

Forest Ecosystems & Society Newsletter

March 2009

Get to know your Research Support Faculty!



Terrance Ye is a research associate with FES. He is a Canadian and came to OSU from the University of Alberta where received a PhD in Forest Biology and Management. He has been employed as a Quantitative Geneticist in the Northwest Tree Improvement Cooperative for the past 6 years. His current programs and research interests include: Analysis and interpretation of data from

large-scale tree breeding programs; Research within forest breeding theory based on quantitative genetics; Mixed model theory and application in tree breeding; Molecular marker aided selection. *Sponsored by the Research Support Faculty Committee*



March 13, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Fire and Fuels Management Seminar Richardson Hall 107

Fire is an important and ever-present fixture of Oregon's forests. Please join the Institute for Natural Resources (INR) for the second of four seminars conducted for the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) and Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) which describe ways that current regulatory frameworks may be incompatible with ecosystem dynamics, and help identify alternative regulatory and non-regulatory policy options.

March 13, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm Diversifying Income Opportunities on Small Woodlands

Lane County Extension Service Office, Eugene
Log values are at a near record lows and there is no relief on the horizon. This doesn't mean there aren't other sources of revenue available on your woodlands. Join us for this interesting and informative workshop. [Click here](#) for more information and the registration form.

April 15, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm HJ Andrews Experimental Forest 10th LTER Symposium

Memorial Union, OSU Campus

Everyone is welcome to the Andrews Forest LTER Symposium, April 15, in the OSU MU. The theme is "LTER6: Using innovative approaches and long term research to address complex socio-ecological questions". It's a free event but registration is important, visit the [website to register](#).

May 6-8 Washington State Society of American Foresters 2009 Convention

Washington State Society of American Foresters will host its 2009 annual convention at the Kittitas County Event Center in Ellensburg, WA, on May 6-8, 2009. The theme for this year's convention, hosted by the Central Washington Chapter, is "Forestland Management: Meeting the Challenges." Visit the [website](#) for more information.

June 17 HJA Day

HJA Day is the annual field gathering at the HJ Andrews Experimental Forest. Everyone is welcome to attend. The event 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. Registration is required. To register or to find more details, visit the [website](#).

Publications

Cahall, R. E. and Hayes, J. P. 2009. Influences of postfire logging on forest birds in the Eastern Cascades, Oregon, USA. *Forest Ecology and Management* 257: 1119-1128.

Campbell, J.L., G. Alberti, J. Martin, B.E. Law. 2008. Carbon dynamics of a ponderosa pine plantation following a thinning treatment in the northern Sierra Nevada. *Forest Ecology and Management* 257: 453-463

Cherry, M.L., V. Vikram, D. Briggs, D.W. Cress, and G.T. Howe. 2008. Genetic variation in direct and indirect measures of wood stiffness in coastal

Douglas-fir. Canadian Journal of Forest Research 38(9): 2476-2486.

Donato, D., J.B. Fontaine, W.D. Robinson, J.B. Kaufmann, B.E. Law. 2008. Vegetation response to a short interval between high-severity wildfires in a mixed-evergreen forest. Journal of Ecology, doi: 10.1111/j.1365-2745.2008.01456.x.

Jacobs, K.M. and Luoma, D.L. 2008. Small mammal mycophagy response to variations in green-tree retention. Journal of Wildlife Management 72: 1747-1755.

Hudiburg, Tara, Beverly Law, David P. Turner, John L. Campbell, Dan Donato, and Maureen Duane. 2009. Carbon dynamics of Oregon and northern California forests and potential land-based carbon storage. Ecological Applications 19:163-180.

Vance-Borland, K., K. Burnett, and S. Clarke. 2008. Influence of mapping resolution on assessments of stream and streamside conditions: lessons from coastal Oregon, USA. Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems DOI: 10.1002/aqc.967



Ronald Beloin arrived here in January to work with Glenn Howe on a decision support Web-based GIS tool for seed source analysis under modeled climate change scenarios. Mr. Beloin has contributed to environmental modeling, decision support tools, and other environmental software projects for over 20 years. He was the principal developer of TREGRO, an individual tree mechanistic model. Before arriving here, he was a contractor to the EPA lab in Athens, GA. Ron has also worked at the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. He holds a BS degree from the University of Idaho and an MS degree from Cornell.

Lori Kayes recently finished her Ph.D. in the FES department and is continuing as a post-doctoral research associate. She is working with Paul Anderson (FSL) and Klaus Puettmann on vegetation dynamics following post-fire restoration in the Timbered Rock fire. Prior to starting her Ph.D., Lori worked as a Botanist for the Medford District BLM.

Angela Mallon has returned to OSU as a Faculty Research Assistant with Professor Bruce Shindler. Angela earned her M.S. in Forest Resources in 2006 completing a project on Disturbance-Based Management in the McKenzie River watershed. Subsequently, she and her husband Adam served in Paraguay in the Peace Corps for two years where they worked on community sustainability issues. She is currently working on a seven state longitudinal project of citizen perspectives on wildland fire programs and the agencies that implement them. Among other projects, this summer she will do a follow up study on homeowner mitigation activities for building fire-safe communities. She helped initiate this study in 2006.

Dr. Jim Rivers is a new postdoc in Matt Betts's lab. Jim received his doctorate from the Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Marine Biology at the University of California, Santa Barbara where he studied nestling begging behavior in the Brown-headed Cowbird. His postdoc work will focus on investigating how the physiological characteristics of native birds are influenced by intensive forest management practices.

Mark Schulze comes to FES and the Andrews Forest after spending much of the past two decades studying tropical forest ecology and management, most recently in the Brazilian Amazon. Many of the research themes he worked on in Brazil - disturbance ecology, population dynamics, plant phenology, managing forests for local livelihoods and ecosystem services - are important elements of the Andrews Forest program. Mark is excited to become part of the diverse and productive Andrews research community, and to work in a place with such a rich history. Among other things, he looks forward to contributing to the research-management partnership and phenology programs. On a daily basis, he looks forward to world-class hiking and kayaking waiting just outside his office window.

Kelly Vining is a new Faculty Research Associate in Steve Strauss' lab. She received her Ph.D. in Genetics from the University of New Hampshire. Kelly will be working on an epigenomics project aimed at understanding changes in gene regulation during poplar growth, development and aging. An important part of her role will be coordinating collaborations with Todd Mockler's lab (Botany and Plant Pathology) and Michael Freitag's lab (Biochemistry and Biophysics).

Stephanie Yelenik recently joined Dave Hibbs and Steve Perakis as a Post-Doctoral Research Assistant. She will be working on N-fixation of Ceanothus shrubs in Northern California and the effects of this on tree productivity. She recently finished her Ph.D. at University of California, Santa Barbara, where she worked on plant-soil interactions, invasive species spread, and native plant restoration.

Palitha Dharmawardhana left in February, and **Melanie Stidham** left in January. Good luck to Palitha and Melanie.



Congratulations to the FES winners of the 2008 Dean's Awards:

- **Lisa Ganio** - Advising/Mentoring
- **Randy Rosenberger** - Research/Scholarship
- **Brad Withrow-Robinson** - Extended/Continuing Education
- **Ken Vance-Borland** - FRA

Claire Philips, PhD graduate student in FES, has been awarded the second annual Sulzman Award for the best student oral presentation at the 2008 Fall American Geophysical Union meeting. Preference for this award is given to students using isotopes to study biochemistry, and honors the memory of Dr. Elizabeth Sulzman, who was faculty member in Botany and Plant Physiology at OSU and Adjunct in Forest Science. Claire is a student of Barbara Bond working on understanding soil respiration in forest trees.

Dr. Steven Strauss has been named 2008 Forest Biotechnologist of the Year by the Institute of Forest Biotechnology (IFB). Dr. Strauss was also made a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

Congratulations to **Garrett Meigs**, who had his photo "[Burning from within](#)" chosen for the cover of the January issue of Journal of Ecology.

Lipi Gupta, daughter of Rakesh Gupta in WSE, won two awards at the Central Western Oregon Science Expo (CWOSE) on 2/28 for her project on fire effects on tree growth in the Metolius Watershed. She received the award for best environmental/ecological project from Earth Design Consultants Inc. as well as a scholarship to

OSU. She worked with **Garrett Meigs** and **Bev Law** to investigate tree ring patterns following low- and moderate-severity fire and found that Douglas-fir growth increased, ponderosa pine growth decreased, and that surprisingly, grand fir growth did not change between pre- and post-fire periods. She will be advancing to the OR state science fair in April.

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