Section News / Nouvelles des Sections

Klondike

The Klondike Section of the Canadian Institute of Forestry presented its first ever Gold Medal to Peter Wright, a recent honours graduate of the Yukon College Renewable Resource Program in Whitehorse. Peter’s outstanding academic performance made him the top student in the country in a forestry or renewable resource program.

Prior to arriving in the Yukon in 1996, he obtained a diploma in Ski Resort Operation Management, and practised his newly learned skills at resorts in Japan and B.C. Since living in the Yukon, Peter has worked in a variety of forestry-related jobs. He’s also been very involved in numerous community programs. Peter is a paramedic, volunteers as an auxiliary with the RCMP and is a firefighter with the Whitehorse Fire Department. He also serves on CPR Yukon’s board of directors and is a member of the Young Rider program to promote safe snowboarding.

In his spare time, Peter enjoys skiing, snowboarding, mountain biking and golfing. Peter hopes to find full-time employment in the renewable resource field and remain in the Yukon.

Jeff Monty (left) Chair of the Klondike Section presenting the Gold Medal Award to Peter Wright.
forestières sont à effectuer leur troisième stage en milieu de travail. Trois d’entre eux effectuent un stage en sylviculture soit Jérôme Pelletier chez J.D. Irving à Fredericton, Amand Khan au Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de l’Energie à Fredericton et Charles Sirois chez RègeNord à Kedgwick. Deux autres étudiants vont quant à eux travailler dans les opérations forestières soit Patrick Cormier chez Denizo Lebel à St-Quentin et Michel Leblanc chez Produits Forestiers Donohue à Baie-Comeau au Québec. Finalement Cynthia Doiron abordera au cours de son stage le contrôle de la qualité à l’usine de J.D. Irving de St-Léonard. Merci à tous les employeurs qui permettent la tenue de ces stages, un aspect important dans la formation de futur(e)s ingénieur(e)s forestier(e)s.

**Internationalisation des études**

L’École de sciences forestières (ESF) est très heureuse d’annoncer que Mme Marie-Ève Landry, une de ses étudiantes de quatrième année, est bénéficiaire d’une bourse internationale CIME (Cursus internationaux pour la mobilité des étudiants) de l’Agence universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF). Cette bourse va permettre à Mme Landry de parfaire sa formation à la Faculté des sciences agronomiques (FSA) de l’Université catholique de Louvain (UCL) en Belgique. Ainsi, dès janvier 2001, Mme Landry suivra des cours à l’UCL qui lui seront reconnus comme équivalence dans son baccalauréat en sciences forestières.

En janvier 2000, l’Université de Moncton, l’UCL et l’AUF signaient une entente CIME, ce qui permettait l’élargissement du nombre des étudiants de l’ESF aux bourses CIME. La bourse CIME est attribuée pour une durée de 6 mois et couvre les dépenses d’avion, de séjour et d’installation en Belgique.

Dans le cadre d’une entente d’échanges d’étudiants et de professeurs signée en 1987 entre l’ESF et la FSA, Mme Landry est la troisième étudiante de l’ESF à se rendre à l’UCL.

L’ESF tient à souligner la précieuse contribution d’un de ses professeurs, M. Jean-Marie Binot, dans ce dossier. Ses liens avec l’UCL ont contribué à l’internationalisation de l’ESF et sa collaboration dans le dossier des ententes institutionnelles a permis à des étudiants et étudiantes de l’ESF de vivre une expérience internationale.

**Participation de nos étudiants à un Forum jeunesse**

Zones côtières 2000-Forum jeunesse a permis à cinq de nos étudiants de s’illustrer sur la scène nationale. Dans le cadre de cette conférence, qui en fait regroupait des participants venus de tous les coins du monde, nos étudiants ont partagé leurs connaissances en établissant le lien entre la forêt et les zones côtières. Ainsi, Daniel Arsenault, Patrick Cormier, Daniel Gautreau (gradué), Patrick LeBreton et Pascal Soucy (gradué) présentaient une conférence sur l’aménagement des bassins hydrographiques. Lors de leur présentation, ils cherchaient à démontrer qu’une bonne gestion des bassins hydrographiques est primordiale pour le maintien des ressources halieutiques et naturelles et que cette gestion passe par de bonnes pratiques forestières.

**TORONTO**

**Presentations at Conferences**

Sean Thomas attended the second ever meeting of the Smithsonian Institution’s Center for Tropical Forest Science (CTFS), held May 31 – June 3 at the National Institute of Education, Republic of Singapore. The roughly 100 participants in the meeting represented ongoing large-scale forest plot projects in Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Philippines, Taiwan, Cameroon, Dem. Rep. Congo, Panama, Columbia, and Ecuador. Thomas gave an invited talk on “Large-scale forest plots and applied forest management”, and led a 3-day field trip of meeting participants to Pasoh Forest Reserve in nearby peninsular Malaysia.

**Awards**

- Professor Paul Cooper, Chair in Value-Added Wood and Composite Products was successful in his recent Canadian Foundation for Innovation application for research equipment funding. This support will provide funding for essential equipment for wood composites and wood preservation research including a research composites press, mechanical testing equipment and an ion chromatograph. This equipment will be used for faculty and graduate student research and is especially important for the support of students entering our new M.Sc. in Wood Engineering program offered in collaboration with the Departments of Chemical and Mechanical Engineering at the University of Toronto.
- Professor Barbara Zimmerman was awarded a grant from the Donner Canadian Foundation for development of research and forest conservation initiatives based at the Kayapo Centre for ecological studies, a biological research station run by the NGO Conservation International with the Kayapo Indian community of Aukre in the southeastern Amazon of Brazil. The objective of the Kayapo Centre for Ecological Studies is to facilitate research on tropical forest management while benefiting the Kayapo community of Aukre through employment and training opportunities and research station fees. Conservation International and the Faculty of Forestry support conservation and development with the Kayapo because this indigenous nation is protecting 13 000 000 ha in the southeastern Amazon from deforestation.
- Congratulations to Dr. Martin Hubbes for receiving the Canadian Institute of
ALBERTA

The University of Alberta's forestry programs have had a productive year, indicated by significant industry and government support for new scholarships and research programs.

In January, the BSc Forestry and BSc Forest Business Management programs were RPF accredited by the Canadian Forestry Accreditation Board for 6 years, making them the prairie provinces' only nationally accredited forestry programs.

The University is also proud to announce the appointment of Dr. Vic Lieffers as the NSERC Weldwood/Weyerhaeuser Industrial Research Chair in Silviculture in Enhanced Forest Management. This prestigious position was made possible through generous investments from Weldwood, Weyerhaeuser and the National Sciences and Engineering Research Council. The U of A's silvicultural research is groundbreaking and some of the tree sway research is unique worldwide.

Dr. Bruce Dancik and Francis Yeh each received International Union of Forestry Research Organizations (IUFRO) Scientific Achievement Awards. This award has never been presented to two Canadians since its inception in 1971 and only four Canadians have ever won the award. Dr. Wei Rung Peng also won the IUFRO – Outstanding Doctoral Research Award.

Bruce Buchanan, former owner of Sunpine Forest Products, donated $250,000 in the name of J.A. (Al) Brennan for graduate scholarships.

A number of new staff members joined the U of A Renewable Resources teaching and research team: Dr. Phil Comeau, Professor of Silviculture and Stand Dynamics
Dr. Glen Armstrong, Professor of Landscape Forestry and Integrated Resource Management
Dr. Peter Boxall, Professor of Resource/Environmental Economics
Dr. Les Fuller, Chair in Environmentally Sustainable Agriculture
Dr. Debra Davidson, Professor of Environmental, Resource, and Forestry Sociology
Dr. Lee Foote, Professor of Ecology
Alex Drummond, Coordinator of Forestry Field Schools

Dr. Francis Yeh has been appointed Associate Dean (Research) for the Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics, taking over responsibilities from Dr. Paul Woodard who returns to his teaching and research in the Department of Renewable Resources.

Four undergraduate forestry students were awarded scholarships to attend the 1999 CIF/AGM conference held in Banff, which was well attended by Renewable Resources department staff and the Dean of the Faculty.

Two successful Forest Industry Lecture Series presentation were hosted in the academic year. This year speakers were Dr. Reinhard F. Stettler ("The Question of Scale in the Management of Poplar") and Dr. Shin Nagata ("Japanese forests to make Japanese houses").

Forty Forestry and Forest Business Management students attended the March 2000 Silver Ring Ceremony and graduation banquet with guest speaker Mike Cardinal, Associate Minister of Forestry.

The University looks forward to continued growth and success in forest research and teaching in the 2000–2001 academic year.
**NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA**

**Students**

On March 10 the 5th annual Ring Ceremony was held at the Columbus Hall in Prince George for students graduating in April 2000. A total of 88 candidates received rings and the hall was filled to capacity with faculty, family and special guests. The Cariboo Section of the CIF sponsored the event and a description of the evening's activities can be found in the May/June 2000 issue of *The Forestry Chronicle*. The CIF gold medal was awarded to Katrina Froese who also received a special award from the Forestry Program for her academic performance. Katrina begins a Masters degree at UNBC this fall under the supervision of Oscar Garcia, Endowed Chair of Growth and Yield.

The UNBC convocation ceremony was held on May 26th, and 81 students were granted the BSc in Natural Resources Management (Forestry Major). First year enrolments are down from last year but the total number of undergraduate students enrolled in Natural Resources remains steady at 430 compared to 436 last year (285 and 319 declared Forestry Majors, respectively). Graduate students working on natural resource related topics has increased to 64 students.

**Faculty and Staff**

The Forestry Program is very pleased with the appointments of two Endowed Chairs. Dr. Chris Hawkins has been appointed to the Endowed Chair in Mixed Wood Ecology, and Dr. Oscar Garcia is the Endowed Chair in Growth and Yield. A Forest Extension Officer (Nicole Wilder) has been hired to assist the chairs with research, administrative and extension duties. Nicole brings extensive experience with Forest Renewal BC and project management to the Endowed Chair program.

Dr. Hawkins was formerly the Silviculturist in the Forestry Program and his general research interests are regeneration silviculture, population biology and forest productivity. Topics he is currently investigating include: silviculture and genetic testing of spruce, embling (somatic embryogenesis) clones; population biology and physiology of paper birch; regeneration silviculture of seed orchard conifer seedlings and hybrid poplar; effects of site preparation on long term site productivity; biology of lodgepole pine natural regeneration; economic impacts of silvicultural decisions; and nursery culture and field performance of planted seedlings.

Professor Garcia holds a PhD in Forest Resources from the University of...
Georgia, USA, and both a MSc in Mathematical Statistics and Operations Research and a professional forester degree (Ingeniero Forestal) from the University of Chile. Between 1976 and 1992 he worked in New Zealand for the Forest Research Institute, developing forest management planning decision-support systems and being responsible for much of their plantation growth modelling program. Later, he led a Government/Industry cooperative eucalypt modelling project in Chile, and conducted forest planning research in Spain for the Galician Government. He also occupied the Chair of Forest Mensuration at the Austral University of Chile, and held Visiting Professor positions in France, Denmark, and Spain.

We are also pleased with the reappointment of Dr. Brad Hawkes (Canadian Forest Service, Pacific Forestry Centre) and Dr. Ian Hartley (Forintek Canada Corp.) as Adjunct Professors. Dr. Robert Lackey, associate director for science at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Corvallis, Oregon, was a visiting Fulbright scholar for six months in 1999. He worked with Dr. Kessler on the relationship between ecological science and public policy. The Chair of the Forestry Program, Dr. Winifred Kessler has taken a one-year leave of absence to work with the US Forest Service in Juneau, Alaska. Dr. Kathy Lewis has been appointed Acting Program Chair for the year. Dr. Staffan Lindgren, and Associate Professor in the Forestry Program, continues to be the Acting Chair of the Biology Program, and was awarded a special merit award for outstanding service to the university. Dr. Kathy Purker (Associate Professor in the Forestry Program) has returned from sabbatical where she worked on the nutritional ecology of caribou. She has recently been awarded the Ian McTaggart-Cowan Muskwa-Kechika Research Professorship.

Two members of the Forestry Program were evaluated for promotion and/or tenure this year and both were successful. Dr. Art Fredeen was tenured and promoted to Associate Professor, and Dr. Stephen Dewhurst received tenure.

The I.K. Barber Enhanced Forestry Lab officially opened March 2, 2000. The $1.6-million I.K. Barber Enhanced Forestry Laboratory is a 7900 square-foot facility with four separate greenhouse compartments for plant growth and yield experiments. There is also a lab for experiments on soil composition and nutrients. Two people (John Orlowsky and Steven Storch) have been hired to manage this facility as well as the instructional greenhouse. This facility and its managers, have already proven to be a tremendous asset to research and teaching within the Forestry Program. The hiring of Roy Rea as Senior Lab Instructor in the Forestry Program has further enhanced our teaching capability. Roy is well qualified for this position as he not only completed his masters degree at UNBC in the area of wildlife/forestry interactions, but was also recognized with an award for outstanding teaching during his tenure as a teaching assistant.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Alternate member Jerome Marburg (right) presents a Canadian Forestry Accreditation Board certificate to Acting Dean John McLean, Faculty of Forestry, University of British Columbia, to mark the national accreditation of the Faculty’s Forest Resources Management and Forest Operations Programs.