World-wide learning

Overseas study broadens the mind and the heart
In this issue of *Focus on Forestry*, we feature the international experiences of students, faculty, and alumni.

Forestry has long been a global enterprise. Wood fiber in various forms has been traded as an international commodity for decades. The United States, which consumes the most natural resources of any nation on earth, imports about 25 percent of its wood fiber, an amount that has grown significantly with the closure of federal forests to timber harvests.

Our students have expanded their horizons far beyond Oregon, as this issue of *Focus* clearly demonstrates. Opportunities for education and jobs abound in the international arena, and our students are boldly taking advantage of them. The University has encouraged all OSU students to study abroad through a new International Degree program, and an excellent International Programs office is poised to help them.

The College of Forestry has formal student and faculty exchange programs and research agreements with a number of international universities. Currently we have 52 international students from 25 countries enrolled in the College.

Our faculty have broad international experiences and interests. Many have taken sabbaticals abroad and serve as leaders in international scientific organizations. All of this experience brings new ideas, techniques, and talent back to Oregon and the Pacific Northwest.

As you read this issue of *Focus*, I hope you will take pride, as I do, in our students’ active quest for knowledge from around the world, and in the contributions of our faculty and alumni on an international scale. Just one more reason to be proud of the College of Forestry!

George Brown
Dean
College of Forestry
Oregon State University
Encounters with tropical forests.
Autumn Bryant spent six months in the tropical forests of Costa Rica. Meet Autumn on page 4.

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Students of the world

There's nothing like spending time abroad to enhance learning and gain professional skill. And our students show it.

LIKE MANY FRESHMEN STUDENTS, Autumn Bryant entered college with a lot of interests—in her case, Spanish, forestry, ecology, writing, and life in other countries.

Autumn's major, Natural Resources, and the International Degree program at OSU pulled all these ambitions together for her and pointed her toward an international career.

Natural Resources offers a broad-based course of studies that includes natural science, social science, and the humanities. The International Degree calls for additional course work, fluency in a foreign language, and a period of study abroad.

Autumn's recent six-month study program in Costa Rica not only fulfilled her International Degree requirement; it gave her a way to practice all the forestry and biology she'd been learning in the classroom. And it sharpened her appetite for pursuing a career overseas.

"I knew I wanted something different from a traditional forestry career," says Autumn, who grew up in the timber town of Springfield, Oregon. "I wanted lots of options in an undergraduate degree. Natural Resources was perfect."

Autumn's overseas experience began with a three-month study-abroad program arranged through the University of Costa Rica. Autumn and six other American students helped with research projects at various biological stations throughout the country. They worked on real, ongoing research efforts, learning something about tropical-forestry topics and a lot about research methods generally.

In one project, she says, scientists studying acacia trees, a common tropical species, were trying to find out why certain ants that lived in the trees would attack every living thing that came into a tree except one species of bird. This bird commonly nests undisturbed in acacia trees. Why were the ants leaving the birds alone?

The students were supposed to formulate a hypothesis and then test it. In one test, "we would place varying amounts of the birds' nest material into the tree to see if the ants would bother it,"...
I knew I wanted something different from a traditional forestry career.

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I don’t jump to conclusions quite so fast.”

Harder than it looks. Casey Weeks came back from Europe with a new appreciation for the difficulties of getting along in a foreign land. Above, Casey and wife Erin Martin at St.-Malo, France. Opposite, Julie Maulding (right) and Jennifer Noonan ‘98 in an Argentine pine forest.

management agencies, and such positions nearly always lead to a full-time permanent job.

Casey’s trip to France came about when his wife, Erin Martin, arranged her own study-abroad experience in January of 1998. Erin is double-majoring in premedical studies and French, and her program required a semester of study in a French-speaking country.

Casey, who had studied only beginning French, found himself going to school in France’s rich Loire Valley, immersed in French language and history classes. His classmates were supposed to speak only French, although they came from all over the world—China, Japan, Sweden, Germany, Honduras.

Before school began, Casey and Erin traveled through Greece, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, and Poland. The couple visited Auschwitz-Birkenau on a sub-freezing day—a chilling experience, Casey says, in more ways than one. Erin’s mother’s family is Jewish, says Casey. “Being there gave me an idea of what it must have been like for the prisoners.”

At the end of their French studies, Casey and Erin also visited Norway and looked up ancestors and family members there.

The overseas experience shattered some of Casey’s stereotypes about other cultures. “Growing up in a rural area where everybody has pretty much the same views,” he says, “I sometimes had negative thoughts about people who came in and didn’t know our language, our culture, our customs. But when you’re the one who’s in a strange place, when you’re the one who doesn’t know—it’s harder than it looks.”

He came home a more tolerant, more culturally sensitive person, he says. “I don’t jump to conclusions quite so fast. I learned there are a lot of different ways of looking at things.”

Julie Maulding, a senior with a dual major in Forest Management and Business, is ready to step out into the world after graduation this spring. She’s got nine months of international experiences behind her, two of which were spent in South America, seeing forest practices in Argentina, Chile, and Brazil.

Julie and Jennifer Noonan, a ‘98 graduate in Forest Engineering, traveled to South America to see forestry in an international context. Julie earned class credit by writing a paper about her experiences. As they were planning their route, Julie and Jennifer turned to John Sessions and other faculty members, and discovered that College of Forestry faculty have contacts throughout South America. These people provided the women with information, travel assistance, and a welcome to an unfamiliar place.

Part of the trip was a tour of a forestry research facility in the foothills of the Andes Mountains in Argentina. The research center has bareroot nurseries where radiata pine and linga, a broadleaf species, were grown. “They
I learned to rely on myself. I couldn’t exactly call home for help.”

were doing some research of mycorrhizae,” says Julie. “I wished I could have shown them some of the studies on mycorrhizae that I know have been done here.”

Julie and Jennifer attended a South American International Forestry Conference which was being held at the research center. They sat in on some of the programs, which were conducted in Spanish. With some Spanish study under her belt, Julie understood some of the discussions, but, “it was hard to catch all of the technical terms.”

Not only did Julie get to hear the forest practices in theory, but she saw them on the ground. The rural areas had strong community-minded forest industries, she says. “Sometimes it was hard to tell who owned the land because the whole community had pride of ownership. The rural mills supply their own villages with jobs and wood.”

Transportation consisted of buses traveling over dirt roads. In some places a full day’s ride cost 25 cents. “I learned a lot by traveling,” Julie says. “I learned to rely on myself. I couldn’t exactly call home to ask for help.” One trip was particularly rewarding: a journey to the southern end of Argentina to see a colony of penguins. The reward was well worth the bumpy 12-hour ride: “I’d never seen penguins in the wild before.”

§§§§§

IN HIS TWO INTERNSHIPS—ONE overseas and one stateside—Tyler Congleton got a taste of real-life problem-solving. His experiences helped him target his education toward a career in industrial research.

Tyler, 24, started out as a Mechanical Engineering major at OSU after graduating from high school in Bend in 1993. Son of a remodeling contractor, he switched to Forest Products after five terms because “I liked the idea of working with wood.”

He was introduced to the research side of forest-products manufacturing when he went to Wales in the summer of 1996. Forest Products professor Phil Humphrey, a graduate of the University of Wales, Bangor, arranged for Tyler to work at the university’s BioComposites Centre, helping conduct studies on medium-density fiberboard (MDF). Tyler’s job was to test the density, water-absorption capacity, and internal strength of MDF manufactured under a variety of processes.

Typically, says Tyler, the middle layer of the board is the weakest part, and the two surfaces are the strongest (imagine a peanut-butter-and-jelly sandwich; the bread is the stronger component, the peanut butter and jelly the weaker). Tyler would test the internal bond strength of MDF samples by adhering small eyebolts to the surface layers (the pieces of bread, as it were), and apply a force to try to pull them apart.

He also ran tests to measure the length and width of fibers in wood pulp destined for manufacturing into paper.

“I’m the kind of person who likes to solve problems,” says Tyler, who’s now working on his Forest Products master’s degree after getting his bachelor’s last spring. “Working directly in manufacturing, you get some of it, but working in research, there’s a lot more opportunity.”

The following summer, Tyler put his research skills to work at two Roseburg Forest Products plywood plants in southern Oregon. Hired as a quality-control intern, he mostly performed routine moisture testing of veneer coming out of the dryer. Tyler decided he wanted something a little more challenging.

He asked if he could run a few tests on the veneer dryers, to see how efficiently they were operating on their established control settings. “The dryer is a critical part of a plywood plant,” he says, “and it’s expensive to operate. So
it's important to have it running as efficiently as possible."

Tyler spent a few weeks taking notes on how the computer control systems were responding to incoming veneer.

He found that the dryer's settings were off by significant margins, and their inefficiency was costing the company money. When he approached his supervisor with this news, he asked for and got permission to adjust the settings.

His adjustments worked. Apart from one panicked moment when Tyler impatiently made an adjustment that happened to kick the dryer's belt speed up to maximum ("the veneer was shooting out and piling up on the turntable, and the guys were frantically trying to keep up, and finally somebody switched it from automatic to manual, which nobody had bothered to show me how to do"), Tyler's work improved the machine's efficiency significantly.

"I didn't do a perfect job—I didn't completely optimize the process—but my supervisor noticed an improvement in production."

Tyler has also completed a challenging senior project, inspired in part by his Roseburg internship. It involved infrared sensing of the surface temperature of veneer while it is in the dryer.

Working with a test dryer in one of the College of Forestry's labs, Tyler installed an infrared sensor so that it could measure the veneer's surface temperature throughout the drying process. Comparing his readings to moisture measurements, he found that he could accurately calculate moisture content from the readings.

"This means that if a system like this were to be used in an industrial veneer dryer," Tyler explains, "the process could be controlled more closely, with less lag time. It's as if you improved a car's cruise control so that it would respond more quickly and smoothly, and it would hold the car at the optimum speed when you're approaching a hill or driving into a headwind."

His findings could have a commercial application, helping manufacturers refine their process so that more veneer comes out correctly dried at the end. Right now he's writing a paper on his project, intending to publish it in a professional journal.

Tyler expects to finish his master's program in the spring of 2000. He hopes for a career in the research-and-development labs of a forest-products manufacturer or research institute.

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Kirstin Heins got more of an education than she bargained for when she traveled to Ecuador in January for a three-month volunteer assignment at a tropical-forest research station.

The first few weeks were uneventful enough. Kirstin, a senior in Forest Recreation Resources, and her fellow volunteers dug plants and collected seeds from the nearby rain forest and cultivated them in the station garden. They helped members of an artisans' cooperative weave hats from the tough leaf fibers of the paja taquilla and tulan plants, natives of the rain forest. Kirstin and fellow OSU...
They'd serve us at the table while they sat on the floor.

volunteer Shari Fluter, a Horticulture major, spent three days as guests of a local farm family.

But the group's mid-March return to Quito, Ecuador's capital, coincided with the country's worst economic troubles in 50 years. Rampant inflation had devalued the national currency, the sucre, to half its former value. Buses and taxis were immobilized by strikes, banks were closed, and teachers' strikes had shut down the schools.

Furthermore, even as the currency's value plunged, the Ecuadorian government canceled subsidies on such staples as rice and cooking oil, driving prices sharply upward. Protesters had barricaded the city's streets and the roads leading out of the capital with piles of burning tires and other debris.

Ecuador seemed "on the verge of an economic collapse," wrote Kirstin in a March 9 e-mail.

Kirstin arrived safely at her parents' Junction City home on the Saturday before Easter. She says she was never seriously worried about her safety, and regards the unrest in Quito as the culmination of a three-month field lesson about the effects of an underdeveloped economy on a society characterized by extremes of wealth and poverty.

"Quito is a city like almost any other city," she says. "You can walk into a mall and buy Neutrogena soap. But in the countryside, where I was stationed, people are very poor."

When she and Shari were invited to spend three days with a local farm family, the lesson became more personal. "This family leads very much a subsistence life, growing and gathering their food," she says. Out of their meager stores, "they would give us the best food, and the most food, and they'd serve us at the table while they sat on the floor."

Shari had brought her camera, a good-quality one. The grandfather remarked on it and asked her what it was worth. "We were embarrassed to tell them how much," says Kirstin. "It made us
very much aware that we were not from here."

Kirstin and Shari worked at a station called Jatun Sacha. Jatun Sacha means "Big Tree" in the indigenous language Quechua, the mother tongue of many Ecuadorians. The station is one of three operated in Ecuador by the Fundacion Jatun Sacha. The Fundacion’s mission is to shield rain-forest land from development pressures. One of its strategies is to cultivate native rain-forest plants for medicinal or other commercial purposes.

Kirstin and Shari traveled under the Oregon University System study-abroad program Global Graduates. They were the only Americans in a 22-member group of Germans, Danes, Canadians, and other Europeans, as well as several Ecuadoran volunteers.

Global Graduates paid for their $300-per-month room and board for decidedly primitive accommodations—"beyond rustic," as Kirstin put it.

There was a gravity-fed rain-barrel shower—unheated. There were rice and vegetables every day, meat once a week, and chocolate and potato chips—for a price—at the canteen. "We were their best customers," she says. "You get so you crave fat."

Yet despite the humble living conditions, the work was satisfying, she says, and the life lessons invaluable.

"For the two summers before this, I worked on Mount Rainier as a park ranger," she says. "Before I went to Ecuador, I just assumed I’d continue in that path," eventually pursuing a career with the National Park Service.

The overseas experience opened her eyes to other possibilities. "I still don’t know exactly what I want to do—my problem is I like too many things, and this experience just added one more."

One thing she knows: she doesn’t want to play it safe. "I want something challenging, something that will test me, something that will confront me with hard issues."

**E-mail from Ecuador**

March 9

Hi Everyone,

I’m still in Quito, and will be until further notice ... as you may or may not have known, Ecuador is on the verge of an economic collapse of some sort. ... There were protests in old town yesterday because the price of basic necessities is rising ... There are rumors flying ... at this point no one really knows what’s going on ...

The banks are supposed to open again on Friday. There may be a bit of a run on them ... Fortunately I was able to get some money out of a cash machine that still had some, so we are comfortable enough. We just can’t pay the hostel bill yet ...

So, we are just going to ride it out. If anyone wants to send me entertaining e-mails I will have access to them for at least a couple of days. I’ll keep you updated.

Kirstin
I thought [forestry] was the last thing I wanted to do for a living."

UNTIL DEREK SOLMIE GOT HERE LAST fall, there was no formal exchange program between the forestry school at the University of New Brunswick and OSU’s College of Forestry.

Now there is. Derek, a native of British Columbia studying Forest Engineering at New Brunswick, wanted to see how forest engineers did things on the West Coast. But New Brunswick, in eastern Canada, has the country’s only FE program.

So Derek got in touch with Bart Thielges, the College of Forestry’s Associate Dean for research. Thielges worked with administrators at the UNB forestry school to craft a tuition-reciprocity agreement.

Derek is now taking his senior year at Oregon State and paying tuition to UNB. And because of his initiative, OSU forestry students now can spend a year studying at New Brunswick for the same price as staying home.

“My main interest is harvest operations,” says Derek, who comes from four generations of loggers, foresters, and woods workers in Duncan, B.C., on Vancouver Island. “I came here to get the coastal knowledge—to learn about the skyline systems and cable systems that are used in steep, wet coastal forests like the ones we have in B.C.”

Because both his parents worked while he was growing up, school holidays gave Derek the opportunity to go to work with his father, an engineering consultant for several forest-industry firms. He didn’t much like the idea of forestry then. “It was early mornings, cold and rainy much of the time, and I thought this was the last thing I wanted to do for a living.”

After finishing high school in 1992, Derek studied for a year at a community college in Duncan. Then he took a year off to ski, travel around western Canada, and seek his fortune.

He was hired to work on an engineering crew in a Vancouver Island logging camp operated by one of Canada’s largest timber companies.

Peace Corps volunteer talks to students

DAVID ZAHLER, JUST BACK FROM Guatemala as a Peace Corps volunteer, highlighted his experiences last winter as a guest lecturer for a Forestry 365 class, Issues in Natural Resource Conservation.

David received a master’s in Natural Resource Education and Extension in 1996. He is now an instructional designer and media specialist in the Forestry Media Center. He and his wife, April, returned in the fall from a two-year Peace Corps term in Guatemala.

David and April were located in a native Q’eqchi’ community of 30 households, or about 130 people. Among many other duties, they helped build ponds from which the community could raise and eat fish, increasing their protein consumption.

Their objective was to teach sustainable agriculture techniques so that the people in the community can support themselves on an increasingly limited land base. The project taught improved agricultural techniques for both basic food crops and cash crops.

David says he and April consider their Peace Corps work a life-changing event for both themselves and the villagers with whom they worked. “We had numerous successes and failures in both our work as Extension agents and in our cross-cultural exchanges with the people,” he says. “Life was an endless series of ‘teachable moments’ for everybody.”
Despite his earlier indifference to forestry work, Derek found he liked his job and enjoyed the out-of-doors.

The camp was unionized, and seniority was the path to opportunity. "Not being in the union, I could see there wasn't much chance for me to move up," says Derek. "I knew if I wanted to go on in this career, I'd have to get an education."

Derek was accepted into the Forest Engineering programs at both the University of New Brunswick and OSU. But out-of-country tuition rates were too steep, and he chose UNB.

Now, thanks to the exchange program he helped create, Derek has a chance to taste an OSU education, not only the classes but the extracurricular opportunities. In March he and other seniors helped the Forest Engineering Department put on a four-day symposium on skyline operations.

The symposium featured presentations, posters, and field trips dealing with many aspects of skyline logging. It attracted about 350 forestry professionals from a score of countries.

The symposium gave Derek and other FE students a different sort of study-abroad experience, as participants brought to one place a wide knowledge of forestry in many lands. "It was amazing to see all the people from different cultures, so knowledgeable in their fields, and to learn about the challenges they face in managing their forests."

Derek has enjoyed his time in the United States, although he's a bit bemused by subtle cultural differences—the popularity of fraternities and sororities here, for instance (they don't exist on Canadian college campuses), and the U.S. mania for college athletics, which is much less important in Canada.

But he's looking forward to going home. Derek will graduate from UNB this spring; he hopes to earn licenses in both professional engineering and forestry and to go to work for a North American forest-products company.

Visiting other nations right here at home

FOREST RECREATION RESOURCES students Tyna Ivey and Ryan Whalen have gotten a glimpse of other nations this year—from right here in Oregon.

For a Natural Resources Communications class, they created a video presentation advertising a conference titled "Sacred Landscapes: Native American Perspectives of the Pacific Northwest." The conference, held on campus in May, was hosted by the OSU Department of Ethnic Studies; the College of Forestry was a co-sponsor.

Professor Bruce Shindler's assignment for the final project: create a three- to five-minute video. Tyna and Ryan teamed up and developed one about the forthcoming Sacred Landscapes Conference. Conference planners saw the video and liked it so much they requested a 30-second version of the video to use in publicizing the conference.

Tyna and Ryan obliged, and the short version has since been submitted to 16 television stations, to be shown as a public-service announcement for the conference. Copies of the original four-minute video have been given to nine tribal affiliations in Oregon.

Mark Reed, Forest Media Center specialist, helped Tyna and Ryan produce the 30-second video. "It was a real team effort," Tyna says. She and Ryan have increased their knowledge about the distinct Native American nations within our own borders.
Robert Reichart, pioneering educator, dies

Robert R. Reichart, Forestry professor emeritus and the chief architect of the College’s Forestry Media Center and Self-Learning Center, died in April in Corvallis. He was 103.

Reichart was born in New York City in 1896 to Jacob and Annie Marks Reichart. He came to Corvallis in 1911 with his parents, who operated a dry goods store and later a dry cleaning business.

He attended high school in New York and Corvallis, and although he never completed his diploma, earned a degree from Oregon Agricultural College’s Commerce department in 1917. He was active on the debate team and the Barometer staff, and he worked for President Jasper Kerr.

He joined the Oregon State faculty to teach accounting, but shortly afterward moved to the English department, where he stayed for 13 years. He received a master’s from Oregon State in 1937 and a doctorate in education from the University of Oregon in 1941. He taught classes in the Education department in educational psychology and history of education, and he directed the OSC Counseling Bureau.

Reichart was a pioneer in improving educational methods. He had the idea that students can learn more efficiently when they control the rate of their study, and he was an early proponent of using audiovisual media to enhance students’ learning.

These two concepts are taken for granted by educators today, but at the time they were highly experimental. In the years after the Second World War Reichart developed a self-learning center at the University, a place where students could learn on their own, with access to learning materials in the form of slides, audio tapes, and film.

In 1964, Dean Walter McCulloch, intrigued by Reichart’s innovative educational methods, asked him to develop a similar self-learning laboratory at the School of Forestry. With financial support from the Hill Family Foundation, Reichart set up a place where forestry students could learn from slides, audio tapes, film, and, later, videotapes, television, and the Internet.

He helped write a slide-tape presentation on forestry careers, gave many seminars on innovative teaching techniques, began a library of recorded student and faculty presentations that would later be transformed into learning packages, and helped students improve their communication skills by showing them how to produce slide-tapes for class projects.

Reichart’s work lives on today in the College of Forestry’s Self-Learning Center, which is heavily used by students, and its Forestry Media Center, which produces educational materials not only for students but for many other audiences. Reichart’s model of a self-learning center has been widely adopted by other departments at Oregon State and by sister colleges and universities in Oregon.

In 1974, Reichart retired from OSU (he became emeritus professor of Education in 1964 and of Forestry in 1974) and joined Oregon Health Sciences University faculty as part-time director of medical education. He commuted to Portland twice or three times a week until 1986, when he retired at age 90.

He was technologically savvy—keeping in touch with former students and colleagues via e-mail. He bought a new computer last year, when he was 102.

Reichart is survived by his daughter, Muriel Ann Wyatt of Corvallis; a grandson, a granddaughter, and two great-grandchildren. His wife, Fayne Bell Reichart, and a daughter preceded him in death.

Memorial contributions may be made to Oregon State University Valley Library.

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Loren Kellogg is a forest engineer who hails from the not-so-forested territory of Burbank, California. You could say he’s always had a bent for reaching beyond his boundaries: Right out of high school, he headed north into the moist redwood country to get his bachelor's degree in forest management at Humboldt State University.

Lately his reach has extended halfway around the world. Kellogg spent last year on sabbatical in South Africa as head of the Forest Engineering department at the University of Stellenbosch.

He helped his colleagues refine and expand their FE curriculum, organized a writing-intensive harvest planning course to improve students’ communication skills, and incorporated more woods experience into the FE program.

He organized five intensive forest operations workshops for professionals in South Africa’s forest industry. He coordinated an international forest engineering conference, and he’ll return to South Africa this June to deliver its keynote presentation.

Finally, Kellogg established a formal exchange agreement between Stellenbosch and OSU. He brought back a South African graduate student, Francois Oberholzer, the first to take advantage of the new relationship.

Kellogg, professor of Forest Engineering and an expert in small-log harvesting technologies, has been keen on outreach ever since he attended his first IUFRO World Congress (International Union of Forestry Research Organizations) in 1990.

There he was appointed coordinator of a research group on harvesting, wood delivery, and utilization, a position he still
“Getting involved in IUFRO,” he says, “is a great way to get acquainted with others around the world who have common issues and problems in forest operations.”

Kellogg’s South African connection was forged in 1991 through a student of his, Michal Brink, who was here in 1990-91. While studying for his master’s, Brink observed the success of OSU’s annual Forest Engineering Institute, which Kellogg directed between 1991 and 1994.

Back home in South Africa, Brink was an industry leader, soon to become a senior manager in one of the country’s three big timber companies. He saw the need for a similar workshop where forest managers could hear about the benefits of harvest planning and learn technologies appropriate for their operations.

Brink invited Kellogg to come to South Africa. Kellogg arranged for his College of Forestry colleague John Sessions to join him, and the two of them presented a two-week workshop on harvesting systems and harvest planning in the plantation region northeast of Johannesburg.

There was a sore need for it, says Kellogg. “South African foresters weren’t using the kinds of planning procedures we take for granted here. They were focused on day-to-day operations; there wasn’t much forethought about costs or environmental impacts, or the benefits of long-range harvest planning.”

At that time, South Africa’s commercial forestry, like the rest of its economy, was laboring under economic sanctions. The sanctions contributed to the fall of apartheid in 1994, but until then, the severe restriction on international commerce was keeping the country’s economic sights focused inward. “When apartheid ended,” Kellogg says, “the country as a whole began to look outward, toward opening export markets and international experiences.”

South African forestry takes place almost entirely on plantations. Most commercially valuable trees are of six exotic species, five pines and a eucalyptus. A small fraction of the country’s indigenous forest remains, but very little of it is harvested.

To become more competitive beyond their country’s borders, Kellogg says, South African forestry leaders realized they needed to become both more efficient and more environmentally sensitive. They needed to expand their repertoire of harvesting equipment and to match its capabilities more closely with specific site conditions. They also needed long-term planning methodologies and more effective policies and procedures on logging operations.

When Kellogg returned for a second visit in 1993, just before the fall of apartheid, he found that the information he’d brought two years before had ripped through the forestry community. He could see improvements all over. It was exciting, he says, to realize how quickly a little bit of technology transfer could change the face of an industry.

Thus there was a foundation to build on when Kellogg went back for the third time last year. As Forest Engineering department head at Stellenbosch, Kellogg worked closely with industry leaders, helping them review a set of best management practices, and offering several workshops. He also participated with industry leaders in a strategic planning session to guide future FE research and technology transfer in southern Africa.

“There is tremendous opportunity for future collaboration between southern Africa and OSU, in both teaching and research,” he says. “There’s an opportunity to bring more African students and researchers here. There’s room for a lot of give and take—we teach each other, and we learn from each other.”
Dennis Dykstra '66 and '76 is bringing his career in international forestry research back home. Dykstra is the new director of the World Forestry Center in Portland; he succeeded John Blackwell, who retired at the end of April after 27 years with the educational foundation.

Dykstra, who earned his bachelor's and doctorate at OSU (in Forest Engineering and Industrial Engineering, respectively) brings a distinguished record of conducting, coordinating, and securing funding for forestry research, especially research aimed at improving the sustainability of tropical forests.

He's spent the past five years at the headquarters of CIFOR (Center for International Forestry Research) in Bogor, Indonesia, most recently as deputy director general for research, making him the second most senior officer there.

Before that, Dykstra served in Rome with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations. His job there was to provide technical advice on reducing environmental impacts of industrial timber harvesting. In 1996 he developed a model code of forest harvesting practices for tropical forests, which become one of the FAO forestry department's most widely requested publications.

He has taught and conducted research in Tanzania and Austria, as well as at Yale, Northern Arizona University, and OSU, and he's worked in private industry as a forest economist and systems analyst, developing modeling tools for improving harvesting and manufacturing decisions.

He has twice served as an associate editor of the journal Forest Science, and since 1987 he's been on the editorial board of Forest Ecology and Management, a major international journal.

Focus on Forestry caught up with Dykstra as he and his wife, Nell, were packing for the move to Portland. We enjoyed a series of enlightening e-mail conversations with him, and we'd like to share some of his comments with readers.

**FoF** How did your upbringing prepare you for a career in forestry research?

**Dykstra** I grew up on a 40-acre "stump farm" about 10 miles east of Lebanon. My father was a logger, and my mother taught in the two one-room schools I attended for seven of my first eight years in school.

When I was 10, my brothers and I joined a 4-H Forestry Club, led by two OSU forestry graduates, Ralph Wilkinson and Bert Udell. Both Ralph and Bert were professionals who gave tremendously of their time to educate youngsters about forests and forestry.

My parents strongly influenced my choice of careers, although they originally hoped I'd become a more conventional type of engineer. When I went to Oregon State I started off in electrical engineering, but after one term I knew that wasn't what I wanted to do for the rest of my life, so I went over to the School of Forestry and talked to Bob Wilson about switching to Forest Engineering. That was one of
I dreamed that one day I would go to faraway places, and that dream somehow never died.

When an instructor’s job in the Forest Engineering department at OSU opened up, I applied and was hired. This allowed me to work on a Ph.D. while doing research on aerial logging systems. And so I got the Ph.D. after all, and that was my first step.

Going back even further, I remember that very early in my life I wanted to see other lands and other kinds of people. My rural community was very isolated—we had no television, no telephone. Instead, my brothers and I read books. Our favorites were adventure stories about traveling to distant lands. I dreamed that one day I would go to faraway places, and that dream somehow never died.

**FoF** What are your priorities as you assume the leadership of the World Forestry Center?

**Dykstra** My desire is that the World Forestry Center become recognized as an active player in the debates on forests and forestry that are occurring regionally, nationally, and internationally. What we can bring to the table is active involvement from the private sector, and a focus on public education.

I was recruited to lead the WFC because of the networks I’ve developed during the 12 years I’ve lived overseas. The WFC’s board of directors wants to carry the organization’s message to international audiences. What is that message? That a major fraction of the world’s forests can and should be managed for sustainable production of multiple goods and services.

**FoF** How does it feel to be back home?

**Dykstra** It’s been great to live in five different countries on four continents, getting to know the cultures and the problems of different people in different places. And those experiences have made it even greater for Nell and me to finally come home. It’s great to be able to see our family regularly, and to get reacquainted with all our old friends. We also expect a substantial reduction on our overseas telephone bill!
Kudos to faculty and staff

**John Sessions**, professor of Forest Engineering and Forest Resources, was selected as one of the two University faculty members this year to receive the title of Distinguished Professor. **Henry Sayre** of the Art Department was also so named. The two were honored at a ceremony in May.

Sessions has been on the College of Forestry faculty since 1983. The Distinguished Professor designation adds to his well-stocked awards shelf, which includes the student-selected Aufderheide Award for outstanding teaching and the Mortar Board Honor Society Top Prof Award.

"I'm terribly flattered and proud to bring this recognition to the College of Forestry," says Sessions. "I often joke with my colleagues and students that their job is to make me look good. I guess they've done a good job."

Sessions is the second on the College of Forestry faculty to be named Distinguished Professor. Dick Waring, professor of Forest Science, received the honor in 1995.

**Bill Ripple**, professor of Forest Resources and director of the College’s Environmental Remote Sensing Applications Laboratory (ERSAL), received a Presidential Citation award from the American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing. The award acknowledges his contributions and support as associate editor of forestry, wildlife, and ecology manuscripts for the society’s journal, *Photogrammetric Engineering and Remote Sensing*. Ripple has served in that capacity since 1988. He receives the award in May at the ASPRS annual convention in Portland, Oregon.

**Rebecca Johnson** has been appointed the College’s Director of Undergraduate Education. The new, part-time position continues until the end of this academic year, and will be reviewed for continuation at that time. Besides her regular teaching and research in the Forest Resources department, Johnson’s duties now include coordinating curriculum within the College of Forestry and between the College and the University, working with the undergraduate Student Honor Board and with other faculty to review the student conduct code, and addressing other issues related to undergraduate education in the College of Forestry.

A CD-ROM produced by **David Zahler, Ed Jensen, Jeff Hino**, and **Amanda Barstow** of the Forestry Media Center received an award in the national Agricultural Communicators in Education (ACE) Critique and Awards competition. The CD, titled "Conifers of the Pacific Northwest," received a bronze third-place award in the information technology category. A copy of the CD may be purchased from the Forestry Media Center at 541/737-4702.

**Greg Filip** and **Doug Maguire** have received the 1999 Research Award from the Oregon Society of American Foresters. They are being recognized for their joint efforts in conducting research on Swiss needle cast, a foliage disease of Douglas-fir in coastal Oregon with the potential to cause serious and expensive losses in growth. Filip is the leader of the cooperative research program, and Maguire has been quantifying the effects of the disease on Douglas-fir growth.
In memoriam

Richard Laidlaw "Rich" Barber ’55, ’79, and ’84 died in April of lung cancer at his home in Bend. He was 65. In 1955 he received his bachelor’s degree in Forest Management and was honored as a Designated Distinguished Military Graduate.

He served 22 years in the Army, receiving decorations for valor on tours of duty in Korea and Vietnam. After retiring from military service, he returned to OSU, earning a Master of Forestry degree in 1979 and a doctorate in Forest Economics and Management in 1984. He taught at Humboldt State University in Arcata, California, retiring as full professor in 1992.

Maj. Mathew Frederik Laiho ’82, USAF, died in January in the crash of a U.S. Air Force aircraft. He was 40. He received a bachelor’s in Forest Management in 1982.

He received a commission in the Air Force when he graduated from OSU. He served with the 92nd Air Refueling Wing until 1989, and the 141st Air Refueling Wing of the Washington Air National Guard at Fairchild Air Force Base in Spokane, Washington. He served in the Desert Shield and Desert Storm campaigns.

Sanga Sabhasri ’57 and ’59 died in January in his native country of Thailand. Dr. Sanga, as he was known to his acquaintances at the College, had a long and distinguished career as a scientist and leader of research initiatives within his own country and internationally. An expert on tropical forest ecosystems, he was credited with improving environmental conditions in Thailand’s forest lands and strengthening the country’s environmental research capabilities. He received an honorary doctorate from OSU in June of 1995, and was the subject of an Alumni Profile in the Winter 1996 issue of Focus on Forestry.

Dr. Sanga came to the United States in 1957 to earn a bachelor’s degree in Forest Management; he stayed and earned a master’s in 1959. While a student here, he met the woman who was to become his wife, a University of Oregon student named Vachira Satayayuk. (They met at a dance at the Forestry Club cabin, in fact.) They were married in 1962.

Dr. Sanga returned home to join the forestry faculty at Kasetsart University in Bangkok. He rose to become associate dean of the faculty, then dean, and, in 1972, vice-rector for academic affairs.

In 1973 he entered government service as secretary-general of the National Research Council. In 1981 he became permanent secretary of the Ministry of Science, Technology, and Energy, and in 1992 he became head of Thailand’s National Research Council. He was chancellor of Kasetsart University and chairman of the national Botanic Garden Organization.

Dr. Sanga is survived by his wife, Vachira, and their son, Chayodom. A mourning ceremony was held in February. Thailand’s King Bhumipol is to preside at a state funeral in May.

Charles L. Foster ’39 died in January of heart failure in Creswell, Oregon. He was 82. In 1939 he received his bachelor’s in Forest Management. He went to work for Snellstrom Lumber Co. in Vaughn in 1943 and remained with the company until he retired in 1977.

Professor Emeritus James T. Krygier died at his home on May 2. He served the College as teacher, researcher, and the first program leader of Forestry Extension. He was a founding director of the OSU Water Resources Research Institute, a co-leader of the Alsea Basin Logging and Aquatic Resources study, and one of the key authors of the Renewable Resources Extension Act. “Jim’s service to the College was exemplary,” says Dean George Brown, “and we are a better institution because of his many contributions.” Cards to his family may be sent to 13070 Jacob Court, Tigard, Oregon, 97224.
Skyline meeting dedicated to founder O'Leary

The International Mountain Logging Conference and 10th Northwest Skyline Symposium in March and April drew about 350 participants from all over the world to focus on technical and environmental issues related to logging in mountainous terrain. The symposium, chaired by Forest Engineering department head Steve Tesch, was held on the OSU campus and at various demonstration sites, including stands on the OSU Research Forest. "The program’s success was due to the collective effort of all FE faculty and staff and many students," says Tesch.

The meeting was cosponsored by the Department of Forest Engineering and IUFRO Division 3. Traditional partners included the University of Washington College of Forest Resources, the University of British Columbia, the Forest Engineering Research Institute of Canada, and the Forest Service PNW Research Station.

The conference and its written proceedings were dedicated to Professor Emeritus John E. O'Leary, who organized the first Skyline Symposium in 1969 and edited its proceedings. O'Leary was honored at the symposium’s Thursday evening banquet.