Planted-forest Silviculture (CIPS), and John D. Bailey (Associate Professor, FERM), who directs the wildland fire management program in the College. Bailey notes that “much of the forest is going to burn anyway, some of it might as well be in a jet engine while we do landscape-scale forest restoration.”

Experimental poplar plantation. Photo credit: Steve Strauss.



Keith J.S. Jayawickrama (FES), Director of the OSU Northwest Tree Improvement Cooperative will work on sustainable feedstock production. A subset of Douglas-fir and western hemlock families in the cooperative tree improvement programs, combining fast growth and good form, will be evaluated for suitability for processing to aviation fuel, and detailed studies will be conducted on the genetic makeup of promising families.

Scott Leavengood (Associate Professor, WSE), Director of the Oregon Wood Innovation Center (OWIC), will serve as the Extension & Outreach representative for Oregon. His role will be to help identify Oregon communities with good potential as locations for a new biofuel processing facility and then will coordinate dialogue between the research team and those communities. He will also disseminate information about the project as it progresses.

In the second project, called System for Advanced Biofuels Production from Woody Biomass in the Pacific Northwest, \$4.4 million will establish a new bioenergy education program at OSU. This project is part of a \$40 million grant managed by the University of Washington involving bioenergy industries, regional universities and Extension services. University Distinguished Professor Steve Strauss (FES), forest biotechnology expert and an international leader in the genetics of trees, will receive \$577,000 to study ways to avoid gene movement from genetically engineered poplar trees to wild forests. While not in use today, such trees are expected to help increase economic efficiency and reduce environmental impacts from dedicated energy plantations.



Forest thinning, such as this work done in the Umpqua National Forest in Oregon, may be of value for some purposes but will also increase carbon emissions to atmosphere, researchers say. Photo credit: John Campbell.

## Carbon Choices, Carbon Consequences

A century ago, fire suppression was considered an advanced approach to land management, especially compared to traditional practices such as burning to enhance habitat for game species or to clear forest land for agriculture. Now, forests across the West face a wide range of problems unforeseen at the turn of the 19th century. Over the past 100 years, fire suppression has helped create many overcrowded forests with increased risk of insect attack and high-severity fire.

Today, new advances in science and technology have brought a much better understanding of forest ecosystem structure and function, enabling the development of new approaches that may help solve current land management issues and other problems. These same advances have also brought greater knowledge of how forests function within an almost overwhelmingly complex global system. As a result, we now may know perhaps more than we wanted to about the potential risks and consequences of any possible solution we may choose.

For example, forest thinning and fuel reduction may help restore forest structure and health, enhance habitat for wildlife, increase safety for human visitors, and improve scenic/aesthetic values of forests. Forest thinning and fuel reduction projects may soon provide a substantial, renewable source of woody biomass for biofuel



Mark Harmon, Cascade Head Experimental Forest, Oregon. Photo credit: OSU University Relations and Marketing.



McDonald-Dunn Forest, Corvallis, Oregon. Photo credit: Jordan Benner, Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI).

and bioenergy production, which in turn may bring much-needed jobs to struggling local economies, while helping decrease our nation's dependence on fossil fuel and foreign oil.

At the same time, however, these same solutions also have potential consequences in terms of greenhouse gas emissions and carbon sequestration; as the old saying goes, there is no free lunch. Every choice—even the choice to do nothing—has consequences, some desired and some not. Professor Mark Harmon (Richardson Chair in Forest Science) and Research Associate John Campbell, both in the Department of Forest Ecosystems and Society (FES) have found that while fuel reduction treatments can help reduce the severity of fire, these treatments may actually release more carbon to the atmosphere than any amount saved by successful fire prevention.

Drawing on previous work by CoF scientists and others, Harmon and Campbell developed new models to analyze the effect of fuel treatments on wildfire and carbon stocks in several scenarios, including a single forest patch or disturbance, an entire forest landscape, and multiple disturbances. The model outputs are applicable to a wide range of forest types and conditions across many different locations. One key result is that even a low-severity fire released 70 percent as much carbon as did a high-severity fire that killed most trees. Most carbon emissions result from the combustion of surface fuels, which occur in any type of fire.



John Campbell.

"We may want to do fuel reduction across much of the West, but these are real concerns," Campbell says. "If we do, we'll have to accept that it will likely increase carbon emissions."

Harmon agrees. "There is no doubt you can change fire behavior by managing fuels and there may be other reasons to do it," he says. "But we have to be honest about the carbon cost and consider it along with the other reasons for this type of forest management. The carbon does not just disappear, even if it's used for wood products or other purposes."

Other studies published by CoF faculty have shown that to change fire behavior requires substantial removal of forest biomass, i.e., carbon, so the choice boils down to what is the most desired outcome in a given situation: reduced fire risk and costs together with some jobs, wood products and renewable energy or more carbon to the atmosphere?

# Signs of Spring

Along with spring flowers, new improvements have sprouted up in the College Forests. Under the direction of College Forests Recreation Manager Chris Jackson, dedicated volunteers, student workers, and members of the Northwest Youth Corps (NYC) have made significant changes over the past year. There are new tree identification posts, new interpretative signs, and new trails.

Peavy Arboretum already contains over 180 different species of trees from Oregon, the United States, and around the world. Now, there are more than 200 new signs posted to identify many of these trees and help enhance the educational opportunities available to the university and the community. The tree posts are marked with the trees' common and scientific names, as well as their native ranges. This project took months of tree identification and careful planning to create, as well as hard work by NYC crew and volunteers to install the tree posts.



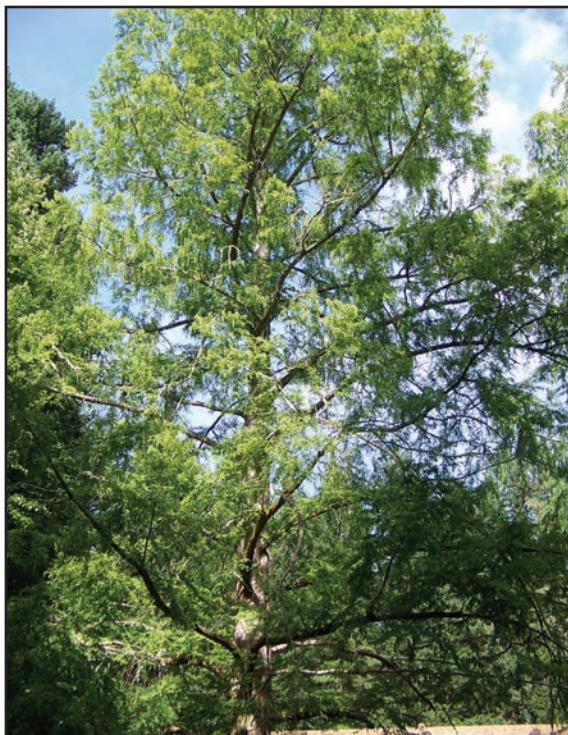
Sample tree identification post (above), text from an interpretative sign (below, left),

The installation of the tree identification posts provided the perfect opportunity to both create new trails and connect existing ones throughout the arboretum that help to highlight areas of interest. These new educational trails open up many areas for forest users to explore. In addition to the new tree posts, new educational interpretive signs have been installed along the new arboretum trails. These signs highlight interesting facts about trees along the arboretum trails or provide ways to identify certain tree species. Future plans for the arboretum include expanding the number of arboretum trails, planting new species, installing more signage, and adding benches along certain areas.

"An arboretum brochure and map is now available online. It displays all of these new trails and unique trees that can be found," Jackson says. "We plan to develop this further by highlighting walks that take visitors through areas of interest, and incorporating technology to enhance visitor experiences."

There are changes underfoot elsewhere in the College Forests as well. In addition to general trail maintenance and recreation site work, two new trails were opened for year-round public use.

The new "Ridge Trail" near the Lewisburg Saddle opened for recreational multi-use in August.



## Did you know? Dawn Redwoods

There are two dawn redwoods in front of the Lodge at Peavy Arboretum that are among the first of their species to be introduced to the United States in 1948. The dawn redwood is native to China and was thought to be long extinct until the 1940s, when living specimens were discovered in Central China. During the time of the dinosaurs, dawn redwoods existed throughout the northern hemisphere.

Come check out these living fossils at Peavy Arboretum!

The new trail crosses a ridge with great views of old-growth trees and younger stands. It is ideal for mountain bikers and horseback riders and is best traveled by starting on the upper end on the 600/620 road junction. “New Growth Trail” is a hiker-only trail that connects from the west end of the Old Growth Trail to Lewisburg Saddle. This trail crosses an active research site. By hiking New Growth Trail and Old Growth Trail, visitors can observe the differences between an actively managed site and an old-growth stand.

“We welcome everyone to come try out these new trails,” Jackson says. “We also think you will enjoy the new features in Peavy Arboretum and the opportunity to learn a little more about the many trees in the arboretum’s collection.”

### How can I help?

We hope to continue to make improvements over the next year. If you would like to help, please contact Chris Jackson ([christopher.jackson@oregonstate.edu](mailto:christopher.jackson@oregonstate.edu)) about volunteer opportunities.

To help fund future improvements and development, please consider making a tax deductible contribution to the “Research Forest Recreation Fund” at the OSU Foundation. Contact: Zak Hansen at [zak.hansen@oregonstate.edu](mailto:zak.hansen@oregonstate.edu) or (541) 737-4016



Interpretive sign along a trail in Peavy Arboretum. All photos by OSU College Forests Staff.

## Mann named Director of College Forests

College of Forestry Distinguished Alumnus John Mann (MF, FE '79) became the Director of College Forests on January 1, 2012. He replaced former Director David Lysne, who retired in December after 18 years of service to the College of Forestry.

“John brings a wealth of experience and a diverse background in forestry to the position, and is well informed of the issues and opportunities before us on the College Forests,” said College of Forestry Executive Associate Dean Steve Tesch.

His 35-year career in forestry includes experience in government, academia, and industry. He began his career with the U.S. Forest Service, serving on the Sierra and Six Rivers national forests in California. He later joined the forestry faculty at Mississippi State University, then returned to OSU as the Director of the Forest Engineering Institute. Mann left in 1990 to spend the next 20 years in industry, during which time he served as vice president for both the Western Region of the Forest Engineering Research Institute of Canada (FERIC) and Timberland Operations for the TimberWest Forest Corporation in British Columbia.

After retiring in 2008, Mann returned to the College in 2010 to serve as the Director of Cooperative Education in the Forest Engineering, Resources and Management Department.

The OSU College Forests include 14,500 acres of forestland in a statewide network of research, teaching, and outreach forests, with the 11,500-acre McDonald and Dunn Forests at the core.





Annie Simmonds (WSE) and Mike Shattles (FM).

## Progressive Excellence: Hoener Scholars

By Brigitte Sherman

"Without forests, the Earth would be poorer. Without progressive, innovative forestry schools, foresters might not have the skills to manage the world's forests successfully." This belief guided Edgar P. Hoener, editor and publisher of the international forest products journal, *The Timberman*, and founder of the Dorothy D. Hoener Memorial Fund at the OSU College of Forestry. The fund, named in honor of Ed Hoener's beloved wife, offers the most generous scholarships available through the College of Forestry, recognizing hard working and motivated students. The fund also helps facilitate mentoring relationships between students and faculty and provides travel opportunities for students to participate in forestry activities in other parts of the United States.

Hoener hoped that his gift would aid the growth of OSU's forestry program by enabling bright, ambitious students to continue their education, and then make significant contributions to the forest products industry. Two recent scholarship recipients, Michael Shattles (FM) and Annie Simmonds (WST), not only exemplify Hoener's vision for the fund through their academic performance, work ethic, and leadership, but have already begun to contribute to the future of the industry.

Shattles entered the Forest Management program at the College of Forestry as a non-traditional student

after earning an associate's degree in culinary arts and working for five years. Shattles had also been enamored with forests since childhood, dreamed of one day hiking the entirety of the Pacific Crest and/or the Continental Divide trails, and had friends who thoroughly enjoyed their careers in the forestry field. Connecting the dots and deciding that his forestry passion could also be an enjoyable, lifelong career brought Shattles to OSU. Once here, Shattles placed himself on an ambitious track that led to a Hoener scholarship, which in turn "threw more fuel on my fire," he says. "The Hoener Scholarship helped me sight my focus and further increase the efficiency with which I attack challenges in my daily academic routine, creating a positive feedback loop."

Shattles, who also contributes outside the classroom by serving as current chair (and past treasurer) of the OSU SAF Student Chapter, will continue his education in forest biometrics after graduation. This choice has already opened up opportunities, including a Forest Biometrician position with the U.S. Forest Service.

Annie Simmonds grew up in Myrtle Point, Oregon, where she was homeschooled until her sophomore year. With a passion for helping others, she volunteered throughout high school with the SMART (Start Making A Reader Today) program for middle schoolers. She has continued to work with

children through the Oregon Wood Magic education program at the College of Forestry.

Growing up with her dad's company, Interlocking Construction Systems, Inc., Simmonds learned about the importance of innovation, particularly with wood products. When the company had structural testing performed at the College, Simmonds made her first visit to OSU. That positive experience, coupled with the reputations of both the forestry and business schools, led Simmonds back to OSU, where she initially sought a major in business and a minor in wood science and technology. As she progressed through her academic program and interacted with professionals from different industries, however, Simmonds grew to favor the forest products industry because many companies tended to be more family-oriented. She then changed her path to include a double major in both business and WST—which she hopes to use one day to help her father's innovative construction company expand and succeed.

Simmonds credits the Hoener Scholarship for contributing significantly to her academic success. "Because of the financial support of the Hoener Scholarship, I have been able to afford my college and living expenses, keep my GPA high, and have gained valuable work experience," she says. "I sincerely believe that these achievements will help me find an opportunity to begin my career in the forest products industry, and I couldn't have done it without the help of this scholarship."

Scholarships and fellowships, including those made possible through the Hoener Fund, often benefit students in ways that may not always be immediately apparent. Shettles observes that with the current high cost of higher education causing many students to struggle to pay for college through a combination of student loans and part-time work, receiving a Hoener scholarship "fuels an even greater fire to succeed in the academic realm, as well as instills a greater appreciation for managing finances."

These funds not only enable awarded students to pay tuition and buy the books they need, Simmonds points out, but also may help students "in not having to stress about how to afford next month's food and rent," she says. "Knowing that your finances are under control is a big factor in managing class load and performance because it affects stress level and ability to focus."

*Brigette Sherman is a senior at UO. Her major is Sociology and Substance Abuse Prevention.*



The Dorothy D. Hoener Memorial Fund awards three types of financial assistance each year: academic scholarships and fellowships, work-scholarships, and forestry participation awards.



### Academic Scholarships and Fellowships

Up to eighteen undergraduate and up to five graduate Hoener Scholars are chosen each year. Selected on the basis of academic achievement, professional potential, and commitment to forestry, recipients are awarded one of the largest and most preeminent scholarships in the College of Forestry.

### Work-Scholarships

Ed Hoener knew that assisting faculty with teaching-related activities and research on the cutting edge of technology can provide tremendous inspiration to a student. With funding support each year, students participate in part-time forestry jobs that enhance their understanding of forestry and strengthen the College's teaching staff at the same time.

### Participation Awards

Established to help bridge the gap between OSU forestry students and the forest industry elsewhere in the United States, these grants help broaden students' educational experience by enabling them to observe forest industry operations and to attend industry-related seminars and conferences. Individual students, student organizations, and class groups use the money to finance field trips and to attend conventions such as annual meetings of the Society of American Foresters.

### Continuing the Tradition

It was Ed Hoener's wish that the people who benefitted from the various awards—as well as others who share in his and George Cornwall's dedication to the forestry program at OSU—would join in encouraging the growth of the forestry program by helping perpetuate the Dorothy D. Hoener Memorial Fund. Contributions to the fund are encouraged, especially from those who have been recipients of Hoener awards and have prospered as a result.

The Development Officer for the College of Forestry can assist in facilitating these contributions.

Contact: Zak Hansen (541) 737-4016 or [zak.hansen@oregonstate.edu](mailto:zak.hansen@oregonstate.edu).

# O'Connell receives Mary Rellergert Forestry Education Award



Photo credit: Lina DiGregorio

Kari O'Connell received the Mary Rellergert Forestry Education Award at the Oregon Board of Forestry meeting in November 2011. This award, named in honor of Mary Rellergert who was a tireless advocate for forestry education, recognizes significant contributions to the advancement of public information, education, and understanding of forestry.

O'Connell was recognized for her work in building teachers' understanding and knowledge about Oregon's forests; her ability to engage researchers with teachers in transferring field research into relevant field-based inquiry projects for students; her commitment to sustaining the application of learning through the creation of communities of practice; and her enthusiasm, energy, and passion for her work. O'Connell's work has engaged 60 middle school and high school teachers (who reach over 5,000 students per year) in long-term professional development projects that support teachers in involving their students in field-based science inquiry. Currently, she and her collaborators have NASA funding to involve up to 30 middle and high school teachers in climate change research projects at the H. J. Andrews Experimental Forest Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) program and elsewhere.

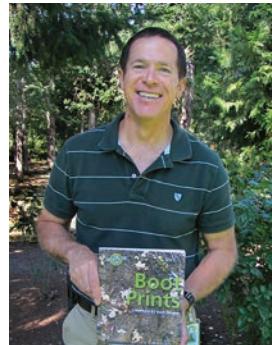
## New Books by CoF Alumni

Two College of Forestry alums recently completed books on the history of the Oregon Department of Forestry.

Jim Fisher's *Honoring a Century of Service* covers the 100-year history of the agency and its policymaking board, the Oregon Board of Forestry, from 1911 to 2011. Together, the volunteer board and ODF personnel have achieved major advancements for Oregon over the past century, while overcoming many challenges.

Fisher, who earned a BS degree in forest management from Oregon State College ('56) and a minor in journalism, retired from ODF after 34 years of service, including 18 years as the Public Affairs Director. He has written articles for newspapers and magazines, including *Western Outdoors*, *V.F.W. Magazine*, *Nevada Magazine*, *Oregon Coast*, and *Wildland Firefighter*, as well as biographies of prominent foresters for the World Forestry Center's Memorial Hall, and radio vignettes for the City of Bend's centennial and histories of Gilchrist Timber Company, Starker Forests, and the OSU Department of Microbiology.

*Boot Prints*, by Southwest Oregon District Forester Dan Thorpe, focuses primarily on the activities and events of the department in the Southwest Oregon District (Jackson and Josephine



Dan Thorpe (FM, 1980) and Jim Fisher (FM, 1956) with their books.

Counties). The book covers both statewide and national topics to help provide context for the events in the Southwest District. The appendix includes over 100 pages of tables, charts, and short narratives.

Thorpe has been with ODF for 38 years, including more than 30 years in southern Oregon. He has a BS degree in forest management from Oregon State University ('80) with a minor in business. Thorpe has written several technical firefighting articles, as well as other articles for publications including *Fire Management*, *Fire Management Notes*, *Wildland Firefighter*, and *Ski Patrol Magazine*.

These books join two other centennial histories available through the ODF office in Salem. Thanks to the Oregon Department of Forestry for the information and photos.



## Repeat Champs!

For the second time in the past three years, the OSU Student Chapter of the Society of American Foresters (SAF) won the Quiz Bowl at the National SAF Convention, which was held in Hawaii in November 2011. Team members included Chad Gilbreath (FE, senior), Sally Murray (NR, senior), Chris Ottoboni (FM, junior), and Mike Shettles (FM, senior). The faculty advisor is John Bailey (FERM). The team was cheered on by a large contingent of OSU students, faculty, and alums. *Well done, students!*



## Meyer Receives 2011 SAF Field Forester Award

Bruno Meyer (FE, 1968) was honored with the Presidential Field Forester Award from the Society of American Foresters (SAF) at the 2011 SAF National Convention held in Honolulu in November.

The award honors outstanding field foresters whose dedication to the profession and commitment to forest stewardship can serve as a model for other forest managers. These practitioners “often operate in nearly complete anonymity, yet their actions are one of the most important and visible contributions to the viability and understanding of the profession,” notes the society. “This is where forestry truly happens and it is important that we recognize those who

perform the art and science of forestry each and every day.”

Meyer began his forestry career in 1973 and has worked as timberland manager for Indian Hill, LLC, since 1997. In this capacity, he has supervised changes in forestland tracking and inventory to the Forest Projection and Planning System, been asked with intensifying forest practices to increase growth and yield, and been put in charge of seed orchard planning, progeny site maintenance, and the control of competing vegetation.

He has been a member of the Rogue Forest Protective Association Board for 28 years, serving as president from 1994 to 1996, and is a current board member and past-president



(2003–2004) of the Southern Oregon Timber Industries Association. Bruno also served as a board member of the Oregon State University Forest Intensified Research program from 1982 to 1991 and has led field trips to timberlands for the past 14 years for the Southern Oregon University Environmental Education Classes. Bruno joined SAF in 1969. He has been an active member of the Oregon Society for the last 42 years, and is a past-chair of the Siskiyou Chapter. He currently serves as chapter treasurer, a position he has held since 1999.

## In Memoriam



### Eun Ho Im

Eun Ho Im (PhD, 2008) died January 24, 2012 from injuries sustained in an auto accident. He was 41.

Eun Ho began his doctoral studies in the old Forest Resources Department in 2004 with a concentration in Operations Research/Management Science studying with Darius Adams. He finished his degree in June 2007 and spent an additional year as a research associate post-doc. He is remembered at OSU as a kind and thoughtful man who excelled in applications of economics and operations research to forestry problems.

Upon his return to Korea, he was appointed Deputy Director of the International Cooperation Division of the Korean Forest Service. He was promoted to Director of the Division in 2011 and played a major role in organizing the 10th Conference of Parties of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) held in Korea that year. "His passing away is a tragic loss for the Republic of Korea and the Asia Region as a whole," said the UNCCD Executive Secretary.

He is survived by his wife, Ji Eun Lee, and two children.

### Theodore (Ted) W. Koskella

February 8, 1924 – April 6, 2011

Theodore (Ted) W. Koskella , age 90, passed on into the Great Forest Beyond on November 8, 2011 at his home in Albuquerque, surrounded by his loving family. Ted was born in Idaho to Finnish pioneer settlers Gustav and Hanna Koskella, and was one of fourteen children. He graduated in 1949 from Oregon State with a degree in Forestry, after serving in the U.S. Navy as a patrol bomber pilot during World War II.

His distinguished career in the Forest Service covered the full range of experiences: Trail Worker; Lookout; Smokechaser; District Ranger; Fire Staff Officer; Forest Supervisor, Idaho and Utah; Branch Chief, Recreation and Land Uses, Washington DC; and Deputy Regional Forester, Southwest Region (Albuquerque), and California Region (San Francisco). He retired to his farm in Idaho in 1976.

He enjoyed hiking, skiing, dancing, spending time with his family, and travelling the world with Joy, his wife of 65 years. In Albuquerque, he was active with the FS SW Amigos and the Scandinavian Club, and he was a life member of the Masons. He leaves five children, six grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and his wife, Joy.

Gifts in Ted's memory may be made to the National Museum of Forest Service History, PO Box 2772, Missoula, MT 59806. [www.nmfs-history.net](http://www.nmfs-history.net)

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