

College of Forestry International Programs News

Issue 8: April 21, 2006

As part of an effort to link people with one another and with programs and opportunities and to communicate with you about international activities, the International Programs office distributes this International Programs Newsletter on an irregular basis. Please drop me a line (John.Hayes@oregonstate.edu) with your thoughts on suggestions for improvement or information about visiting colleagues, upcoming events, your travel plans, or other items for inclusion in the next newsletter. You may also send your newsletter contributions to Susan Morré, the International Programs intern, at Susan.Morre@oregonstate.edu.

International Coffee Break – Wednesday, May 10, 2006 (10:00AM)

Second Floor Knuckle – Richardson Hall

EVERYONE IS INVITED! To help facilitate greater communication among people interested in international activities, the International Programs office is sponsoring a morning coffee break. The purpose of the Coffee Break will be to introduce international visitors to the College faculty, students, and staff; to enhance communication within the College about international activities and opportunities; and to help foster an international institutional culture in the College. The coffee will begin at 10:00, and after an appropriate length of time for people to get a cup of coffee, enjoy some munchies, and engage in a bit of conversation, there will be three scheduled activities: 1) Introduction of international visitors (5 minutes or so), 2) Update from the Associate Dean (5 minutes or so), and 3) Featured Activity Overview (5 minutes or so). This month's feature will be C.Y. Li.



At this month's seminar, Dr. Kate McCulloh (center), Faculty Research Associate in WSE working with Dr. Barb Gartner and with Rich Meinzer in the Forest Service, gave an overview of her work comparing hydraulic architecture of various tree growth forms and habitats, particularly her work in Barro Colorado Island in Panama. For more information about the Smithsonian Tropical Research

Institute research facilities in Panama, visit <http://www.stri.org/>). For information about the various types of fellowships that Kate mentioned which are available to faculty and students, visit http://www.stri.org/english/education_fellowships/index.php.

Upcoming COF International Seminars

Check our OSU College of Forestry International Programs webpage for upcoming seminars at <http://www.cof.orst.edu/cof/international/>. If you have international seminars scheduled in any College of Forestry department, let us know and we will announce them on the International Programs webpage, or in upcoming editions of this newsletter.

New faces in the College

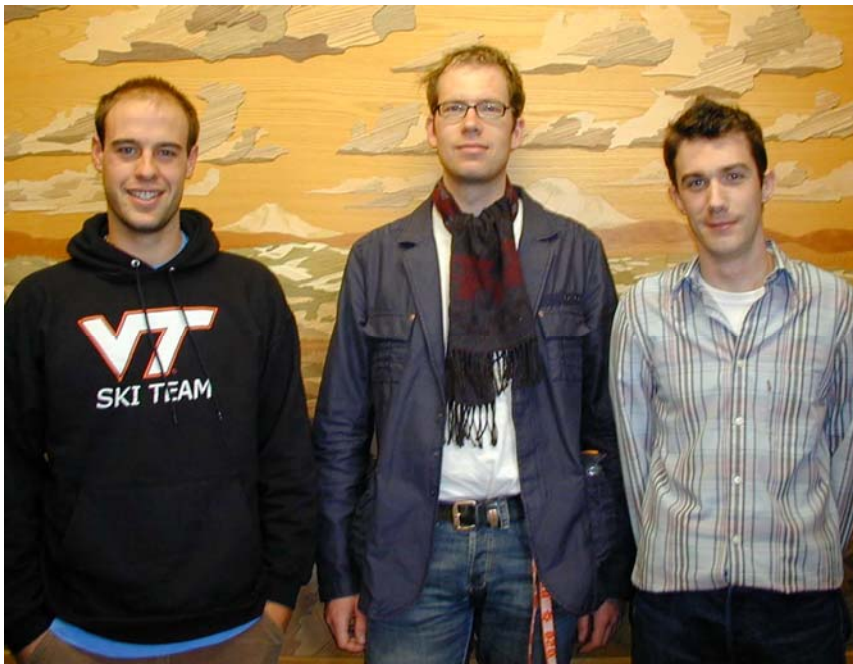
The College regularly hosts international guests and visiting scholars. Take the time to introduce yourself and touch bases with these folks.



Mr. Jasjit Walia (center, talking with Mike Newton), an International Fellow of the World Forestry Center, accompanied two new International Fellows as they visited OSU for the first time during their fellowship through the World Forestry Center in Portland.



Two new International Fellows from the World Forestry Center in Portland and a returning Fellow joined us at the coffee this month. From left: Dr. Badege Bishaw, director of the COF International Programs; Mr. Jasjit Walia, International Fellow from India; Angie DiSalvo, International Fellowship Program Manager at the WFC; Kyungtae Park, new International Fellow from Korea; and John Turland, new International Fellow from Australia. For more information about the WFC International Fellowship Program, visit <http://wfi.worldforestry.org/> or contact Angie at adisalvo@worldforestry.org.



Two new international students arrived at OSU in late March. Aurelien Sevrain (far right), an undergraduate intern from Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Arts et Métiers (ENSAM) in Chalons en Champagne, France, is working with Dr. Lech Muszynski to refine his advanced lab techniques working with wood-based composites. He will be at OSU through the end of June. Guenter Modzel

(center) a new PhD student formerly studying at Georg-August University of Goettingen, Germany, is researching adhesive bonding of wood with Dr. Fred Kamke. Guenter plans to be at OSU through Spring 2009.

International Volunteer Opportunities

Crossroads International has a number of international students who are waiting to be matched with a volunteer Conversation Partner with whom they can practice their English skills. If you have an hour a week that you could dedicate to improving international relations (conveniently without even leaving your hometown!), please email Charlotte.Ross@oregonstate.edu or visit 444 Snell Hall.

International Student Volunteers Inc. (ISV), a non-profit organization that coordinates student volunteer opportunities in education and ecotourism, is seeking two university-level instructors for two weeks of work in Ecuador and Thailand this summer. Requirements: MS or PhD, university teaching experience. Training session in Los Angeles is May 12 – 18. For information, contact Deanna Mathewson at isvstaff@isvonline.com.

Ecological Society of America seeks to publish the best papers in ecology, regardless of the authors' native language. Therefore, ESA is looking for volunteers to assist authors whose native language is not English in preparing manuscripts for ESA journal submission. If you are willing to assist, please send your name, area of ecological expertise, and languages spoken to webmaster@esa.org or go to <http://esa.org/authorhelp/>.

International opportunities

Tuition Remission Scholarships for International Students – application deadline May 1, 2006

The State of Oregon authorizes state colleges and universities to award a limited number of partial or full tuition remission scholarships for international students, at both the graduate and undergraduate level. Eligibility is based on economic need, academic promise and achievement, full-time enrollment, diverse cultural representation, and minimum GPA of 2.5 for undergraduates and 3.0 for graduates. Applications may be submitted for Fall term 2006 through Spring term 2007. For more information, or to request an electronic version of the application, please contact Kathy Sorensen, International Student and Faculty Services, at kathy.sorensen@oregonstate.edu.

Faculty Exchange Opportunities—proposal deadline April 24, 2006

For nearly 20 years, the Oregon University System has had a student exchange agreement with four institutions in Lyon, France. Our Lyon partners have an interest in fostering faculty exchanges as well. Lyon 1 has proposed hosting a couple of Oregon faculty members for one month during the 2006-2007 academic year. Any tenure-track faculty member of the OUS in fields including material science and computer sciences is eligible, but the deadline is imminent. For more information, please contact Laura.hampton@ous.edu. In addition, if you are interested in exploring joint research topics with Lyon faculty or hosting a faculty member here, contact Laura.

IUFRO International Conference—abstract deadline May 1, 2006

ForestXChange International Conference to be held in Freiburg, Germany, on October 25 – 27, 2006. “New approaches in knowledge management” in the field of forestry is the topic. Submit paper titles and one-page (400 word) abstracts to abstract@forestxchange.org. For more information, visit <http://www.forestxchange.org>.

CREA Environmental Conservation and Sustainable Development Course— Summer 2006

Conservation through Research Education and Action (CREA), a registered educational not for profit organization, is dedicated to building ecologically literate societies. CREA, in participation with Florida State University in Panama, is offering a 3 credit four week course from July 3rd to July 28th, 2006, in the Republic of Panama. Panama has one of the highest rates of economic development in Latin America yet suffers from one of the world's highest rates of tropical deforestation and financial inequality among its citizens. This program is intended to provide students with exposure to the multidisciplinary problems and solutions in the area of conservation and development, and offers the opportunity to combine interdisciplinary course work with field experience and independent research. Students will work in several different tropical habitats on the Pacific and Caribbean coasts and the Panama Canal, examining conservation, related social problems, and reasons for biological resource depletion. The course will address social, political, and economic issues of the developing world and international efforts to address them. Topics will include deforestation, pollution and inept agricultural practices, using problem-solving tools to help students understand the complexity of globally important issues and the necessity of environmental protection for future world needs. Field visits to ecologically and socially pertinent areas and ecological/social fieldwork are core aspects of the course. Costs: \$2200 (inclusive of tuition, accommodation, transport) for 4 weeks of study. Contact admin@crea-panama.org or visit <http://www.crea-panama.org/sustdevel.htm> for application information.

United Nations Forum on Forests publishes an online newsletter, the current issue of which may be found at http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/newsletters/2006/03-04_2006.pdf. The UN Forum on Forests has recently set four global objectives on forests to strengthen efforts toward sustainable forest management, one of which is to reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide. In addition, the Forum is launching a series of online discussion boards to reach out to the forest community worldwide for exchange of ideas on current forest issues, beginning with “The Root Causes of Deforestation.” The discussion boards will be open for one week every other month, beginning in early May. To participate, go to the Forum website for details: <http://www.un.org/esa/forests>. The seventh session of the Forum will be held in New York from April 16 – 27, 2007. For more information go to <http://www.un.org/esa/forests/session.html>.

Exploring Chiang Mai, Thailand — Dr. Joe Hoff, International Education Coordinator in the OSU International Education and Outreach Office recently visited Chiang Mai, Thailand, home to Payap University. Although they don't have a forestry program, they have the infrastructure to set up a faculty-led program and invite relevant speakers concerning Thailand's reforestation program or other relevant topics. This summer they are opening a new international house with housing for both visiting faculty and students. Currently this program is run through the OUS system. For more information, contact Joseph.Hoff@oregonstate.edu or visit www.payap.ac.th/english.

OSU International Forestry Course – Spring term 2006

Drs. Badege Bishaw and John Sessions are teaching International Forestry (FE/FOR 456) this spring on MWF at 10 am in Peavy Hall 104. Upcoming guest lectures include:

May 3: Forests and Global Warming/Policy Concerns (Ron Neilson)

May 12: World Use of Wood (Tom McLain)

May 15: Global Forestry Business Issues (Kevin Boston)

May 26: Ethnobiology and Forests of West Africa (Duncan Thomas)

May 31: Nature-Based Tourism (Mark Reed)

Lematta Oregon/Global Forestry Issues Seminar Series – Spring term 2006

Dr. Loren Kellogg of the Forest Engineering Department is coordinating this new seminar series (FE 507) on Thursdays from 4:00-5:00 pm. The topic for this spring term is ***Soil and Watershed Effects of Forest Harvesting Operations***. The seminar series will examine forestry best management practices in a national and global context as well as forest industry/contractor experiences during implementation. This seminar series should be of interest to both graduate and undergraduate student in natural resources or engineering areas of study. For more information, contact Loren.Kellogg@oregonstate.edu.

International Club News

OSU International Forestry Students Association (OSU-IFSA)

OSU-IFSA held its annual officer elections meeting on April 12, 2006, following a presentation by Eric Hansen and Rajat Panwar on their recent trip to India to explore softwood markets. New officers who were elected for the coming year will take over the reins from last year's officers beginning at the May 9 meeting (Richardson Hall, 5 pm). Members of OSU Engineers Without Borders will present their upcoming project in El Salvador at the next IFSA meeting, so that both clubs can discuss collaborating on volunteer projects in the same area and strengthen OSU ties in El Salvador. New members are always welcome. Susan Morré will be succeeding Pablo Crespell as club president. For more information, contact Susan.Morre@oregonstate.edu. This new chapter of IFSA was established in October 2005 at Oregon State University. While IFSA is very active in many parts of the world, the OSU chapter is currently the only active chapter in the United States. Purposes of this organization are to provide extracurricular activities that educate students about international forestry issues, promote networking with forestry professionals and students, enhance professionalism of forestry students, and encourage improvements in forestry and natural resources higher education internationally for the benefit of all students. Membership is free and is open to all OSU graduate and undergraduate students. Faculty advisors are John Hayes and Badege Bishaw. Regular meetings are usually the first Tuesday of each month (note: May meeting is the second Tuesday).

Engineers Without Borders – USA

Students at Oregon State University have recently established an OSU Chapter of Engineers Without Borders-USA. (EWB-USA). EWB-USA is a member of Engineers Without Borders – International. Their goal is to help disadvantaged communities improve their quality of life through the implementation of environmentally and economically sustainable engineering solutions. The OSU chapter president is Beth McNair, a forest engineer/civil engineer major. Faculty advisors are John Sessions (FE), Kevin Boston (FE), and Ken Williamson (CE). Membership is open to all students.

EWB - OSU conducted a site assessment for a potential water supply project in El Salvador during spring break. They evaluated the communities of Las Mercedes and El Naranjito for the possibility of implementing a potable water delivery system and have proposed three initial projects to conduct. The communities are isolated rurally in a mountainous region and the women of the community have to travel long distances to access water from springs. Residents of the community are often ill and much of the childrens' illness are being attributed to contaminated drinking water. If they can raise enough funds to cover their costs, EWB-OSU will design and implement a potable water delivery system over the next year. For more information, contact Beth at ewb_osu@yahoo.com.

Grants received for international research

Recent international presentations

Biodiversity, Tropical Rainforests, and Cultural Survival – presented April 12 by Ms. Suraporn Suriyamonton of The International Alliance of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of Tropical Rainforests. Seminar hosted by the College of Forestry International Programs and the International Education and Outreach Office. For more information on the work of the Alliance to address tenure issues, traditional ecological knowledge, and rights of indigenous peoples, visit <http://www.international-alliance.org/>.

Impacts of deforestation on catchment hydrology and salinisation in Western Australia – presented April 13 by Keith Smettem, Associate Professor at the Agricultural and Eco-Hydrology Centre for Water Research, The University of Western Australia. Hosted by Jeff McDonnell in Forest Science.

On the road (January through April)

To help keep you abreast of where your colleagues are going internationally...

North and Central America

South America

Guatemala and Panama – April – Daniel Hayes—conduct field work in Guatemala, attend Meso-America Parks Congress meeting in Panama.

Africa

Asia

Japan – May – Phil Sollins – Visiting Scientist in Kyoto as guest of Kanehiro Kitayama (<http://www.ecology.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~kitayama/english.htm>) who has worked in Borneo and Hawaii, among other places, on nutrient availability in relation to parent material as it affects tropical forest tree distribution. May 15-June 22.

Australia, New Zealand and Pacific Islands

New Zealand – April – Keith Jayawickrama – attend 13th Australasian Plant Breeding Conference in Christchurch.

Europe

Germany and Spain – March and April – Olga Krankina—attend GOF-C-GOLD Land Cover Team meeting in Jena, give presentation at IUFRO Conference in Palencia.

Errata:

In Newsletter #7, the correct spelling for the caption under the photo of Lech Muszinski and his guest is Henrik Lund Frandsen. Apologies, Henrik.