Connections

The ties that bond
from the Dean

I am constantly reminded that what makes the College of Forestry such an outstanding place to work and study is the people who make up our Forestry family. People who devote their lives to students. People who devote their lives to finding new knowledge about our forests. People whose careers contribute to the forestry professions and thereby to society. People whose gifts make it possible for young people to get an education and enrich their lives with learning.

This issue of Focus on Forestry is filled with such stories. Sadly, several of the stories are of alumni who are now deceased, but their legacy lives on through the changes they have made in other people, our forests, our industries, and our communities. For many, their legacy will continue in perpetuity through endowments that provide scholarships and other learning opportunities that expand the life experiences of our students.

All the stories in this issue are about people who have a special connection to the College of Forestry, and who, through that connection, have made a difference. To each of them we extend our thanks and grateful appreciation. For those who have died, we extend to their families our heartfelt pledge that their lives and their good works will not be forgotten, but will become a part of the living history of our College. We are very proud of all those we recognize with articles in this issue of Focus and the roles they have played and continue to play in our College. We hope you will be equally proud.

George Brown
Dean
College of Forestry
Oregon State University
Very special connections. Doug Listadt lived a good life, and we’re proud to claim him. Read his story starting on page 4.

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Connections

They're the glue that holds this College together

All the stories in this issue are about connections. Through the years, many people have forged lasting ties with the College of Forestry. Some have been alumni, others have never, to our knowledge, set foot on our campus. Some have been friends, touched in some way by the knowledge and services we provide. Some have been scholars and teachers, practicing their various disciplines within our walls. Some have gone out to excel in the world of business.

Each of their ties to the College begins on a personal level—a smile and handshake from the Dean to a shy freshman, some newly developed wheat seeds from an Extension agent, a father who marched at Commencement in a cap and gown at age 72. And yet they are much more than personal, for they are, in a very real sense, the glue that holds the College together.

This College is more than the wood and brick now being raised in our new Laboratory. It’s more than labs and classrooms and trees growing on our Research Forest. It is the relationships, the connections, the ties to people, that give the College its most authentic identity and its highest purpose. In these bonds are our history, our mission, and our future.

We celebrate a few of our special connections in this issue.

Doug was one of the reasons there's a Pine Co-op today."

—Rick Fletcher,
OSU Forestry Extension Agent

A promising alum who died tragically young

Everyone who knew Doug Tistadt '76 says he was a man who thrived on connections—family, friends, colleagues, children. His connection to the College of Forestry is now a lasting one, commemorated by a scholarship fund and a grove of trees planted in Peavy Arboretum to honor this promising alumnus who died tragically young.

Hugh Douglas Tistadt was born in Germany and grew up in an Army family, graduating from high school in Virginia. He studied business at Park College in Missouri and at OSU, graduating in 1970. He married Gwen Jansen in January of 1971 and then joined the Air Force, serving on active duty for three years.

In 1975 he returned to Corvallis and entered the Master of Forestry program at OSU. "He'd taken an aptitude test when he was in the service, and forestry came out high on the list," says Gwen Tistadt. "He had never been really enthusiastic about business, but when he got into forestry school, he was just on fire with forestry. He loved it, loved the work, loved the people."

By the time Doug entered forestry
school, the Tistadt family included an 18-month-old son, Coben, and Gwen was working as a "domestic engineer"—as Doug noted on his application for admission. The Tistadts lived frugally to get Doug through school. "It was a bit of a struggle," recalls Gwen.

Receiving his master's in 1976, he went to work for the Oregon Department of Forestry as a service forester in McMinnville, then transferred to Veneta, in Lane County. His duties included consulting with nonindustrial woodland owners, helping his clients with a wide range of forest management issues.

It was then, say colleagues, that he learned of a variety of ponderosa pine native to the Willamette Valley. Tistadt found remnants of native pine stands near Fern Ridge Reservoir, says Bob Johnson, who succeeded Tistadt as service forester at Veneta.

The discovery inspired him to become one of the prime movers in starting the Willamette Valley Pine Cooperative, a group of landowners and agency foresters working to restore the pine to its former abundance.

Early surveys suggest that ponderosa pine was prominent in the Willamette Valley in pioneer times, but there's very little of it left today, according to Rick Fletcher, OSU Extension forester for Benton County and a member of the pine co-op.

The tree is of the same species as the ponderosa pine that dominates forests east of the Cascades, but it's a different variety, adapted to the Willamette Valley's driest sites, and also, paradoxically, its
He was the kind of guy everybody wants to be around.”

—Mitch Taylor, Oregon Department of Forestry

Tistadt was an easy man to be friends with, says Mitch Taylor, who works in the Salem head office of the state forestry department. In 1981, when Tistadt was transferred to Salem to manage the forest harvest tax program and coordinate the service forestry program, “we found out we were both runners, and we struck up a friendship.”

For the past two summers the two men ran together in the Steens Rim Run, a punishing 10-kilometer race with a nearly 2,000-foot elevation gain. The course runs along the rim of Steens Mountain in Harney County.

Wettest ones, for reasons poorly understood.

“Doug was much of the heart and soul of this co-op,” says Fletcher. “He’d go out on Saturdays, on his own time, to search for remnants of native pine. He’s one of the reasons there’s a pine co-op today.”

The co-op is working to map the valley’s remaining native pine, raise seedlings from collected seed, and plant the seedlings on promising sites. The group has also started a seed orchard in St. Paul, Oregon.

Tistadt’s work in native pine has made a meaningful connection for forester Bob Johnson. “A couple of years ago I set up a tour of Willamette Valley ponderosa pine sites,” says Johnson. “I was able to go back to those plantings that Doug had helped set up. I knew Doug and admired his work, and so that was a nice feeling for me.”

Tistadt’s life was also rich in personal connections. Already parents of one son, the Tistadts made connections with young people by hosting exchange students and through Doug’s recruitment of interns for the forestry department and his involvement with Little League and tennis.

Two young people became like a daughter and a son to the family. Sho Shigeoka, a Japanese student at the University of Oregon, met Gwen, an administrator at the University of Oregon, and Gwen introduced Sho to her husband. Doug and Sho “shared an incredible connection and spent time in good-humored jabbing over Ducks vs. Beavers,” says Gwen Tistadt. Sho earned her master’s from the U of O and became an administrator at OSU, “and that made Doug very happy.”

Michael Ramsey, a close friend of Cohen’s, also became close to Doug and Gwen. He spent his last year of high school living with the Tistadts and has remained a member of the family.

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Memorial grove. A marker at Peavy Arboretum commemorates Doug Tistadt and his contributions to forestry.
Several weeks after the 1997 race, Tistadt was diagnosed with a rapidly spreading cancer of the brain stem. He underwent chemotherapy, which weakened his immune system, and in November contracted pneumonia. He died on Nov. 18.

The sudden onset of the disease, and its swift consequences, stunned Tistadt's family and friends. "My memory of Doug is still strong," says Mitch Taylor. "He was just a very nice guy, a very warm personality, the kind of guy everybody wants to be around." This year Taylor ran the Steens Rim Run with two other colleagues, but without Doug. "We all missed him."

Last spring, Taylor, Johnson, Fletcher, Gwen Tistadt, the Tistadt children, and several others gathered at Peavy Arboretum to plant a grove of Willamette Valley ponderosa pine in Doug Tistadt's memory.

A scholarship fund has also been established in his name. Gwen Tistadt wants the scholarship to go to financially strapped graduate students with families. "I wanted to make sure people in graduate school who have families get a little bit of help. It's from our own experience, and it's also a way to honor Doug's love of family."

The fund is still receiving contributions. Those interested in contributing may contact Lisa Mattes at the College of Forestry.

Woodland owners Richard and Zenobia White of Myrtle Creek have made a $140,000 gift that will eventually help OSU Forestry Extension reach out to nonindustrial forest landowners, showing them how to apply the latest research to managing their woodlands.

The Whites' gift, which comes in the form of stock, is funding two annuities. The gift will some day become the Richard M. and Zenobia M. White Private and Family Forestry Fund in the College of Forestry.

It's a gift of gratitude, in a way. Both Richard and Zenobia White have a long-standing relationship with the Extension Service. Zenobia White was involved in 4-H as a girl (her grandparents pioneered in Myrtle Creek in 1952) and her son was a student at Oregon State. Richard's connection with Extension goes back to the 1920s and '30s, when his father and mother were struggling to keep their California wheat farm going in the midst of the Depression.

"Father thought it would be a great help if there were a variety of wheat better suited to California conditions," says White. "There was one that worked well, except that it was susceptible to rust," a fungal disease that severely reduces yields.

With the help of the local Extension agents, he remembers, his father was one of the area's first farmers to acquire and try a newly developed, rust-resistant variety of wheat.

The following year was a bad year for rust, but his father's crop suffered little damage. "After that," he says, "the other farmers accepted the new variety very quickly."

In short, Extension saved the day for the Whites, and his father never forgot it. "Extension represents the concept of continuous education," says White. "My father lived to be 97, and he believed in it to the end of his days."

It's an ethic that White adopted for himself, and so he knew just where to turn...
Richard White was one of the stay-arounders."

—Mike Cloughesy, OSU Forestry Extension Agent

when he moved to Douglas County and acquired a 2,900-acre parcel of cut-over timber land in 1964.

The land was in tough shape. "It hadn't been exactly clearcut," says White, "but there were successive waves of logging that eventually took off just about everything. I was told that the land had very little reproduction potential."

White found that his extensive knowledge of wheat didn't help him much with this sort of farming. "So I got in touch with the Extension Service. I took a lot of workshops and tours." He joined a small-woodland owner association and set about a lengthy process of self-education.

Mike Cloughesy, Extension forester in Douglas County from 1987 to 1992, remembers White as a diligent and motivated student. "He took the basic woodland management course in 1988, one of the first ones I taught," he says. "Most of the tours I put together, he was there, and he always asked a lot of questions. You know how when you teach a class, and when you're done most of the people go home, but a few always stay around because they're really interested? He's one of the stay-arounders."

In 1990, White was nominated for Douglas County Tree Farmer of the Year. Cloughesy was on the team that evaluated the forest practices of all the candidates.

"I remember we went out on a hot day," says Cloughesy. "It's tough ground—a rocky south slope, southwestern Oregon kind of ground, a Doug-fir site, but a challenging Doug-fir site. Mr. White was doing a good job with it."

Another tree farmer received the honor that year, but White's skillful management attests to his ethic of continuous learning, Cloughesy says.

The Whites are happy with the progress of their tree farm, even though it is not yet mature enough to be logged sustainably. "I was pleasantly surprised by the productive capacity of the land," White says. "It's taken 37 years to get a very high degree of reproduction, but it's not yet to a sustained-yield level. I expect that will happen at around 50 years."

That reality—the long, slow wait for a return on investment—is the major
disincentive to sustainable small-woodland management, White believes. "When my grandson was 16, he was helping me plant trees," he says. "And I told him, 'You will reach retirement age before these trees are big enough to harvest.' He thought that was too long a wait, and he's no different from hundreds of other people."

Richard White is 88; his wife is 87. They know they may never see any significant financial reward from their tree farm. But they're glad to be contributing to the future of good forestry in Oregon, with the help of the Extension Service.

"God made Oregon a beautiful place and a very productive place to grow fir trees," says White. "That is a God-given thing, and it came to me as a gift."

A scholarship gift from an alumnus' widow

The late Josephine Thomp s on of Boise affirmed her husband's connection to Oregon State by establishing the Glenn and Josephine Thompson Scholarship Fund with a bequest of $117,000.

Glenn Thompson and Josephine Smith were married in 1932. Glenn Thompson graduated from the School of Forestry in 1938 and immediately went to work for the Forest Service in Riggins, Idaho. He was transferred to McCall as district ranger on the Payette National Forest in 1941. He was promoted to forest supervisor on the Salmon National Forest in 1950, and became an assistant chief in the fire-control division at Alexandria, Virginia, in 1956. He died in 1978. Josephine Thompson died last September. We never had the opportunity to meet her, but her bequest came as welcome support to a much-needed program at the College of Forestry.

Thompson Scholarships will be awarded to "deserving students" who are undergraduates at the College of Forestry. "We're grateful for the gift, and we're grateful that Mrs. Thompson made the criteria very broad, so that these scholarships could be targeted to those students who most need them," says Dean George Brown.

Farewell to a generous friend

Gene D. Knudson '39, retired CEO and chairman of the board of Willamette Industries, Inc., died April 9. Knudson was born in 1916 in Washutucna, Washington, to Andrew Christian and Eta Chapman Knudson. He graduated from high school in Weston, Oregon. He graduated with honors from the School of Forestry at Oregon State College in 1939 and then served in Europe as an artillery officer during the Second World War. He was awarded the Bronze Star and the French Croix de Guerre with silver star.

He started his career in 1949 as chief forester of Willamette Valley Lumber Company, as Willamette Industries was then called. He earned successive promotions to logging manager, vice president for raw-material supply, and executive vice president, and in 1970 became president and chief operating officer. He became chief executive officer in 1974, and was elected chairman of Willamette's board of directors in 1976. He retired from his position as CEO in 1981, and from the board chairmanship in 1984.

He was a well-liked and respected chief, according to Cathy Baldwin Dunn, corporate communications manager for Willamette Industries. Knudson was
He was and still is my ideal of what a leader should be.

—Sam Wheeler, FP '50

Dedicated leadership. Gene Knudson gave generously of himself to his profession and to the University.

“universally loved and respected,” she wrote in a 1984 letter to then-Forestry dean Carl Stoltenberg, “... a man of his word, a straight-shooter; extremely modest; highly intelligent yet a very practical thinker; ... he likes people and knows how to manage them.”

Knudson was similarly esteemed by his peers in the wood products industry. “Gene was my friend and my boss from the time I returned from Army service in 1953 until I left Willamette in 1971,” says Sam Wheeler ’50. “He was and still is my ideal of what a leader should be.”

Knudson served on the Oregon State Board of Forestry from 1961 to 1968. He was influential in transferring the state’s forestry research program from the Department of Forestry to Oregon State University and placing it under the direction of the Dean of the College of Forestry. He was a past member of the Forest Research Laboratory’s statutory Advisory Committee.

He served in leadership roles in many industry-related organizations, including Oregon Logging Congress, Associated Oregon Industries and its legislative arm the Oregon Forest Industries Council, the Industrial Forestry Association, the National Forest Products Association, the Western Forestry and Conservation Association, and the Forest History Society.

For 25 years he was on the board of Keep Oregon Green, a fire-prevention organization. He joined the board of Portland’s Western Forestry Center (now World Forestry Center) in 1973 and was president from 1983 to 1985. He was a member of the Society of American Foresters.

Knudson had strong ties to Oregon State University, and he built many warm relationships over the years with people at OSU. Carl Stoltenberg, then Forestry Dean, had this to say in his nomination of Knudson for OSU’s Distinguished Service Award, which he received in 1985: “Mr. Knudson has made generous and signifi-
People's connections to the College of Forestry run deep and strong.
Memories of happy times shared with classmates.
Gratitude for an Extension agent's friendly advice.
Lessons about forestry, about life, that shape the maturing soul.
Learning distilled from the work of scientists, scholars, teachers.
A tradition that endures through the generations.

Honor your connection. Make a gift to the OSU College of Forestry. Your generosity will help us make new connections—to a new generation of students, foresters, and citizens.

Send to:
Lisa Mattes
Director of Development
OSU College of Forestry
140 Peavy Hall
Corvallis, OR 97331-5704
1-800-897-2832
In memoriam

Harold Sandstrom

Harold Patrick Sandstrom '67 died of cancer early this year. He was 59. Sandstrom was born March 20, 1939, in Longview, Washington, to Harold and Ethel (McManus) Sandstrom. He attended the University of Oregon and Oregon State University, graduating with a bachelor's in Forest Management in 1967. He interrupted his education between 1963 and 1965 for military service in Vietnam and Germany.

He worked for several timber companies after graduation as a forester and forest engineer.

In the late 1980s he left his position with MacMillan Bloedel in British Columbia and moved to Corvallis. He worked on several research projects with OSU and the Forest Service, including the study of early forest land surveys and timber cruise records. Scientists are using his work to study the history of European-American land use in the region, to determine the ages and structures of the region's forests in historical times, and to build models of carbon use and cycling by forests.

He was keenly interested in the history of logging and railroads in the Northwest. "Harold became an invaluable source of information on logging history in western Oregon, especially in the Coast Range, and he was working on maps providing locations of former logging railroads," says Kermit Cromack, professor in the Forest Science department and a long-time colleague and friend. "Though that era has long passed into history, the impacts of that management era and of other events, such as the Tillamook Burn, are of continuing interest in current issues confronting forest management."

Sandstrom is survived by his daughter, Jocelyn, of Victoria, B.C., and a longtime friend, Doris Tilles of Corvallis.

Boyd Rasmussen

Boyd Lester Rasmussen '35, former deputy chief of the Forest Service, died in August. He was 85. Boyd Rasmussen was born April 19, 1913, in Glenns Ferry, Idaho. After graduating from the Oregon State School of Forestry, he went to work for the Forest Service as a junior forester. His Forest Service career spanned 37 years; Rasmussen rose through the administrative ranks until he retired as deputy chief in Washington, D.C., in 1966. He then served as a director at the Bureau of Land Management until 1971, and then as staff officer to the Secretary of the Interior for international forestry affairs. From 1972 to 1984 he served as a forestry liaison to Congress.

He was a member of the Meridian United Church of Christ in Wilsonville, Ore., and Good Shepherd United Church of Christ in Shaurita, Ariz.—dividing his residence between those two cities.

Survivors include his wife, Dorothy, son John of Vancouver, Wash., daughter Mary P. Long of Richland, Wash., four grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.
A little rain didn’t stop the festivities at Fernhopper Day ‘98. More photos inside.

The new Forestry and Forest Products Manufacturing Research Laboratory will help College scientists provide knowledge and technology transfer in many important areas, including advanced manufacturing systems, wood composite technology, engineered wood products, pulp and paper chemistry, wood preservation, forest genetics, silviculture, and integrated forest protection.

It’s beginning to look a lot like . . . a building

With walls, window holes, and a roof, the Forestry and Forest Products Manufacturing Research Laboratory is finally looking like a building. The roofs for both wings were framed in June, and the brick siding was laid on the outer walls. In July workers began building the administrative wing’s stair tower.

In August the windows went in and the metal roof panels were installed. Soon workers will begin to install the drywall sheeting inside. “The sound of drywall screw guns and the smell of taping mud will be prevalent for the next few months,” says project manager Henry Alaman. “To a general contractor these are the sweet sounds and smells of progress.”
Fernhopper Day '98 dawned drizzly, and the fashion of the day was waterproof parkas and boots as Fernhoppers gathered at the CH2M Hill Alumni Center for coffee and sweet rolls. From there the buses went to McDonald Forest. We picked our way down a slick and twisty trail to join Forestry faculty members Liz Dent and Bill Emmingham (above right), dressed for the weather, at a silvicultural study plot. John Bliss, new to the Forestry faculty this year, listens intently (top left). Did we mention it was raining?

Then it was back up the trail (muddied by many feet) and onto the buses for a brief but bumpy ride to the Forestry Club Cabin, where lunch awaited.

The skies were clearing a bit as we gathered at Cronemiller Lake for a logging-sports demonstration by Forestry students. A few brave souls decided to take part: that's the Dean letting fly with the axe (below), and Al Minato ’50 (opposite, top) and Marv Rowley ’50 (center) holding up their end of the two-man crosscut.

Then it was back to the Alumni Center to feast on roast chicken, ribs, and beans, applaud as students and professors were honored, and sing some of the old songs. Clarence Richen ’35 (opposite, top far right) visited with old friends, and Marv Rowley (bottom) took a well-deserved rest.
Leo Wilson

Leo Walter Wilson ’58, who had a long career with the Oregon Department of Forestry, died in May at his home in Philomath. He was 72. Leo Wilson was born in Jasper, Ore., and raised in Lowell. He attended Oregon College of Education (now Western Oregon University) for two years, then transferred to the Oregon State School of Forestry. After receiving his degree, he worked for many years for the state forestry department, fighting forest fires and serving as a fire lookout. After postings at Springfield, Newport, Siletz, and Dallas, he moved to Philomath to become a district forester. He was then promoted to a position at the Salem head office. While there he developed forest fire safety practices, worked with the state legislature on firefighting cost issues, and investigated incidents of arson. He was recognized nationally for his fire safety work with a Bronze Smokey Award.

He was a member of College United Methodist Church in Philomath, served on the Philomath city council, was a Cub Scoutmaster, and advised the high school forestry program. He was recognized by the city in 1996 as an outstanding volunteer.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Lou of Philomath, daughters Sharon Corbin of Beaverton, Kathleen Wilson of Portland, Lori Wilson of Corvallis, and Mary Gaffney of Vancouver, Wash., son Robert Wilson of Prineville, brothers George Wilson and Robert Wilson of Oregon City, and seven grandchildren.

Dahlin

"There was no need for another executive at my level," he says, "and I wouldn't have taken an offer anyway. I was ready to move on."

Working for Cavenham was a unique and satisfying experience, says Dahlin with evident pride. "The company was a rare combination of exceptional people, culture, and accomplishments. I feel a deep pride in having had a major part in the development of Cavenham's organization, from its creation through the sale of its assets and the winding up of its business. It was certainly the fulfillment of my own professional dream."

Dahlin is an active OSU alumnus, serving on the OSU Foundation Board of Trustees. He just accepted a position on the College of Forestry's Dorothy D. Hoener Memorial Fund committee, filling the role of his father's old friend Clarence Richen, who's retiring. Dahlin and his wife, Phyllis, have generously supported OSU causes, including the Forestry Legacy scholarship fund and the Valley Library.

Dahlin and his wife, an interior designer, are building a new house on their farm near Scappoose. For the time being they are living in the barn, in a nicely appointed but cramped upper apartment. With a trace of his former corporate urgency, Dahlin frets at the slowness of the construction. "The house was supposed to be done in May," he says, "and here it is August . . . and our son [Mike, OSU Horticulture '96] is getting married in November."

He doesn't know where his path will lead from here, and that doesn't bother him. "I've done a little consulting, and maybe I'll continue with that. I don't want to work for another big company, unless it's the right situation. I'm just having a lot of fun right now."
Honor Roll of Donors

E ach year the College of Forestry has the pleasure of thanking its Honor Roll of Donors for their contributions over the past year.

Everyone who made a gift to the College of Forestry through the OSU Foundation between July 1, 1997 and June 30, 1998 appears in this Honor Roll. In addition, those who have made major gifts in previous years will continue to be recognized in our top four recognition groups.

This year’s listing is divided into nine recognition groups:

• The Harris Society honors donors who have given $1 million or more cumulatively over their lifetimes. It’s named in honor of Milton Harris, a 1926 OSU graduate and distinguished chemist, who gave the first $1 million gift to benefit the University.

• The Strand Society recognizes donors who have given $250,000 or more cumulatively over their lifetimes. It is named in honor of past OSU President A.L. Strand.

• The Council of Regents honors donors who have given or pledged $50,000 or more within a 10-year period or who have made a deferred gift of $100,000 or more.

• The Presidents Club recognizes donors who have given or pledged $25,000 or more within a 10-year period or who have made a deferred gift of $50,000 or more.

Because membership in these top four recognition groups is for the donor’s lifetime, names are listed from the time a gift is made until the donor dies.

• The Jensen Society acknowledges annual gifts of $1,000 or more. It is named in honor of former OSU President James H. Jensen.

• The Gilfillan Club recognizes annual gifts of $500 to $999. It is named in honor of F.A. Gilfillan, former Dean of the College of Science.

• The Snell Club honors annual gifts of $250 to $499. It is named in honor of Margaret Comstock Snell, OSU professor from 1889 to 1908.

• The Biddle Club acknowledges annual gifts of $100 to $249. It is named in honor of Alice Biddle, who in 1870 became the first woman graduate of OSU.

• The 1868 Club recognizes annual gifts of up to $99. It is named in honor of the year OSU became the agricultural college of the State of Oregon.

While we make every effort to obtain an accurate listing, mistakes do occur. To anyone we have inadvertently left off the list or placed in the wrong category, or whose name we have misspelled, please accept our apologies. We would appreciate being informed of our oversight. Please contact Gail Wells at the College of Forestry, 218 Peavy Hall, Corvallis OR 97331; telephone number is 541-737-4241; e-mail address is wellsg@frl.orst.edu.

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Some people are surprised to learn that Royal Jackson teaches in a forestry school. Jackson, trained in history and natural resources and specializing in wildland recreation and nature-based tourism, sees no contradiction.

"I tell my students, 'We may be in the College of Forestry, but forestry deals with more than trees nowadays,’” he says. "Society has a much broader view of what forests are for.”

It's only natural, he says, that the College of Forestry should be responsive to the attitudes of all the people it serves. "The forestry discipline is finally responding to all of what society wants from its forests—not just timber, not just recreation, but watershed health, wildlife habitat, cultural resources, the whole range of things.”

Jackson, an associate professor in the Forest Resources department, teaches and advises students majoring in Forest Recreation Resources, the fastest-growing of the College’s four undergraduate majors. He has the heaviest teaching and advising load in the College. “Undergraduates are my constituency,” he says, “and that’s good, because I like interacting with students. I like the mentoring role.”

This year Jackson was honored with the University’s Dar Reese award for Excellence in Advising. He received the award on University Day, Sept. 16. He has already received the Elizabeth Ritchie Distinguished Professor award for excellence in teaching.

He's the only professor at OSU who has won both awards. (“Probably a case of mistaken identity,” he jokes.) He's also won the Aufderheide Award, a student-chosen honor given to the best teachers at the College of Forestry.

Recreation Resources deals with the people side of resource management. Its practitioners work not only in forests but in other undeveloped settings such as rangelands and deserts—lands historically regarded mostly from a commodity perspective.

That wildland recreation has become an essential part of forest resource management, Jackson says, is a sign that the forestry discipline is coming of age. When the Recreation Resources program joined the College’s Engineering, Management, and Products programs in the early 1970s—it was moved from OSU’s health and physical-education curricu-
lum—both parties regarded the merger with some suspicion. The edges of each discipline seemed too far apart to meet.

But over the past two decades, Jackson believes, the mingling of commodity and recreational perspectives has cross-fertilized and enriched the forestry programs at OSU.

For one thing, it's added a separate dimension to the economics of forestry—giving it a language for justifying wildland recreation in economic terms. It's also confronted the recreation-management discipline with the reality of having to balance people's recreational, aesthetic, and spiritual desires with society's demand for fuel, shelter, meat, and minerals.

In short, the meeting of these two edges in the College of Forestry has enriched the range of outlooks on land management issues. The result is a more varied and multidimensional educational experience for Forestry students.

Jackson grew up in a place where two edges meet—in New Mexico, near the border, an environment rich in natural wonders and cultural crosscurrents. "The border region made an indelible impression on my psyche," he says. "It is a place of large spaces, deserts, vast public lands, Indian and Mexican culture." His family were ranchers who "starved out" in the 1930s and moved to town; "I grew up with cowboys," Jackson says.

He knew when he entered the University of New Mexico that he wanted a career somehow connected with the landscape he loved. But he didn't envision working in wildland recreation or nature tourism—there was no such field as yet.

Around this time, however, social scientists were becoming interested in how Americans spent their leisure time, and where, and why. Geographers, sociologists, and economists were converging on the topic from different perspectives.

Jackson was part of it almost from the beginning. He joined the faculty at Oregon State in 1970, leaving a job as professor of recreation at a California university.

In his time here he has developed and taught a long list of courses relating to recreation management and policy. He's also led many student field trips, and he developed the annual Field School, required of Recreation Resources majors. This September Jackson will take about 30 students to the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in Utah.

The students will work with land-management professionals, putting in volunteer time on real-life projects. "These are not make-work assignments," says Jackson. For example, in last year's Field School (which also took place at Grand Staircase-Escalante), students surveyed visitors about their recreation habits, hiked into the back country to scrub graffiti off canyon walls, created interpretive displays, and devised a pilot project to encourage no-trace camping in the fragile desert environment.

Amid all this, Jackson has found time to conduct historical and cultural research all over the West and both north and south of the border. In one major oral-history project, Jackson interviewed members of the Northern Cheyenne tribe in Montana to get their perspectives on the Battle of the Little Big Horn, in which their grandfathers and great-grandfathers had defeated Custer's Seventh Cavalry in 1876.

Though he's been here 28 years, Jackson still finds it exciting to be part of an emerging discipline, at a school where the edges meet in a fruitful crosscultural mingling. "I feel I'm lucky to be in a field that's so rich in substance," he says. "Rich in the land, the water, the people who use the landscape. Rich in wild places. My field deals with the best real estate in the world."
Energetic and creative
For Dick Dahlin, these are family traits

Dick Dahlin ’65 is modest about his talents, but the fact is that his rise to the executive suite in the company that once was Crown Zellerbach (and is now Cavenham Forest Industries) was stunningly fast.

Now retired from Cavenham as vice president and general manager of Northwest operations, at the tender age of 55, the energetic Dahlin leaves a reputation for trying to find better ways to do things—even improving things that didn’t seem to need improvement.

“I became a change catalyst,” he says. “I seem to have a need—don’t know exactly what it is—a driving need for change. I left a record of good changes behind me.”

Perhaps he gets that trait from his father, Verus Dahlin, whose creative efforts to get an education led him to the Oregon State School of Forestry at the age of 26—and finally to graduation at age 72.

Verus Dahlin had only an eighth-grade education. He’d dropped out of school to work on the family farm. His Swedish-immigrant father had insisted on it.

Later, assuming his education was over, Verus Dahlin got a summer job working for the Forest Service on the Mapleton Ranger District, not far from his family home near Florence, Oregon. “The district ranger there inspired my dad,” says Dick. “He turned him on to the possibility of greater things.”

Verus began to dream of being a forester.

But a forester needed a college education. Verus didn’t even have a high-school diploma. He traveled to Oregon State and began knocking on doors. Rebuffed several times, he finally persuaded college officials to let him in, conditionally. He would have to prove himself, they said.

“Dad had a tough time in college,” says Dick Dahlin. “Here he was with an eighth-grade education, and he was twenty-six years old, and he’d never been out of western Lane County in his life.”

But term after term, studying hard, he succeeded.
On the eve of graduation, according to the family story, Verus suffered a bitter
disappointment. He was called into the Dean’s office and informed that he lacked
several required credits. They were credits
that most students received simply for
having finished high school. But Verus
had never set foot inside a high school. So
he didn’t graduate with his class.

It was a blow, but in 1935 Verus got
a job with the Forest Service anyway.
Eventually he fulfilled his lifelong dream
of becoming district ranger at Mapleton,
following in the footsteps of his mentor.

“So it never made a difference in his
career,” says his son. “But it always
bothered Dad that he didn’t have that
degree. He just felt something was unfin-
ished in his life.”

Perhaps because of his own sense of
incompleteness, Verus insisted that all
four of his children go to college. “It was
just something understood, inevitable, like
death and taxes.” Dick and his two broth-
ers all chose OSU. “It seemed like the
natural place to go. We used to joke with
Dad that he should come down and take
classes with us, finish up his degree. But
he was working and raising a family, and
he never had the time.”

In the late 1970s, Dick’s younger
sister, Mary, looked into her father’s
history at OSU. Verus was in his 70s and
long since retired. His daughter asked
President Robert MacVicar and Dean Carl
Stoltenberg: what did her dad need to do
to finish this thing? The dean and the
president agreed that his 32 years in the
Forest Service would serve as an adequate
substitute for the few credits he lacked.

In 1978, Verus Dahlin, in cap and
gown, walked in the commencement
exercises. He’d waited a long time, but
finally he had his college degree.

After graduating in Forest Manage-
ment in 1965, Dick Dahlin was hired right
out of school by Crown Zellerbach. When
he accepted a forest engineer’s job at
Vernonia, Oregon, Dick’s father was
delighted—his old teacher and mentor at
Oregon State, Clarence Richen (Forest
Management ’35), was Crown’s vice
president for timber. “My dad told me,
‘You’ll never go wrong working for
Clarence Richen.’”

After three years in the Army, where
he served in Vietnam, Dahlin rejoined
Crown and began his rapid rise. “I had
about 12 different moves . . . I was single
then, and pretty nimble. I was looking for
opportunities, getting promoted pretty
fast, and I was willing to take the trans-
fers.”

His reputation for creative problem-
solving was rising, and it got him some
tough assignments—none tougher than
trying to save two faltering sawmills in
northwestern Oregon. That was in 1981,
when the whole industry was on the skids.
“Stumpage was high, lumber prices were
low, and sawmills were just getting
squeezed,” he says.

The mills eventually were closed. “I
felt I had failed,” says Dahlin, but the
company evidently thought otherwise, for
it promoted him to regional manager for
Northwest timber operations at the Port-
land headquarters, with responsibility for
about a million acres of company timber-
lands.

Dahlin stayed with the company
through the next tumultuous years as it
was taken over in a corporate raid in 1985
and, as Cavenham Forest Industries,
underwent a strenuous downsizing. These
were turbulent, traumatic, but exciting
times. “I was under more pressure than I
had ever known. I never dreamed, back at
OSU, that I’d be in this kind of environ-
ment.” The stresses continued as the
company was purchased by Hanson PLC
in 1990. In 1996 Hanson sold the
company’s assets—1.85 million acres of
timberlands in the Northwest and South
along with five sawmills—for $2.1
billion.

Many former Cavenham employees
went to work for Willamette Industries,
which purchased some of Cavenham’s
timberland and a sawmill. But not Dahlin.

Please turn to Dahlin, page 13
Kudos to faculty, staff, and students

Outstanding graduating seniors and graduate students received accolades at the close of the 1997-98 school year. Several Forestry seniors were honored on Fernhopper Day in May. Andrea Thorpe and Alan DeJong received the Paul M. Dunn Senior Award, the College’s highest honor for graduating students. DeJong also won the Bowerman Leadership Award together with Zee Ghazarian.

Mindy Crandall and Kris McCall won the Kelly Axe Award, given for students’ work “behind the scenes,” in less-visible, less-rewarded volunteer jobs.

Also at Fernhopper Day, Barbara Gartner, assistant professor in the Forest Products department, received the Aufderheide Award for excellence in teaching, and Jim Wilson, professor in the Forest Products department, won the Kliewer Award for his excellent mentoring of students. Both awards are conferred by Forestry students and are significant tokens of student affection and respect. Judy Sitton, office manager in the Forestry Media Center, received a trophy in the form of an aqua-green model 1957 Chevy in honor of her outstanding service to students.

Forest Science graduate students and faculty were honored at the department picnic in June. Master’s student Michelle Stubbs and doctoral student Kristin Vanderbilt received the Faculty Award for Achievement. Associate Professor Mark Harmon received the Student Award to Outstanding Faculty.

Marvin Pyles, Paul Adams, Bob Beschta, and Arne Skaugset, all faculty in the Forest Engineering department, have received the Oregon Society of American Foresters Research Award. They were honored for their hard work in preparing a report for Oregon governor John Kitzhaber on the relationship between forest management and landslides. The award was presented at the annual OSAF conference in May.

Susan Stafford, professor in the Forest Science department, left the College this fall to become head of the Department of Forest Sciences in the College of Natural Resources at Colorado State University in Fort Collins. Stafford teaches and conducts research in applied statistics, multivariate analysis and experimental design, research information management, scientific databases, GIS applications, and other data-management topics. She had been with the College of Forestry for almost 20 years and has received several awards, including the 1998 OSU Alumni Association Distinguished Professor Award. “I believe we all have two families, the one at home and the one at work,” she told well-wishing colleagues at a farewell reception in July. “My family here has been very, very good, and I will miss you all.” Forest Science department head Logan Norris presented Stafford with a plaque that read, “Scientist, Teacher, Mentor, and Friend.”
Pam Henderson, director of student services for the College of Forestry, was chosen as the 1998 winner of the University Professional Development Award. The award recipient is chosen yearly by a committee of the Faculty Senate to recognize supervisors who excel in encouraging employees to participate in professional and educational development opportunities. She was nominated by her staff and others at the College. Henderson received the award on University Day, Sept. 16.

Mike Cloughesy, Extension Forester in Lane County, has transferred to Peavy Hall for the next year, at least, to serve as head of outreach education for the College. Cloughesy will direct the College’s Conference Office and work with faculty to develop and deliver continuing-education programs. He will also lead an effort to identify unmet needs in forestry continuing education and develop a model to make the College’s efforts more effective.

The Conference Office puts on about 40 continuing-education programs yearly, attracting about 2,000 participants, mostly professionals in forestry and land management. “We’ll be redesigning the way we do business,” says Cloughesy. “Up till now the College faculty have had most of the responsibility for developing and delivering continuing-ed programs. As director, I hope to share some of that content load.”

As Extension Forester, Cloughesy has wide experience in designing educational programs for a variety of clients. His efforts as outreach director will be evaluated after nine months, and he may take the opportunity to stay on if the feedback is good, he says.

Dean to retire

Dean George Brown will retire in September of 1999. The Dean made the announcement at the annual College faculty and staff meeting in September, as this issue of Focus on Forestry was going to press.

He cited both professional and personal reasons for his decision. “I believe I’ve accomplished what I set out to do nine years ago,” he said. “Together we have moved this College forward at an unbelievable pace in spite of some of the worst budgets since the Depression. We have a new building nearly ready to occupy, the College’s endowment is the highest in the University, we’ve recruited some outstanding new faculty, and we’ll soon add three new endowed chairs.” It is a good time, he said, to recruit a new Dean. “Changes in leadership help to revitalize colleges like ours and help them grow.” Brown, 59, also said he is ready to step back from the rigorous pace of the Dean’s job and spend more time with his wife, Joan, and family.

When he retires next year, Brown will have served on the OSU faculty for 33 years and as Dean for nearly 10 years. He pledged to remain an active leader until then: “I intend to run at full speed.” A search committee will be appointed within a few weeks, and Brown said he hopes to have a new Dean on board by July or August of 1999.

A forthcoming special edition of Focus on Forestry will highlight the Brown years and detail the process for recruiting the next Dean.
Two new Web sites are online

Two new Web sites highlighting various Pacific Northwest trees are now online. The Tree of the Month Web site features colorfully illustrated pages detailing not only the natural history but the aesthetic qualities of each month's selected tree. Here is an entry for May's selection: "Unlike any other tree in the region, Pacific dogwood (Cornus nuttallii) sparkles in the dark coniferous forests where it makes its home. Not unlike stars in the sky, the bright white bracts of the dogwood captivate any springtime visitor to the moist forests of the Northwest. The delicate and unparalleled blossoms grace the thin arching twigs of the dogwood in April and May, and in some cases, again later in the season. Well worth a trip of any distance, these colorful trees astound all who find them ..." The viewer may also learn about trees featured in previous months.

The Tree of the Month site was designed and built by OSU graduate Ryan Bidwell and Ed Jensen, associate professor in the Forest Resources department, with help from College staff members Sandie Arbogast and Kathy Howell. It can be found at www.cof.orst.edu/cof/fr/outreach/treeofmonth.

The second Web site, also beautifully illustrated, explores the topic of quaking aspen in the western United States. The page was developed by Bill Ripple, associate professor in the Forest Resources department and director of the Environmental Remote Sensing Applications Lab (ERSAL) at the College. It includes the work of Eric Larsen, a doctoral candidate who is researching the remote sensing of changes in aspen in Yellowstone National Park. The Web site, also built by Ryan Bidwell, can be found at www.cof.orst.edu/cof/fr/research/aspen/.

Captivating. Ryan Bidwell (left) consults with Ed Jensen about the Tree of the Month Web site.