

Focus on Forestry is published quarterly by the Oregon State University College of Forestry. Our goal is to keep Forestry alumni and friends informed about the College of Forestry and its many activities and programs.

Hal Salwasser
Dean

Marianne Barker
Development
director

Caryn Davis
Managing Editor

Emily Thomas
Editorial assistant

Marie Oliver
Contributing writer

Sandie Arbogast
Gretchen Bracher
Graphic designers

College of Forestry
Oregon State
University
154 Peavy Hall
Corvallis, OR 97331-
5704
(541) 737-4271
caryn.davis@orst.edu
www.cof.orst.edu

Any or all parts of this publication may be reproduced with credit to the OSU College of Forestry.

Oregon State University is an affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity employer and complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Gift funds provided to the OSU Foundation and the College of Forestry help pay for color reproduction of the *Focus on Forestry*.

Focus **ON** **Forestry**

College of Forestry • Fall 2003

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Dean's Column

College News

College Feature: Studying Fish and Wildlife Habitat in Managed Forests

Forest Engineering

Feature: Precision Forestry

Competition, Climate Changes, Diseases May Shape Post-fire Landscape

Successful Forest Engineering Graduate Students - Congratulations

Forest Resources

Feature: Natural Resources Major Bridges Gap Across Disciplines

Assistant Professor Enjoys Moonlighting on the Gridiron

2003 Starker Lecture Series

New Faces

Successful Forest Resources Graduate Students - Congratulations!

Forest Science

Feature: Trip to the Treetops: A Student's-Eye View of the Canopy Crane

USAID Project Supports South African Development

Tree Improvement Research Co-op Turns 20

Successful Forest Science Graduate Students - Congratulations!

Wood Science & Engineering

Feature: Fungi Studies Make Progress

Back from Boston: Engineer Shares Stories from the Real World Children and Adults Learn About Wood

Successful Wood Science & Engineering Graduate Students - Congratulations!

Students

Feature: SCEP - Bringing Students and Careers Together

Two Fellowships for WSE Student

Enrollment Trend Finally Changes

Faculty Retirements

Forestry Cabin - Home to Forestry Club, and Fernhoppers - Needs Your Help

Outreach and Communications

Forestry Extension Adapts to Major Funding Cuts

International Opportunities Await Forestry Grads

Tree School South a big success

Lewis & Clark Meet GIS

Alumni and Donors

In Memoriam

Newtons Establish Forest Research Fund

New and Renewed Gifts

WASSUP?

Forestry Communications Group, Peavy Hall 256
Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331 | (541) 737-4271
[Contact us](#) with your comments and questions
Copyright © 2004 [Oregon State University](#) | [OSU Disclaimer](#)

Dean's Column



It constantly amazes me to see the value and impact our College of Forestry faculty, staff, and students have on forests, forestry, forest products, uses and services, and the professions related to the care and management of forests. Each issue of *Focus on Forestry* gives us a chance to showcase this diversity, and this issue is no exception. Our friend and colleague, Associate Dean Bart Thielges, had a lot to do with the programs we highlight here, and we all mourn his passing.

The Fish and Wildlife Habitat in Managed Forests Program at OSU is an example of focused research that engages faculty and students in studies that have a direct bearing on forest policy. Much of federal and state forest policy deals with water, fish, wildlife, and habitats. Issues affecting managed forests, such as how many standing and fallen trees to leave after harvest and how to protect and manage areas along streams and rivers, have significant ecological and economic consequences. When knowledge based on solid field research is missing, there is a tendency in policy-making bodies to err on the side of caution and protect more than may be needed to reach a desired habitat outcome. We have certainly seen such a tendency in federal forest plans and in political actions related to forest practices. The only way to enact science-based forest practice rules that are prudent, necessary, and sufficient for the outcomes desired is to invest in focused research, and the Fish and Wildlife Habitats Program allows us to do so.

In addition, fuels in dry forests and the effect of wildfires continue to draw our attention. Our faculty are actively engaged in pre-fire forest management to reduce risks to forest health posed by uncharacteristic fires, and in post-fire follow up to reforest areas where seed sources are no longer present because fires burned with such intensity.

As we enter another school year with reduced state funding, we are pressed to become even more aggressive in seeking grants, contracts, and private gifts to support College programs. Every bit of external support to the College helps us maintain the excellence and relevance of our teaching, research, and outreach. I want to thank each of you who have contributed with your time, political support, and/or financial resources to sustain U's first-rate Forestry programs.

—Hal Salwasser

College Feature Story

Studying Fish and Wildlife Habitat in Managed Forests



Since 1994, a small portion of the Oregon Forest Products Harvest Tax has been invested toward increasing and disseminating knowledge about fish and wildlife habitat and populations in Oregon's managed forests. Through the Forest Research Lab Fish and Wildlife Habitat in Managed Forests Research (FRL FW) Program, research projects have been undertaken to increase the scientific knowledge that underpins the Oregon Forest Practices Act.

"We've been trying to anticipate some of tomorrow's science needs and initiate studies that will provide results by the time those issues emerge in the policy arena," says Steve Tesch, Forest Engineering Department Head and FRL FW Program Manager.

A new publication summarizes the program's accomplishments since its inception. **Margo Stoddard**, Forest Science Faculty Research Assistant, and Tesch have published an overview of research findings and a bibliography resulting from the program: ***The Forest Research Laboratory Fish and Wildlife Habitat in Managed Forests Program: Summary of Research Findings, 1994- 2002***. The report is available through the Forestry Communications Group website: <http://fcg.cof.orst.edu>.

As of July 2002, the FRL FW Program had partially or fully supported more than 30 research, technology transfer, and service activities. These activities have yielded 31 peer-reviewed publications, 35 reports and proceedings articles, 27 graduate theses and dissertations, and two web-based references.

"Multidisciplinary collaboration has been a key ingredient in many projects," says Tesch. "Dollars from the FRL FW Program have often been used to significantly leverage additional dollars from other funding sources, resulting in more comprehensive studies than would otherwise have been possible."

FRL FW Program activities have focused on identifying the habitat requirements of fish and wildlife, in addition to defining the silvicultural, economic, and social implications of managing forested habitats in Oregon. Studies have been conducted that address terrestrial and aquatic habitat in both eastern and western Oregon. Some of the studies have provided relatively rare opportunities to follow the long-term development of alternative stand structures and their influence on songbirds, cavity nesters, small mammals, and other attributes.

Likewise, activities focused on aquatic and riparian habitats in managed forests have yielded important findings on the variability and complexity of these systems and on the implications of forest management for fish, amphibians, and their habitat.

"Recent studies are providing valuable information that supports the needs of small woodland and industrial forest owners," says **Larry Giustina** of Giustina Land & Timber Co., current chair of the program's technical advisory committee.

In addition to the research studies, a variety of technology transfer tools have been completed or are in development to assist land managers. Examples include preparation of a design guide for stream-crossing structures for fish passage, an assessment of existing manuals on the design and placement of stream habitat improvement structures, and access to the scientific literature through annotated bibliographies on snags and silviculture/wildlife relationships in managed stands.

Varying harvest levels have yielded roughly \$330,000 to \$450,000 per year to support the FRL FW Program. Research projects have been prioritized through the assistance of a technical advisory committee that includes representatives from state and federal land agencies, the forest industry, woodland owners, tribes, and the National Council for Air and Stream Improvement (NCASI). "The committee is representative of not only the research community, but the landowning community," says Giustina. "This report will help to amplify the importance of the program to these contributors."

Although the focused investment in this FRL program is substantial, it represents only a fraction of the overall activity by CoF faculty and science partners in providing information about the relationships between fish and wildlife populations and the habitat provided within Oregon's forested watersheds. Much, and sometimes all, of the support for these other research activities comes from non-FRL sources. Collectively, these research efforts provide scientific knowledge about fish and wildlife habitat that is important in informing the policy process. Oregon's investments in the FRL help make this possible.

"The 43 percent of Oregon's forests owned and managed by companies, families, tribes, counties, and the state are home to the full diversity of native fish and wildlife in the state," said **Dean Hal Salwasser**, a wildlife ecologist by training. "These managed forests can sustain all that diversity and still provide much-needed economic and community benefits for Oregon if we use our knowledge about fish and wildlife habitat relationships in crafting sound and prudent forest practice act rules."

Photos courtesy of U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service: evening grosbeak (top), by Dave Menke; red fox kits; and newly hatched salmon alevins



Nine topic areas define the breadth of studies supported by the FRL FW Program since 1994:

- 1. stand structure: influence on wildlife**
- 2. coarse wood: an element of wildlife habitat**
- 3. artificial snags: creation techniques and success as wildlife habitat**
- 4. regeneration success using alternative silvicultural approaches**
- 5. aquatic habitat at multiple spatial scales: impacts of management**
- 6. active management in riparian areas**
- 7. fish passage and stream-crossing structures**
- 8. tools for managing fish and wildlife habitat**
- 9. socioeconomic implications of forest management.**



The Dean Calls a Play



Dean Hal Salwasser met once again with President George Bush during his recent visit to Redmond, Oregon. The topic on the agenda was forest health and fire risk management, particularly in view of the President's Healthy Forest Initiative. Stressing the magnitude of the problem in dry western forests and the need for urgent action, Dean Salwasser proposed "three strategic moves in the healthy forests game plan" that would help the legislation advance "from the 10-yard line in Congress and across the goal line."

If these three strategic moves are adopted, Salwasser says, "the much-needed legislation will not just cross the goal line to the president's desk, it will actually get the much-needed work done to restore resilient, healthy forests. It will begin the restoration of trust in federal agencies. It will build community capacity for local problem solving. It will create productive, constructive jobs and resources for our economies and communities. And it will improve our scientific understanding about sustaining healthy forests for all their uses and values." Dean Salwasser also urged the president to "enlist the land grant universities as full partners in community collaboration for problem solving that will create learning opportunities and improve returns over time."

KEEP THE BIGGEST, OLDEST TREES IN THE FOREST.

Reducing fire risk and returning forests to conditions of resiliency to droughts, insects, and fires requires thinning smaller- to medium-size trees and returning fire or surrogates for fire in order to keep biomass in those remaining big trees and not in smaller trees.

RESTORE TRUST THROUGH COMMUNITY COLLABORATION.

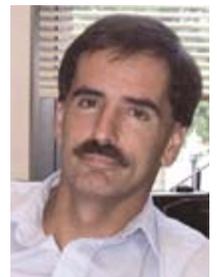
Federal agencies need the public's trust to be effective and more efficient. Community collaboration for forest thinning using Enlibra principles is the proven way to rebuild that trust.

PUT SCIENCE INTO ACTION.

On most forest health and post-fire restoration projects science is MIA (Missing in Action). None of the bills to address restoration of healthy forests engage research and especially public and land grant universities on fire risks (they are included in insect problems).

Distinguished Professor Jeff Morrell

Jeff Morrell of the Wood Science and Engineering Department has been named OSU Distinguished Professor of Wood Science. The Distinguished Professor Awards are the highest honor that Oregon State University bestows on a faculty member. The awards are career-long titles signifying that OSU considers the recipients to be among the most distinguished world leaders in their fields. This is a tremendous honor and recognition of Jeff's contributions to this university, our students, his colleagues, and the people we serve. Congratulations, Distinguished Professor Morrell!



International Service Award Recipients

Badege Bishaw and **Robin Rose** of the Department of Forest Science have been selected as the 2002-03 recipients of the Oregon State University International Service Award. This award, sponsored by International Programs, recognizes "exemplary, on-going contributions of OSU faculty and staff to the internationalization of the University by enhancing student, faculty, and staff awareness and participation in international education, research, and related activities." The College of Forestry proudly congratulates our two honorees!

New Director for Institute for Natural Resources

Gail L. Achterman has been named the Director of the Institute for Natural Resources at Oregon State University. The Institute for Natural Resources—created in 2001 as part of the Oregon

Sustainability Act—conducts important research on natural resource issues, and develops and evaluates data that help Oregon's political and resource management leaders create sound policy based the latest scientific findings. Achterman will be the first full-time director of the institute. **Dean Hal Salwasser** has been interim director since its inception, during which time the institute has completed a review of the Oregon Scenic Waterways Program for the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, and led a refinement of environmental benchmarks for the Oregon Progress Board.



"New director for Institute for Natural Resources is building and strengthening bridges between academia and people in state, federal, and local government with interests in natural resources."

According to Dean Salwasser, "Gail not only brings full time attention to the mission of the Institute, but she brings a wealth of experience and perspectives from her many years of work in natural resources law and policy."

Rich Holdren, vice provost for research at OSU, called the hiring of Achterman "an exciting success" for the institute. "Gail has natural resource policy experience in the state and federal government, she has worked with environmental law in private industry, and she has headed a nonprofit corporation," Holdren said. Achterman was Executive Director of the Deschutes Resources Conservancy, a locally created, private non-profit organization dedicated to restoring streamflows and improving water quality in the Deschutes Basin of Central Oregon. She also spent nearly 20 years in private law practice with Stoel Rives LLP in Portland, where she focused on natural resources and environmental law.

Achterman has also served as an assistant to former Oregon Governor **Neil Goldschmidt** on natural resource issues and as a legal adviser for the U.S. Department of the Interior. She also chaired the Governor's Task Force on Impacts of Growth for Governor John Kitzhaber in 1998 and is now a

member of the Oregon Transportation Commission.

She received her A.B. from Stanford University in economics in 1971, her J.D. from University of Michigan in 1974, and a M.S. in natural resource policy and management from the University of Michigan in 1975. Achterman currently is a member of the Oregon Transportation Commission, the President's Board of Advisors of Oregon State University, and the Governor's Task Force on Industrial Lands Availability. From 1981 to 1985, she served on the Oregon Water Policy Review Board, the predecessor of Oregon's Water Resources Commission.

"Oregon's universities are very fortunate to have Gail Achterman now heading the Institute," Dean Salwasser said. "She is already building and strengthening bridges between academia and people in state, federal, and local government with interests in natural resources." New Director for Institute for Natural Resources "New director for Institute for Natural Resources is building and strengthening bridges between academia and people in state, federal, and local government with interests in natural resources."

Forestry Communications Group, Peavy Hall 256
Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331 | (541) 737-4271
[Contact us](#) with your comments and questions
Copyright © 2004 [Oregon State University](#) | [OSU Disclaimer](#)

Forest Engineering

Feature: Precision Forestry

Precision forestry, the use of precision technology to plan, design, and implement forestry operations, is not a new concept, especially at OSU. Researchers have used computer modeling programs, GPS, GIS, and other digital equipment for years. However, as sustainable forestry practices become more complex and digital equipment has become more efficient and affordable, scientists and professional foresters are asking some hard questions:

When is high technology really cost effective? How is it best applied? What are its limitations? When does it make sense to use new technologies instead of conventional methods? Is it better to combine high technology with conventional methods?

Loren Kellogg, Professor in OSU's Forest Engineering Department, notes that a significant number of applications to date have focused on planning and modeling in the office, then applying that information with conventional methods in the field. Now scientists are studying if, when, where, and how digital tools can be used effectively in the field.

In June 2003, **Derek Solmie**, a graduate student working with Kellogg, **Michael Wing** (Assistant Professor), and **Jim Kiser** (Instructor), reported the results of a two-year study of digital measurement technologies for forest operations at the Second Annual Precision Forestry Symposium at the University of Washington. The work involved surveying small harvest patches and a skyline corridor layout using a conventional string box, manual compass, and clinometer and comparing it to the precision, accuracy, time efficiency, and cost of using laser distance-measuring devices, digital compasses, digital data recorders, and a GPS.

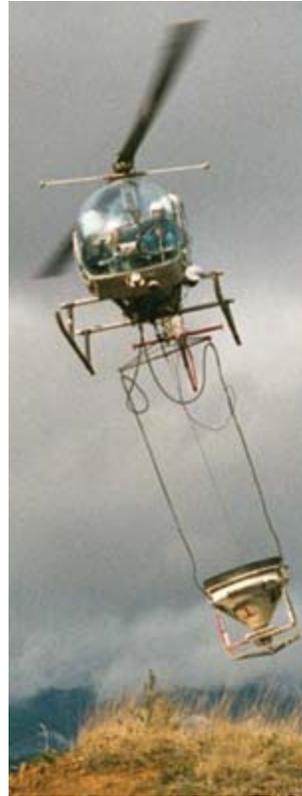
Results were enlightening, although inconclusive. In some cases, the conventional method was better, and in others, the precision technology method was better.

"Our job is to help users identify where and when to use each technology," says Kellogg. "Sometimes the appropriate technology is very simple, and sometimes it's more high tech." For instance, he says that it is often appropriate to use horses and helicopters in the same timber harvest, depending on site conditions and objectives.

The team would like to expand their research into other applications of operational planning and field layout. Their goal is to create a matrix to show which technology works best in each specific application.

Competition, Climate Changes, Diseases May Shape Post-fire Landscape

The Biscuit Fire of 2002 burned about 400,000 acres in the Siskiyou National Forest, including virtually all of the Kalmiopsis Wilderness. Not only was it the largest recorded fire in Oregon history, it also was the nation's most costly fire-suppression effort last year.



Helicopters have been used in forest management for several decades. Jennie Cornell, who earned her masters degree in Forest Engineering Operations this spring, recently completed a case study involving the use of helicopters for applying experimental nutrients on stands of Douglas-fir in Oregon's central Coast Range. Using a differential global positioning satellite system (DGPS) to collect and verify data, she studied the potential uses of precision forestry data to evaluate, plan, and implement aerial forest operations. She found that it is possible to use precision technology to plan and cost aerial forest operations at a larger scale.

Photos by Jennie Cornell.



Much of the land burned in the Biscuit Fire was designated as Wilderness, late successional reserves, or back country recreation under the Northwest Forest Plan, to be managed for old forest conditions to provide habitat for species such as the spotted owl and opportunities for recreation. As such, it was set aside in a blend of national wilderness area, late-successional reserves, and some roadless recreation areas, with only a small portion (about 10%) open for multiple use and timber production.

In the wake of the fire, however, "much of the area that was supposed to be managed for older forest characteristics now consists of dead or dying trees," says **John Sessions**, Professor of Forest Engineering, leader of a College of Forestry team that assessed consequences of delay on post-fire conifer restoration opportunities for the Biscuit Fire. Reflecting on the results of the College of Forestry's intensive reforestation studies for southwest Oregon in the 1980s (the FIR program) that pioneered innovative ways to regenerate conifer forests in southwest Oregon, Sessions said the team concluded that "Left to nature, it is unlikely the most intensely burned lands will return quickly to their former status, and if they do it will take decades, perhaps even a century or longer than if we helped them along."

Given that fire is a part of natural ecosystem processes in western forests, however, what is the benefit in helping reforestation along? Won't the forests just grow back naturally if they are left alone? According to Sessions, researchers are increasingly recognizing that climate conditions are not static and future landscapes may not replace the older conifer forests with what existed pre-fire. That's because conditions in the area have changed since the time the older forests originated.



pre-fire, aerial view, Kalmiopsis Wilderness Area

"A lot of this conifer forest got its start in the late 1700s during a cooler period called the Little Ice Age," he says. "Local ecologists say the climate is now warmer and relatively more conducive to shrubs and hardwoods. And, there are now foreign plant diseases to deal with. The long term survival of several minor, but important, conifer species may depend on planting recently developed disease-resistant seedlings."

Sessions and a team of scientists, including **Robert Buckman** (Emeritus Professor, Forest Resources and former Deputy Chief of the U.S. Forest Service), **Mike Newton** (Emeritus Professor, Forest Science), and **Jeff Hamann** (Faculty Research Assistant), examined the consequences of management delay for the return of complex, conifer-dominated forest on the burned-over lands in a report released July 2003 called, "The Biscuit Fire: Management Options for Forest Regeneration, Fire and Insect Risk Reduction and Timber Salvage" (available at <http://www.cof.orst.edu/cof/admin/Biscuit%20Fire%20Report.pdf>).

Forest Engineering Program Receives Accreditation

Forest Engineering faculty, staff, and students learned in late August that the forest engineering degree program was successful in receiving accreditation by ABET (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology). The accreditation is retroactive to January 1, 2003. This makes the OSU forest engineering program the only 4-year program in the U.S. that is

The researchers found that a lack of human intervention where the Biscuit Fire was hottest and most intense will quite probably lead to "cycles of shrubs, hardwoods, and fires for a long time." A vast area that was once home to northern spotted owls and many other old-forest wildlife species may be reduced to huge fields of shrubs, madrone, and tanoak, which are tenacious in these dry, rocky soils. And, the enormous amounts of dead timber will ultimately fall, layering the forest floor with fuel for future fires that could have far more destructive impacts on soils than the original Biscuit Fire and further delay, for decades or more, the recovery of conifer dominated forests.

Nevertheless, "there are many actions managers could take to help the Biscuit landscape return to conifer forests more quickly and in the process protect soils, streams, wildlife, and achieve the old-growth characteristics that most of the region is designated for," Sessions says. "But what we want the public to understand is that the window of opportunity is closing, very quickly. If management decisions are not made and acted upon very soon, nature will likely replace the former older forests with shrublands for a very long time into the future." This will favor a very different suite of wildlife species than the structurally complex forests that will be replaced by shrublands, according to **Dean Hal Salwasser**.



post-fire, aerial view

The Forest Service has begun replanting about 1,000 acres and is completing an EIS to decide on the ultimate level of restoration, probably

accredited in both forestry and engineering. According to Steve Tesch, Forest Engineering Professor and Department Head, "This is great news for the Forest Engineering students, alumni, program supporters, faculty, and staff who have all worked together for more than five years to achieve this goal."

between 20,000 and 80,000 acres. This effort will be expensive, and costs will increase with time, possibly doubling or tripling over the next several years over what the costs would have been immediately after the fire. However, environmentally sensitive logging with helicopters (see related story, page 6) and other "light-on-the-land" approaches could help pay for reforestation programs, should such intervention be decided upon.

Such efforts would still be a race against time. By 2006, the researchers estimate, the declining value of fire-killed trees due to rot, decay, and insect infestation will make them largely valueless for wood products. Salvage outside of Wilderness had the potential to yield a stumpage value of \$100 million or more to offset restoration of the

forests for late-successional wildlife species habitat and recreation, had it been done immediately after the fire. Since the fire, the report estimates that more than 22% of potentially salvageable volume has been lost due to decay and insects, and the window for economic recovery is closing rapidly. Furthermore, experimental management of burned areas outside the Kalmiopsis Wilderness would also provide a "once in a generation" opportunity to compare the effects of active forest restoration, versus no action, on two large, contiguous areas that have experienced the same major environmental impact, the study said.

- Post fire opportunities include hastening forest regrowth, reducing future risks, and salvaging some economic value.
- Conifer forest restoration in SW Oregon is difficult.
- Interventions are encouraged if natural vegetative recovery will not produce habitat desired conditions.¹
- The greatest opportunities to improve owl habitat occur after major disturbance such as wildfire.¹
- The window for economic salvage by helicopter without "new" roads is rapidly closing.

¹ NW Forest Plan, Draft Owl Recovery Plan

Successful Forest Engineering Graduate Students —Congratulations!

Christine Erica Marbet, MS "Hydrology of Five Forest Roads in the Oregon Coast Range"

Derek Solmie, MF "Comparing Field Measurement Strategies for Operational Planning and Layout"

Forestry Communications Group, Peavy Hall 256
Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331 | (541) 737-4271
[Contact us](#) with your comments and questions
Copyright © 2004 [Oregon State University](#) | [OSU Disclaimer](#)

Forest Resources

Feature: Natural Resources Major Bridges Gap Across Disciplines



It's been ten years since the Natural Resources major was created to educate natural resource professionals who are interested in and capable of working across disciplinary boundaries. Today, four colleges offer the program: Forestry, Agricultural Sciences, Science, and Liberal Arts, with classes drawn from 21 different departments. Fall 2002 statistics show 139 students registered through the OSU campus, 18 through the Cascades Campus, and 53 through the Extended Campus. The depth of study and degree received are the same regardless of how students access the program.

The program is designed to teach students the science and social policy aspects of natural resource management. To earn the degree, students are required to complete the baccalaureate core, a natural resources core to provide depth of knowledge, courses from seven areas in natural resources to provide breadth, and a specialty option. This broad training produces professionals who are comfortable with and capable of working across traditional disciplinary boundaries. "People who hire our students tend to seek them out because of the breadth of their training," says **Bo Shelby**, Professor in Forest Resources and Natural Resources Program Director.

Twelve options currently exist, such as Agroforestry, Human Dimensions in Natural Resources, Natural Resources Policy, and Watershed Management, but a mechanism exists for adding options. This mechanism provides additional flexibility to quickly adapt to innovation within the field.

"It's a curriculum that can respond to new ideas and new fields very quickly," says Shelby. It not only allows change, but because people all over campus know the mechanism for change exists, feedback and suggestions for new options are frequently brought to the attention of program administrators.

The Natural Resources program also offers a distance learning program to provide an avenue for professionals to remain current with their education.

"The program provides opportunities for new people to come into the field, but also offers continuing professional development for those already in the field," says Bob Ehrhart, Assistant Professor and Natural Resources Program Leader on the Cascades Campus. "Many students literally couldn't get a degree if we didn't offer these distance courses."

Assistant Professor Enjoys Moonlighting on the Gridiron



photo courtesy of Purdue Exponent

College of Forestry alumna **Shorna Broussard**, who earned her doctorate in Forest Resources in 2001, begins her rookie year this fall —as a cheerleader for the Indianapolis Colts football team! This seemingly unlikely turn of events comes as no surprise to **John Bliss**, Professor in Forest Resources and Broussard's advisor both at Auburn University, where she began her graduate work, and here in the College of Forestry, where she finished it. "Nothing about Shorna surprises me," says Bliss. "Shortly after Shorna completed her PhD, she was featured in the national magazine, Muscle and Fitness Hers. I still get comments from students who wonder what I'm doing with a women's fitness magazine in my office!"

When not appearing at Colts football games, Broussard may be found before smaller audiences at Purdue University, where she is an assistant professor of forestry and natural resources. And, according to Dale Whittaker, Associate Dean and Director of Academic Programs in the School of Agriculture, Broussard is not only a very good professor and researcher but "one of our young stars."

[Dean's Column](#)

[College News](#)

[College Feature: Studying Fish and Wildlife Habitat in Managed Forests](#)

[Forest Engineering](#)

[Forest Resources](#)

[Forest Science](#)

[Wood Science & Engineering](#)

[Students](#)

[Outreach & Communications](#)

[Alumni & Donors](#)

[Home](#)

Cheerleading helps provide some balance as a young professor on the tenure track. She teaches three courses at Purdue, two dealing with human dimensions in natural resources and one in natural resource policy, and is developing an additional, interdisciplinary course in conjunction with the Landscape Architecture and Hospitality and Tourism Management Departments.

Interdisciplinary projects are not new for Broussard, however, who found ways to connect natural resources and the arts while studying community forestry and natural resources policy at OSU. She was involved with a project called, " Art About Forestry," which uses art as a way to communicate natural resource issues to people who otherwise might not seek out information about those issues.

Broussard's interest in artistic expression combined with her extensive background in gymnastics and dance helped her make it through the intensive tryout process. Once a part of the elite cheerleading squad, she had to learn the routines and prepare for the experience of cheering before 50,000 football fans. Furthermore, the group is involved with charity work and fund-raising activities throughout the state of Indiana. Although this creates additional demands on her time, it is particularly appealing to Broussard, who has long been committed to community service.

Besides serving as an additional outlet for the multi-faceted Broussard's considerable energy and abilities, providing balance to the demands of academia, and offering the opportunity for community service work, is there anything else about cheerleading for the Colts that Broussard enjoys?

"Cheering for an NFL team is phenomenal," she says. "The football fan in me loves seeing and hearing the game right from the sidelines." Besides all that, there's one thing more. "I didn't realize that a group this large could truly bond like we do, but we are like family," Broussard says. "I have developed some great friendships, which is an unexpected reward."



photo courtesy of Indianapolis Colts

2003 Starker Lectures



The College of Forestry at Oregon State University is proud to announce the fall, **2003 Starker Lecture Series.**

The Starker Lecture Series is sponsored by the Starker family of Corvallis in memory of T.J. and Bruce Starker, leaders of modern forest management and visionaries for sustainable forestry in Oregon.

"This year we continue the Starker Lecture Series tradition of presenting thought leaders in natural resources," says John Bliss, Starker Chair in Private and Family Forestry and Associate Department Head for Graduate Programs, Department of Forest Resources. Together, participants will explore the complex relationships between ecological, social, and economic dimensions of natural resources.

Starker Lectures are held in the Starker Classroom, Richardson 107 or at LaSells Stewart Center on campus. All lectures are free and open to the public.

"But if you can't make it to a lecture in person, you may be able to join in 'virtually' through the internet or on your local cable channel," says Bliss. "This year, we're enhancing the Starker Lecture tradition by reaching out to new audiences through the use of new media technology. In any case, we welcome you to the 2003 Starker Lecture Series!"

For more information, visit http://www.cof.orst.edu/starker_lectures/

New Faces



Forest Resources welcomes **Dr. Randy Rosenberger** who will be joining us this November as Assistant Professor of Natural Resource Economics. Rosenberger was previously an Assistant Professor at West Virginia University, Agricultural Resource Program, Division of Resource Management. He holds a PhD in Agricultural and Resource Economics from Colorado State University, an MA in Applied Ethics from Colorado State University, and a BA in Philosophy from Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania.



Forest Resources is proud to have **Dr. Temesgen Hailemariam** as its most recent faculty addition. Temesgen was previously a Research Associate in Forest Biometrics and Measurements with the University of British Columbia (UBC) and holds a BSc from Alemaya University of Agriculture, a MSc in Silviculture from Lakehead University, and a PhD in Forest Biometrics from UBC. He is currently developing his research program in the area of forest biometrics and landscape analysis. He will also be instructing Forest Mensuration and Forest Biometrics.



Forest Resources also welcomes **Iñigo Lizarralde**, a visiting scholar from the University of Valladolid, in Palencia, Spain. Here during Fall term, Lizarralde, a PhD candidate in forest modeling, will be working with Professor **David Hann** in developing a diameter growth model.

Kreg Lindberg has been selected as the new Associate Professor in International Ecotourism at the OSU-Cascades Campus in Bend. His academic home is in the Forest Resources Department, but his major responsibilities will entail teaching, research, advising, and service for the new Outdoor Recreation Leadership and Tourism program in Bend. Lindberg is a 1995 College of Forestry graduate from the Forest Social Science PhD program here at OSU, and was on the faculty at Colorado State University.



Successful Forest Resources Graduate Students — Congratulations!

Chris Dowling, MS "Comparing Structure and Development of Douglas-fir Oldgrowth, Plantations, and Young Natural Forests in Western Oregon"

Ke Du, MS, "Land Tenure Change under recent conservation policies in China: A case study in Sichuan Province, P.R. China"

Jenny Hawkins, MS, Non Thesis

Mayumi Takahashi, MS "The Land-Water Interface: Patterns of Riparian Vegetation and Channel Morphology in an Oregon Coast Range System"

Forestry Communications Group, Peavy Hall 256
Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331 | (541) 737-4271
[Contact us](#) with your comments and questions
Copyright © 2004 [Oregon State University](#) | [OSU Disclaimer](#)

Forest Science

Feature: Trip to the Treetops: A Student's-Eye View of the Canopy Crane

—by Emily Thomas

Wind River Canopy Crane, WA
Standing below the Wind River Canopy Crane with researchers **Abby Burnett** and **Dave Woodruff**, Faculty Research Assistant in Forest Science, hooking into my harness and getting briefed on safety by **Dr. Dave Shaw**, Director of the Wind River Canopy Crane Research Facility (WRCCRF), I don't know quite what to expect from a trip to the top of the canopy. Thus far, the only people I've interviewed at WRCCRF do their research on the ground, so I'm not sure why the crane itself is important. But it is impressive.

The Wind River Canopy Crane is one of eight canopy cranes in the world and it is the largest, at 250 feet, weighing 190 tons. We clip our harnesses to the sides of the bright yellow gondola and then the crane lifts us surprisingly quickly, 100 feet per minute, Shaw tells me later. Within moments the entire research area beneath the crane comes into view.

From the air, I recognize a place I visited earlier on foot with **Kate George**, from Banbury, England, who was doing research for **Barbara Bond**, Professor in Forest Science. The whole crane site is covered with rickety miniature boardwalks, like something out of *Return of the Jedi*. During that tour, I half expected a friendly Ewok to pop out from behind an ancient hemlock. With big squares of foil insulation attached to the boles of dozens of trees, the old-growth stand seemed hardly less extraterrestrial. The foil devices, however, protected sap flow sensors used to determine how much water was flowing through the trees. The project, Dr. George explained, aims to study water use in trees of different ages and species.

She also showed us a 2-meter-deep soil pit where she is measuring soil moisture at different depths, and we saw other devices for projects where researchers are studying roots, soil temperature, log decay, and CO₂, to name a few. As we make our way back along the boardwalks, I see equipment from other OSU research projects, among them, a Swiss Needle Cast study being conducted by **Julia Kerrigan** (Research Associate, Botany and Plant Pathology) and a soils study conducted by Richard Dick (Professor of Crop and Soil Science).

To visit one of Bond and George's other sites, we drove down the road to a 26-year-old stand of primarily Douglas-fir. There is no electricity at this site, so they power the machinery that collects their data with electricity generated by solar panels.

Our conversation was punctuated by humming and clicking sounds from the data loggers, which was a good sound, Dr. George said, because it meant everything was working.

The research area was nearly identical to the old-growth site, including another big pit for moisture measurements and sap flow sensors covered with foil on the tree boles. But instead of the crane, there was a scaffolding structure they could climb to access the top of the trees. Seeing it, I began to wonder why the crane was important. Now, as the ground drops away below me, I am about to find out.

In just over two minutes, we are completely above the canopy, taking in the spectacular panorama of treetops. As we are buffeted by the wind, it makes me a little nervous that the only thing keeping us near the tree



photos by Michael Martin

(top) Emily Thomas, student editorial assistant for Focus,

Dean's Column

College News

College Feature:
Studying Fish and
Wildlife Habitat in
Managed Forests

Forest Engineering

Forest Resources

Forest Science

Wood Science &
Engineering

Students

Outreach &
Communications

Alumni & Donors

Home

where Woodruff and Burnett are taking measurements is Shaw's hand holding a branch. The researchers clip little twigs from the ends of the branches, then Abby lets me lean over her shoulder with a magnifying glass to watch a twig, which she has inserted into an apparatus. I wait a few moments until I see a tiny explosion of water bubbles emerge from the cut end, which is strangely thrilling. The pressure they apply to force the water out tells the scientists the water tension inside the twig.

They sample twigs at three different heights on five trees, and compare the tension at the different heights. This information is needed for a project directed by Bond and **Dr. Rick Meinzer**, a scientist with the U.S. Forest Service. It will help them learn more about how trees transport water internally, and may eventually provide clues to explain why trees stop growing at some point, even though they live so long. Looking out over the canopy, I realize that I never thought to wonder why trees stopped getting taller.

"This kind of research was not possible before the crane," Woodruff says. With the crane, scientists have access to 250 vertical feet of forests, 240 feet more than was previously available for study. Looking all the way down to the forest floor, those bottom 10 feet do look pretty small. We finish sampling all five trees in less than an hour. As we begin our descent, I think for a moment of my mom, Jane Thomas, who used to climb trees with ropes in Africa for research — for her, just getting to the top of one tree was an all-day operation — then we are back on the ground.

My last stop is an interview with **Mark Harmon**, Professor and Richardson Chair of Forest Science, whose research has to do with carbon stored in and released from different forests. Harmon mostly looks at differences between old and young stands, which, "translates into applications pretty fast and allows policy makers to see if their policies make any sense." He has found that old forests actually store a great deal of carbon, which may be contrary to earlier ideas about the capacity of old versus young stands to utilize CO₂ from the atmosphere and store carbon. Harmon adds, "By using the crane we have access to different parts of the canopy. That access removes the uncertainty involved in hypothesizing about those areas." The crane itself "really has revitalized research at Wind River," he says. "We're visual animals; we like to see things. To see what the canopy is really like adds back a sense of wonderment. It's very different than you imagine, and every scientist who's been there has had that realization."

His words echo those of Kate George. "It's a great place to work," she told me, "because there are so many researchers ...it's nice to have other researchers because then you can sort of tie things together." I ask Harmon about that and he agrees. Everyone shares data: Dick's soil studies, Bond and George's sap flow sensors, Kerrigan's Swiss Needle Cast studies, and Woodruff, Meinzen, and Bond's work with water use all complement each other. Perhaps then, even with its breathtaking view, the crane itself is not what makes the facility an amazing place after all. Instead, it's the symbiosis of dozens of research teams who work on different projects and share information to produce probably some of the most comprehensive research in the world.

USAID Project Supports South African Development



top photo: standing from left to right: Dr. Demel Teketay, Director General, Ethiopian Agriculture Research Organization; Dr. Badege Bishaw, USAID Project Coordinator, OSU; Dr. Abdu Abdelkadir, Dean, Wondo Genet College of Forestry, Ethiopia; Mr. Awonke Sonandi, Principal, Fort Cox College Agriculture and Forestry, South Africa; Dr. Tesfaye Teshome, Academic Vice President, Debub University, Ethiopia. seated left to right: Mr. Takalani Masutha, Agroforestry Coordinator, University of Fort Hare; Mr. Michael Underwood,

Summer 2003. Thomas attends Scripps College, Claremont, California. (middle) boardwalks beneath canopy at WRCCRE Washington. (bottom) Gondola of Wind River Canopy Crane.

An international partnership was formed in 1998 among OSU and two universities in the Eastern Cape of South Africa: the University of Fort Hare (UFH) and Fort Cox College of Agriculture and Forestry (FCC). The University of Natal at Pietermaritzburg (UN-P) may soon be added.

Funded by USAID Association Liaison Office (ALO) for University Cooperation and the USAID Education for Development Democracy Initiative (EDDI), the program is intended to strengthen agroforestry and community forestry education at the South African institutions, encourage collaborative research and education, and support the exchange of students, faculty, and curricula among the partners. This is being accomplished through developing curriculum and constructing research and demonstration plots for the South African institutions, and working with the South African communities to transfer technology.

"It's a two-way advantage," says **Badege Bishaw**, Research Associate in Forest Science

gaining knowledge."

The late **Bart Thielges** pioneered the project. Bishaw now oversees program activities here at OSU and in South Africa, coordinating the efforts of several faculty members on two continents. He also developed the agroforestry curriculum for the South African universities. **Robin Rose**, Associate Professor in Forest Science, oversaw the construction of a plant propagation greenhouse at FCC. Also, Rose and Bishaw held several meetings with community leaders in South African villages last May, identifying six villages in which to demonstrate tree planting, rural development, and entrepreneurial skills.

John Sessions, Professor in Forest Engineering, has been involved in resource assessment, agroforestry modeling, and small-scale farm modeling for the South African universities. **Jeff Hino** and **Mark Reed** of the Forestry Media Center are involved in technology transfer. **Marion McNamara**, from OSU's International Research and Development office, is working closely with the South African communities to identify problems and potentials of the land. **Philip Humphrey**, Courtesy OSU Professor, and McNamara recently held village meetings to assess housing and employment needs in rural communities. Strategies for the village-based manufacture of housing components are now being developed.



Mr. Awonke Sonandi and Mr. Leutle Frans of Fort Cox College and Dr. Badege Bishaw, OSU, examine USAID project poster

Tree Improvement Research Co-op Turns 20



A birthday cake and gifts of travel mugs helped members of the Pacific Northwest Tree Improvement Research Cooperative (PNWTIRC) celebrate a successful 20 years at their regular annual meeting on July 10, 2003. Founding director **Tom Adams** (now Department Head of Forest Science) presented an overview of the organization's history and successes to date. The current Director is Glenn Howe, Assistant Professor in the Forest Science Department.

The Cooperative conducts genetics and breeding research on Pacific Northwest conifer species in

order to enhance the efficiency of tree improvement efforts. The organization complements and supplements genetics research of other organizations in the region. It also fosters communication among tree improvement workers throughout the Pacific Northwest.

Eighteen members contribute an annual membership fee plus in-kind support, and five non-paying liaison members provide a link to other tree improvement organizations in the region. Membership consists of representatives of the forest products industry and governmental agencies in Oregon, western Washington, coastal British Columbia, and northern California.

During the past 20 years, the PNWTIRC published 75 research papers and reports on the genetics of cold hardiness, drought hardiness, stem form, and early selection for improved tree growth. Current research is focused on seed orchard management, molecular genetic markers for Douglas-fir, integrating genetic improvement into growth models, and the genetics of wood quality. Much of this research was conducted by graduate students; the PNWTIRC has supported 10 OSU graduate students during the past two decades. The PNWTIRC also promotes continuing education in forest genetics. Recent and upcoming workshops include "Genetic Improvement of Wood Quality in Coastal Douglas-fir and Western Hemlock," "Genomics of Douglas-fir: Implications for Applied Tree Improvement and Gene Conservation," and "Genetics and Growth Modeling." "We look forward to another 20 years of forest genetics research in the Pacific Northwest," says **Marilyn Cherry**, the newly appointed Assistant Director of the cooperative. More information on the PNWTIRC can be found at their web site (<http://www.fsl.orst.edu/pnwtirc/>).

Successful Forest Science Graduate Students — Congratulations!

Keith Slauson, MS "Habitat selection by American martens (*Martes Americana*) in Coastal Northwestern California"

Steve Van Tuyl, MS "Carbon storage and fluxes in forest biomass of western Oregon — Successional patterns and environmental controls"

Kristen L. Whitbeck, MS "Systematics of Pacific Northwestern Species of the Genus *Gymnomyces* Inferred From Nuclear Ribosomal DNA Internal Transcribed Spacer Sequences"

Forestry Communications Group, Peavy Hall 256
Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331 | (541) 737-4271
[Contact us](#) with your comments and questions
Copyright © 2004 [Oregon State University](#) | [OSU Disclaimer](#)

Wood Science and Engineering

Feature: Fungi Studies Make Progress

Since the late 1990s, people with health concerns related to mold have filed thousands of lawsuits worth billions of dollars, says **Jeff Morrell**, Professor of Wood Preservation and Biodeterioration (and recently named OSU Distinguished Professor). While there is a great debate about the health risks associated with molds, there is little doubt that many buildings are excellent environments for their growth. Modern building techniques have created airtight structures that may not allow for sufficient air exchange, so moisture builds up and creates a friendly environment for fungal growth.

In addition, molds and wood-staining fungi can cause substantial economic loss. These fungi don't damage or weaken the wood, but can discolor it. These fungi grow quickly on freshly cut lumber and can degrade the lumber's value if not controlled promptly.

Traditional solutions to eliminate these fungi include kiln drying the lumber or applying fungicides shortly after cutting the tree. Drying the lumber can be costly and works only if the wood is not exposed to moisture again during its lifespan. Until recently, many mills had stopped using fungicides because of concerns about potential liability and worker exposure, says Morrell. However, now that public awareness has centered on health concerns related to molds, some mills have returned to chemical treatment methods.

OSU has long been involved in helping manufacturers develop control measures for stain and mold fungi, including assessing chemical treatments, identifying methods for removing mold, and identifying nonchemical methods for limiting fungal attack. **Adam Taylor**, PhD candidate in Wood Science, recently tested the effectiveness of a number of commercial treatments for removing mold from wood. None of the treatments Taylor tested, including bleach (which is recommended most often), were effective in preventing the regrowth of mold. His results showed that the most effective method for eliminating this damage was to brush the affected area with dilute bleach, then remove the sources of moisture so that fungi could not grow on the wood. In addition to the laboratory studies, the group has also worked with an industrial hygienist to develop easily interpreted information on mold in housing and its effects (go to www.wvpa.org).

Biocontrol is one potential alternative for preventing fungal attack of freshly sawn lumber. This method introduces a beneficial fungus or bacteria to wood to prevent the growth of the stain and mold fungi. So far, Morrell's research team has been able to control fungi in the lab, but has had little success in the field. "Understanding why we fail can help us to develop effective field treatments," he says.

One of the major obstacles to this research was that the potential control agent is transparent and does not look all that different from other fungi in the wood, making it difficult to study. **Shelly Xiao**, PhD candidate in Wood Science, was able to make the target fungus visible among the many fungal species colonizing wood by inserting a green fluorescent protein gene. The gene, developed by Professor Lynda Ciuffetti of Botany and Plant Pathology, makes the fungus visible under a fluorescent microscope. Using this technique, she has been able to study how stain fungi and the biocontrol agents interact, which will help to identify the causes for the field failures and, hopefully, lead to more effective nonchemical control agents.

Back from Boston: Engineer Shares Stories from the Real World

Milan Vatovec, Professional Engineer and Senior Project Manager with Simpson Gumpertz & Heger, Inc. (SGH), returned to the College of Forestry as a guest speaker in Wood Science and Engineering in May. Vatovec, who completed a PhD in Forest Products/Civil Engineering at OSU in 1995, has been with the internationally renowned consulting firm near Boston since 1996.

In the well-attended morning seminar, Vatovec gave an overview of the problem of biodeterioration in wood piles and the various options for detection and repair, finishing with a discussion of possibilities for future research. Wood piling foundations are predominantly used in areas with soft top soils, such

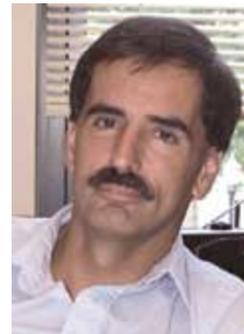


photo by **Bonnie Johnson**
phD candidates,
Adam Taylor and
Shelley Xiao

Dean's Column

College News

College Feature:
Studying Fish and
Wildlife Habitat in
Managed Forests

Forest Engineering

Forest Resources

Forest Science

Wood Science &
Engineering

Students

Outreach &
Communications

Alumni & Donors

Home

as peat or fill, where buildings cannot be supported directly on the ground. The piles are used to transfer the loads deeper to more solid layers of soil (like clay or rock). The wood piles must remain submerged or they may begin to rot, potentially causing structural problems to the building above. Vatovec has worked on several large projects in the Boston area, where, as groundwater levels have changed, biodeterioration of wood piles has become an increasing concern.

For the afternoon session geared primarily toward graduate students, Vatovec presented a medley of different jobs he has been involved with at SGH. As he led students through a slide-show tour of projects, from the United First Parish Church in Quincy, Massachusetts, the oldest church in the Boston area and burial place of the John Adams family, to Atlanta, San Francisco, and finally, the World Trade Towers site in New York, Vatovec also took them along on his personal journey as a young engineer. His aim was to share some of the challenges he faced early in his career, and to offer both encouragement and a little practical advice.

The College provided him with a solid foundation, he says. "Here I learned the basics, and I was able to apply that knowledge. But problem solving — I learned that on the job." As a new engineer with SGH, Vatovec's experience was not unique. "Regardless of where you come from, you go through a 2-year period where you do anything and everything so you learn how to apply knowledge gained in school." Many of the projects he worked on were not wood related, and he had to 'think outside the box' to find creative solutions to problems he encountered. He continues to work on a broad variety of assignments involving different types of structures, often with their own unique sets of problems. As it turns out, he says, "a big source of work is people making mistakes in design."



Vatovec has learned some unexpected lessons over the past eight years. "Why make things complicated when you can make things simple — that's one of the biggest lessons I've learned," he says. He also quickly discovered the practical importance of being able to communicate his findings, whether on paper or before an audience. "Not only do you have to be a good engineer, you have to be a good salesman for your ideas," he says.

As part of his job, Vatovec is occasionally called upon to testify as an expert witness in court cases. He acknowledges that he sometimes must make difficult decisions, such as whether a historic building can be saved or should be torn down. When asked how he feels about taking sides on such issues, however, Vatovec doesn't hesitate. "The overall concern must always be public safety," he says with a smile, "because that's the oath you take when you become an engineer!"

He concludes with a more sobering description of one of his most difficult tasks. In the aftermath of September 11, 2001, Vatovec went with a team of engineers from SGH to assist with debris removal at Ground Zero. The engineers were working only a few feet from where rescue workers were trying to find survivors. The experience made a great impression on him, changing the way he thought about his profession and reshaping the way he viewed himself as an engineer. "Before, I was trying to do my job, not thinking of the big picture, trying to make myself a better engineer," he says. "Now, I think more about making a contribution to the field, to help ensure that these things don't happen."

As for those students who will soon be facing 'the real world' as engineers themselves, Vatovec hopes they will be creative, challenge themselves, and strive to get the most out of their jobs—and "have fun," he says, the twinkle back in his eyes. "This really is a great career."

Children and Adults Learn About Wood

Faculty, staff, and students in the Department of Wood Science & Engineering are finding ways to teach Oregon's elementary school children about wood science in fun and engaging ways through Oregon Wood Magic. Each Fall, the Department plays host to over 1,300 third and fourth graders, who visit campus for a 3-hour lesson about wood in their lives. This session is repeated in the spring at the Forest Discovery Center (formerly World Forestry Center) in Portland in May for around 600 students.

The Department also participated in Oregon AgFest in April and Kids Day in September. More than 7,000 parents, grandparents, and elementary aged children visited the WS&E display at Oregon AgFest. This event focuses on educating children about the products derived from Oregon's agricultural, marine, and forest resources. Representatives of the College talked about forest products, wood anatomy, general forestry, and the WS&E undergraduate program. Kids Day was a first-time event at the Benton County fairground coordinated by Starker Forests and attracted over 800

children, who learned about various environmental education programs in the county. Our participation in these events is part of our effort to ensure that school-age children receive a balanced message about natural resources and wood in particular.

Successful Wood Science and Engineering Students — Congratulations!

Roy C. Anderson, PhD "An analysis of consumer response to environmentally certified, ecolabeled forest products"

Claudia M. T. Eiden, MS "Nonlinear dynamic analysis of heavy timber frame structures including passive damping devices"

David Brian DeVallance, MS "Influence of veneer roughness, lathe check, and growth rate characteristics on glue-bond performance of Douglas- fir plywood"



Forestry Communications Group, Peavy Hall 256
Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331 | (541) 737-4271
[Contact us](#) with your comments and questions
Copyright © 2004 [Oregon State University](#) | [OSU Disclaimer](#)

Students

Feature: SCEP — Bringing Students and Careers Together

—by Emily Thomas

Florence, OR

OSU College of Forestry grad **Jennifer Wade** has been 'affianced' to the USDA Forest Service for more than a year and seems to have no doubts about the commitment she is making. She happily gives a tour of her new 'home' at the Ranger District, including the grounds outside, where sand dunes rise on the edge of the parking lot.

"But what about students who are less sure of a permanent career choice? Is SCEP a good option for them?"

Wade came to the Forest Service through a matchmaker of sorts: the Student Career Experience Program (SCEP), which she participated in while at OSU. SCEP is a way for the government to hire qualified employees in an efficient manner. Students apply while they are in school, college, grad school, or, in some cases, high school, and if they are accepted, they work for the government over summers (and during the year if they want) and take courses relevant to their planned career during the year. If they complete the requirements satisfactorily, they will be offered permanent positions with the government when they graduate. SCEP has helped Wade begin her career as a recreation planner with the Forest Service in Florence, Oregon.



The program worked well for Wade, who knew she wanted to major in forestry but hadn't yet decided on a career. She initially applied to SCEP during her sophomore year at OSU but wasn't accepted. She did spend the next summer working at the Deschutes National Forest, Crescent District—where she discovered an interest in recreation as a career. The next year, armed with new experience and more certainty, Wade reapplied to SCEP and was accepted. Timing was important: the Siuslaw Office in Florence was looking for a Recreation Planner and, Wade says, "rather than hiring one, they wanted to grow their own." She began working in Florence during the summer after her junior year and continued part-time with the Forest Service during her senior year. After graduation, she moved to Florence to begin full-time training. It seems to be going well; it looks as if Wade is fitting right in, and she hopes to be with the Forest Service for a long time.

But what about students who are less sure of a permanent career choice? Is SCEP a good option for them? Maria Nelson, the area recruiter in Corvallis and one of the people who interviewed Wade for SCEP, answers this question. She explains that because these internships are designed to prepare people for specific jobs, interns really can't change fields. In order to complete the program and get a career, students have to stick with their original plans. However, by the time students get into the program, usually sometime before senior year in college, they're required by their schools to declare a major anyway, so they have a good idea of their areas of interest. And there are literally hundreds of internship choices; there are jobs for journalists, math majors, and most other major areas of study. Nevertheless, students do drop out of the program. Nelson says that about half of SCEP participants end up leaving the program for one reason or another, interest changes, location problems, or not completing the requirements. The only problem with this comes if students have received tuition assistance from SCEP, in which case they either have to continue the program through the period they've received assistance for, or pay back the money.

The bottom line is that the SCEP program may not be for everyone, and there wouldn't be enough room for everyone even if it was. But for those, like Wade who know what they want to do, it is literally the opportunity of a lifetime. "I really, really wanted this," she says, thoughtfully. "I knew this was what I wanted to do."

Wade concedes that for people who aren't as certain about their careers, this program may not work out. "But I was on a path. I definitely see myself making a career with the Forest Service," she says, "and the SCEP program is the best way to get into the Forest Service with a career position."

As Wade finishes up the interview by pointing out attractive spots for scenic photos and giving directions to her favorite local beach, one thing is clear: SCEP has made a successful match. She is

really in love with this area and with her job — and it looks as though they'll have a happy future together.

Two Fellowships for WSE Student

Adam Taylor, PhD student in Wood Science and Engineering, just returned from 6 weeks in Japan on an NSF Fellowship where he studied naturally durable woods and termite biology at Kyoto University. These highly competitive fellowships are designed to allow U.S. students to obtain valuable international experience in their research area. (See related story, Page 15). Taylor was also awarded a Sports Lottery Fellowship this summer.

Enrollment Trend Finally Changes

After a few years of flat growth, undergraduate enrollment is up this year. The College has enrolled 362 undergrad and 136 graduate students for the upcoming school year, for a total of 498. Seventy-four graduate students are pursuing a masters degree and 62 are in a PhD program. Undergraduate enrollment figures by major are as follows: Forest Engineering/Civil Engineering, 27; Forest Engineering, 35; Forest Management, 100; Forest Recreation Resources, 62; Natural Resources, 89; Wood Science & Technology, 31; Outdoor Recreation Leadership & Tourism, 5; and Undecided Forestry, 13.

"Students have responded particularly well to our expanded recruiting efforts, especially in Wood Science and Engineering," says **Rebecca Johnson**, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Research. "We also have a new major in Outdoor Recreation Leadership and Tourism at the Cascades Campus that is just starting to enroll students. We are very pleased to welcome both new and returning students to the College and are looking forward to another great year!"

Faculty Retirements

Five CoF faculty members have recently retired from the University but are continuing to provide valuable services to the College by teaching classes, mentoring students, and/or pursuing research and service activities.

Royal Jackson officially retired from his position as Associate Professor in Forest Resources on February 1, 2003 after 32 years of service, but continues to teach halftime. Jackson has received numerous awards over the years for teaching and advising, and is particularly active in taking students to locations overseas for study and research.

Forest Resources Professor **John Tappeiner** retired after 22 years of service on June 1, 2003. Tappeiner also continues to teach half-time and continues to actively work on forest management policy issues. He has received several research awards over the years from the College and professional forestry organizations.

Professor **Jim Boyle** in Forest Resources retired after 21 years on June 2, 2002. Boyle was the department head in Forest Management from 1981 to 1989, and teaches forest ecology and natural resources conservation. He is a soils specialist and a Fellow in the Soil Science Society of America. Professor Boyle continues to teach part-time.

"Collectively, these three retirees have over 75 years of experience at OSU, not to mention the dedication, enthusiasm, and intellect they've brought to our education and research programs," says Jack Walstad, Forest Resources Department Head. "Each is an acknowledged expert in his respective field, and all have received numerous awards and other hallmarks of professional distinction."

Brian Kramer, Senior Instructor in Forest Engineering for the past 14 years, retired on June 1, 2003. "Kramer's engineering expertise in transportation planning and in the design, construction, and management of forest roads was very valuable to our forest engineering program and students," says Steve Tesch, Department Head. CoF students recognized Kramer twice as the outstanding mentor in the College and once as the outstanding teacher. He will continue to teach two courses this academic year.

Professor **Jim Wilson** of Wood Science & Engineering retired on May 1, 2003 after 29 years of service. "Jim Wilson is one of those people who is, in a sense, irreplaceable," says Tom McLain, department head. "He has developed invaluable connections to the industry over the years and has an ability to relate to students, mentoring them most particularly in career counseling and



photo by Bonnie Johnson

placement." Wilson is continuing to work part-time on documenting the environmental performance of wood products and in commercializing non-destructive evaluation technology for wood utility poles.

*From the top:
Royal Jackson,
John Tappeiner,
Jim Boyle, Brian
Kramer, Jim Wilson*

Forestry Cabin—Home to Forestry Club, and Fernhoppers—Needs Your Help



Winter rains, nesting animals, hungry insects, roaring blazes in the fireplace, and year-round student and faculty activities place demands on the hardiest of buildings. The Forestry Cabin is beginning to show the wear of 53 years of steady use. Originally constructed as a student and alumni effort, we plan another joint effort to repair and revitalize the structure, so it can provide another 50 years of service to past,

present and future students.

Club members recently prepared a list of needed and desired improvements to increase the life and functions of the cabin. Topping the list was a new roof and repairs to the water damaged bathrooms. The wish list also includes pest control, firebox repairs, replacement of rotting timbers, appliance upgrades, and the addition of userfriendly tables and chairs.

We invite alumni and friends to help refurbish this tradition-rich building. If you are already a donor to the College, you can choose the cabin as an option when you receive an appeal letter this fall. However, anyone can make a gift by sending a check to **Marianne Barker** at the OSU Foundation, 850 SW 35th, Corvallis, OR, 97333, or you can make a gift online at www.osufoundation.org. Please specify that your gift is for the Forestry Club Cabin.

Forestry Communications Group, Peavy Hall 256
Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331 | (541) 737-4271
[Contact us](#) with your comments and questions
Copyright © 2004 [Oregon State University](#) | [OSU Disclaimer](#)

Outreach and Communications

Forestry Extension Adapts to Major Funding Cuts

OSU Extension has served the people of Oregon for over a century, offering valuable educational services to individuals, businesses, and community organizations throughout the state. Extension has made significant contributions to the economic strength and stability of the region. As a result of statewide budget reductions, the College of Forestry's Extension program, along with other Extension programs throughout the University, has endured significant appropriated funding reductions in the current biennium. Fortunately, the College was able to pledge funding that allows all currently funded positions to remain in place through the biennium, postponing major cuts in faculty support. Recent and projected faculty and staff vacancies created through retirements will be left unfilled, at least for the near future.

Strategic Goals Define Forestry Extension

1. To increase the level of public understanding and dialogue about forestry issues
2. To encourage responsible stewardship and sustainability of forest resources
3. To enhance the productivity and profitability of forestry enterprises.

The next biennial budget decisions are nearly two years away, but the Extension Service has a reduction plan in place that would, if no increase in state funding occurs, reduce nearly all on-campus Extension faculty positions to half-time and several off-campus positions to less than fulltime. While most Forestry Extension jobs would be slimmed down, no one is expected to lose his or her job as a result of the cuts. Extension program leaders continue to look at alternative organizational strategies and funding sources to maintain the highest level of service possible under the circumstances.

"It has inspired a level of creativity and energy directed to new funding models that may not have been there before," says **Scott Reed**, Executive Associate Dean and Program Leader of Forestry Extension. "We are attempting to maintain the breadth of expertise that makes this forestry program what it is, and we share a hopeful optimism that better days lie ahead. If we can bridge our way to that new future, then we're ready to rebound."

Reed says the College has adopted a faculty entrepreneurial model. "Finding creative funding alternatives is now everyone's job," he says. Extension foresters met last spring to brainstorm ways to sustain the program's excellence. One of the outcomes of the brainstorming was to engage in a significant development program to create endowments for Forestry Extension. Other strategies consist of forming strategic alliances that will bring supplementary funding for Extension positions, testing a more aggressive use of program fees, and focusing more energy on gathering grant funds.

Reed sees some danger in relying too much on grants as a funding source. "If part of your time is paid for by a grantor, that typically generates an arrangement whereby the grantor has explicit accountability expectations and we are therefore obligated to focus on that and only that," he says. "The overall effect may be to allow us less time to be in touch with local community issues and less responsive to emerging forestry issues. We don't want to be a grant-driven education machine rather than a public educator."

Wherever possible, the College continues to buffer reductions in state appropriated funds with resources from the active management of College forests in order to support missions throughout the College, including Forestry Extension.

International Opportunities Await Forestry Grads



The Peace Corps provides opportunities for Forestry graduates to hone their skills and supplement their education while performing valuable services to developing countries. **Peter Giampaoli**, who finished his responsibilities as OSU's Peace Corps representative last spring, says the Peace Corps forestry a "scarce skill," meaning that the organization receives more requests from host countries for volunteers with forestry backgrounds than it has qualified applicants to fill those positions.

Those with degrees in forestry and related fields are often assigned to government ministries or non-governmental

photo by Scott Walter

organizations assisting and advising local reforestation and afforestation activities. Some may work with local groups to develop ecotourism opportunities in nearby forests or assist in the development and marketing of nontimber forest products. Others may work with host country counterparts in soil conservation, agroforestry extension activities, setting up community nurseries, distributing seeds and seedlings to local groups and individuals, and promoting the planting of various multipurpose tree species compatible with agricultural crops.

"While the Peace Corps places volunteers from a diverse range of majors, host countries are often seeking volunteers with technical skills related to agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, and environmental science," Giampaoli says.

"Our grads have a lot to offer," agrees **David Zahler**, Instructional Designer/Media Specialist and Instructor, Forest Resources. "They are skills-rich and often experiential at a regional scale. Peace Corps is a fantastic vehicle to make CoF grads experiential at an international scale." Zahler joined the Peace Corps along with his wife shortly after finishing his MS degree through Forest Resources. Prior to that, Zahler had earned his BS in Forest Management from OSU, and then worked in various entry-level forest research positions, mainly in Oregon. His experience in the Peace Corps — being stationed in a small, Mayan-speaking village as part of a CARE International agroforestry/natural resource conservation project in central Guatemala — brought more than just work experience, however. "Working in Guatemala was many things for me," says Zahler. "To sum it all up, it was life-changing."



photo by Scott Walter

John Bliss, Associate Department Head in Forest Resources and Giampaoli's graduate advisor, offers similar views. Bliss, who taught English in Afghanistan in 1974-1976, says that his Peace Corps service was pivotal not only to his choice of career, but to the lifestyle and values that have directed his life.

Bliss strongly disagrees with what he calls the "myth" that Peace Corps training constitutes a diversion from the job market for recent graduates, however. "On the contrary, my Peace Corps experience gave me the edge over competitors in every single job I've ever applied for," he says. "Peace Corps volunteers often have a higher level of responsibility in their assignments than they would likely experience in a job here in the U.S. as recent graduates."



Peter Giampaoli leading a park guide interpretive training for Uganda National Park staff from parks throughout Uganda.

Giampaoli concurs, adding, "my Peace Corps experience provided practical experience with some of the concepts and theories I learned about in classes. I also believe the initiative, patience, and commitment I learned as a volunteer have been useful qualities during my graduate studies." Giampaoli worked in Rwenzori Mountains National Park in southwestern Uganda alongside park staff and WWF advisors on agroforestry and soil conservation extension activities, as well as on daily operations at the park. He also worked with local community groups to find funding for projects such as school construction.

"One of the most valuable lessons from my experience was the recognition of the tension between people and their needs—such as wood for building and firewood and land for game and for food—and the establishment of protected areas for conservation,"

says Giampaoli. "It reinforced my interest in the involvement of communities in conservation planning and management, particularly in developing countries."

Ben Swartley of the Sustainable Forestry Partnership at OSU also attended graduate school after serving in the Peace Corps from 1995 to 1999. Swartley was a secondary science teacher for two years and an environmental educator and conservation volunteer for two more years in the central African nation of Cameroon. Although his first degree was in chemistry, he says, "my service in Cameroon helped lead me to a natural resources degree because I saw the impact that poor resource management had on the people of Cameroon. I wanted to apply what I learned at OSU toward helping the developing world better manage its resources so as to lead to improved conditions for all." Swartley, who finished up his MS in Forest Products and Forest Science at OSU last year, will go to work for USAID this spring.

Amy Grotta, Faculty Research Assistant in Wood Science & Engineering, notes that her experience inspired her to pursue a master's degree in Forestry. "I returned with a much broader perspective. I realized that forestry means many different things, depending on who you are and where in the world you live," she says. Grotta volunteered

in Paraguay in 1996-1998. She served in agroforestry extension, helping small landowners incorporate trees into their farms for diverse purposes. **Ben Spong**, a graduate student in Forest Engineering, also served as an agroforestry extension agent, but on a different continent. Spong worked in the West African nation of Mauritania, 1994-1995. Several other faculty members and graduate students in the College are RPCVs, including **Barbara Gartner** (Associate Professor, Wood Science & Engineering), who served in Guatemala; **Margo Stoddard** (Faculty Research Assistant, Forest Science) who was in the Central African Republic, 1991-1994; and grad students **Scott Walter**, (Forest Science), Guatemala, and **Adam Wiskind** (Forest Resources), Honduras.



photo courtesy of David Zahler

With twenty students currently serving as volunteers, OSU ranks 25th nationally among medium-size colleges and universities. The Peace Corps pays for all training, living, medical, and travel expenses during the two-year term of service. Returned Peace Corps volunteers also have an advantage over many other applicants when applying for federal jobs in agencies such as the Forest Service: one year of non-competitive status.

"Peace Corps is one of the best ways to get grass-roots, international, 'extensionesque' work experience for College of Forestry grads," Zahler says. "Such experience never looks bad on a resume, and it provides one with perspective that is difficult to get elsewhere." For more info, contact OSU Peace Corps Representative, Mike Roman (peace.corps@orst.edu).

Tree School SOUTH a big success



One hundred and fifty family forestland owners, loggers, professional foresters, arborists, teachers, and otherwise "forestry-inclined" persons attended the second annual Tree School SOUTH on Tuesday, June 17, 2003, on the campus of Umpqua Community College just north of Roseburg.

The Extension Service mini-college featured twenty-two classes on vegetation management and reforestation, riparian planting and silviculture, insects and diseases of conifers and hardwoods, thinning, small-scale logging, wildfire, hydrology and water regulations, soils, forest protection rules, tree identification, Christmas tree

management, certification and sustainability, and, a special series on cruising, falling, bucking, and scaling timber. The one-day event offered classroom and field sessions taught by Extension foresters, professional industry foresters, and other resource management professionals. Classes varied in length from 1.5 to 3.5 hours and participants could attend up to four over the course of the day.

John Punches, Extension Forester for Douglas County and Tree School SOUTH host, considered the event a success. "It was a lot of work, but the feedback from students has been overwhelmingly positive and their enthusiasm for the classes was obvious. The event wasn't even over and we already had participants asking when we'd host the next one." He credits the event's success to the "tremendous" participation from volunteers and instructors. "The volunteers and instructors are what makes this event possible. I didn't have to twist anybody's arm to get their help, they all gave willingly of their time and expertise and made Tree School SOUTH an excellent learning opportunity."



Tree School SOUTH is modeled after the very successful Tree School held in Clackamas County each spring. Says Punches, "The SOUTH version is envisioned as an annual regional event that will rotate among the southwest Oregon counties. Douglas County hosted the first two, but next year's Tree School SOUTH will be held either in Lane County or in Jackson County."

Those interested in an invitation to the next Tree School SOUTH should contact their local Extension Office and ask to be placed on its forestry mailing list. They should also watch for program announcements on the web sites of the Douglas, Lane, and Jackson County Extension Offices, <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/county.html>. Just click on the county of interest.

New Challenges Ahead for Mike Cloughesy and Barb Schrader

Focus Editor Passes the Blue Pencil

Gail Wells was the guest of honor at a farewell reception on June 26, where she treated the crowd to a 'good-bye' song learned from her grandmother. Wells is looking forward to the opportunity to keep her own hours and pursue her personal writing aspirations.

She joined the College in 1986 as a scientific editor, helping prepare research manuscripts for journals. In 1989, Wells became editor and primary writer for *Focus on Forestry*, as well as lead communicator for College development and public relations. Through the 1990s, the *Focus* remained her focus; Wells reported, photographed, laid out, and produced each issue. Her knowledge of College happenings, on-going research projects, and alumni successes were unsurpassed. In 2000 Wells was promoted to Director of the Forestry Communications Group. Her knowledge and enthusiasm for Forestry will be missed.

Caryn Davis, an experienced technical editor and science writer in the Forestry Communications Group since 1991, has assumed duties as Managing Editor for the *Focus*.

The Forest Resources Department held an informal send-off in August for **Mike Cloughesy** and **Barb Schrader**, who have taken new jobs that will foster their career development. Mike is the new Director of Forestry Information and Interpretation for the Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI) in Portland, but will be continuing his close association with the College. Barb has been named the new Regional Ecologist for the Forest Service in Juneau. Both have served the Department and College faithfully and well for many years, and we wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

Jim Reeb, Associate Professor in Wood Science and Engineering and Forestry Extension Specialist, has joined the Outreach Office as the new Director.

Jerry Retires

After 27 years, **Jerry Sills** is hanging up his tool belt and heading for New Mexico to study the ancient indigenous cultures of the Southwest United States. Good luck, Jerry!

Web Coordinator joins FCG

Susan McEvoy has joined the Forestry Communication Group as web coordinator. She has responsibility for oversight of all college-level web pages and is actively involved in improving the appearance and presence of electronic material. Susan will help faculty and researchers meet their educational, research and outreach requirements via the web. Additionally, she is working to make past and future *Focus* issues more accessible on the web.

Editorial Assistant Steps Up

Leah Rosin, Editorial Assistant for the *Focus on Forestry* from 2002-2003 and recent OSU grad, has accepted a job as Assistant Editor in Eugene for the Biotechnology trade journal, *BioProcess International*, published by Informa Life Sciences Group of Westborough, Massachusetts. Rosin, who received a bachelor's degree in Natural Resources Communications in June, spent the summer as a Forest Officer for the Oregon Department of Forestry Dallas office.

Rosin said that the specialization of her major enabled her to be competitive with other job candidates. "Mixing science and writing in my undergraduate studies really helped," Rosin said. "I'm glad I created my own option within the Natural Resources program. It really enabled me to get the job I wanted when I graduated."

Forestry Communications Group Launches Briefs

Forestry Communications Group Launches Briefs Notable Notes for students grades 6-12 have been launched! These one-page stories, which feature the research being done by College of Forest scientists, are available on our web page at <http://www.cof.orst.edu/cof/extended/K-12/notablenotes/>. The Notes are a work in progress, so keep checking back for additions and new fillips!

Forestry Communications Group, Peavy Hall 256
Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331 | (541) 737-4271
[Contact us](#) with your comments and questions
Copyright © 2004 [Oregon State University](#) | [OSU Disclaimer](#)

Alumni and Donors

[Dean's Column](#)

[College News](#)

[College Feature:
Studying Fish and
Wildlife Habitat in
Managed Forests](#)

[Forest Engineering](#)

[Forest Resources](#)

[Forest Science](#)

[Wood Science &
Engineering](#)

[Students](#)

[Outreach &
Communications](#)

[Alumni & Donors](#)

[Home](#)

On April 8, 2003, the scholarship committee responsible for the Dorothy D. Hoener Memorial Fund hosted an annual recognition luncheon for 2002-03 scholarship and fellowship recipients. The Hoener fund was established in 1986 by **Edgar P. Hoener** to honor his wife **Dorothy**. It offers the most generous scholarships available to College of Forestry students, 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.



In Memoriam

Bart A. Thielges

June 16, 1938 — June 29, 2003

Bart A. Thielges died suddenly from a heart attack, June 29, 2003, in San Luis Obispo, California. Thielges was Associate Dean for International Programs at the College of Forestry, Oregon State University. He also served concurrently as Interim Dean for International Programs at OSU and Assistant Vice Chancellor for International Programs for the Oregon University System.

He was born to Bart H. and Norma Thielges in Chicago, Illinois. There he attended Gage Park High School. Following graduation, he served with the U.S. Marine Corps and received an honorable discharge. He then received his Bachelor's degree in Forestry from Southern Illinois University, and a Masters of Forestry, a Masters of Philosophy, and a Ph.D. from Yale. He served on the faculties of the Ohio Agricultural Research Station, Louisiana State University, and the University of Kentucky, where he was Chairman of the Department of Forestry, before coming to Oregon State in 1990. His expertise was in plant genetics, evolutionary biology, and conservation biology and he authored or co-authored more than 60 scientific publications. He was a member of the Society of American Foresters, the Forest Products Society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He held offices in the National Association of Professional Forestry Schools and Colleges and the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges. Thielges received numerous awards recognizing his leadership in research and international programs including the Distinguished Alumnus Award, Southern Illinois University, USDA Certificates of Appreciation, the College of Forestry's Dean's Award and the International Service Award from Oregon State University. A memorial service was held by the College of Forestry on August 18th in the College's Hatfield Courtyard. Among the many speakers were John Byrne, President Emeritus of OSU, Sabah Randhawa, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and International Programs at OSU, Roger Blair, a close family friend, Bart Christopher Thielges, Bart's son, Stephen McMullen, Bart's brother-in-law, Deborah Healey, Director of the English Language Institute at OSU, Marion McNamara, co-director of International Research and Development at OSU, Dennis Cusack, a principal of SRG Partnership, an architectural firm in Portland, and Doug Piirto, Head, Natural Resources Management Department at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. Speakers from the College of Forestry included Dean Hal Salwasser, who also read a letter from Susan Stafford, Dean of the College of Natural Resources at the University of Minnesota, Jeff Morrell, Rick Meilan, Steve Strauss, Badege Bishaw, and George Brown, Dean Emeritus of the College.

Bart will always be remembered by the College of Forestry for his commitment and dedication. He provided leadership and direction for our research program and was instrumental in the design and construction of Richardson Hall. He expanded our international programs, was our congressional liaison, and served as our interim dean at a very critical time for the College and Forest Research Laboratory. But perhaps most of all, he will also be remembered throughout the College as a friend — whose patience, willingness to listen, forward-looking perspective and openness to new ideas, droll sense of humor, hearty handshake, and ready smile will be sorely missed.

He is survived by his wife, Judy, three sons, Bart C., Jon, and Patrick, one sister, Bonnie, and one grandson, Jon Wesley.

The family suggests that memorials be made to the OSU Foundation, 850 SW 35th Street, Corvallis, OR 97333, in his memory.

Ken McLaren

September 13, 1912 — August 9, 2003

Ken McLaren of Corvallis died August 9, 2003. He was 90 years old. McLaren was born in Parkersberg, Iowa, to Isreal E. and Maude Ferguson McLaren. He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy, where he served as a duty officer, in 1934. He married Barbara Maddams in Honolulu, Hawaii, in 1937. McLaren served in the Pacific Theater during World War II from 1941 to 1943. He was captain of the U.S.S. Guest, the U.S.S. Tolovana, and the U.S.S. Oregon City. He captained the cutter Highland Light in the Bermuda race in 1946, winning a trophy in class. He was awarded the Navy's Legion of Merit and Bronze Star, and also received a commendation medal from the Army for his service on the Military Advisory and Assistance Group in Korea. He retired in 1960 with the rank of Captain.

He graduated from Oregon State University in 1963 and became a Professor of Forest Engineering. He served as Assistant Dean and Acting Dean, retiring as Professor Emeritus in 1978. McLaren was a longtime member of the Mid-Valley Bicycle Club, continuing to ride into his tenth decade. He enjoyed hiking, camping, and surfing, and spearfishing in the tropics. Survivors include his wife; sons, James M. of the Tri-Cities, Washington, area and Bruce of San Diego; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Two sisters died previously.

Memorial donations can be made to the U.S.N.A. Alumni Association, the OSU Foundation, or Benton Hospice Service Inc., in care of McHenry Funeral Home, 206 NW Fifth St., Corvallis, OR 97330.

Lewiston J. Bagley

November 2, 1915 — August 20, 2003

Lewiston J. Bagley of Corvallis died Wednesday. He was 87 years old. Bagley was born in Knappa. He received a degree in forestry engineering from Oregon State College, now Oregon State University, in 1948. He was employed in forestry.

Survivors include his daughters, BLou Carman and Alice A. Eberman of Corvallis, and his son, Ron of Corvallis.

Memorial donations can be made to the OSU Foundation in care of DeMoss-Durdan Funeral Home, 815 N.W. Buchanan Ave., Corvallis, OR 97330.

Jerome 'Jerry' Sedlak

October 15, 1952 — September 5, 2003

Jerome Peter Sedlak of Springfield died September 5, 2003, from injuries he suffered in a logging accident. He was 50 years old. Sedlak was born Oct. 15, 1952, in Glen Cove, N.Y., to Peter and Dotty Sedlak. He married Jody Richards in Ithaca, N.Y., on May 24, 1975. He graduated from Locust Valley High School in Long Island, N.Y. He received a bachelor's degree in forestry from the State of New York College of Environmental Sciences and Forestry at Syracuse. He received a master's degree in forest engineering from Oregon State University. Sedlak was employed as the president of Emerald Valley Thinning. He will be remembered as an innovative and tenacious logger who coupled his professional engineering background with a deep respect for the environment. He was a member of the Associated Oregon Loggers and the Society of American Foresters. He was an avid supporter of Springfield schools and actively involved in the Springfield community.

Survivors include his wife; his parents of Locust Valley, N.Y.; a son, Jeff of Santa Ana, California, a daughter, Kim of Corvallis; and a sister, Debby Sedlak of Durham, N.C.

Memorial contributions may be made to the College of Forestry at Oregon State University.

Newtons Establish Forest Research Fund

Michael Newton, Emeritus Professor in Forest Science, and his wife, **Jane W. Newton**, have given cash and timber valued at over \$350,000 towards a \$1 million goal to establish the Newton Forest Research Fund in the College of Forestry. Proceeds from the fund will provide for continuity of employment for career-track faculty research assistants. The funds may be used primarily for salary and, to a limited extent,

New and Renewed Gifts

Over a decade ago, **Ruth Spaniol** ('33) gave 800 acres of forestland valued at \$3.1 million to the OSU Foundation to benefit the College of Forestry. According to Mrs. Spaniol's wishes, the Foundation held the proceeds from the eventual sale of the land in three charitable remainder trusts established to benefit her three children throughout their lifetimes. With the recent death of her daughter, Sherry Chain, the assets of one of the trusts is now available to create the Ruth H. Spaniol Chair in Renewable Resources. Each trust is currently valued at \$2.8 million. (*Source: Steven Lont, Oregon Stater*)

Wayne Endicott has created three charitable remainder unitrusts, currently valued at \$375,185. After a set number

operating expenses for career-oriented research assistants engaged in long-term silvicultural research. Commodity production and/or habitat management must be major components of research objectives.

Mike Newton has maintained research plots around the state for over 44 years. He and Jane understand the need to support long-term research. The Newtons will continue to build the endowment over a period of several years, using a combination of cash and timber.

of years, half of the value of these trusts will support the Mealey/Boise Program in Forest Ecosystem Health; the other half will support scholarships in Agricultural Sciences.

Laurence Sprunt has given over \$20,000 during the past fiscal year to support the B.D. Mitchell & H.R. Blacketer Memorial Scholarship.

The College of Forestry has received a generous unrestricted bequest of \$178,000 from the estate of **Dorothy F. Hopkins**. Dorothy and her husband, **Walt** (also deceased) had close ties to the College for many years and knew the added value of gifts that can be used for the College's area of greatest need.

The College of Forestry has received a \$20,000 bequest from the estate of **Elizabeth Peterson** to support the Kurt Jon Peterson Memorial Scholarship.

Through the Lematta Foundation, **Wes** and **Nancy Lematta** have made an addition of \$150,000 to the Wes and Nancy Lematta Graduate Fellowship Fund. The Fund supports students studying forest engineering and related disciplines.

The **Willamette Industries Endowment** has received \$300,000 in commitments towards a \$1,000,000 goal. The scholarship benefits students who major or minor in Forestry with either a major or minor in Engineering or Business. The first scholarship recipients will be named for the 2004-05 academic year.

The **Gibbett Hill Graduate Fellowship Fund** has received a second installment of \$90,000, bringing the total fund to \$180,000 toward a total pledge of \$450,000. The fund supports graduate fellowships in Forest Engineering.

Ned Hayes has contributed \$20,000 to support graduate student fellowships in the Department of Forest Science.

Back by popular demand ...WASSUP?

The Summer 2004 issue of **Focus on Forestry** will include news from alumni, organized by class year. If you have news you'd like to share—retirement, new degree, job, address, marriage, addition to the family, news about a reunion with other alums—or if you'd just like to say hello to your classmates, please send your news by email to caryn.davis@oregonstate.edu or fill out the form at www.cof.orst.edu/cof/alumni/guest/.

Forestry Communications Group, Peavy Hall 256
Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331 | (541) 737-4271
[Contact us](#) with your comments and questions
Copyright © 2004 [Oregon State University](#) | [OSU Disclaimer](#)