

FOCUS

Fall 2009

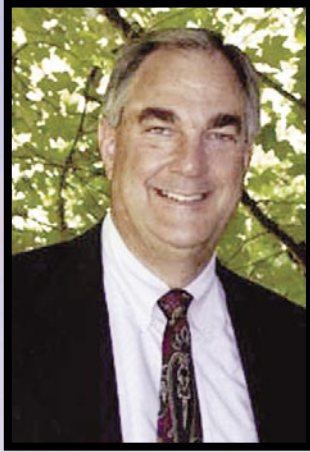
THE MAGAZINE OF OSU COLLEGE OF FORESTRY



Generation to Generation

Introducing future foresters
to the latest mill technology

Jory: An Oregon Original • Birds on the Brain • From Stumps to Satellites • Keeping Oregon Green
Non-Simple Economics • School's Out(doors) • Dancing a New Dance • Singing a New Song



“Not your father’s Forestry” is a tagline that our staff was considering for student recruiting. I had to pause over that one for a moment. Many of our scientists and students still concentrate on forest production, engineering, harvest and products, as the College has for decades. But now this is all done within a broader environmental framework, and within the concept of optimizing multiple, and sometimes conflicting, goals for our forestlands. Plus, our expertise and curricula have expanded into areas that were a curiosity 30 to 50 years ago, but are now critical to ensuring that forests continue to contribute to a healthy planet, a healthy economy, and the health and safety of people.

The impacts of climate change, competition for use of forestlands, development of new products and markets for sustainably managed forests, and green building initiatives are just some of the new areas for research and policy implications. This issue of *Focus* highlights some of the current and emerging research by both newer and well-established faculty, and emphasizes the broad range of work associated with forestry and natural resources. For a comprehensive review of Forestry’s activities I invite you to read our annual report to the Provost, http://www.cof.orst.edu/news/Forestry_ProvRpt0809_final.pdf

While some subjects may have changed since many of you were in school, the goal for our teaching has not—to produce highly skilled, workforce ready graduates. Our students continue to impress me with their enthusiasm, plans, and overall ability. You can read about some of their individual efforts in this issue of *Focus*. This past June, we honored the largest graduating class in the College since the 1970s. Employers tell us to keep them coming; the job demand will rebound as the country comes out of the recession. We see moderate on-campus growth in this fall’s enrollment, filling Peavy’s classrooms with freshmen, junior college transfers, and graduate students. Our Ecampus program in Natural Resources continues to support growing enrollment from all corners of the country. While declining endowment values and earnings have reduced our ability to provide as much student support as in the recent past, the College was still able to award nearly \$400,000 in fellowships and scholarships—thanks to our generous donors.

Oregon’s legislative session ended with 10% budget reductions for Forestry and OSU. This was in addition to a 5% reduction for the ending fiscal year. However, this was better than the earlier prediction for cuts of 15% to 30%. Thank you to all who contacted their elected representatives about the importance of Forestry, the Forest Research Lab, and higher education in general. The outlook for the larger portion of our budget that relies on the Harvest Tax and timber sales from our own forests is still looking bleak for the next 12 to 18 months. There are also unknowns with Oregon’s economy and referendums regarding tax increases, so we must still plan for the potential of further reductions. OSU is considering a variety of actions to reduce expenses, including consolidations, eliminations, and reorganizations of programs. The future impacts on Forestry are still to be determined.

If you plan to visit the campus for Homecoming, October 31, please join us at Richardson Hall for the pre-game tailgater 3 hours before kick-off. Food, drinks and fun for all.

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

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Soil Whisperer finds her true roots

Cover photo: Second-growth Douglas-fir log on a mill in-feed after debarking. Photo credit: Matt Peterson (WSE).



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If you like reading *Focus on Forestry*, but could do without the paper copy, let us know! You can sign up to receive electronic-only copies of *Focus* beginning with the spring 2010 issue. To receive your electronic copy instead of a paper copy, send your email address to focusonforestry@oregonstate.edu. Please include your name, the mailing address where the *Focus* is delivered, and a note that you'd like to go paperless!

JORY

Candidate for Oregon State Soil Depicted in Artwork

By Paul W. Adams



"Jory", 1999, paper and forest duff, Steven Siegel.

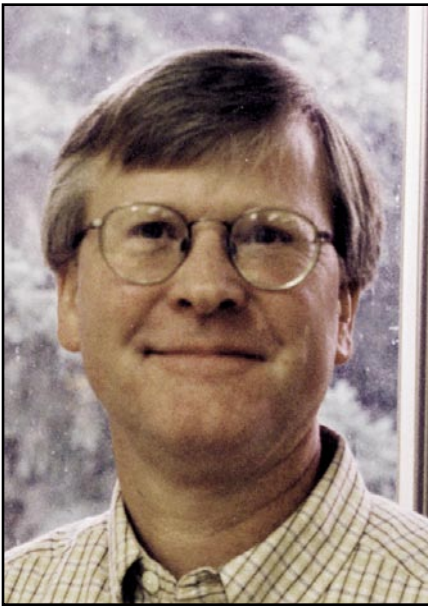
Not long after Richardson Hall was completed in 1999, a wall sculpture was placed in the second story Richardson-Peavy "knuckle." The work is called "Jory" and it depicts a unique Oregon soil type that recently was considered by the Oregon Legislature (HJR 21) as the official State Soil.

Was it just a coincidence that the soil that inspired the artwork also became the focus of legislative action to name it the State Soil? Well – partly, but the full story goes back about 12 years when Dean George Brown and an Oregon Arts Commission committee were considering ideas for artwork to cover the fresh, bare walls of Richardson Hall.

A recent conversation with Dean Emeritus Brown about that and other College of Forestry artwork provided some insights into the long and rich history of the College's artwork and other support for art. Even before Oregon's "1% for Art" bill, which passed in 1975 and mandated artwork in every new or remodeled state building, Peavy Hall had a unique and impressive display of artwork.

"When Peavy Hall was built in the early 1970s, the School of Forestry was given an anonymous donation of \$10,000 for artwork, which was a lot of money in those days," Brown explains. "We think it came from a local leader in the timber industry." A committee helped select the artists and artwork, which at the time was perhaps the strongest collection in any building on campus.

The Peavy artwork donation may have been spurred in part by the vocal disappointment of some alumni when some extraordinary Depression-era wood murals had to be left behind in the School's former home in Moreland Hall. But even that issue had a happy and fitting ending when the murals were moved from Moreland and placed in the Richardson foyer, using some of the "1% for Art" funds. "The [Richardson] architects were looking for a signature piece for the entry and they perked right up when I told them about the murals," says Brown. "They designed the foyer specifically to highlight the murals." The removal and transfer from Moreland Hall presented some challenges, in both logistics and cross-campus diplomacy, but those who understood the murals' history and now-deteriorating condition recognized the opportunity to restore and return them to their rightful home.



Professor Paul Adams.

And the “Jory” sculpture? Well, I can take a bit of credit in providing the artist some inspiration, but George Brown helped make that possible, as well as this broader story about the College’s artwork collection. As a member of the committee that selected artists for the new works in Richardson, George thought that an art piece could be inspired by a key forest resource, the soil. And as one of the College’s soil scientists, George asked me to meet with an artist, Steven Siegel, to discuss the possibility and perhaps provide some inspiration.

I spent a couple of hours with Siegel, and showed him some 35mm color slides of forest soils. We also walked up to Strand Hall to see some soil monoliths, actual soil profiles plasticized and mounted on wood. Among the monoliths was a “Jory Silt Loam,” which also was featured in some of the color slides he saw. I remember telling him that Jory was a “classic” forest soil of the Coast Range foothills, and that it often had a deep duff layer and was highly productive.

Many months later the soils-inspired art piece was mounted in the “knuckle,” along with a small plaque with its title, date (1999), the media (“Paper and Forest Duff”), and the artist’s name. And although Jory isn’t yet our “State Soil,” it seems a fitting choice for both that and some artwork with a tie to Oregon forestry.



Soil and duff from McDonald Forest.

Artwork, both older and newer, is featured throughout Richardson and Peavy Halls, including some offices and classrooms. The Weyerhaeuser Gallery (first floor Richardson-Peavy “knuckle” area) features some more recently donated works, including several by renowned forestry artist Ken Brauner. In addition, changing art displays can be seen on some of the walls in this area.

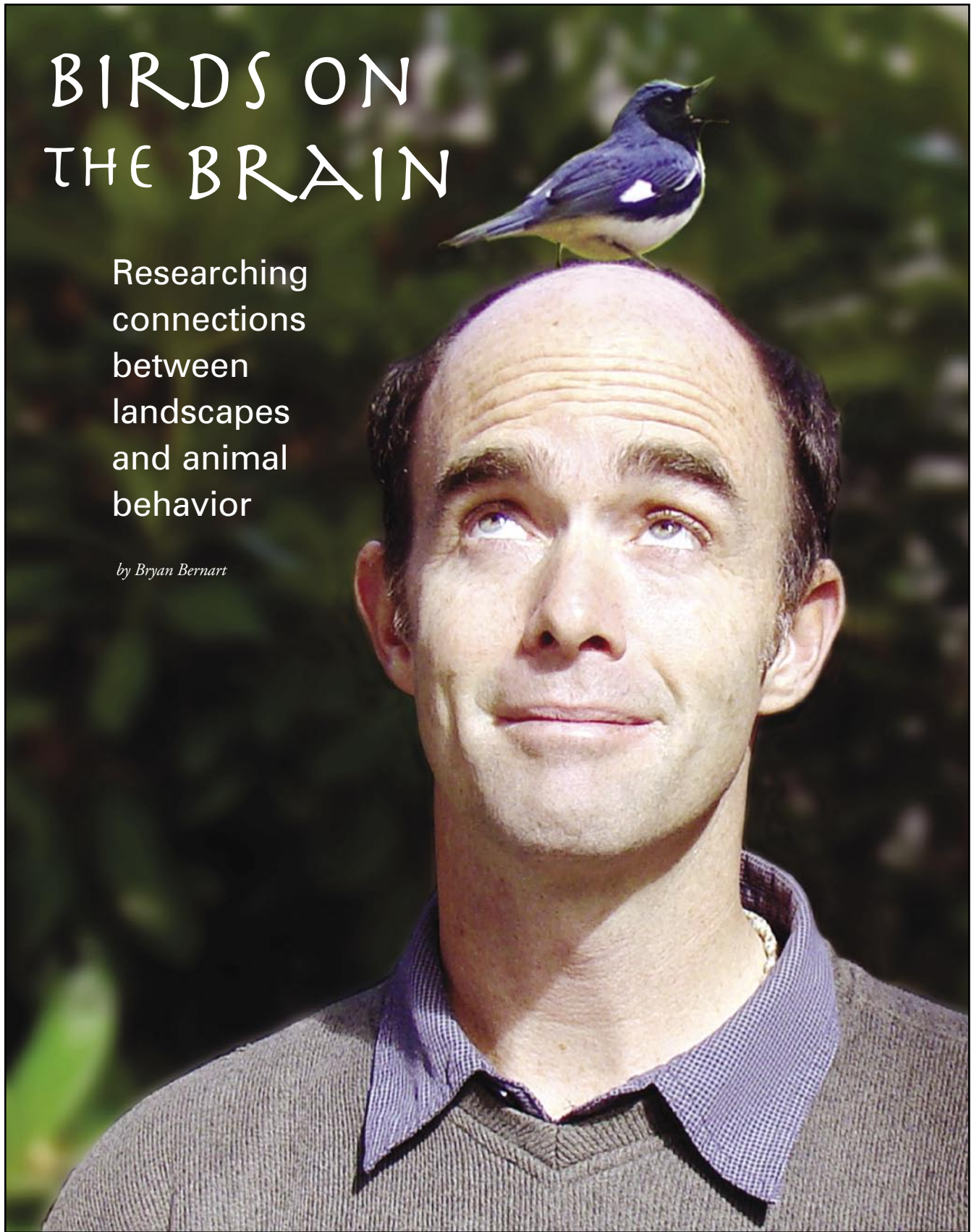
Paul Adams is a Professor and Extension Specialist in the Forest Engineering, Resources and Management Department. He remembers admiring the log raft sculpture in Peavy 143 while being interviewed for his faculty position in early 1980.

The Jory series consists of very deep, well-drained soils that formed in colluvium derived from basic igneous rock. These soils are in the foothills surrounding the Willamette Valley. They have been mapped on more than 300,000 acres (1,200 km²) in western Oregon. They are named after Jory Hill, Marion County, Oregon, which itself is named for the Jory family, who settled in the area in 1852, after traveling along the Oregon Trail.

BIRDS ON THE BRAIN

Researching
connections
between
landscapes
and animal
behavior

by Bryan Bernart



Exploring and learning about the outdoors is second nature to Matt Betts, who grew up in a family that enjoyed camping, hiking, and naturalizing together in New Brunswick, Canada. Now, as an assistant professor of forest wildlife landscape ecology in the Department of Forest Ecosystems and Society, Betts is still exploring nature, but this time as part of his research on the subjects of ecology and animal behavior, particularly that of birds.

Betts landed at the OSU College of Forestry after completing post-doctoral work at Dartmouth College; his bachelor's and doctoral degrees are from the University of New Brunswick and his master's is from the University of Waterloo (both in Canada). Betts's current research at OSU investigates the mechanisms causing the distribution of species, and also what kinds of attributes factor into determining satisfactory habitat. Habitat choice is "extremely important for wildlife reproduction and survival, just as it is for humans," he notes. Despite the significance of this decision in regards to species' survival, there has been relatively little research into the cues that animals use to make this choice in habitat. In order to investigate this topic, Betts's team studied migratory songbirds in the White Mountains of New Hampshire.

Betts is undertaking a multi-year study in the Oregon Coast Range on the influence of intensive forest management practices on bird populations; Swainson's thrush (photo) is one of the focal species.



Green hermit hummingbird, Las Cruces, Costa Rica.

Traditionally, it's been thought that animals use structural cues when determining where to settle. The term "structural cues" refers to physical attributes of a given environment, such as the number coniferous trees found there or the density of grass stems in the area. The goal of Betts's research was to test the hypothesis that birds rely more on social information than on these structural cues. "Everyone knows that songbirds sing mainly to attract mates and to defend territories," he explains. "But before our research, no one had really investigated whether other birds, in this case the black-throated blue warbler, might eavesdrop on the sounds of more experienced songbirds in order to determine a site that is high-quality."

In order to test this hypothesis, Betts recorded the songs of male songbirds at various sites and then played back the audio in various places where the "eavesdropping" birds might settle. "For this experiment, we did playbacks of male songbirds singing in really young forest in order to see if warblers would settle there, even though under normal circumstances, they nest almost exclusively in older forest," Betts says. The results of the study supported his hypothesis—after hearing songbirds' calls, the warblers settled in the younger forest.

Betts's plans for the future include further studies of avian species, this time in the tropics. He explains, "My PhD student, Adam Hadley, and I are looking at hummingbird movement and pollination dynamics and how these are affected by forest fragmentation." Betts and Hadley have been spending time in southern Costa Rica, observing how individual hummingbirds move between sites and using radio transmitters to monitor their progress. Using a global

dataset, Betts is also conducting an analysis of bird range shifts as a function of climate change. "The question is whether such shifts are predictable across species and/or adaptive," he says. His preliminary results suggest that birds with larger brains are more likely to adapt to climate change without necessarily needing to shift their distributions.

Betts considers the scientific process, coupled with the act of discovering new things about nature, to be the most enjoyable part of his job. "It's really fun to examine natural phenomena, to try to explain things that aren't previously understood," he says, "and it becomes even more rewarding when the work you do leads to policy change, which is really what the field of conservation biology is all about. It's rewarding to feel like you're helping to conserve a part of our natural environment."

Matt Betts with recording equipment, Las Cruces, Costa Rica.

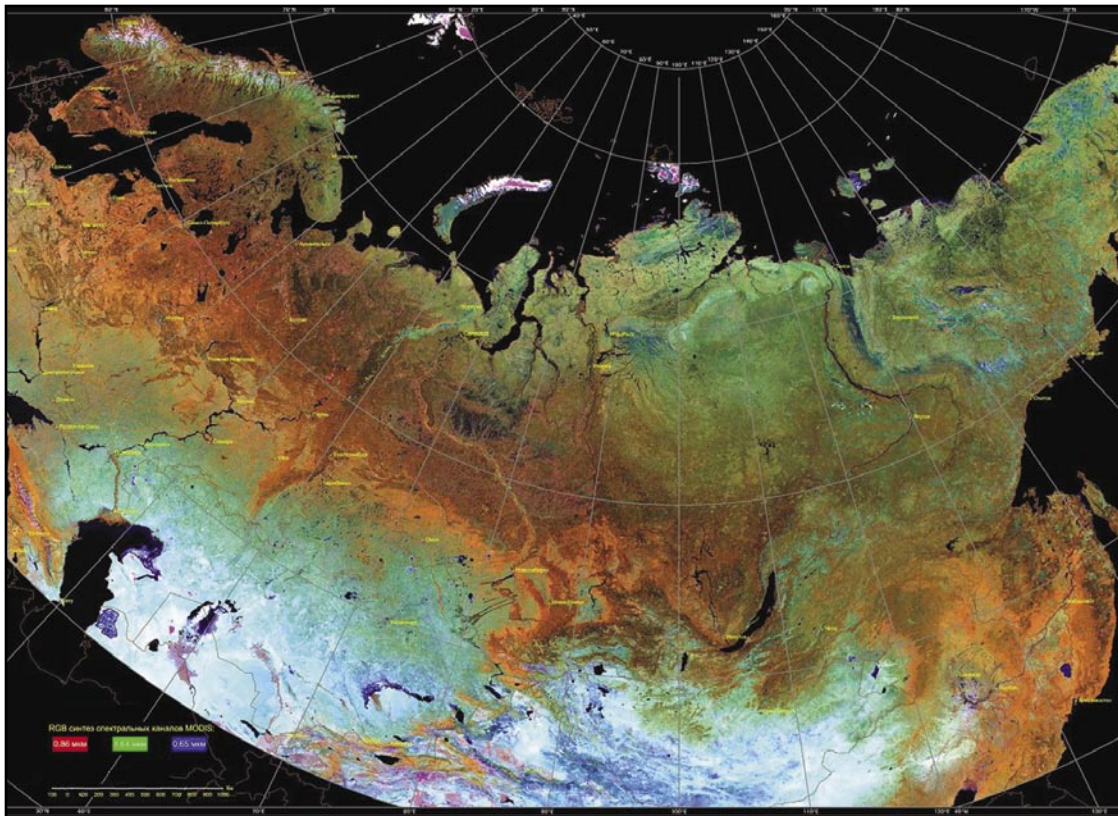


From Stumps to Satellites

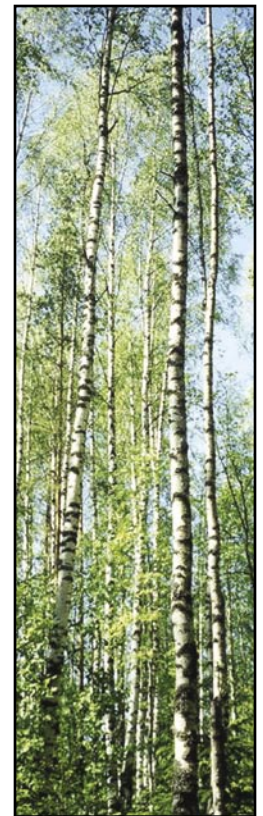
Mapping the new landscape
of carbon science

by Bryan Bernart





Cloud-free summer composite image from moderate resolution satellite sensor (MODIS) over Northern Euroasia (June-August 2005), image credit S. Bartalev.



Birch forest in Russia, photo credit T. Maierseperger.

Olga Krankina, a renowned researcher on carbon in forests, notes that she began her life as a child of the “concrete jungle” in St. Petersburg, Russia. “As you can imagine, there were few actual trees,” she jokes. Going against family tradition, she pursued a career in the outdoors. “My family was full of engineers,” she explains, “They designed electronics, large and small, from airplanes to submarines and everything in between. I wanted to instead follow the path of my grandmother, who made a career in academia as an associate professor in pharmacy.”

Krankina, now a professor of forest science in the Department of Forest Ecosystems and Society at Oregon State, studied forest management and forest science in Russia at St. Petersburg Forest Academy. Her path to the College of Forestry began at a carbon cycling conference in Corvallis, where she met Mark Harmon, a professor of forest science at OSU. “He was giving a talk on

coarse woody debris in carbon cycling, an area I was interested in, and I noticed how passionately he spoke about the need to research the topic more thoroughly,” says Krankina. “We received federal funding to conduct research in carbon cycling of Russian forests at Oregon State, and I’ve been doing so ever since.”

Her current research is centered primarily on large-scale vegetation mapping and assessment of vegetation maps for Northern Eurasia. Satellite technology has made it easy to create new maps describing vegetation in large regions, however, “it’s still as difficult as it always was to discern which map tells the truth and which map doesn’t,” she says with a smile. “My current work is to combine satellite technology with local knowledge in order to improve our understanding of forest distribution and change.”

While Krankina’s research takes place at OSU, she has a worldwide network of collaborators. “We have test sites in Russia, Kazakhstan, China, Mongolia,

Poland, Slovakia, and Ukraine,” Krankina explains. “We take high-resolution satellite images of the test sites and use local expertise to create very detailed and accurate maps. Then we study how well the different commonly used continental vegetation maps describe the terrain. Policy decisions to address global climate change and other environmental issues depend on those large-scale maps and it is critical to know how accurate they are.”

Krankina envisions that her future work will include further studies of satellite imagery applications. One new aim of this work is to coordinate a global set of regional networks that are designed to promote the use of satellite imagery worldwide. “A collaboration between NASA and the USGS made satellite data available to people in Africa who, because of bandwidth restrictions on internet use, would otherwise never have been able to obtain it,” she explains. “We have tremendous resources available to us, and because of this, we can make the choice to use them to help others.”



GENERATION ^{to} generation

Introducing future foresters to the latest
mill technology

by Bryan Bernart



Charles Brunner, associate professor and lead undergraduate advisor in the Department of Wood Science & Engineering (WSE), has forestry in his blood. “My grandfather was an employee of the Forest Service under presidents from Theodore Roosevelt to Franklin Roosevelt,” Brunner says. “My grandfather died before I was born, but my father told me stories about his childhood experiences growing up in Oregon, and that piqued my interest in the state and forestry.”

Brunner was born in Washington, DC, and grew up on the East Coast, but his father was born in Portland. “I had always wanted to go to the West and experience the sorts of things he enjoyed while living here,” he explains. “Because of that and because of Oregon State’s reputation as a great forestry school, I jumped at the chance to come here.”

Brunner joined the Forest Products department (now WSE) in 1984, after earning a BS, MBA, and PhD from Virginia Tech. During his time at OSU, he has spent much of his energy conducting research in the field of process modeling and organization. “The subject of my doctorate was the creation of algorithms to optimize yields from short lumber and much of my current work continues in that vein,” he says.

At present, graduate student Matthew Peterson is working with Brunner, Jim Reeb (WSE), and David Porter (IME) on using the end-grain ring patterns to trace material through the milling process. “It’s an application of scanning technology for process control,” says Brunner. “The idea is that using biometrics, we can follow mill flow and see what went right and what went wrong with an individual log.” His main focus is on increasing mill recovery and throughput by better understanding the processing system. However, every mill is different, and “there is no ‘one-size-fits-all’ solution,” says Brunner. “Even when we believe we understand how a process works for one mill, we find another where something different occurs. There’s still a lot of research left to do.”



Charles Brunner (left) advising senior Wood Science & Technology (WST) undergrad Becky Jensen.

In addition to his research, Brunner teaches courses in Wood Science and Engineering at the College of Forestry. During the 2009/2010 academic year, he will teach WSE 210, Wood Technology and Utilization, WSE 211, Wood Properties and Measurements Laboratory, and WSE 446, Secondary Wood Products Manufacturing. He is also the lead academic advisor to undergraduate students in the WST program. It’s clear that Brunner enjoys the teaching and advising aspect of his work. “It’s interesting to see students bloom and really find themselves,” he explains. “Students come here, often from other technical programs, and find that our curriculum is really hands-on. It’s exciting to see them discover the practical side of science.”

Brunner recently received the College of Forestry’s Aufderheide Award for Teaching—an honor chosen and conferred by forestry students.

Forestry WST students, accompanied by Charles Brunner (WSE), preparing to assist in a senior project study on “Optimizing Wane Allowance for Maximum Value,” directed by Jim Funck (courtesy faculty, WSE/Weyerhaeuser), during a field trip to the G-P mill in Philomath. Mill photos by Matt Peterson (WSE).





**Micro-mechanics
research for sustainable
bio-composites may
have environmental and
economic impacts**

Lech Muszyński, an assistant professor in wood science and engineering, came to Oregon State University in 2004 from the University of Maine, where he held a post-doc and then an assistant scientist position at the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center (AEWC). “I essentially extended what was planned as a one-year international experience into an experience lasting six years. AEWC was a very exciting place and doing collaborative research there was very rewarding, so I did my best to make it last!” he jokes. Muszyński, a native of Poland, received his M.S. in Wood Technology and Ph.D. in Forestry and Wood Technology from the Agricultural University of Poznań.

His current research at the OSU College of Forestry includes projects that involve looking at hydro-mechanical responses of wood to changing climate conditions. Wood, like many other hygroscopic materials, reacts to environmental changes and deforms under structural load, reacting differently under varying conditions, including moisture content and temperature. “It’s an area that many consider to be ‘researched to death,’” Muszyński says, “but although we’ve been studying it for 60 years, there are still many facets of the subject that are not understood, including the underlying mechanisms that affect wood behavior.”

His aim in researching wood behavior is to characterize the material in terms that can be readily used as input in numerical models and realistic simulations. “Reliable material data turn models into useful tools for discovery and sustainable use of wood in various products,” he says. “But no one has ever attempted to build a database of hygro-mechanical characteristics of wood, catalogued by species, that can be used for accurate modeling. This needs to change.”

Another area of Muszyński’s research extends into the realm of wood-plastics composites. His research interest is in correlating the composite structure to its properties on micro-mechanical level. “Better knowledge on how the wood flour particles interact with the plastics on the microscopic scale is useful in designing better composites for the future,” he says.

Some of these composites may one day appear along Oregon’s roads and highways in the form of snow fences, traffic signs, and mile posts. Muszyński’s research group is currently investigating the technical and economical viability of using low-grade woody biomass from forest thinning (e.g., for fire prevention) in wood-plastic composites used for these products. Muszyński has also been in contact with ODOT’s Sustainability Coordinator about the project. “Wood-plastics used in this way could be sustainable alternatives to clear plastics, steel, and concrete,” he says. “We are halfway through the research project and although we have not yet reached any solid conclusions, we are learning a lot as we go—and there are reasons to be optimistic about the outcome.”

This particular project has also attracted attention from local community leaders, Muszyński notes. One reason is that the creation of such products from wood-plastic composites could help provide jobs in the communities that have been hit hardest by the crisis and stimulate new development where it has been stagnant for decades now.



Top: Lech Muszynski mounts a wood sample in small scale universal testing machine in the wood micromechanics lab at the OSU College of Forestry. The setup is prepared for optical measurement of deformations; bottom: Graduate student Jie Ding (wood science major) talks with Lech Muszynski in the micromechanics lab in Richardson Hall.



Non-Simple Economics

Exploring our complex relationship
with forested landscapes



by Bryan Bernart

Claire Montgomery, a professor of natural resource and forest economics in the Department of Forest Engineering, Resources and Management, recalls that while working as a computer programmer after graduating from Portland State University, she began to tire of the monotony of her work. "I sat in an office, staring at a computer all day," Montgomery says. "I decided that I wanted to do something relevant and active." Growing up in Oregon, she had developed a passion for forests, and that is where she turned.

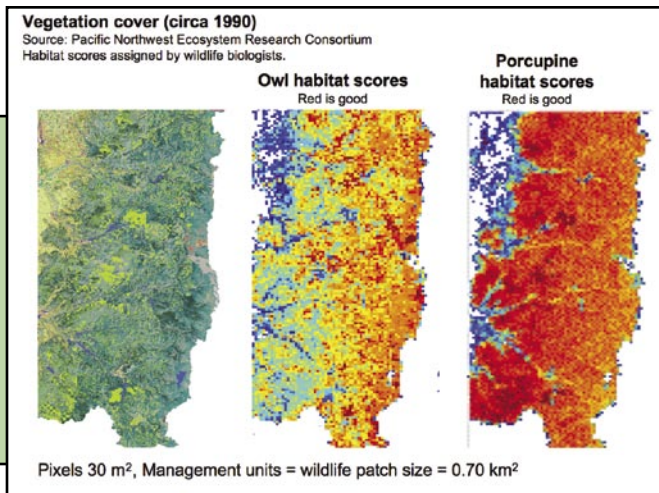
Montgomery moved to Corvallis and obtained her bachelor's degree in forest management from Oregon State in the early 1980s. "At that time, we were in an economic recession," she explains. "The wood products sector was hit hard and people were losing jobs. I didn't know if I was going to find much work, but I didn't regret my time in the College of Forestry. I loved everything I learned."

After some field jobs and a research appointment in forest industry, Montgomery found she was increasingly interested in conflicts and debates over forest policy. This led her to pursue a PhD in economics at the University of Washington. Though

she wrote her dissertation on the housing industry, her first area of research as a post doc was about tradeoffs between wood production and spotted owl protection.

Montgomery finds that some economics concepts can be applied to wildlife population studies. She explains, "Economics is about tradeoffs, meaning, 'what must we give up in order to get more of something else?' When we apply that question to wildlife habitat, we are asking, 'if we reduce timber harvest by some amount, how much do we gain in terms of survival probability for a given species?'"

Montgomery uses advanced tools in order to gauge survival probability, including computer modeling and simulations. Decision making under uncertainty is a growing component in her research because even the most sophisticated models can't foresee all possible outcomes. For example, Montgomery points to the current threat to spotted owl populations posed by the invasion of its historical range by the barred owl. "Nobody predicted that possibility at the time of our analysis," she notes. "It was at that point that I started looking at the spotted owl and realized how important adaptability and learning is."



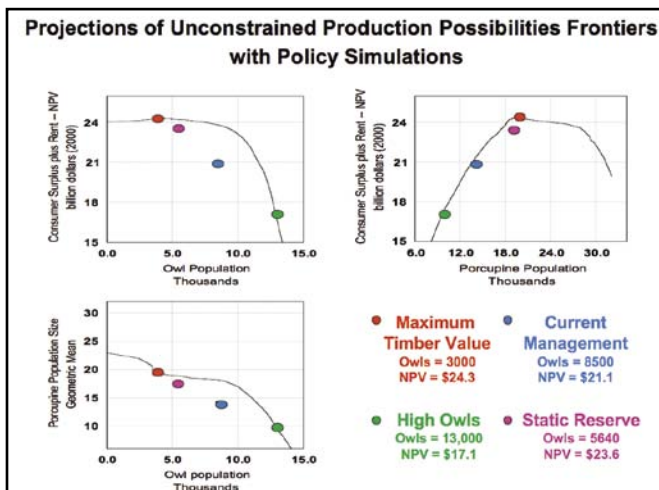
Remote-sensed vegetation cover data were interpreted by a team of wildlife biologists to map scores for habitat suitability for two very different species, the great horned owl and the common porcupine.

Montgomery conducted a later study that sought to maximize timber harvest and maintain habitat for two species, great horned owl and porcupine, neither of which is threatened with extinction. “These two species are different in their habitat needs and dispersal behavior,” she explains. “The great horned owl goes a long distance for habitat, while the porcupine stays pretty close to home. Additionally, the porcupine prefers younger forests while the owl prefers older ones.” This finding allowed her to demonstrate that the conflict is not always between wood production and conservation. Different conservation objectives can compete with one another as well.

Montgomery is currently expanding her research to consider forest management to reduce fire risk. Forest fire and wildlife share two very important aspects, she explains. They are spatial. That is, the movement of wildlife depends on the spatial configuration of habitat and the movement of fire depends on the spatial configuration of forest fire fuel. And they both involve uncertainty. “We can’t know all the consequences of forest management on wildlife populations and we can’t predict when and where fire will occur,” Montgomery says. “It is my hope that these studies will suggest new possibilities for better management of forestlands. I want to continue to study the lessons that economics can teach us about our relationship with the forested landscape.”



Professor Claire Montgomery.



Tradeoffs between wood production and habitat for both species were identified by optimizing wood production while varying habitat targets. The current management scenario shows that under current ownership patterns and incentives, opportunities exist to use the landscape more efficiently.

SCHOOL'S OUT(DOORS)

Extension forester combines teaching and forestry

by Bryan Bernart



Although Rick Fletcher's first effort at growing trees at age nine ended in disaster, the experience helped instill a lifelong passion for forestry.

Fletcher, a professor in the Department of Forest Engineering, Resources and Management and Extension Forestry Agent in Linn and Benton Counties, grew up on a mountain ranch on the Oregon/California border. When he was nine years old, he joined the local 4-H organization and began to learn about forestry. At that time, the club had a tree farmer program that allowed students who lived on forested property to explore the fundamentals of forest management.

Says Fletcher, "My parents designated land for me to use, and I contacted a local forester to give me tree planting advice." Fletcher planted the seedlings himself and by the end of their first summer, every single tree had died. Although he was disappointed with the project, he also felt a need to figure out what went wrong and to discover how to fix those problems. "I

had a strong resolve to keep working in the field," he remembers. "It is amazing to me to see how much seedling quality and reforestation methods have improved since those days."

Fletcher received a chainsaw when he was 13, and began working with his father, a logger, during his high school summer vacations. Upon graduation, he chose to attend the OSU College of Forestry because of its reputation as the best forestry school in the Northwest. Fletcher earned his bachelor's degree in forest management, with a minor in forest recreation due to his summer experience working in forest parks in southern Oregon.

While pursuing his degree, Fletcher worked as a teaching assistant for several classes and, as a result, became increasingly interested in teaching others about forests. "The associate dean at the time, Dale Bever, convinced me to stay at OSU and pursue a master's degree, even though my intention was to become a forest manager and spend my life working in the woods," he recalls. After working for the Oregon Department of Forestry



for three years, Fletcher felt caught between his interest in teaching and his passion for forestry. But when a position opened up for an Extension Forester at OSU, Fletcher found a job where he could combine the two.

“Working in Extension, I get to spend a lot of time in the woods, as well as conducting applied research and teaching people how to better manage their forest resources,” he says. While other members of the College spend much of their time interacting on campus with students, Fletcher enjoys working with professional foresters, policymakers, forest landowners, and loggers, conducting workshops all over the state. “People come to us with their forestry

issues and at Extension, we add the university’s resources to their practical knowledge to find creative solutions for their situations.”

Forest management practices today have a much broader scope than when he joined Extension 30 years ago, Fletcher says, and he enjoys working in a field that is constantly improving itself by becoming more sustainable and efficient. “The process of improving forest management necessitates that we deal with complex problems,” he says. “I’m glad that in my job, I get to work with a variety of individuals in different disciplines. Through cooperation and education, we can create solutions for the next generation of forest management.”



Dancing a New Dance

Ecologist blends traditional knowledge, hard sciences

by Bryan Bernart

When she graduated in 2008 with an honors degree in natural resources, Gail Woodside notes that she was the “oldest student in the Honors College.” But for Woodside, now a graduate student in the Department of Rangeland Ecology and Management at OSU, the distinction of being “older-than-average” simply meant working faster to make up for lost time. Committed, driven, and passionate about her studies, Woodside exemplifies the type of student OSU strives to cultivate.

Woodside was born in Pennsylvania to a military family that moved frequently. When her father retired, the family settled in Wyoming. “It was the first place I could really call home,” Woodside recalls. “My family originally came from Oklahoma, and our original lands were in Arizona and New Mexico. Wyoming resembled those states in certain ways.”

When she graduated from high school, her guidance counselors told her that she was not destined for higher education and encouraged her to attend trade school instead. This eventually led Woodside to a career in law enforcement. However, Gail always strived to continue her academic achievement, and after her four daughters were raised she was able to finally go to college. Living in the Rocky Mountain States led her to love working, exploring and living in the arid lands. “They’re part of my identity, my ancestral lands, and I feel it is where I belong.”

After 20 years working in law enforcement, and dedicating her life helping teach “Indian Education, Title

V programs” in local school districts, Gail came to OSU to study natural resources, specializing in traditional ecological knowledge and arid-land research and analysis. Woodside says, “Through my schooling and education, I’ve become a large landscape ecologist, blending traditional ecological knowledge with the hard sciences.”

One of her favorite professors at the College of Forestry was Norm Johnson (Forest Ecosystems & Society), a federal forest policy expert who also works with Native tribes on land management issues. Gail served as president of both the Native American Student Association and the American Indian Science and Engineering Society at OSU and has always been active in Native American communities. She currently is part of the advisory board at the Native American Longhouse. In addition to teaching self-esteem workshops for young Native Americans, and participating as the head woman dancer for regional pow-wows, Woodside has worked with the California Native American Heritage Commission for gravesite repatriation and participated in the White House Committee on Indian Education during George H.W. Bush’s presidency.

Woodside is currently researching diurnal behavioral patterns and movement of cow elk in eastern Oregon as part of her graduate studies. She looks forward to a full career following the completion of her graduate studies at OSU. “I realized late in my life that it’s never too late to reach for your dreams.”

Singing a New Song

Soil Whisperer finds her true roots

by Bryan Bernart

Alyssa Walker, recent graduate in natural resources from OSU's College of Forestry, was born in Fairfield, CA, and spent most of her youth in Washington State. When she first graduated from high school, she attended Olympic Community College in Bremerton, WA, to pursue her associate's degree in Arts and Sciences. "I began as a music major and went to school to teach music, but later realized that I couldn't stand some of my music theory classes," says Walker. "Eventually, I changed my focus to studying science."

Although she is no longer a music student, Walker has been active in the music community since she was eight years old, singing classical and operatic works by Puccini, Orff, and Mozart. "I maintain a lot of diverse interests while still focusing on Natural Resources, which include dancing with the An Daire Academy of Irish Dance," she says.

After obtaining her associate's degree and taking only one quarter's rest from her education, she began her OSU career as a rangeland ecology and management major, and eventually joined the natural resources program two years ago. "I discovered that in the natural resources program, I could create my own option," Walker says. "I could focus on my true interest, soil sciences, with a varied and active group of likeminded faculty and students."



Gail Woodside (left) and her daughter, Alyssa Walker, both graduated from OSU with bachelor's degrees in natural resources and are now in graduate school.

In addition to her studies, Walker also found time to participate in many campus clubs, chiefly those supporting Native American students and advancement. During her undergraduate studies, she was the president of the Sigma Lambda Delta Sorority and a member of the Native American Students Association as well as the American Indian Science and Engineering Society. "NASA puts on a powwow and a salmon bake every year, as well as many other activities at the Native American Longhouse on campus," she explains. "It really helps Native students connect with OSU, while also allowing others to experience their culture."

The NASA and AISES organizations helped Alyssa learn to present her work in an effective way, she says. "It was really crucial for me to have a support system when I arrived at this school. They've really helped me to succeed."

This fall, Walker plans to travel to the University of Aberdeen in Scotland in order to pursue her master's degree. Her ultimate goal is to teach soil science at the collegiate level, possibly working for the Bureau of Indian Affairs or another organization that assists Native peoples in improving the soils on Indian reservations. "I want to give back to the Native community," Walker says. "I hope I can use my knowledge to teach others to care for these lands and preserve them for future generations."



GRADUATION DAY, 2009

Students, faculty, staff, family, and friends gathered in the Peavy Hall Courtyard on Saturday, June 13th, to celebrate the 2009 Oregon State University Commencement with the annual College of Forestry Brunch.

The College of Forestry conferred 50 graduate degrees (20 doctoral and 30 masters): 17 in forest science, 13 in forest resources, 11 in forest engineering, and 9 in wood science & engineering. The College conferred Bachelor of Science degrees on 145 students: 9 in forest engineering, 2 in forest engineering/civil engineering, 22 in forest management, 68 in natural resources, 14 in recreation resource management, 1 in forest recreation resources, 12 in wood science & technology, 15 in outdoor recreation, leadership & tourism, and 2 in forest operations management. Of these, 91 completed their degree on the Corvallis campus, 24 at the Cascades campus in Bend, and 30 via online distance delivery coursework.

The College proudly notes that 31 students from this exceptional class graduated with academic distinction. Eric Wilder (FECE) graduated with an Honors Bachelor of Science.

Graduating *summa cum laude* were Shawn Conrad (NR), Matthew Flautt (NR), Carol Davis court (ORLT), Christina Garland (NR) and Curtis Lilly (FM).

Magna cum laude graduates included Megan Beyer (FM), Leslie Dovey (NR), David Hanlon (NR), Kyla Knudson (NR), Caryn Meinicke (NR), Shilah Olson (NR), and Jake Pressett (NR).

Graduating *cum laude* were Kristen Allison (NR), Daryl Bingham (NR), Ashley Blanchard (WST), Kevin Bryant (NR), Sara Jo Call (NR), Amy Cook (NR), Michael Craven (FECE), Joseph Goebel (FE), Jeffrey Heinen (RRM), Scott Juul (NR), James Kelly (NR), Nicole Kimzey (FOM), Natalie Macias (WST), Denise Meeves (NR), Nathan Nystrom (WST), Carly Tucker (NR), Keri Sadler (NR), and Michael Shew (WST).

These graduates joined 6063 alumni who have earned an undergraduate degree and 1715 alumni who have earned a graduate degree during the 103-year history of the College of Forestry. While we still face challenges, we look to a bright future of possibilities for forestry.

Congratulations to all our College of Forestry graduates! We wish you the very best as you go forward in your lives and with your careers.



Top: Kyndra Needham, Jonathon Tallman, 2009 College of Forestry graduates, James Crawford and family.



Successful College of Forestry Graduate Students

Holly Rene Barnard, PhD
in Forest Science/Forest Engineering
"Inter-relationships of Vegetation, Hydrology and Micro-climate in a Young, Douglas-fir Forest"

Gwenlyn M. Busby, PhD
in Forest Resources
"Wildfire Risk Management: Strategic Interaction and Spatial Interdependence"

David DeVallance, PhD in Wood Science
"Non-destructive Evaluation of Veneer using Optical Scanning and Ultrasonic Stress Wave Analysis Systems"

Christopher Brian Graham, PhD
in Forest Engineering
"A macroscale measurement and modeling approach to improve understanding of the hydrology of steep, forested hillslopes"

Zachary Kayler, PhD in Forest Science
"The Methodology, Implementation, and Analysis of the Isotopic Composition of Soil-respired CO₂ in Forest Ecosystems"

Steve Mitchell, PhD in Forest Science
"The Effects of Fuel Reduction on Fire Severity and Long-Term Carbon Storage"

Sergio A. Orrego, PhD
in Forest Resources
"Economic modeling of tropical deforestation in Antioquia (Colombia), 1980-2000 : an analysis at a semi-fine scale with spatially explicit data"

Stephen J. Pilkerton, PhD
in Forest Engineering
"Thinning Aged Douglas-fir: An Analysis of Mobilization Costs and a Log Bucking Strategy for Revenue Improvement"

Matthew P. Thompson, PhD
in Forest Engineering
"Contemporary Forest Road Management with Economic and Environmental Objectives"

Steven Voelker, PhD in Wood Science
"Functional Decreases in Hydraulic and Mechanical Properties of Field-Grown Transgenic Poplar Trees caused by Modification of the Lignin Synthesis Pathway through Downregulation of the 4-Coumarate:Coenzyme A Ligase Gene"



Professor Arne Skaugset walks with his student Nicolas Zegre, PhD Candidate in Forest Engineering.

Lauren Goschke, MS
in Forest Resources
"The Federal Trust Responsibility and Treaty Protected Resource on Ceded Public Lands: A Huckleberry Case Study"

Kim Hall, MS in Forest Resources
"Cost Analysis of Quarantine Zone Size for an Invasive Forest Pathogen: A Case Study of Phythophthora ramorum policy in Oregon"

Kathryn Kamke, MS in Wood Science
"Lead-user Research in the Wood Window Value Chain"

Margaret Kunje, MF in Forest Science
"Assessing Participation of Women Farmers in Agroforestry in Blantyre District of Malawi (Southern Africa)"

Xinfeng Liu, MS in Wood Science
"Analysis and Comparison of Essential Oil Components Extracted from the Heartwoods of Leyland Cypress, Alaska Yellow Cedar, and Monterey Cypress"

Joselin Matkins, MS in Forest Science
"Decomposition of Red Alder and Douglas-fir Leaf Litter in Oregon Coast Range Riparian Forests"

Matthew W. Meadows, MS
in Forest Engineering
"Using in situ Turbidity to Estimate Sediment Loads in Forested Headwater Streams: A Top-down versus Bottom-up Approach"

Michael Messier, MS in Forest Science
"Disturbance and Dynamics of Riparian Forests in Southwestern Oregon"

Vardan Rath, MS in Wood Science
"Bending Property Enhancement of Wood Strand Composite using Viscoelastic Thermal Compression"

Lauren Redmore, MS
in Forest Resources
"(Re)claiming forestry: A Case Study of Women's Empowerment"

Matthew Schwarzkopf, MS
in Wood Science
"Development and Evaluation of Oriented Strandboard Bonded with Soy-based Formaldehyde-free Adhesives"

Shiloh Sundstrom, MS
in Forest Resources
"Rangeland Privatization and the Maasai Experience: Implications for Livestock Herding, Open Space, and Wildlife Conservation in Southern Kenya"

Matthew P. Thompson, MS
in Forest Management
"Radiative forcing and forest climate policy"

Tiffany van Huysen, PhD
in Forest Science
"Nitrogen and Phosphorus Dynamics during Decomposition of Multiple Litter Types in Temperate Coniferous Forests"

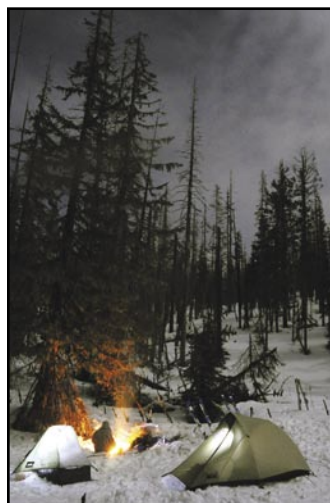
Congratulations!

COLLEGE OF FORESTRY AWARDS CELEBRATION



The College of Forestry Student Awards Ceremony took place on May 6, 2009, at a dinner for students, family, faculty, and staff held at the Memorial Union ballroom. The festive evening featured a performance by the talented Divine, OSU's female a cappella ensemble, which included the College's own Heidi Ervin (RRM). Additional entertainment included a student-generated slide show of various student, club, and college activities from the past year. Heidi Ervin and her husband Jake Ervin, a graduate student in the OSU College of Engineering provided musical accompaniment. The audience also was treated to a slide show of winning photos submitted to the Photo of the Week Contest, a new and popular competition sponsored by the College of Forestry's Student Services Office. Each week throughout the school year, students submitted photos for the competition. The weekly winners were displayed on an easel in the Student Services Office, used as the cover for the weekly Fernhopper Newsletter, and posted in the

CoF Today daily newsletter. Each weekly winner was entered into the Photo of the Year Contest, with the overall winner selected by a group of faculty, staff, and students from the College.



The Photo of the Year winner was "Three Fingered Jack," by Ben Krause (FM). Honorable Mentions went to "Contemplations of a Yak," by Lucas Glick (NR), and "Iniakuk Lake, Alaska," by Rebecca Brenton (NR).

The guest speaker for the evening was alumna Koshare Lomnicki, formerly Koshare Eagle, who was invited to speak about her early career in forestry. A 1995 graduate in

Forest Management, Koshare received the College of Forestry Bowerman Award for her outstanding leadership while a student at OSU. She now works in Washington for the Department of Natural Resources.

Dean Hal Salwasser began the academic awards portion of the event by recognizing members of student clubs, student organizations, the OSU Logging Sports Team, and the Student Logging Training Program (or "Koller Crew") for their dedication and contributions to the College.

Throughout the academic year, student clubs hold a variety of fund-raisers, as well as attend tours, or host lecturers to complement their classroom experiences. The Logging Sports team competed in regional and national competitions, placing among the top in many events. Members of the Koller Crew learned the ins and outs of logging operations in the McDonald-Dunn Forest.

The Ambassadors for Agricultural, Forestry, and Natural Resources help recruit prospective students by traveling to high schools and college fairs throughout



Clockwise, top: Koshare Lomnicki; the musical group Divine featuring Heidi Ervin; Jake and Heidi Ervin; Ambassadors, Meghan Luchau, Claire Rogan and Andrew Merschel; Scholarship recipient Michael Chapman and Mary Chapman. Center: Photo of the Year, Three Fingered Jack by Ben Krause.



Scholarship recipient Jeffrey Smith, with parents Linda and Doug Smith.

Oregon, giving presentations to introduce young people to the opportunities provided by a college education, and encouraging them to consider careers in the natural resource fields. They represent college academic programs to legislators and key stakeholders, work with alumni groups, and represent us at many on and off campus events—in addition to maintaining outstanding academic performances and juggling involvement in extra curricular activities, family responsibilities, jobs, and community connections.

Students involved in clubs, organizations, and activities “exemplify the hard work, ethical standards, and professionalism we promote through the College of Forestry’s Code of Conduct,” Salwasser said. “We thank you for all your hard work and commitment—the College greatly appreciates your efforts.”

Fellowships and Scholarships

Each year the College of Forestry is honored and privileged to award graduate fellowships and undergraduate scholarships to deserving new and

returning students. As Dean Hal Salwasser notes, these awards are only possible through generous contributions and continued support from scholarship and fellowship donors. “It is only through their gracious generosity that our fellowship, scholarship, and other programs of the College of Forestry are possible,” Salwasser said. “I don’t think there’s another college on campus that has this level of support for its students.”

College of Forestry Fellowships honor top incoming and returning graduate students, nominated by their degree programs. Twenty-eight graduate students were selected to receive College fellowships totaling nearly \$100,000 for the 2009-2010 academic year. Fellowships ranged in value from \$500 to \$6,000 dollars, with some students receiving multiple awards.

Undergraduate scholarships went to 104 students for the 2009-2010 academic year, including 25 students who will be joining us for the first time this fall. These scholarships totaled nearly \$300,000, and ranged in value from \$500 to \$6,500, with some students receiving more than one award.

College Awards

Each year, the College of Forestry gives special awards to outstanding students who have made significant contributions and/or excelled academically. Exceptional students who have excelled in each of our degree programs are recognized through the Outstanding Student Awards. The recipients of these awards receive a special certificate, an engraved College of Forestry pen, and



Amanda Gladics

our heartfelt congratulations. The Outstanding Student recipients were as follows: Forest Engineering or Forest Engineering/Civil Engineering, Laura Cummings; Forest Management, Megan Beyer; Forest Operations Management, Nicole Kimzey; Recreation Resource Management, Molly Pattison; Tourism & Outdoor Leadership, Carol Davis court; Wood Science & Technology, Michael Shew; and Natural Resources, Amanda Gladics.

The Pack Essay Award was established several decades ago at forestry schools across the nation by Charles Lathrop Pack to encourage sound communication skills for forestry and natu-



Michael Conroy

ral resource professionals. Pack Essays are restricted to natural resources and forest products-related topics submitted by undergraduate students enrolled in the College of Forestry. Essays are judged by a panel made up of professorial faculty, and rankings are based on creativity, ability to conceptualize ideas, originality in the analysis of resource problems, enjoyable writing that brings issues to life, and excellent grammar and writing style. The Pack Essay Award winner receives \$300 and a College of Forestry pen.

This year’s Pack Essay Award went to Michael Conroy (NR) for his essay, “Lessons from the Dehesa: Can Quercus Work For Us?”

The College usually recognizes one senior each year with the Harold Bowerman Leadership Award, named for Hal Bowerman, class of ’31. The award honors a student who has demonstrated outstanding service to the College or University. This year, the College proudly honored two students with this prestigious award. The students selected best exemplify the “Fernhopper Spirit” through demonstrated

leadership, outstanding contributions, and enthusiastic participation in student club activities and College programs. Nominations are solicited from faculty, staff, and students, and the selection of the award is made by the College's Curriculum and Advising Committee. The award winners received a plaque and a cash award deposited to their student accounts.

This year's Harold Bowerman Leadership Awards went to Talia Filipek (NR) and Keri Sadler (NR).



Talia Filipek

Talia's earnest spirit of service to others was clearly seen in her efforts with the OSU STAND organization. She helped create and was president of this organiza-



Keri Sadler

tion that raises awareness about the humanitarian crisis in Sudan. Her spirit of service is infectious because of its selfless nature. Talia is an excellent leader and a creative contributor to the success of fellow students as evidenced in her creation of a new quiet study area in the Student Self Learning Center.

Keri is described as having a warm and engaging personality. She has been the face of the College at various programs including Beaver Open House, Spring Preview Days, and Annual Ring. She served as an Ambassador for Agriculture, Forestry, and Natural Resources for 2007-08, and volunteers with SMART—a literacy program for local children—and at the Oregon Humane Society.

The Paul and Neva Dunn Outstanding Senior Award, named in honor of the College's former Dean and his wife, is based on high scholastic achievement combined with potential for professional



Seated left to right: Stacey Frederick, Crystal Perez-Gonzales, Amber Craigg, and Jennifer Barnett; standing, Tzeng Yih Lam.



Laura Cummings

ability. Departments are invited each spring to nominate their top graduating seniors. Screening is based on GPA, how the student challenged him- or herself academically, departmental endorsement, the student's resume, and letters of recommendation. The recipient receives a cash award, as well as a plaque.

The 2009 Paul and Neva Dunn Award went to Laura Cummings, who also received the FE Outstanding Stu-

dent award. Laura has been described as academically gifted, creative, energetic, and professional, and she has demonstrated personal and professional accomplishment and breadth through and array of activities. As a student in the Honors College, she chose to write a fantasy novel, rather than a more traditional engineering analysis of a forest operation or design protocol. However, she worked on the College Research Forest and accumulated professional experience in land surveying and an array of data processing functions associated with the land management and timber harvesting program. She is an accomplished equestrian and president of the OSU Dressage Club, and she is a violinist with the Lane Chamber Orchestra.

Faculty Awards

The students of the College of Forestry select and present two special awards to members of the faculty each year during the awards celebration. The Aufderheide Award for excellence in teaching went to Associate Professor Charles Brunner (WSE). The Xi Sigma Pi/Julie Kliever Mentor Award for excellence in mentoring went to Professor Doug Maguire (FERM).

Congratulations to all our award winners and scholarship and fellowship recipients! Special thanks go to Kira Hughes, Kama Luukinen, Sarah Johnson, and Clay Torset of the College of Forestry Student Services Office, for planning such a wonderful event!



BRIDGE COMPETITION WINNERS

The Oregon State University Orange Team won 2nd place in the 2009 National Timber Bridge Competition, bringing home \$850 in awards! The bridge was designed, analyzed, constructed and tested as a part of Rakesh Gupta's WSE458 course in Wood Design.



COF WINS NATIONAL FORESTRY QUIZ BOWL!

A team of students from the OSU College of Forestry won the 2009 Society of American Foresters Quiz Bowl at the National SAF Convention. The goal of the quiz bowl is to provide a spirited competition between schools and allow both participants and the audience to get a better knowledge of forestry trivia. Team members were Liz Bly (FM), James Crawford (FE), Reed Youngbar (FE), and Brad Hamel (FM). Brian Wing (FERM) was integral in the coaching. Congrats to all! Congrats to all participants!!



ALL-AMERICA FORESTRY STUDENT

Sam Gaviglio, a recreation resource management major and Beavers baseball pitcher, was named to the Louisville Slugger Freshman All-American Team! Sam was also named to the Pacific-10 Conference Honorable Mention squad.



ANNUAL RING

Kudos to the Student Services staff (Kira, Kama, and Clay, and student assistants Andrew Merschel and Danielle White) for orchestrating another successful Annual Ring! Special thanks to Kevin Boston, Ed Jensen, and RRM club members Stacey Frederick and Josh Taggart for conducting interactive field activities and canoe races—and to the COF Student Ambassadors for grilling burgers and general assistance. Thanks also to all faculty and staff who took time from their busy schedules to participate. This is a key event in getting new students involved in the College--all your contributions are appreciated.



McLAIN RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD



Professor Tom McLain, head of the Department of Wood Science and Engineering at the OSU College of Forestry, received the Distinguished Service Award at the annual meeting of the Society of Wood Science and Technology (SWST) in June.

This award is made by the SWST in recognition of distinguished service to the profession as a whole. Such service may have been made in any educational, technological, scientific or professional area directly related to the profession of Wood Science and Technology.

As the recipient of this prestigious award McLain received an engraved plaque and life membership in the Society; he delivered an address at the annual meeting that will be published in the October 2009 edition of *Wood and Fiber Science*.

FOREST HYDROLOGIST NAMED OSU DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR



Jeff McDonnell, a professor of forest hydrology in the Forest Engineering, Resources and Management (FERM) Department at the College of Forestry, has been recognized with Oregon State University's highest academic honor, the title of "Distinguished Professor." McDonnell is an internationally known expert on watershed hydrology, runoff processes and modeling, isotope hydrology and watershed theory. He has been an OSU faculty member since 1999 and is the holder of the Richardson Chair in Watershed Science.

"Jeff epitomizes the notion of distinction that underlies OSU's characterization of the qualities of the full professor. He is a world class teacher, a world renowned researcher, and provides extraordinary service to profession, department and university," says Darius Adams, Interim Department Head of FERM. "In the 20 years since his PhD, Jeff's work has markedly advanced our understanding of the processes of stream flow generation in watersheds—furthering our ability to manage the quality and quantities of water crucial for community and industrial consumption and the functioning of dependent ecosystems."

McDonnell has received many career awards and honors, and has authored more than 150 professional journal articles. He has received the Dalton Medal from the European Geophysical Union, the Gordon Warwick Award from

the British Geomorphological Research Group, the Nystrom Award from the Association of American Geographers and the DSc from the University of Canterbury. He was recently elected a fellow of the American Geophysical Union (AGU). The international scientific organization focuses on the understanding of the Earth and space, and promotes research, education, and outreach in fields including geology, oceanography, atmospheric sciences, hydrology, seismology, and others.

"In addition to his national and international leadership, Jeff has been very active in bringing together the OSU campus water community to improve its collective identity and visibility," says Steve Tesch, Executive Associate Dean at the College of Forestry. "His reputation and network of colleagues result in a steady stream of international visitors to OSU. He was one of the catalysts for the establishment of the Water Resources Graduate Program and for the Provost's initiative that resulted in the Institute for Water and Watersheds (IWW). His energy and enthusiasm have been instrumental in a number of collaborative efforts that benefit Oregon State University." McDonnell was named Director of IWW in September.

McDonnell has also been an inspirational mentor to graduate students and has been able to attract some outstanding students to the College of Forestry and to OSU, Tesch notes. These graduates have become emerging leaders in the hydrology profession.

Furthermore, McDonnell's work has international impacts, says Dean Hal Salwasser. "He is one of the world's leading hydrologists, advancing our understanding of how water flows in forested landscapes and how geology, landform, and land use make it flow the way it does. Oregon is most fortunate to have Dr. McDonnell among its many distinguished academic leaders."

Starker Lecture Series Winter/Spring 2010 TBA

Final schedule will be posted at <http://starkerlectures.forestry.oregonstate.edu/>

KIZER RECEIVES OSU AWARD



Jim Kiser of FERM was named the recipient of Oregon State University's 2009 Dar Reese Excellence in Advising Award. Jim is the head undergraduate advisor in the Forest Engineering programs. He was honored, together with other University-wide service award winners, at University Day in September.

EXCELLENCE IN WILDERNESS STEWARDSHIP RESEARCH AWARDED TO HALL



Troy Hall was honored for her research in recreation and wilderness management, and for her service in the development of the Forest Service's Wilderness Character Monitoring Framework

and Technical Guide. Hall has also contributed to over 30 training courses and four on-line training modules at the Arthur Carhart Wilderness Training Center. The ceremony was held in Washington, DC, October 8, 2009.

Hall is Associate Professor in the Department of Conservation Social Sciences at the University of Idaho. She received her PhD 1996 in Forest Resources at Oregon State University.



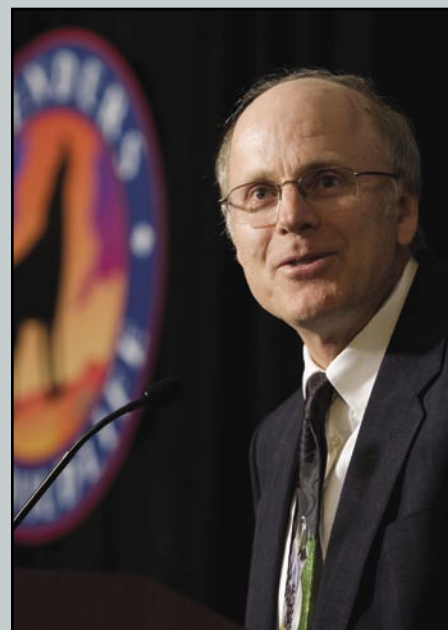
Volunteers from the College, along with friends and family, cut, split, and delivered about 23 cords of firewood in September. The wood was cut from Douglas-fir test poles left over from some stress test research. This great effort garnished over \$3300 in contributions to Linn-Benton Food Share, equaling 49,500 pounds of food.

RIPPLE HONORED BY DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE

Professor William J. Ripple (FES) received the prestigious Defenders of Wildlife's Spirit of Defenders Award for Science at a ceremony in Washington, DC in September. The Spirit of Defenders award recognizes innovative conservation work in one of three categories: public service, science, and citizen advocacy. Ripple was honored for his pioneering research on predator, prey and plant relationships, which has offered ecosystem managers and public policy makers new ways to think about ecosystem restoration. Other honorees for 2009 included Ted Turner, Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), and Terry C. Pelster.

Defenders of Wildlife, originally called Defenders of Fur Bearers, was founded in 1947. The organization's mission is "to protect species and the habitats upon which they depend. In doing so, we focus on preserving the health of our nation's rich biological heritage (biodiversity)."

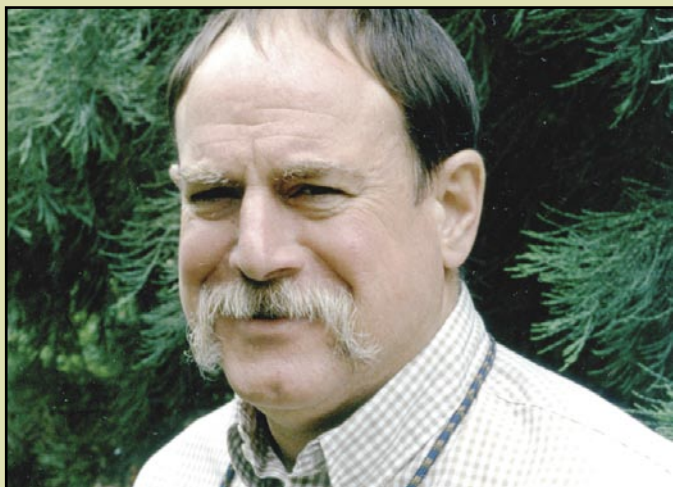
Ripple and his College of Forestry colleague, Emeritus Professor Robert Beschta (FES), are leaders in the study of "trophic cascades," a revolutionary look at how the presence or absence of large predators affects prey, plants, and entire ecosystems. Since their initial research in Yellowstone National Park, Ripple and Beschta have



studied similar effects of wolf and cougar presence in six national parks and produced 20 articles describing the "cascades" phenomenon. Their conclusion is that predation risk—the threat of predation in addition to its actual occurrence—may have profound effects on the structure of ecosystems, making it an important constituent of native biodiversity. This phenomenon is also known as "the ecology of fear."

Their work was also featured in the new documentary film, "Lords of Nature: Life in a Land of Great Predators," which premiered on the OSU campus in May 2009.

MAGUIRE NAMED TO GIUSTINA PROFESSORSHIP



Doug Maguire, a leader in research on growing trees in Pacific Northwest forests, has been appointed the first holder of the N.B. and Jacqueline Giustina Professorship in Forest Management in the College of Forestry at Oregon State University.

This endowed professorship was established in 2008 by a \$3 million gift from Jacqueline Giustina and the estate of her husband, the late N.B. "Nat" Giustina. A 1941 OSU graduate, Giustina was a long-time volunteer and supporter of OSU, including serving more than 25 years on the OSU Foundation Board. The Giustina family has been deeply connected to Oregon's timber history, and Nat Giustina led the Eugene-based family timber and wood products business for many years.

The Giustina Professor is a position designed to provide leadership in teaching, research, and outreach that supports the sustainable management of planted forests for a broad suite of management goals and a vibrant forest-based economy for Oregon.

Maguire, who serves as director of the Center for Intensive Planted-forest Silviculture at OSU, is an expert on growing and managing planted forests in the Douglas-fir region. His research has focused on the interactive effects of genetics, silviculture, protection, competition, nutrition, and soils on the productivity, health, and sustainability of intensively-managed, planted forests. He received his doctorate from OSU in 1986.

"Doug Maguire is one of our strongest and most respected faculty members," said Darius Adams, interim head of the Department of Forest Engineering, Resources and Management. "He has a solid international reputation as a quantitative silviculturist and is widely sought after as a research collaborator. He is a thoughtful and effective mentor, as a major professor for graduate students and as an undergraduate teacher and advisor."

PYLES NAMED TO KNUDSON CHAIR



Marvin R. Pyles, a professor of forest engineering recognized for his teaching and work in curriculum development, has been appointed the first holder of the Gene D. Knudson Chair in the College of Forestry at Oregon State University.

This endowed chair was created in 2007 by a \$1.5 million gift from the estate of Gene D. Knudson, a highly respected leader in Oregon's forest products industry and a 1939 OSU honors graduate in technical forestry. Knudson became the president and chief executive officer of Willamette Industries, served on the Oregon State Board of Forestry, and on the board of directors for the Western Forestry Center, now the World Forestry Center.

The Knudson Chair recognizes outstanding teaching, advising, and mentoring of undergraduate students, and visible leadership of undergraduate education. In the College of Forestry, Pyles has improved program effectiveness over two decades, resulting in accreditation for the undergraduate forest engineering program by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology. The program is also accredited by the Society of American Foresters—a dual accreditation that's a unique accomplishment among the nation's undergraduate forest engineering programs.

"Honoring Marv Pyles with this distinction shows how much we value faculty who devote high attention to the success of our students," Dean Hal Salwasser said.

Pyles has served as co-chair of the curriculum council of the OSU Faculty Senate, and coordinated the writing and grading of the professional practice examination in forest engineering for the Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying. He also received the first College of Forestry Dean's Award for teaching and advising in 1999, an Erskine Fellowship at the University of Canterbury in 2004, and the Dennis Marker teacher of the year award from the OSU Construction Engineering Management students.

FIRST LEMATTA GRADUATE FELLOW



Wes and Nancy Lematta join Matt Thompson to celebrate the completion of his PhD program. Matt was the first Lematta Graduate Fellow. Also in the photo are Matt's wife Leslie, major professor John Sessions, Associate Dean Steve Tesch, and Marci and Dave Walsh, Wes and Nancy's daughter and son-in-law.

FOR MORE THAN A CENTURY, the OSU College of Forestry has been helping woodland owners steward their land. Now, the College can also help with the challenges of owning forestland in retirement. Our experts can advise on:

- Transferring timberland to heirs
- Assisting with conservation easements
- Addressing tax planning concerns relating to forestland
- Creating a scholarship, faculty fund, or program fund in your family name
- Donating a tract of land to the College's research forests

CALL OR E-MAIL TO LEARN MORE

Jennifer Niedermeyer
 Director of Development
 College of Forestry
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Every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy of these lists. However, if you notice an error, please contact Penny Hardesty, Director of Donor Relations, OSU Foundation, Penny.Hardesty@oregonstate.edu or 541-737-1469.

In Memoriam



Michael E. Johnson
March 30, 1984 — September 8, 2009

U.S. Marine Corps 1st Lt. Michael E. Johnson lost his life defending his country on September 8, 2009. He was supporting combat operations in Afghanistan's eastern Kunar province.

He was born and raised in Virginia Beach, Virginia. A hard working young man, Mike held down jobs at surf shops, restaurants, and pools during his high school years, often working side by side with his twin brother, Dan, or his younger brother, Steve. Those who knew him note that he was a born leader—a disciplined and motivated young man, whose attitude, work ethic, and ability to make friends would define him for the rest of his life.

While in high school, Mike traveled several times to Oregon to visit friends and family. He fell in love with Oregon immediately, and enjoyed hiking, camping, and rafting. After returning home from one visit, Mike said, "Man, there are no bugs or humidity out there—I'm going back there to live!"

Mike graduated from Hickory High School in Chesapeake in 2002, and then attended the College of Forestry at Oregon State University. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in natural resources in 2006. After serving in the U.S. Marine Corps, his dream was to become a forest ranger.

Viviane Simon-Brown, an Extension Forester who taught the natural resources capstone, notes that "The capstone class is all about ethical decision-making. Michael grasped that not all problems are 'right vs wrong'; many of the biggest issues we face are 'right vs right.' In his papers, he reflected on how important

it was to value other people's points of view. He said he valued 'humility because it allows you to learn from your mistakes.'" After hearing of his death, Simon-Brown forwarded his capstone project, which she had saved, to his family.

During his time at OSU, Mike met Durinda G. Donat of Keizer, Oregon, who would eventually become his wife. Together, they enjoyed many outdoor activities; she once promised to teach him snowboarding if he would teach her surfing. They were married in 2007 in a beautiful outdoor ceremony in Keizer.

Mike attended the U.S. Marine Corps Officer Candidates School (OCS) in Quantico during two summers while at OSU. Upon graduation, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant and received orders to The Basic School (TBS) at Quantico, VA.

After Mike completed the Basic Communications Officers Course (BCOC) at Quantico, he and Durinda traveled to Okinawa, Japan, where they established their first home—which included two adopted dogs. 1st Lt. Johnson was assigned to the 7th Communications Battalion, 3rd Marine Headquarters Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force. He was deployed to Afghanistan during the summer of 2009 for a nine-month tour of duty.

Surviving Mike is his loving wife, Durinda; his parents, Brian and Claudia Johnson; three brothers, Chase and his wife, Raquel, from Kentucky, Dan from Oregon, and Steve from Virginia Beach, VA; and grandparents, Thelma and Ed, Sr., of Springfield, OH. Also surviving Mike are aunts and uncles, Gail and Chuck Joyner of Chesterfield, MO; Greg and Ann Chase of Portland, OR; Cindy Black and her husband, Jerry Guyant, of Richmond, VA; Melodie and Frank Parrish of Nashville, NC; Noreen Chase of Suffolk, VA; Chip and Lisa Chase of Virginia Beach, VA; Karlene and Ed, Jr., of Springfield, OH; and Cindi and Alan Banion of Springfield, OH. The enormous love and respect for this young man will live forever in the hearts of his thirty-two cousins, who reside throughout the United States.

Donations may be made in Mike's memory to the

Wounded Warrior Regiment; Department of Navy Gift Fund, in Memo line: Wounded Warrior Regiment, 3025 John Quick Road, MCB Quantico, VA 22134, c/o: Charitable Donations Coordinator. Condolences may be offered to the family at www.hollomon-brown.com.

Matthew Peter Higgins April 9, 1954 — April 26, 2009

Matthew Peter Higgins, age 55, died April 26 after a courageous four-year battle with cancer. He was born in Baker City on April 9, 1954. He attended St. Frances Academy and Baker High School, Eastern Oregon University and then Oregon State University, graduating in 1978 with a degree in forest management.

Upon graduation he worked for the U.S. Forest Service until January 1979, when he started his 30-year career with Georgia-Pacific, which eventually merged into Plum Creek Timber. He began his career at Georgia-Pacific as a geneticist at the Cottage Grove nursery, where he helped establish the tree improvement and seed orchard program. His most recent position was Silviculture Manager for Oregon Operations at Toledo. He and his family lived in Cottage Grove and Creswell before moving to Corvallis 13 years ago. He was an active member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Corvallis.

His love of the land was evident in the more than 30 years that he worked in the wood products industry. Matt was involved in numerous committees, which include the Oregon Forest Industries Council, past president of West Oregon Forest Protection Association, past chair of Concerned Landowners of Lincoln County, and the Nursery Tech, Genetics, Swiss Needle Cast, Stand Management and Vegetation Management cooperatives. He was a long-standing member of the Society of American Foresters. He developed and ran the partnership between SOLV and Plum Creek Timber for garbage cleanup on the Siletz River. He helped the Baber Mountain ATV Club develop a network of trails on private timberlands near Toledo. As was typical for Matt, this win-win partnership enabled the ATV users to enjoy Oregon's Forests while

protecting property and respecting property rights.

Matt was excited about life and lived every day to the fullest. He was compassionate and touched the lives of everyone with his kind and gentle nature. He had a unique ability to connect with people and had a positive impact on those around him.

In the last few years, he faced many trials due to his illness. He met those trials with grace and fortitude and relied on the strength of his faith as well as the love of his family and friends. He was thankful for the many wonderful people he met on his journey. Matt loved Oregon State University athletics, the outdoors and spending time with his family and friends. He was planning to walk the American Cancer Relay for Life on May 15 with his team "Marching for Matt."

His father, Dr. John Higgins, and his nephew Tyler preceded him in death. He is survived by his wife of almost 27 years, Nancy; sons Michael and Kyle; his mother, Esther Higgins; sisters Mary, Patty, Catherine and Frances; brothers John, Tim and Tom; brothers-in-law Vincent, Milt, Glen and Bob; sisters-in-law Bobbi, Deb, Paula, Ann and Julie; numerous nieces and nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews; and his mother- and father-in-law Hollis and Anna Bolton.

Donations can be made in memory of Matt to the OSU Foundation Matt Higgins Fellowship Fund, 850 S.W. 35th St., Corvallis, OR 97333. *Reprinted with permission of the Corvallis Gazette-Times.*

William I. West

Bill West passed away on August 10, 2009, in Laguna Woods, California. Bill was a professor in Forest Products Teaching at Oregon State University from 1946 until his retirement in 1973. His specialties were manufacturing processes and anomalies of wood anatomy. He served as the Department Head from 1954 to 1967. In 1967 Bill was appointed as Chairman of the New Building Committee. He helped coordinate the design, construction and move into Peavy Hall. Bill and his wife, Grace, endowed the West Basketball scholarship in 1974, and this gift continues to support athletics at Oregon State University.



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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31 – FERNHOPPER TAILGATER

Richardson Hatfield Courtyard, 3 hours before kick-off.

Food and beverages provided. See schedule at

<http://fernhopper.forestry.oregonstate.edu/index.php>



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30
PUBLIC SEMINAR BY
STEVEN W. RUNNING

*Implications of Approaching
Global Limits on the Earth's
Sustainable Productivity*

3:00 pm, Peavy 130, followed by a reception

Dr. Running is Professor/Director, Numerical
Terradynamic Simulation Group (NTSG), College of
Forestry & Conservation, University of Montana,
and 2007 Nobel Peace Prize as a member of the ICCP
(Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change)

Seminar will include discussion of the prospects for
the biosphere in the next half century, population and
economic trends, limits to expansion of agricultural
productivity, biofuels, and carbon credits.