



NAPFSC



January 1998

R E P O R T

A report to the members of the National Association of Professional Forestry Schools and Colleges

Past President's Message

Gregory N. Brown

This newsletter is the last of the semi-annual newsletters published during my term as President of NAPFSC. The past two years have been eventful and hopefully some progress has been made in some areas with the NAPFSC membership. I have enjoyed the opportunity to serve as President and have learned much through working with the many organizations with which NAPFSC interacts. I plan to stay active as Past President for the next two years with the Executive Committee and thereafter as a member of the NAPFSC organization. I would like to thank the officers, members of the Executive Committee, the general membership, and Randy Nuckolls and Patrick Turner for their support. Whatever has been accomplished during the past two years certainly could not have happened without the support of all those involved. Thank you for providing me the opportunity to serve as your President.

“...time and effort were devoted on the part of NAPFSC toward advancing the goals of the organization to benefit its membership and affiliated forestry schools.”

The following summarizes activities of NAPFSC during the past two years with particular focus on the six months since the last newsletter.

We continued to work with our congressional offices toward appropriations for McIntire-Stennis, Renewable Resources Extension Act, and the National Research Initiative. Level funding was achieved for McIntire-Stennis, increased funding for the National Research Initiative and restoration of the Renewable Resources Extension Act to level funding. The Renewable Resources Extension Act funding had been zeroed-out in the FY 98 Executive Budget and therefore required additional attention to be restored by the Congress.

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Feature Article

A New Column Of Your NAPFSC REPORT

Sustainable Forestry: No Longer Just a Catchy Phrase

*Submitted by James P. Lassoie
(Written by Michael Washburn)*

Yogi Bera's wry folk wisdom was offered as apt summary for where the forestry world is, at the conclusion of the November 9-11 Inter-University Forum on Sustaining Forest Ecosystems. The pioneering event at Skamania Lodge, in Stevenson, Washington, set the stage for university cooperation rather than the traditional competition around the complex issues of sustainable forestry, which reach "from the forest floor to the living room floor."

Nineteen universities participated from the United States and Canada. They joined federal and state agency officials, industry, non-profits and foundations in a concentrated effort to move sustainable forestry out of the realm of theory and into the practical world of chaos and change in natural resource management.

Participants wrestled with new ideas, old ideas, components and definitions of sustainable forestry.

Sustain what? For whom? Why? asked Winnie Kessler, chair of the Forestry Program at The University of Northern British Columbia. "Each place is unique socially, ecologically, economically and politically. Thus, any definition of sustainable forestry and its components depends heavily on place."

The overall emphasis of the Forum was on strategies for marketing, training and education, resource allocation, and research needs for the practical challenges of sustainable forestry. Preliminary workplans and their institutional champions were in place by the end of the 3-day event.

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REPORT

Bi-Annual Newsletter of the
National Association of Professional
Forestry Schools and Colleges

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Past President's Message

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→ We testified before Senator Lugar's Senate Agricultural Committee and provided written testimony to Congressman Smith's House Agricultural Committee related to the Research, Extension and Education Title for the Farm Bill toward development of an Extension initiative for non-industrial private forest landowners. We also are participating with Congressman Smith's office on his Forest Health Bill.

→ We testified before the CARET Executive Committee relative to increased forestry representation in this organization.

→ The NAPFSC Executive Committee held a retreat to develop a strategic plan under the leadership of President-elect Al Vogt.

→ We developed and went on-line with a WEB page for NAPFSC.

→ As indicated above, semi-annual newsletters have been published over the past two years.

→ NAPFSC presented the first "Non-Industrial Private Forest Education" Award in collaboration with the National Woodlands Owners Association. The forestry Extension program at Mississippi State University received the award at the national SAF meeting in Memphis in October, 1997.

→ The NAPFSC brochure was updated and revised.

→ NAPFSC was represented in the US Delegation to the World Forestry Congress in Antalya, Turkey, where we distributed the NAPFSC brochure in English, as well as translations in Turkish, Russian, French and Spanish.

→ NAPFSC continued to be represented as the Forestry Section on the Board on Natural Resources of NASULGC. I had the opportunity to chair the Board on Natural Resources during 1997. During that time we completed a major revision of the Board's Rules of Operation to permit a more effective Board organization. Through NASULGC I also served on the NASULGC-EPA Partnership, on the Commission on Food, Environment, and Renewable Resources Executive Committee, and on the Board on Agriculture Executive Committee. I will have the opportunity to chair the new NASULGC-USGS Partnership



Feature Article

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“We’re at the stage of helping practitioners answer the question ‘How the heck do I do this sustainable forestry thing?’” said Rich Recker, director of the Sustainable Forestry Partnership, which convened the Forum.

The Partnership, currently housed at Oregon State University (OSU), seeks to support and document innovation in sustainable forestry, then integrate that innovation broadly both in policy and practice. It was established with support from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, OSU’s College of Forestry, and private contributions. “We’re looking for every way we can find to put productive tools in the hands of people wanting to engage in sustainable forestry,” Recker said.

Key discussions addressing certification of forests prompted further thought on updating current forestry systems, and whether the concept of sustainable forestry is truly new.

Certification is emerging as a crucial tool in spreading understanding and practice of sustainable forestry. Increasingly, consumers, manufacturers and producers are becoming aware of certified wood as any wood that comes from a forest certified as managed on a sustainable basis.

Certification has the potential to improve the credibility of the forest industry. But it is not without controversy, largely over certification standards: who should set them, will they become universal, which ones are value-based rather than objective, should industry self-certify, and which third-party certifiers are most credible, nationally and internationally?

“The last two years have shown dramatic increases in certified acreage,

in numbers of landowners involved, and in numbers of significant industry players signing on,” said Michael Jenkins, associate director of the MacArthur Foundation’s Program on Global Security and Sustainability. “It’s important to watch the patterns, even more than absolute numbers.”

“Consumers will play a huge role in what we see as our rather grand mission: to improve forest management worldwide,” said David Ford, president of the Certified Forest Products Council. The Council resulted from a merger between a group of wood users and purchasers, and a group of sustainably-produced wood and wood products suppliers. “The tool we use for this will be certification, but it must be verifiable, independent, third-party certification. It must be site-specific, evaluate on-ground management, and its standards should be international.”


Margaret Mead’s suggestion for changing systems was invoked in closing remarks by Scott Reed, associate dean of forestry extension at Oregon State University: “To really change the system, you must start everywhere at once.”

The importance of economic and social components, and the concept of effective decision making for communities were enthusiastically promoted by Adela Backiel, director of sustainable development for the US Department of Agriculture. “We need also to examine how best to do truly integrated research, and how to change current reward systems of bureaucrats, researchers and Cooperative Extension people.”

USDA’s Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service co-sponsored the Forum, along with Weyerhaeuser Co., Pennsylvania

State University, International Paper, Washington State University and the National Association of Professional Forestry Schools and Colleges.

“This was a landmark meeting for university research and outreach programs to provide leadership for emerging issues in sustainable forestry,” said Steve Anderson, president of the Forest History Society in Durham, North Carolina. Anderson perceived in the Forum a significant sea change from a historical perspective, despite questions raised about how different today’s conversations are from those of 20 years ago about sustained yield and multiple use.

“As several of the speakers noted, the topics are now different, the audiences are different. We’re reaching into the commercial marketplace. The Forum sowed the seeds for new collaborative relationships both within and especially outside of the university system.” 

NAPFSC On-Line



Want to know more
about NAPFSC?
You can find us on the Internet at
<http://www.napfsc.org>



Past-President's Message

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during the upcoming year. Through participation with the Board on Agriculture Executive Committee, I had the opportunity to work with the CSREES GPRA Partnership Task Force and with the Research, Extension and Education Title of the Farm Bill Coordinating Committee.

→ NAPFSC presented a forum at the US Forest Service Chief's Leadership Conference in St. Paul, Minnesota, relative to university forestry school collaboration with US Forest Service programs.

→ NAPFSC participated in the Southern State Foresters meeting in Jacksonville, FL, and the national meeting of the National Association of State Foresters in Salt Lake City, Utah.

→ NAPFSC requested and will participate with NASF and the USFS in refinement of the White Paper "Use Of Criteria and Indicators in Sustainable Forest Management."

→ NAPFSC participated with the National Planning Committee of the Forest Products Research Administrators at their meetings in Vancouver, British Columbia and in Madison, Wisconsin.

→ NAPFSC participated with the National Association of University Fisheries and Wildlife Programs (NAUFWP) meeting in conjunction with the North American Wildlife Congress in Washington, DC. (NAUFWP voted to also serve as the Fish and Wildlife Resources Section under the Board on Natural Resources of NASULGC.)

→ NAPFSC continued to participate in the Science and Technology Committee of the American Forest and Paper Association, and assisted in reviewing applications for collaborative research funding with the Department of Energy. (This collaborative research funding will be expanded to other agencies.)

→ NAPFSC continued to serve on the Research Committee of the Seventh American Forest Congress.

→ NAPFSC participated in the FAO Advisory Committee on Forestry Education in Santiago, Chile.

→ NAPFSC participated in the North American Research Conference in Asheville, North Carolina.

→ NAPFSC continued to work with the Society of American Foresters toward greater participation in the forestry school accreditation process. The SAF formally has accepted a NAPFSC representative on the SAF Committee on Accreditation.

→ NAPFSC co-sponsored and participated in the Sustainable Forestry Forum held at Oregon State University.

→ NAPFSC is participating with many agricultural groups in the four regional workshops on Agricultural and Forest Productivity and Natural Resource Conservation.

→ NAPFSC is participating on the Advisory Committee for the annual Board on Agriculture National Leadership Seminar.

→ Many members of the NAPFSC Executive Committee and other members assisted me in representing NAPFSC at many of the activities described above. In total, much time and effort were devoted on the part of NAPFSC toward advancing the goals of the organization to benefit its membership and all the affiliated forestry schools.

Again, I thank all of you for your help and for permitting me to serve as your President during the past two years. I wish you well in the years ahead with your respective forestry school programs and with the NAPFSC organization. 🌱



To the NAPFSC Membership:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the time I was able to spend working with you as assistant to Greg Brown. It was a treat to finally put faces and names together and meet all of those nice voices. My time working with NAPFSC was very enjoyable and I will miss the contact. Be nice to Cindy.

Peggy J

Peggy Quarterman



Regional Reports

Northeast Region

D. H. DeHayes, Chair

Recent meetings of the northeast NAPFSC region have focused on discussion of SAF accreditation issues as well as progress on two major regional initiatives — the development of a shared graduate course offering via interactive compressed video TV and partnering with agencies to develop and promote a regional natural resources agenda. To advance our discussions toward developing a regional research agenda, the northeast representatives from four federal agencies — National Park Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Forest Service, the USDA CSREES — participated in our fall 1997 regional meeting.

With respect to the Interim Status Report associated with SAF accreditation, all northeastern participants appreciated the efficiency of the recent scaled-back process that focused on curricular and personnel changes. However, perspectives on the utility of the Interim Report were still quite mixed. On the one hand, units undergoing programmatic and/or personnel changes felt they clearly benefited from the analysis associated with the Interim Status Report. Units that were in a more stable mode felt that the Interim Report provided less internal benefit and was more of a reporting exercise. All agreed that the Interim Status Report should be evaluated primarily in terms of “value added” to program quality. Although there was clearly support for continued SAF accreditation for Forest Management curricula, there was also considerable discussion about the relationship between the comprehensive CSREES review and SAF accreditation review for programs with a broader natural resource focus. It was

noted that, depending on the timing of CSREES reviews, some programs could conceivably undergo three reviews over a five year period.

Eight of the northeastern universities have agreed to participate in co-sponsoring a graduate seminar course via interactive compressed video TV focused on “Forest Ecosystem Health and Sustainability.” Regional National Park Service staff are also interested in participating. The course will involve faculty from each of the host institutions. Although the logistical issues in coordinating this effort are somewhat complex, all participants remain enthusiastic. Our hope is that the course will serve as a prototype for future courses that might enhance programmatic efficiency and take advantage of various disciplinary strengths of each institution within the region. The discussion of course sharing evolved into commentary about potential joint personnel planning to better capitalize on unique institutional strengths and ensure disciplinary coverage in the region.

Extensive discussion of regional research needs focused primarily on agency needs and priorities and the extent to which they coincide with the priorities established by Northeast NAPFSC two years ago. Although there was generally strong inter-agency and institutional congruence on the major research needs, three areas were of particular importance to all groups. These areas were the influence of contaminants in air, land and water, landscape change issues and implications, and inventory/monitoring

Southern Region

Fred W. Cabbage, Chair

The southern NAPFSC group met in Williamsburg, Virginia, on April 29, 1997, and discussed various agenda items. Jim Perdue from the USDA Forest Service, Region 8, noted the importance of the southern forests and nonindustrial private forest landowners, especially as increasing amounts of timber harvest are projected to occur here. Pete Roussopoulos reiterated the need for collaboration among forestry schools and the Southern Region Station and discussed the strategic initiatives for the Southern Station. Dick Daniels represented the Southern Industrial Forestry Research Council (SIFRC). SIFRC research priorities are increasing forest productivity in a sustainable manner, forest inventory and analysis enhancements, and interactions with the AF&PA/DOE Agenda 2020 research program. Richard Noble reviewed the considerable NAUFWP programs and efforts with agencies in Washington. Jim Garner from Virginia, representing the state foresters, reiterated the support for improved Forest Inventory and Analysis data collection and reporting activities. Larry Biles reviewed the CSREES activities and programs, which has been reported elsewhere, and Bill Hubbard commented on the many programs being developed by the southern extension foresters. 



NAPFSC News


Warnell School of Forest Resources Establishes Center for Forest Business

A center for Forest Business has been established at the University of Georgia's Warnell School of Forest Resources. The Center's mission is to provide national leadership in education, research and service to the forest industry and to private landowners. The forest products business has become complex, sophisticated and global," said Jim Fendig, vice-president of the woodlands division, Union Camp Corp. "I believe the new Center will produce leaders that have the education and background to excel in this challenging environment."

The Center will promote sound business principles and practices, sustainable production, and market-based solutions to forest resource issues and opportunities. The Center will speed the industry toward its goal of practicing sustainable forestry worldwide," said Forest Kellogg, president of North American Timberlands, Inc. "And it will continue the School's tradition of providing the latest information and training to forest resource managers."

Principal activities of the Center will include a graduate program that prepares future leaders for management positions in private industry and public institutions, research that will improve planning and financial analyses available to both industry and private landowners, and service programs that incorporate the financial, biological and social components of intensive forest production in Georgia.

Forest education programs across the country focus primarily on biology, ecology and environmental issues," said Hank Haynes, president of Timberland Managers, a Georgia-based consulting and investment firm. "The Center for Forest Business will bring a business and finance component to forestry education. It will also help to identify the issues affecting forest-based business and help to develop strategies for dealing with them."

For additional information concerning the Center, contact Arnett C. Mace, Jr., Dean, Warnell School of Forest Resources, at (706) 542-5441. 

Job Opportunities: University of Arkansas at Monticello

The Arkansas Forest Resources Center and the School of Forest Resources will be hiring two faculty members beginning July 1, 1998, in natural resource sociology/policy and statistics/modeling. These are 12-month, teaching/research, tenure track positions. In addition, there will be a research specialist (M.S. level) and manager of university forests (M.S./Ph.D.) position available at the same time. Interested parties should contact Dean Bob Blackmon for details at BLACKMON@UAMONT.EDU or (870) 460-1052.

New Master of Science Program in Forest Resources

The University of Arkansas School of Forest Resources is pleased to announce the initiation of a new Master of Science degree program in forest resources beginning in fall 1998. For details contact Dean Bob Blackmon at BLACKMON@UAMONT.EDU or (870) 460-1052.

SAF National Convention This Fall



Michigan
TRAVERSE CITY

SAF National Convention
September 19-23, 1998

NAPFSC 1998 Spring Meeting

Executive Committee Meeting
March 2-3, 1998

NASULGC Headquarters
1 Dupont Circle
Washington, DC



Committee Report

National Extension Committee

George W. Brown, Chair

The past year has been another “interesting” one for Extension. We’ve been on a roller-coaster ride with the budget, yet forestry and natural resources extension programs across the country have continued to be highly productive and innovative, with some very creative, cooperative programs across institutional, state and regional boundaries.

At the 1996 SAF meeting, we were pleased to learn that the Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA) budget was slated for a small increase in FY 98. But when the President’s budget was released, all of us were shocked to learn that the RREA appropriation had been eliminated by USDA officials. What followed was a concerted effort by NAPFSC and our friends to reinstate RREA through congressional channels. Thanks to a lot of hard work and to many letters by all of you, we were able to reinstate RREA at the FY 1997 level of \$3.192 million.

An important lesson from this experience is that we need to spend as much, if not more, time working with USDA leadership on RREA and other forestry and natural resources appropriations as we do with Congress. The budget begins at USDA and if they are not supportive, we will have a very difficult time getting adjustments made on “the Hill” in this time of budget balancing austerity. We also need to get constituents, especially CEOs and leaders from forest owner associations, to visit USDA executives at the Under Secretary level and above.

Great things continue to happen with our Extension faculty and their programs nationwide. Regional Extension Chairs have provided lengthy lists of example programs featuring interinstitutional cooperation, volunteer training and recruitment and innovative educational programs. Here is just a sample:

Pennsylvania, New York and Maryland Extension organized a program with 10 states for training volunteers and state coordinators.


Strong Master Woodland Manager/Forest Owner programs have continued to attract innovators and leaders throughout the country.

Logger training continues as a major spin-off from the LEAP program in several states with Extension faculty assisting frequently across state and regional boundaries.

The Southern Forestry Extension Group is updating their Woodland Correspondence Course.

In the West, the Oregon-Washington Continuing Education Coordinating Committee continues to develop regional educational offerings. Several joint educational programs are being offered by Oregon State, Washington State, University of Idaho, University of Montana State and University of Washington faculty.

In the Northeast, Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, West Virginia, Virginia and New York are developing a joint conference on income opportunities for rural landowners.

We can all be proud of the contributions our forestry and natural resources extension faculty are making. While very small in comparison to traditional agricultural extension programs, I don’t believe that there is any bigger “bang for the buck” than our folks provide. 

Regional Report

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as it relates to ecosystem health. Northeast NAPFSC representatives are currently preparing “white papers” on these topics for further discussion with our agency partners. The joint meeting went very well and each agency expressed interest in continuing to meet jointly and communicate regularly. There was considerable enthusiasm about moving forward with the development and promotion of a northeast regional natural resources research agenda.

National Committee Reports Absent:

*Education, International, Legislative,
Policy and Research*

Regional Committee Reports Absent:

North Central and Western