

Forest Science Newsletter

June 2008

Andrews Forest

The Andrews Forest Newsletter Spring 2008 Issue is now online [here](#).

- Explore the ecology of soils through the microbial observatory
- Read about the fate of nitrogen in streams and the LINX II experiment
- Experience the winter wonderland of record snowfalls at the Andrews Forest
- Get a quick history lesson on the 60 years that the Andrews Forest has been an Experimental Forest

Graduate Student Symposium

On May 30, FS graduate students put on their second (and final) symposium featuring oral and poster presentations. Abstracts from the presentations can be found on the [Symposium Website](#).

Mark Harmon

Mark Harmon appeared on Oregon Public Broadcasting in a story about carbon. The radio piece featured a brief interview of Dr. Harmon reflecting on why steel and other materials are not necessarily good substitutes for wood in the context of carbon accounting, <http://news.opb.org/article/2095-debating-value-old-growth-storing-carbon/>

Forest Science Department Promotions

Congratulations Olga Krankina on her promotion to Associate Professor, Senior Research, and Becky Fasth and David Ritts on their promotion to Senior Faculty Research Assistant. Although the promotion process itself is not an easy one for all involved, especially the candidate, it is a wonderful opportunity to see what our colleagues are accomplishing. These are folks richly deserving of their new titles.

Richardson Quarantine Facility

See Darrell Ross talk about the facility on the Salem Statesman-Journal [website](#).



Wednesday, June 18

HJA Day at the Andrews Forest

HJA Day will include field trips to sites in the Andrews Forest, presentations from researchers and managers, and a barbeque. The event is free and transportation is provided from the OSU campus. The event is free and registration is required. For more details or to register, go to <http://www.fsl.orst.edu/iter/new/hjaday/hjaday.cfm>



The Andrews Forest wishes a fond farewell to **Kari O'Connell**, who has stepped down as Director of the Andrews Forest. She will continue work on education programs at the Andrews Forest in a position with the Oregon Natural Resources Education Program. We wish her well in her future endeavors and she will be missed! We welcome **Cameron Bergen** as the Interim Director of the Andrews Forest. Cameron will be coordinating research projects at the site during the busy summer field season.

Chad Hanson is now working with Bev Law's AmeriFlux project as a Faculty Research Assistant, Micrometeorologist - Quality Assurance Technician for the AmeriFlux Network. Chad received his masters' degree from the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of California at Santa Cruz. He will be responsible for laboratory support of intercalibration of AmeriFlux sensors at ~100 research sites in the Americas.

Jon Boro is working with Bev Law's AmeriFlux project as a new Faculty Research Assistant developing and designing the project's CO₂ systems. He will be maintaining high precision CO₂ systems at remote field sites and managing bench top and field research. Jon has a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Oregon State University.

Daniel Chmura has recently joined Glenn Howe's group as Director of the Climate Change Taskforce. Daniel received his Ph.D. from the Department of Ecosystem Science at Texas A&M University. His professional interests include genetic and physiological determinants of variation in productivity of forest trees, tree

improvement and quantitative genetics. Daniel is originally from Poland.

Jianbin Yu is the new Quantitative Geneticist in Glenn Howe's program. Jianbin has a Ph.D. in quantitative genetics from the University of Kansas. Most recently he was a Research Associate with the USDA Small Grain Genotyping Center in Kansas and Kansas State University working with marker-assisted selection for the USDA hard winter wheat regional nursery program and mapping wheat QTL for disease resistance and stress tolerance. Jianbin is from the People's Republic of China.



At the Forest Science 2nd Tuesday coffee, the following Departmental Fellowships were awarded:

- **Waring travel awards** - Jenny Edwards, Claire Phillips
- **Dukes Fellowship** - Alan Tepley
- **Tarrant Fellowship** - Mike Messier, Tzeng Lam
- **Fowells Fellowship** - Ani Elias, Vikas Vikram
- **Bacon Fellowship** - Amanda Lindsay, Gabrielle Snider

Other awards include:

- **Outstanding Students 2007-08** - Garrett Meigs (MS), Harold Zald (PhD)
- **Big Fish Service Award** - Lisa Ganio
- **Outstanding Faculty** - Kermit Cromack and Mike Unsworth

Fellowships awarded at the College Student Awards ceremony on May 9:

- **Fang** - Dirk Pflugmacher
- **Hoener** - Garrett Meigs, Harold Zald
- **Schutz Family Education Fund** - Dirk Pflugmacher

Congratulations to **Steve Strauss** on being named a 2008 OSU Distinguished Professor.

Congratulations to **Robin Rose** for receiving the College of Forestry Aufderheide Award for Teaching Excellence.

Dan Donato and **Cristina Eisenberg** have been awarded OSU's 2007-08 Mason Prize for Integrity and Moral Courage. It was initiated by OSU emeritus professor Robert G. Mason of OSU's Department of Statistics, and is administered by

the Dept. of Philosophy. An OSU media release in February announced the award, stating that in a society that is increasingly focused on competition and economics, a reward for those who have the courage to make tough decisions and take high moral ground is more important than ever, according to Professor Mason, who is funding the award with his family.

Brad Withrow-Robinson, Chal Landgren, and their *Ties to the Land Team* were big winners at the biennial Association of Natural Resource Extension Professionals (ANREP) Conference held in Madison, Wisconsin. They won the 2008 Gold Award for Mixed Materials and the 2008 Silver Award for Outstanding Team Project. The Mixed Materials award was in recognition of outstanding educational and promotional materials focused on a single natural resources Extension issue or need, while the Outstanding Team award was in recognition of achievements by interdisciplinary teams that exhibit leadership and excellence in planning, designing, delivering, and evaluating an Extension natural resources program. *Ties to the Land* also received an award from the Association for Communication Excellence, 2008 Critique and Awards program. They won a Gold award for an Educational Project, in the Distance Education and Instructional Design Category for their Succession Planning Curriculum. Congratulations to Brad, Chal and the whole *Ties to the Land Team*.

Congratulations to high school forest researchers Lipi Gupta, Marissa Minato, and Molly Ward!

On March 14, Lipi Gupta (daughter of Rakesh, WSE faculty) and two fellow Crescent Valley freshmen, Marissa Minato and Molly Ward, won two awards at the Intel Northwest Science Expo in Portland (<http://www.nwse.org/>) for their independent project on tree growth and late wood density following recent large fires in the Metolius Watershed. Their study found that low and moderate severity fire did not significantly change average ring width or latewood density. They used tree cores collected by **Garrett Meigs** (FS) for his M.S. project. The research was supported by the US Department of Energy project titled: 'The effects of disturbance and climate on carbon storage and exchanges of CO₂, water vapor and energy of evergreen coniferous forests in the Pacific Northwest' (PI: **Bev Law**).

For questions, comments or to submit articles, events, publications, stories, pictures or other information for the Forest Science Newsletter please email irene.schoppy@oregonstate.edu.