



focus on forestry

at Oregon State University

Vol. 10, No. 2

Spring 1997

Meet our scholarship students

SCHOLARSHIP
For the Academic Year 1997-98

DEADLINE: MARCH 15, 1997

College of Forestry
Oregon State University
Corvallis, OR 97331-5710



Each year the College of Forestry has the privilege and responsibility of awarding close to 40 scholarships to its undergraduate students. Several of these awards are reserved for incoming students, whether freshmen or transfers from community colleges or other university programs. New student awards generally range from \$500 to full in-state tuition for the first year.

WHO CAN APPLY

To be eligible, new and transfer students must be planning to enter one of the degree programs offered by the College of Forestry at Oregon State University. These degree programs are:

- Forest Engineering/Civ
- Forest Engineering
- Forest Management
- Forest Products
- Forest Recreation
- Natural Resources

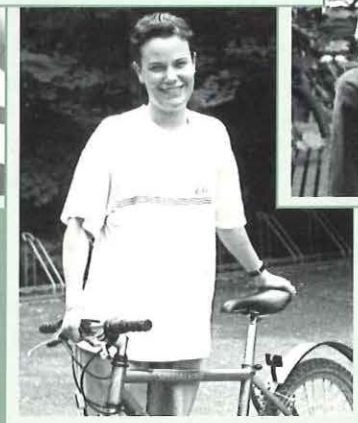
DEADLINES
March 15, 1997

The College's early April to cannot guarantee

SELECTION
Since a variety of differing criteria (academic performance, selection of major, geographic area, leadership skills, financial need, etc.) control the selection of recipients for each award, it is important to be as complete as possible in filling out the information requested. For incoming students, heavy emphasis is placed on past academic performance and commitment to the chosen field.

Financial need is a specific award. If you feel you are sure to complete the back of the application, you from consideration serves to draw the special need in this

AWARD
You must be re



COLLEGE OF FORESTRY, OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY
140 PEAVY HALL, CORVALLIS, OR 97331-5710
NEW/TRANSFER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION
1997-98

Name: L. King
State: NE 2nd ST Zip: 97331
College of Forestry Yes Soc. Sec. No. 537
Telephone 786

Other (specify) _____
Ethnic or racial minorities? If so, check one:
Asian American Yes Pacific Islander _____
Financial need? Yes No _____

Signature: L. King
Date: 3/82

For release of my current grades and brief biographical information
Date: _____

Nurturing excellence



from the Dean

“

There is no greater gift one person can give another than the gift of knowledge.”

Our Spring issue of *Focus on Forestry* traditionally features students in the College of Forestry, the educational journey that led them to OSU, their hopes and aspirations for a rewarding professional career, and their many achievements. It is always my favorite issue of the year. I'm very proud of our students, the few we feature and the many we can't feature because of space limitations.

We have an exceptional student body in the College of Forestry. They are bright, energetic, optimistic, active in clubs and professional organizations. The group contains many natural leaders. This is just what our profession needs in these times of challenge and change.

The fact is, we need more of them. We have strong job markets, especially in Forest Products and Forest Engineering. All of this year's graduates in those programs have been offered permanent jobs. Our challenge is to find the resources so that we can recruit the best applicants to our College, the kind of students who have many choices of institution and major.

A theme that runs through this issue of *Focus on Forestry* is the importance of scholarships. Undergraduate tuition has increased 80 percent for residents since 1990; for nonresident and graduate students it has increased even more. As you read the stories of our top students, notice how important scholarships are to their ability to stay in school. Thanks to the generosity of friends and alumni, we are able to financially assist many students. But many more excellent students receive no financial help because we lack the funds.

In my (admittedly biased) view, there is no greater gift one person can give another than the gift of knowledge. It is truly a gift that lasts a lifetime. If you are interested in helping our students financially through a gift or by establishing an endowment, please let me know. The future of our profession is at stake.

George Brown

Dean
College of Forestry
Oregon State University

focus on forestry

Vol. 10, No. 2

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On the cover. The College awarded \$174,000 in undergraduate scholarships for the forthcoming school year. This issue of Focus on Forestry shows the impact of those dollars in the real lives of students like Jill Williams, above. Scholarships nourish high academic performance and professional potential, and they help students cope with the spiraling cost of a college education.

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58th Conclave hosts Forestry students
from all over the West



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Focus on Forestry is published three times each year (Fall, Winter, Spring) by the College of Forestry, Oregon State University. Our goal is to keep Forestry alumni and friends informed about the College of Forestry and its many activities and programs. We welcome letters, phone calls, and e-mail comments from readers.

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The best and the brightest

Showing off our scholarship winners

“

The Dean asks us to call him by his first name.”

She could have gone anywhere.

Presidential Scholar Sarah Hucka (opposite, top) chose forestry because it's a good foundation for life.

Sarah Hucka is the kind of freshman any college would welcome, with her high SAT scores and her almost perfect GPA. She's also a good writer and a poised and well-spoken conversationalist. She is the kind of high achiever that prestigious private colleges vie to attract.

She could have gone anywhere. But it made the most sense, she says, to come to OSU. "Because I wanted to go into forestry, it didn't seem logical to go anywhere else. OSU was the best choice for me."

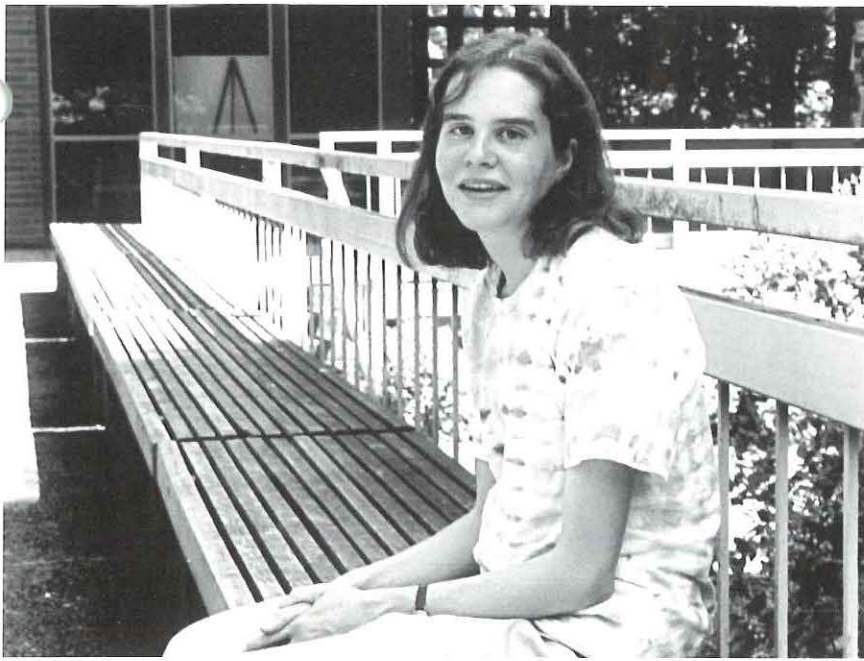
A critical factor in her decision was winning a Presidential Scholarship, one of about 80 full-tuition scholarships awarded yearly to top high school graduates coming to OSU. Presidential Scholarships are privately funded and based on merit. To be eligible, a student must have a GPA of at least 3.75 and a combined SAT score of at least 1100. Sarah will keep her scholar-

ship for four years as long as she maintains at least a B average.

Sarah also received a \$3,000 Charles Lord Memorial scholarship from the College of Forestry. Together, the two scholarships pay for her tuition and cover most of her other expenses, including housing.

Sarah, 18, grew up in Dexter, Oregon, a small town east of Eugene. Her father works for the Forest Service as a timber sales coordinator on the Willamette National Forest. She chose forestry "a little because of my dad, but mostly because I love the outdoors," and because forestry seemed to her a practical foundation for many careers. "It's good to know about people, land, and nature."

Sarah is majoring in Forest Recreation Resources, one of the five undergraduate majors offered by the College of Forestry. She's also enrolled in the University Honors College, which provides



Callen Richert didn't know exactly what he wanted to do after high school—a common dilemma—and so he decided to let the world be his teacher for a while. He logged in the woods near his home town of Juneau, Alaska. He built docks in Valdez after the 1989 oil spill. He rebuilt houses in Hawaii, repairing the damage left by Hurricane Iniki.

After four years of logging and carpentry he was ready to refocus. "I took a road trip through the western United States to visit friends. I found I really loved Oregon, and I had friends in Portland who went to Mount Hood Community College."

When Callen learned that Mount

“

an even more challenging educational experience to OSU's top students. Sarah will take 30 credits of her course work within the Honors College and complete a senior thesis.

She hopes to find a career that combines her love of the outdoors, her forest recreation training, and her interest in writing. "I don't have a definite direction yet," she says. "I know I want to work outdoors if I can, and it would be great to be able to write, too—perhaps educate the public about forestry issues. It would be fun to write a backpack guide."

She's found the College of Forestry a great place to pursue her education. "Everyone is so friendly. The Dean asks us to call him by his first name, and he and the other professors are really interested in our progress here. I know I'm getting the most recent knowledge in the field, and I love having outdoor labs out on the [McDonald] Forest. This is a great school."

I want to show them how to practice good forest management now, for the sake of their children and future generations."

The school of experience. Callen Richert let the world be his teacher for a while.



Hood had a two-year transfer program in forestry, he decided to stay. He enrolled in 1993, completed the program, and transferred to Oregon State in 1995, selecting Forest Management as his major. "I'd always liked working in the woods," he says, "but I knew I didn't want to be logging into my 40s and 50s like some of the guys I knew. I wanted to get into management."

Callen, 25, a member of the Tlingit tribe of southeast Alaska, is financing his education mostly through scholarships.

His good grades, energy, and ambition have won him support from three Alaska native-owned corporations, the paper company ITT-Rayonier, the Oregon chapter of the Society of American Foresters, and the OSU Indian Education Office. "At the end of the term I'm always scraping," he says. "But it's great that the scholarships pretty much cover all my costs."

Callen expects to graduate next winter or spring. He'll work in Corvallis

second growth. I want to help educate them and motivate them to invest in the productivity of their lands, to show them how to practice good forest management now, for the sake of their children and future generations."

Like most Forestry students, Callen works in career-related jobs during the summer. Two years ago he worked for an Alaska native corporation that was engaged in some controversial development. "I found myself meeting with Forest

Service officials, city planners, Alaska state legislators," he says. "It was good experience for me in dealing with the social aspects of forestry."

This summer Callen will work for Sealaska, a native corporation based in Ketchikan and one of his scholarship donors, as an apprentice forester.

All these summer jobs add up to more life experience, which is in keeping with Callen's philosophy. "What I'd like to say to younger people starting out in life is, Go for experience

and adventure. Don't think you have to go to college in your home town, or stick around with your old friends. If you get a chance to travel, go for it. Get that life experience. It's made me a stronger person, and a better student."

As a big-city travel agent and scuba diver, **Jill Williams** enjoyed the perks of a glamorous career, jetting to vacation spots near azure waters, places like Belize and Australia's Great Barrier Reef.

It was fun, she says, for a while. "Then I got to be 30, and I decided to choose a more serious direction. Being a travel agent wasn't a meaningful career for me. I wanted something that would let



for a year while his wife, Nicole, gets her teaching certificate. Then the Richerts will move to Alaska, where Callen hopes to work as a consulting forest resource manager for native-owned timber corporations.

Alaska, he says, is fertile ground for spreading some of the new forest management techniques he's been learning here. "Alaska doesn't have a forest practices law, like Oregon does, and we're still in our infancy as far as intensive second-growth management is concerned," he says. "The timber landowners, mostly native corporations, are running out of first-growth timber, and they're moving slowly toward the idea of tending their

It was time to get serious. "I wanted to get outdoors and use my mind," says Jill Williams. She's accepted the BLM's offer of a permanent job after she graduates this year.

A generous scholarship program

... but need still outstrips resources

“
Thanks to donors past and present, the College of Forestry has a generous scholarship program. This year the College awarded an unprecedented \$174,000 in undergraduate scholarships. Awards ranged from \$450 textbook grants to renewable \$4,200 full-tuition scholarships.

The awards went to 75 students, about 15 percent of the undergraduate student body. But many eligible applicants had to be turned away, and that worries Pam Henderson, director of student services, who administers the College's scholarship program.

“College costs have gone up so much in the past few years,” she says, “and we've had to struggle to keep up. This year was particularly challenging because we had many, many qualified applicants.”

Tuition at Oregon public colleges and universities has risen 80 percent since 1990. Undergraduate in-state yearly tuition at OSU now stands at \$3,447; for out-of-state students it's \$11,085. While this is still a bargain compared to costs at many other schools, Henderson says, the sharp increases in costs caught many families by surprise.

More and more students are turning to government-backed loans. These have helped bring education costs within

reach of moderate-income families, but the cost to the student is high. A typical student who borrows faces a debt of between \$10,000 and \$20,000 after graduation, with payments beginning immediately.

“So the students of these past few years have really found themselves in a crunch,” says Henderson.

The College offered 21 scholarships to top incoming students last year. The College usually offers about 15 awards, and typically about 10 of those students decide to come to OSU. “This year, 17 out of the 21 accepted,” Henderson says. “We've had to scramble to come up with enough money to fund our top returning students.”

Academic performance is the main criterion for scholarships, which means that generally only the best students are considered.

Rewarding performance is a good thing, says Henderson, because it helps the College attract and keep top students and draw them from a larger socioeconomic pool. But a sole focus on academics means that very good, not-quite-top-tier students must often go begging. “The biggest category in which we're lacking funds,” she says, “is need. We have solid B students, very competent and with high professional potential. I wish we had more funds for them.”

The students of these past few years have found themselves in a crunch.”

“
Having gone
to school here,
I feel well
prepared.”

me get outdoors more, and use my mind more.”

Now, five years later, Jill is about to graduate with a degree in Natural Resources.

Jill grew up in Santa Clara, California, and lived in Chicago, San Diego, and San Francisco before settling in Bend, Oregon, in 1990. “I’ve worked and lived in big cities for many years,” she says, “but I’ve always loved the woods.”

Her first step toward a forestry career came at Central Oregon Community College, where she enrolled in a wildlife biology class. She was invited to join COCC’s two-year forestry technical program. She liked the program and did well, and her top grades helped her land a cooperative education job with the Bureau of Land Management in Eugene.

Co-ops, as they are commonly called, are seasonal, paid student jobs with the BLM or the Forest Service. Successful students continue in their co-ops until they graduate, and a fortunate few of them are offered full-time permanent positions with the agency.

When Jill finished her two-year program, she was hungry for more learning. Her BLM supervisor arranged to continue her co-op for another two years, and Jill transferred to OSU in 1994, enrolling in Natural Resources.

Her good grades have also paid off in scholarships. Jill received the Bob and Beverley Cooper Scholarship, which is awarded yearly to a transfer student from COCC. Jill also has received a \$1,500 Forestry Legacy scholarship every year since she’s been here. The Legacy is funded by donations from past graduates who received scholarships while they were here.

The Natural Resources program was a good choice for her. “I thought about a Forest Management major at first,” she says, “but I knew I had a good forest management background from COCC,

and I wanted to learn more about forest ecology.”

This spring Jill was offered a full-time position with the BLM, an agency that is undergoing deep transformation in its mission and values. The agency’s mandate has historically been to manage timber lands and rangelands for the economic benefits of communities. Now, because of changes in public attitudes toward natural resources, the agency has been stepping up measures to protect resources such as fisheries, watersheds, and wildlife.

In addition, because of shrinking budgets, this broadened set of priorities has to be achieved with fewer people. “Which makes life on the job very complicated sometimes,” says Jill. “Having gone to school here, I feel well prepared.”

Her education has helped her gain the flexibility she will need. “I’ve been working with people here [at the College] who know how to make these things happen. And I know I have the ability to change, because I have changed my own direction in life.”

She hasn’t completely abandoned her old hobbies, though—she’s planning a scuba diving trip to Florida after she graduates this June.

“I haven’t dived in four years,” she says with a smile. “It will be good to get back to it.”

Jessica Leahy is already practicing her soon-to-be-professional skills on her younger brothers.

Jessica, a sophomore in Forest Recreation Resources, wants to work in natural resource interpretation or environmental education—sharing her appreciation of the outdoors with others.

So she’s repackaging some of her college course work into weekly lessons for her home-schooled brothers, Nikolai, 11, and Kevin, 7, back in Eagle River, Alaska. “It’s also a way for me to stay in

touch with my family," she says with a smile. "I miss them a lot."

Jessica, 19, grew up on a small homesite next to the half-million-acre Chugach State Park in south-central Alaska. Like many Alaskans, she loves the rugged side of outdoor recreation. She grew up hiking in the vast park just outside her door, and she has worked as a sea kayaking guide and a summer-camp counselor.

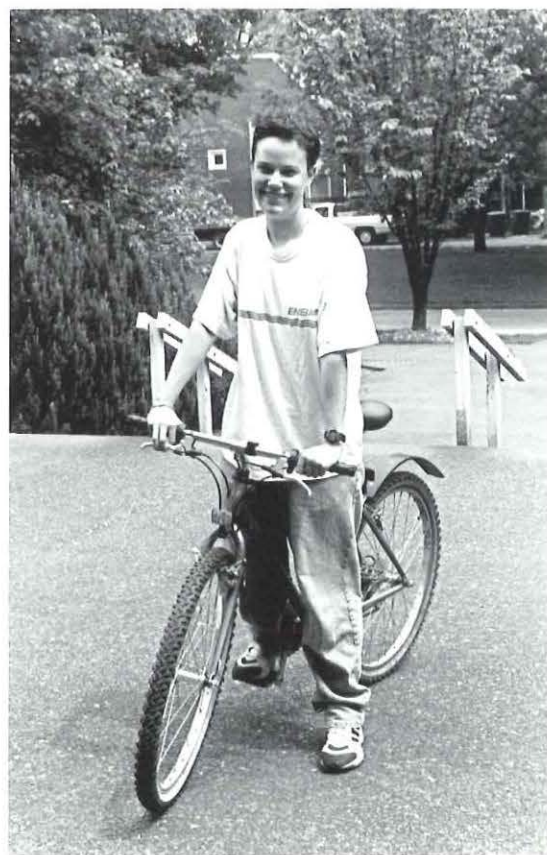
It was on a school backpack trip through southwestern Utah that Jessica began to see recreation as serious business. "I learned that outdoor recreation has to be managed just like any other use." She began to consider turning her passion into a profession.

Her teacher, an OSU graduate, recommended that Jessica check out the College of Forestry. She did, and she liked what she found. "Anybody who was anybody in the field of forestry seemed to be from OSU." As a plus, Jessica had been to Corvallis before, and she knew she'd like it here.

Now in her second year of school, Jessica knows she made the right choice. "Everybody is friendly and helpful—just like in Alaska," she says. "The professors are noted scholars, the ones who wrote the journal articles, the ones that other people quote. I'm learning from the best." She also likes the outdoor laboratories on the College's Research Forest, just minutes from campus.

Jessica is enrolled in the Honors College, a program for OSU's top students. She will take 30 credits of Honors course work and complete a senior thesis. She is also active in student government: next year she'll serve as the College of Forestry's representative in the ASOSU Undergraduate Senate.

Although she's from out of state, Jessica's higher tuition is partly offset because she's in a program called Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE). Under



WUE, students from western states get a break on tuition in certain programs at public universities outside their home states.

Even so, college costs are steep and getting steeper. For Jessica, scholarships have played a vital role. She received a \$1,500 Legacy Scholarship and a \$500 Catherine Cox Merriam scholarship as an incoming freshman. This year she received the \$4,200 Autzen scholarship, which is awarded yearly to an outstanding forestry student. Next year she'll receive a \$4,200 Hoener scholarship.

"The scholarships have made it possible for me to go to school," she says. "I couldn't manage without them." Jessica also has two part-time jobs, one at the OSU Native American Student Longhouse, where she greets visitors and helps with computer and homework questions, and the other at OSU Student Involvement, where she supervises the preparation of food for various student cultural events.

I'd like to go back to Alaska and operate a guide service. Working with tourists, kids—that would be my dream."

"I like sharing what I know." Jessica Leahy will design interpretive programs on the Olympic National Forest this summer.

“
I want to gain
the knowledge
to make
decisions that
get away from
the extremes.”

He wants to be part of the solution. “This is the best place to get the education I want,” says Eric Watrud.

This summer she will work for the Forest Service at the Quinault Ranger District on Washington’s Olympic National Forest. She’ll be designing interpretive programs on the area’s natural and cultural resources for display at Lake Quinault Lodge.

The job will take her a step closer to her goal of interpretation and environmental education. “Ultimately I’d like to go back to Alaska and operate a guide service. Maybe offer ocean kayaking trips. Working with tourists, working with kids—that would be my dream.”

The rewards, she says, come when people see nature in a new way. “I love sharing what I know, not forcing appreciation on anyone, but fostering appreciation. I love it when people see something beautiful and they have this awakening: Oh, that’s so wonderful!’ I want to see one of those moments every day.”

When you grow up in the Northwest, conflicts over natural resources are part of your everyday media diet. “Spotted owls, mills shutting down—in Corvallis you’re surrounded by these controversies all the time,” says **Eric Watrud**, a Natural Resources freshman at OSU. “I want to gain the knowledge to make decisions that get away from the extremes and achieve a balance.”



Like many students who end up in Forestry, Eric, 19, grew up loving the outdoors. As a child he tramped through the riverbank hardwoods of his native Missouri, and he carried his love of hiking and camping to Oregon, where his family moved six years ago.

Even though he likes Corvallis, Eric at first considered going away for college. “I made a list of what kinds of programs I was interested in and what kind of town I wanted to live in,” he says. “I found that Oregon State and Corvallis kept coming to the top.” A critical factor in his decision was OSU’s reputation as “one of the best colleges of forestry in the nation.”

After almost a year here, Eric knows he made the right choice. “This is the best place to get the education I want.”

He also appreciates the family-friendly atmosphere at OSU and especially at the College. “The availability of support and services here is incredible. I’m on a first-name basis with my professors. It’s a great feeling.”

Because Eric is trying to finance his education from scholarships, savings, and part-time work, he hopes to graduate debt-free. He received a \$2,500 Forestry Legacy scholarship—funded by past scholarship recipients—as an incoming freshman, and he’s received a \$4,000 Autzen scholarship for next year.

Eric isn’t sure yet about his career path. His Natural Resources program is giving him a taste of many different disciplines, and he’s confident that his schoolwork over the next couple of years will help him focus on a satisfying direction. “I’m still looking at my options,” he says. “I’ve loved it here this year, and I’m looking forward to the rest of my education.”

“

I said, ‘Mom, I don’t want my life to be easy. I want it to be fulfilling.’”

He gave up a successful business. But Alan DeJong knows a good career is waiting for him when he finishes his Forest Engineering-Civil Engineering degree next year.

When he was 29, **Alan DeJong** seemed to have his life admirably together. The second son of a close-knit family in a small Iowa farm town, he’d entered the family heating oil business after graduating from high school in 1980. The business, started by Alan’s grandfather in 1927, was doing well. He’d married his high school sweetheart. They had a beautiful young daughter, a home, a community, and a future.

But after 11 years in the business, “I decided I wasn’t happy,” says Alan. Some of his day-to-day challenges were becoming irksome, especially the distasteful task of collecting the bills from delinquent customers. He longed for a career that would both challenge his intellect and take him out of doors.

Alan had always liked trees. He’d planted a small forest of hardwoods on his company’s lot, behind the fuel tanks, and he enjoyed watching it grow. And he and his wife had vacationed in the Pacific Northwest and marveled at its magnificent forests.

He decided to pull up stakes, move to Oregon, and study forestry.

His wife, Lisa, supported the idea. His parents were apprehensive. “My mother said, ‘You know, it won’t be easy to start over.’ I told her, ‘Mom, I don’t want my life to be easy. I want it to be fulfilling.’”

While the business was up for sale—it took a year and a half to close the deal—Alan looked into the forestry program at Oregon State. “The more I learned about the College of Forestry, the more impressed I was,” he says. “OSU is tops in the field.”

In 1991, with Lisa pregnant with their second daughter, the family made the move, settling in Corvallis. Alan took a math placement test at OSU and did poorly. “I was advised to go to community college and take courses in basic math and physics,” he says. “I didn’t



want to—I wanted to start at Oregon State—but it turned out to be the right thing.”

He enrolled at Linn-Benton Community College in Albany. From the beginning he did well, and that built up his confidence. “I began to see that I could do anything I put my mind to.”

In 1994 Alan transferred to OSU and enrolled in the Forest Engineering-Civil Engineering dual-degree program. It’s a rigorous professional civil engineering program with an added dimension of forest-related engineering skills, such as road building and harvest planning. Nominally the program takes five years to complete, but most students need longer.

This year Alan will finish up the Civil Engineering degree requirements. Next year he’ll complete the rest of his Forest Engineering course work and a few remaining classes. He will graduate in June 1998 with two bachelor’s degrees.

It’s been a long haul, he says. “You have to make up your mind early in your school career that you’re willing to go the

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The personal
attention you
get from the
professors—
it's awesome.”

“There are so many jobs out there.” Jason Meiwes will work in forest products manufacturing at home or overseas after he graduates this year.

distance. I felt like quitting the CE degree program several times because it was just so hard. But I was making the honor roll every term, and my wife encouraged me to stick with it.”

Scholarships have eased the financial crunch. Alan received a \$1,500 Casey Randall Memorial scholarship in his first year, and for the past two years he's received the hefty Hoener scholarship. The \$4,200 Hoener award covers his tuition and books and leaves a little money for living expenses. He's financing the rest of his costs with savings, student loans, and Lisa's income as a medical assistant. The family lives frugally but comfortably. “Our lives would be a lot harder without the scholarship,” he says.

As he moves into a forestry career, Alan would like to combine his business experience with his forestry and engineering knowledge. He would welcome a job that requires good management skills and offers varied duties, such as managing an industrial tree farm.

He knows the right job is waiting for him. “I'm not worried at all,” he says. “I'm a good student, I have good communication skills, I know how to run a business, I want to work, and I love what I'm doing. I know I'll have lots of choices.”

Jason Meiwes comes from a family and a town—Reedsport, Oregon—where mill jobs are the mainstay of economic life. His grandfather, son of German immigrants, was a millwright. His father manages the saw shop at the Georgia-Pacific sawmill in Coos Bay. And Jason himself has worked summer jobs on the green chain and the cleanup crew in more mills than he can remember.

“When I first came to OSU, I wanted to get away from that,” he says. “I'd never heard of a degree in forest products, and I didn't think I was interested anyway.”

Jason, 22, graduated from Reedsport



High in 1992, the class valedictorian. He came to Oregon State that fall after landing a coveted Presidential Scholarship, a full-ride, four-year scholarship offered to select students enrolling at Oregon public universities. He decided to major in business administration—hoping for a career that would take him out of small towns for a while. “I was always the one in our family to get up and go,” he says with a smile. “My mom used to have to ground me to keep me home.”

A fraternity brother, Nathaniel Brence (FP '95), introduced him to the Forest Products department at OSU and suggested that Jason consider a double major. Jason immediately grasped the soundness of that idea, and in his sophomore year he began his studies in Forest Products. This June he will graduate with majors in Forest Products and business—a combination he says was worth the extra year he had to spend in school.

“With this degree, I'll be able to work in management in a variety of forest products manufacturing settings, and in just about any part of the world,” he says.

Scholarship funds keep coming in

Thanks to generous donors and friends, new Forestry scholarship and fellowship funds are created fairly regularly. The newest are the Lance and Patricia Hollister Scholarship Fund and the Lucien B. Alexander Fellowship Fund.

Lance Hollister, a 1949 alumnus, and his wife Patricia started the Hollister fund with an endowment of \$11,000. The endowment's earnings will help fund Forestry students who have struggled with some kind of disadvantage in their background, or who suffer financial need. The first award of \$500 was made this year for the 1997-98 school year.

The Alexander fellowship fund was started in 1996 in honor of Lucien B. Alexander, a 1940 alumnus of the College who went on to a long and satisfying career in forest management.

Alexander was a highly decorated fighter pilot in World War II. He returned home and worked for the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. In 1953 he joined the consulting firm Mason, Bruce & Girard Inc. He became a partner in 1955 and remained with the firm until he retired in 1992.

Alexander pioneered the variable-plot sampling method of forest mensuration in the Pacific Northwest and taught it to Oregon State forestry students for many years.

Alexander's colleagues at Mason, Bruce & Girard established the fellowship endowment fund a few months before Alexander died of cancer in April of 1996. The Alexander Fellowship goes to graduate students in forest mensuration and biometrics.

Another scholarship will come to the College at some time in the future. The Eula Ten Eyck Memorial Scholarship will be funded with the proceeds of a deferred real estate gift, the Ten Eyck home near Hilo, Hawaii. Roswell Ten Eyck, a 1950 alumnus of the College, is establishing the fund in memory of his wife, an elementary school teacher who died in 1991.

It's fitting, says Ten Eyck, to memorialize his wife with a scholarship. "She taught for 30 years, and she was committed to education," he says.

For his deferred gift, Ten Eyck entered into a life estate agreement with the College of Forestry. He made a tax-deductible gift of his Hilo home, worth about \$140,000, but will keep possession of the home as long as he lives. When the property passes to the College of Forestry, proceeds from its sale will be used to endow the scholarship, which will go to a student in Forest Engineering.

"People don't realize it, but there are so many jobs out there. And the entry-level pay is very good. The minimum I've seen is about \$40,000, and some of the salaries overseas run up to \$100,000 and more after a few years."

Jason is now considering two opportunities: an opening with a molding and millwork company with plants in several Western states, and employment with a Portland firm looking for managers for new plywood facilities in Argentina, Brazil, and Chile.

Jason feels confident that his education has prepared him well for these or any forest products manufacturing jobs he might want to go after. "The College of Forestry is great," he says. "The personal attention you get from the professors—it's awesome. And you see the relevance of the course work immediately."

He appreciates also the practical skills he learned at his internship at a southern Oregon plywood plant last summer. The internship counted as part of the six months of career-related work experience that all Forestry students must complete.

Besides the Presidential Scholarship, Jason has received the \$2,700 C. Wylie Smith III memorial scholarship for the past two years. The Smith scholarship was established in memory of a 1966 Forest Engineering graduate from Coos Bay who died in 1973. Preference goes to students from the southern Oregon coast who intend to work in the forest products industry.

The Smith scholarship rules require that Jason repay one-fourth of the amount he was awarded as soon as possible after graduation. "I'll be more than happy to repay," he says, "because the scholarship has really helped me. The people at the College of Forestry seem to understand that most students don't come from wealthy backgrounds, and they do everything they can to help us."

Passing it on

FE department head puts mentoring at the top of his list

Steve Tesch was lucky enough to be guided by many influential mentors during his student days at the University of Montana. Three of them in particular, he says, “had a profound influence on getting me started in forestry and helping me succeed.”

Now Forest Engineering department head at OSU, Tesch strives to build an educational experience for his students that goes far beyond reading books and listening to lectures. He and the FE faculty and staff are committed to creating an environment where mentoring relationships can blossom.

Tesch was the driving force behind the first College of Forestry Annual Ring in 1994. Now a firm College tradition, the Annual Ring is a new-student orientation and field day held each fall at the Forestry Club Cabin and Cronemiller Lake at McDonald Forest. It’s open to all students, not just those in FE.

New and returning students and professors get a chance to try out a cross-cut saw, walk the limber pole (and, inevitably, splash down into the lake), throw an axe, play volleyball, hike in the woods, and generally have a good time. The day ends with a barbecue dinner, by which time new friendships have been forged and old ones cemented. These, Tesch says, are the seeds from which mentoring grows.

Tesch’s own introduction to college was similarly informal. Raised in the upper Midwest, he came to Missoula looking for a university that offered both a

forestry program and a football scholarship. “It was a Saturday afternoon, and the coach dropped me off at the forestry building. The dean was standing there in fishing clothes. He asked me if I’d like to check out some of Montana’s back country.”



Of course the young man said yes. “I fell in love with Montana that day, and I met a man who turned out to have a large influence on my life.”

Montana’s Forestry dean was Arnold Bolle, and the fishing trip was the start of a long and fruitful relationship. “The personal interest he took in me as a

“I met the man who turned out to have a profound influence on my life.” Steve Tesch treats his students in the same warm, informal way his mentors treated him. Top right, Tesch consults with student Hector Gonda.



student, the environment he opened up to me, the challenges and opportunities he presented—these things made a big difference,” says Tesch.

Bolle urged Tesch to become active in student organizations. Tesch joined the Forestry Club, where he learned how to run a skidder and a chainsaw. He served on a student executive committee that planned such events as the Forester’s Ball. In these and other pursuits, Tesch polished some less tangible but essential professional characteristics: leadership, organizational ability, and people skills.

Bolle realized Tesch’s intellectual capabilities early on and pushed him toward the most rigorous courses in a new forest science undergraduate program. He introduced him to his second mentor, Larry Forcier, a new professor of forest ecology just out of Yale (he’s now a dean at the University of Vermont). Forcier became Tesch’s advisor on his master’s program. He finished in 1975 and began a doctoral program in silviculture.

In 1978, nearly finished with his doctorate, Tesch got a chance to help the school mend some fences with its alumni. It was then that he met his third mentor.

Relations between the Montana School of Forestry and its alumni had been strained ever since 1969, when Arnold Bolle and other faculty members wrote a report sharply criticizing Forest Service management practices on the Bitterroot National Forest. The report caused much resentment among alumni, some of whom were employed on the Bitterroot and responsible for the very activities that the Dean’s team assailed. Many alumni cut their ties to the University, and the Forestry alumni association withered for a decade.

Larry Forcier, who became acting dean in 1978, had not been involved with

the Bitterroot report. “He wanted to rebuild bridges,” says Tesch. “Because I was one of his students and an alum, he pulled me into this effort.” Forcier asked Tesch to serve on a newly formed executive committee to restart the alumni association. The committee reached out to one of its most influential alumni—John Milodragovich, Forest Service Regional Director of timber management, who had been a main target of the report’s criticism.

Milodragovich, as it turned out, was ready to restore good relations. “He worked hard to pull the School of Forestry alums back into the fold,” says Tesch. “I remember the first alumni-sponsored awards banquet in 1979 as a watershed event in bringing the school back together.”

In the process, the two became friends. “He became a different sort of mentor to me. I helped him buck bales on his ranch, he shared with me some of his favorite fishing spots, and we had good conversations about forestry.”

Tesch asked Milodragovich to tell him his side of the Bitterroot controversy. “It was interesting to hear how both he and Bolle cared very much for the land, but were put on opposite sides of the fence by the political process and the media. It was a good lesson for me.”

Tesch came to the OSU College of Forestry in 1981 as a silviculturist for the FIR program (Forestry Intensified Research) in Medford. He came to Corvallis in 1992, and became head of the Forest Engineering department in 1995.

He strives to give his students what he himself enjoyed. “I strongly encourage our students to make the effort to spend time with faculty and alums,” he says. “These mentoring relationships can’t be forced, but they won’t happen at all unless people get together. It’s like the old adage: you keep your worm in the water if you want to catch a fish.”

“

You keep your worm in the water if you want to catch a fish.”

Flexible and creative

... because she's had to be

Sometimes it's a good thing when your plans fall through. Ask Deborah Messenger. She was going to be an elementary school teacher. But after she'd almost finished her college program, her world turned upside down.

State requirements for teachers had abruptly changed, and Messenger was stuck with many hours of course work that didn't apply to a teaching credential.

So she came to OSU instead. Today Messenger (FRR '90) is designing and putting on conservation and educational programs for kids and grownups at the Indianapolis Zoo.

It's just what she always wanted to do, only better. She's teaching not only young children, but high schoolers, teachers, and administrators. And the whole zoo is her classroom.

Messenger is using her creative mind to design programs like "Project Earth," which features visiting experts on animals, plants, and bugs, as well as folk musicians and artists.

Another of her brainstorm is a teacher training exercise called "A Night of Mystery at the Zoo." Teachers spend the evening riding the zoo train and visiting interpretive workshops in the behind-the-scenes areas of the zoo. They collect clues to the "mystery" while learning how to teach natural resource lessons. At 11 p.m. they sack out in the Dolphin Gallery, an underwater viewing

auditorium, and in the morning they try to solve the "mystery."

"I teach teachers how to teach," says Messenger, "and that's what I like best."

Messenger was raised on five acres near Indianapolis, the fifth generation of her family to live there. After high school,



uncertain of her vocation, she volunteered as a naturalist at a park that had opened on the very site of her family's acreage. Young children who visited the park seemed to gravitate to her, and she liked to talk to them about nature. After a year, she decided on elementary education as a career.

When the licensing requirements changed, Deborah found herself without a direction. She asked the advice of a friend at the National Park Service. The friend suggested forestry.

She applied to three forestry schools and decided on OSU because of the warm welcome she received. "I had never seen such an open-door policy. Few women were in the forestry program at that time,

“

I teach teachers how to teach, and that's what I like best.”

Just what she wanted to do, only better. Deborah Messenger designs interpretive programs at the Indianapolis Zoo.



and they let me know they wanted me.”

Disturbingly, during her first two terms she was exhausted all the time. Finally she dragged herself to the doctor—“I thought I had a bad case of the flu.” Blood tests showed she was dangerously ill from SLE—systemic lupus erythematosus.

Messenger has had SLE, a chronic, progressive condition, since she was a child, but it hadn’t slowed her down much until then. But with the stress of moving, school, and part-time work, the disease had progressed, triggering an overall immune reaction. She was stabilized on medication and went on with school, but promised the doctors—and herself—that she’d reduce the stress as much as possible.

Once back on her feet, she found that the schoolwork excited and challenged her. One especially rewarding project was a recreational and cultural resource inventory for the Bureau of Land Management’s Steens Mountain Recreational Area. “I will always be grateful for [Professor] Royal Jackson for inviting me to be part of this team,” says Messenger. “I was concerned—after all, I was a new transfer student with serious health issues. But he said to me, ‘I saw something in you that needed to be developed.’ I was determined to demonstrate to Royal that he wasn’t wrong about me.”

Graduating in September of 1990, she worked for the College Research Forests. When budget cuts eliminated her position, she returned to Indiana and worked as a seasonal naturalist at Falls of the Ohio State Park in Jeffersonville. After 162 days that job too fell under the budget axe.

Ever flexible, Messenger managed to land on her feet, working a two-year stretch with a temporary agency. It wasn’t exactly what she had planned, but she hung onto the temp job until she landed a permanent position at Indianapolis Parks and Recreation, managing natural re-

source education programs for school children and the public.

It was a fulfilling job with a grueling schedule—she worked 350 hours in one especially hectic month. She developed many programs, including one on maple syrup, Indiana’s third most lucrative farm crop, showing kids how to tap sugar maple trees and letting them taste the sap and the finished syrup. When the job at the Zoo came open, she applied and got it, beating out more than 400 applicants.

As manager of school programs, Messenger develops and carries out educational programs and services for schools (preschool through university), including classroom and field-trip materials and teacher training workshops. She is doing less front-line interpretation these days, and that suits her fine. “With the progression of the SLE, the doctors suggested a more controlled working environment—like a 40-hour week.”

She saves some of her energy for community service. Messenger is an adjunct professor at the IUPUI school of education, so that teachers can get graduate credit for the 12-hour course she has developed at the Zoo. She’s the statewide facilitator for Project Learning Tree (PLT) and Project WILD, national programs that provide natural resource lessons and training to classroom teachers. Last year she was named the state PLT Facilitator of the Year. She’s also the vice president of the Environmental Educators of Indiana.

She hopes to move up in her field, eventually becoming educational director of a zoo or other natural resource facility. She credits her Forestry education for giving her the flexibility and creativity to succeed in a field with many possible directions. “A Forest Recreation Resources degree will get you anywhere you want to go,” she says. “Getting that degree was the best career move I could have made.”



forestry *Currents*

Kudos to faculty and staff



Susan Stafford



Doug Maguire



George Brown

Doug Maguire, silviculturist and associate professor in the Forest Resources department, received the 1997 Aufderheide Award for excellence in teaching and mentoring of Forestry students. He was honored at the Fernhopper Day dinner in April.

The Aufderheide Award, conferred by the students, is a significant token of student affection and respect. P.J. Collson, Forest Management student and Forester (chairman) of the student Xi Sigma Pi chapter, presented Maguire with the award. He noted Maguire's willingness not only to work with students individually, but to "get his hands dirty"—referring to an incident in which Maguire helped Collson push his van out of the mud.

"This award is a tremendous honor for me," says Maguire, "and I am profoundly moved by the fact that the students would so readily offer it despite my obvious imperfections."

Dean **George Brown** received the 1997 Honor Alumnus award from the College of Natural Resources at Colorado State University. The award recognized Dean Brown's leadership of the College of Forestry at OSU and contributions to the profession of forestry. The award was presented by the CSU Alumni Association at a recognition banquet in April. Brown earned a bachelor's degree from Colorado State in 1960 and a master's in 1962.

Susan Stafford, statistician and professor in the Forest Science department, received one of five 1997 Women of Achievement awards from OSU. The award recognizes leadership in promoting the status and professional development of women. Stafford was nominated by her colleagues, Barbara Yoder and Barbara Gartner, who noted the extraordinary effort Stafford makes in advising and mentoring women students and serving as a source of support and inspiration. The award was presented at an April ceremony at the OSU Women's Center.

Jeff Hino, assistant director of the Forestry Media Center, and **Gail Wells**, communication specialist and editor of *Focus on Forestry*, were named winners in the 1997 Agricultural Communicators in Education (ACE) competition. Hino won a gold award for his video, "Management Planning for your Small Woodland: An Introduction." The award cited Hino's creative approach to a potentially dull topic—noting especially his use of wooden animated characters to visually clarify the basic elements of woodland management planning. The video's script was written by Mike Bondi, Forestry Extension agent in Clackamas County. Wells won a bronze award for her "Nest Egg" advertising and fundraising campaign.

Students honored

Graduates were feted, scholarships given out, and outstanding students honored at the College of Forestry's May awards ceremony and barbecue.

Tawnya Burton, graduating in Forest Recreation Resources, received the Paul M. Dunn Senior Award, the College's top undergraduate honor, for her scholarship and professional potential.

Jennifer Noonan, graduating in Forest Engineering, and **Mike Shaw**, graduating in Forest Management, shared the Harold "Hal" Bowerman Leadership Award for their many hours of volunteer work in Forestry student organizations.

Bobbi Dart, graduating in Forest Recreation Resources, was chosen by her fellow students to receive the Kelly Axe Award for her many behind-the-scenes efforts in student activities.

Neil Prien took first place and **Brian Adams** second place in the Charles L. Pack essay competition for the best paper submitted as part of a writing-intensive Forestry course. Prien and Adams are both Forest Products graduates.

Two faculty members also were honored at the ceremony. **John Hayes** of the Forest Science department received the student-chosen Mentor Award for his commitment to creating "exceptional mentoring relationships" with his students. **Pam Henderson**, director of student services at the College, was named "Honorary Ambassador" for her excellent advising of the Ambassadors Program during the past year. Members of the Ambassadors team chose her for the honor.

Scholarships totaling \$129,000 were awarded to 54 returning undergraduate students, and fellowships totaling \$43,250 were awarded to 14 returning graduate students.



Planting the seeds. Right, George Brown, John Shelk, Sen. Mark Hatfield, and OSU president Paul Risser plant conifer seeds at the ceremonial groundbreaking for the new Forestry Research Laboratory. Above, Tom Swett directs traffic before the ceremony.

Hatfield swings a hoedad

Former Senator Mark Hatfield took the first swing with a hoedad to break ground in April for OSU's new Forestry Research Laboratory.

The outdoor ceremony took place close to where the new building will stand, in a grassy field behind Peavy Hall.

The groundbreaking kicked off this year's Fernhopper Day. About 300 people attended, including local elected officials, Forestry alumni, and OSU faculty and staff.

More than 30 student volunteers were on hand to greet visitors, direct parking, take pictures, drive vans, clean up, and generally make themselves useful. The students were easy to spot in their striped hickory shirts and red suspenders.

"I was glad to help," says Tom Swett, a master's student in Forest Products, who helped direct parking. "It gave me a chance to show off the College's progress. I'm looking forward to coming back as an alum and getting the same treatment from future students."

The \$24 million new Forestry and



Forest Products Manufacturing Research Laboratory should be finished by the end of next year or early in 1999. It will provide state-of-the-art laboratories and classrooms for the Departments of Forest Products and Forest Science.

Conclave draws students from all over West

Bulls and belles. The OSU Forestry Club and Logging Sports Team hosted the 58th Association of Western Forestry Clubs Conclave logging-sports competition this spring. OSU Forest Management senior Mike Shaw (leaping over log) took top honors as Bull of the Woods (overall top scorer). Belle of the Woods title went to Christine Marcellus of Washington State.



Above, Mandy Buschette of Cal Poly and Nikki Richert of OSU warm up next to the burn barrel after a dunk in the lake. Left, OSU Forestry Club advisor Bob Truitt fries hamburgers.



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