



FOREST AND WILDLIFE ECOLOGY NEWS



A Newsletter for Dept. of Forest and Wildlife Ecology Staff, Students and Alumni

Vol. 13, No. 1

June 2010

News from the Chair

Spring is always a great time to recognize the many achievements and contributions of our alumni. Please join us in congratulating our newest alumni (our graduates); celebrating the contributions of our current faculty, staff and students; and in commemorating the many contributions of members of our community.

Be sure to check out the list of alumni (pages 1 and 2) who are advancing in their professional positions and doing important work for our society and for the management and conservation of natural resources. But then keep reading, because what emerges are examples of the ambitions and parallel contributions of our undergraduates (pg. 9), graduate students and postdoctoral associates (begin pg. 7), staff members (pg. 4), and faculty (pg. 6). Updates on the department's participation in a multi-agency effort to forecast climate change impacts on landscapes and wildlife can be viewed at (<http://www.wicci.wisc.edu/>); postdoctoral associate Olivia LeDee (pg. 8) spearheaded the preparation of the wildlife report. Another news item is a new partnership between Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and our Department to advance knowledge about the deer population and its relationship with WI forests (see WDNR news releases on Feb. 24 and Mar. 9, 2010 at <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/news/>).

You will find a special memorial for Professor Emeritus and former department chair Ron Giese who passed away last October (pg. 10). We are seeking special donations for a Ronald Giese Graduate Student Memorial Award in Forestry (see

pg. 11). Memorials for other members of our distinguished alumni are on (page 3).

As always, we thank all of you who have been generously supporting our Department (including those listed on pages 10 and 11). This newsletter demonstrates how we all share in an enterprise that transcends our personal life stories in both time and impact on the world.

Alumni Update

The 2000s

David MacFarland (Ph.D. Wildlife Ecology 2009) has accepted a position as Bear, Wolf, and Furbearer Research Scientist with Wisconsin DNR. A portion of his job responsibilities include conducting research related to bear population estimates, marten translocations, and evaluating bobcat populations in southern Wisconsin. (davidmacfarland@hotmail.com)

The 1990s

Jason Vogel (B.S. Forest Science/Soil Science 1994, M.S. 1997) recently accepted an assistant professor position in the Department of Ecosystem Science and Management at Texas A&M University. His research interest focuses on soil carbon dynamics in high latitude ecosystems. Jason earned a Ph.D. at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks and did a post-doc at the University of Florida. (Jason_vogel@neo.tamu.edu)

Jeff Brink (B.S. Forest Science 1995) is Senior City Forester, Division of Project Development with Chicago's Department of Transportation. He recently got in touch with Prof. Ray Guries with news of several varieties of elm trees they are planting in Chicago neighborhoods and along the Kennedy and Dan Ryan Expressways. He

reports they are having good luck with Cathedral and New Horizon elms. (jbrink@cityofchicago.org)

The 1980s

Chris Napp (B.S. Forest Science 1983) has been promoted to the position of Natural Resource Planner (Forest Planner) on a temporary one-year assignment on the Santa Fe National Forest. In this position he will assist in preparing a Forest Plan Revision, an EIS for Travel Management, and a Landscape Forest Restoration project on 220,000 acres. (cnapp@fs.fed.us)

Tim Aydelott (B.S. Wildlife Ecology 1984) is working as an independent documentary filmmaker. His most recent program, DESERT REEF, began showing nationally on PBS stations in April 2010 via the American Public Television distribution system. DESERT REEF is a look at the relationship between ancient reef research, petroleum geology research and modern reef research and what this tells us about climate change today. You can view a trailer for the film at: www.timaydelottproductions.com (Tim's email is tim@timaydelottproductions.com.)

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The 1980s

David Blockstein (B.S. Wildlife Ecology 1978) is co-author of a new book published by Island Press titled *The Climate Solutions Consensus: What We Know and What To Do About It*. David and his co-author Leo Wiegman present the consensus of more than 1,300 scientists, educators, students, environmentalists, policymakers, business people and other citizens who attended the National Council for Science and the Environment's 8th National Conference on Science, Policy and the Environment in January 2008. David is a Senior Scientist with the National Council for Science and the Environment. Following graduation from the UW-Madison he earned his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Ecology at the University of Minnesota. (David@NCSEonline.org)

Richard Taplin (B.S. Forest Science 1978) was promoted to Park Manager at Ponderosa State Park, a 1,500 acre park near McCall in central Idaho. Richard says Ponderosa State Park is the leading state park in restoring fire dependent ecosystems to historical conditions. This spring they began a cooperative fire mitigation project with the University of Idaho that will reduce fuels, manage vegetation and protect over 70 structures on more than 3,000 acres of park and university properties. The project will also provide fire educational programs for residents in the Wildland-Urban Interface. (richard.taplin@idpr.idaho.gov)

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Department News

F&WE receives equipment donation from Ben Meadows

The Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology was fortunate to have alumnus Paul Muench (B.S. Forest Science 1999) working as Product Manager for Ben Meadows, Janesville, WI. Paul recently contacted the department to see if we would be interested in a number of his company's products with potential usefulness for instruction and research. The items are either new or in nearly new condition. Some are duplicates of a slightly newer model that has become available for sale. Some items were used as photography models. These items could not be returned to the company's inventory and Paul was instructed to either donate them or discard them. We appreciate Paul's contacting us and shipping a number of useful items including safety glasses, hard hats,



Joelle Baird, a junior majoring in Forest Science, tries out some of the gear donated by Ben Meadows.

chainsaw boots and helmet compasses, auger, padlocks and safety vests along with many other items. Thank you, Paul, and thanks to Ben Meadows.

Recreation Resources Management program comes to an end

by Professor Bob Ray

Since early in the 1900s, the University of Wisconsin-Madison provided leadership in the development of community and natural resource based recreation as a way to help communities develop as cohesive and pleasant places to live. The University provided programs and services that helped local civic and religious organizations through leadership workshops, institutes and eventually degrees. At the same time, the state recognized both the value of the state's beautiful and diverse natural resources which were highly valued for their aesthetics and practical uses. There was a need to provide sound research and training on the management of these services for sustained use by generations of Wisconsin residents and visitors. As the academic programs developed and prepared leaders for this role, the impact of graduates expanded beyond the state to National and International agencies and locations.

True to Wisconsin style, the academic programs emerged from interests scattered among departments and units across the campus. Programs emerged in Social Work to provide training for community leaders. The Department of Curriculum and Instruction in the School of Education developed recreation education programs curricula for the public schools. Rural Sociology was a source of training for those interested in recreational leadership in small and rural communities. Landscape Architecture helped those

RRM continues on page 3



Conservation Leaders for Tomorrow to convene on UW-Madison campus



Conservation Leaders for Tomorrow (CLfT) is a national program designed to educate college students majoring in a natural resource field, but have no background or experience with hunting, about the role and importance of hunting in wildlife conservation in North America. CLfT evolved from the Wisconsin Student Hunter Project started in 1993 by the UW, Coop Unit and WDNR staff. Neither program was designed to promote hunter recruitment. The founders of both programs strongly believed that natural resource professionals (especially

wildlife) would likely need to interact with hunters and be exposed to hunting at some point in their careers. Thus they would benefit from a clear understanding of the history, logistics, passion, and impact of hunting. With support from the Wildlife Management Institute and the McGraw Wildlife Foundation, CLfT now offers roughly 10 workshops a year at 7 venues across the U.S. to students from 35 universities and employees of 20 state agencies. UW students made up the entire pilot class for CLfT in 2004 and now 4-5 are selected to attend each year. Student evaluations of the program have been outstanding. This fall CLfT comes to Madison for the first campus-based program. Twenty students may participate in lectures, discussions, field demonstrations, hunter education, firearms handling and shooting, a mentored pheasant hunt (as an observer or active participant), and much more. For more information and videos, check out the CLfT website: (<http://CLfT.org>).

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interested in the design of areas and facilities for recreational uses. Agricultural Economics addressed the needs of communities interested in recreation as a tool for economic development. And Forestry provided leadership in the multiple uses of forests including recreational activities. University of Wisconsin Extension played a key role in on-the-ground assistance to local communities that were interested in all of these topics.

In the early 1970s, the University reorganized these programs into a single interdisciplinary, interdepartmental program of Recreation Resources Management as a part of the School of Natural Resources in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. This program was responsible for programs at the Baccalaureate and Masters degree levels and over time produced an extraordinary number of highly qualified leaders in the field. Alumni records show that the program produced over 500 B.S. and 25 Masters graduates.

As time passed, budget reductions, faculty departures by retirement or new opportunities, and the changes in societal needs took their toll on the program. In the mid 1980s, the Master's program was halted and this year the Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology, which has served as the home for the B.S. program in Recreation Resource Management, reluctantly recommended termination of the program. The last of the faculty with a dedicated interest will be retiring soon. Budget restraints and the priorities for a new direction in a changing world require a different use of resources. The program stopped accepting new students three years ago and it will officially end in May of 2010. The Department is proud of its legacy with this program and is truly saddened by its end.

Thank you to our alumni for your great dedication and contribution to the development and management of community and state resources dedicated to recreational resources which remain a prominent asset for high quality of life experiences for Wisconsin residents and visitors.

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In Memoriam

Tracey Trent (M.S. Wildlife Ecology 1972) passed away from lung cancer on September 25, 2009. He was 61 years old. Along with Orrin J. Rongstad, he was the author of "Home Range and Survival of Cottontail Rabbits in Southwestern Wisconsin," based on research that used radio telemetry. Tracey enjoyed a 35-year career with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, starting out as a Conservation Officer in eastern and northern Idaho. He then became a Wildlife Manager in the Idaho Falls area and also served as regional supervisor in Pocatello and Nampa. In 1997 he moved to the Boise headquarters office to become Chief of Natural Resource Policy where his work focused on hydro power licensing and water management.

Victor Apanius (B.S. Wildlife Ecology 1981) passed away on April 12 2009, at age 52 following a stroke in the Sierra Nevada Mountains in California in July 2008. Victor earned a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania then taught and conducted research at Miami International and Wake Forest Universities. Among his academic accomplishments are a study of raptors in NE Ohio, playing important roles in the earliest conservation efforts for peregrine falcons and California condors, initiating a management program for American kestrels at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary in Pennsylvania and collaborating on bird research in the Galapagos Islands.



Participants in a 2009 Coverts workshop observe as Prof. Scott Craven demonstrates how to inventory and monitor small mammals. Photo by Jamie Nack

Wisconsin Coverts Project promotes woodland wildlife stewardship

In August 2009, Wildlife Outreach Specialist and Coverts Project Coordinator Jamie Nack, along with Extension Specialists Prof. Scott Craven and Prof. David Drake, hosted two WI Coverts Project workshops at Kemp Natural Resources Station in Woodruff.

The WI Coverts Project, initiated in 1994, is a woodland wildlife management program for private landowners who are interested in improving their woodlands for wildlife. A "Covert," pronounced "kuh-vert," is a 14th century English word to describe a dense thicket that provides shelter for wildlife. Coverts has two primary goals: 1) to demonstrate various forest habitat management practices to private landowners who wish to increase the abundance and diversity of wildlife on their properties and 2) to develop a corps of volunteers (Coverts Cooperators) that encourage and help other landowners become good stewards of their land.

Fifty-three landowners received training in 2009. Workshops included three days of

classroom presentations and field trips by forest and wildlife professionals from a variety of agencies and organizations. Participants learned how to inventory and monitor wildlife, conduct a successful timber harvest, identify and control invasive plants; manage for small mammals and songbirds, deal with nuisance wildlife, develop a wildlife management plan, work with the media, organize a field day, and more.

Since 1994, 427 landowners have attended the WI Coverts Project. They own or are responsible for managing 165,735 acres of private land in the state and as Coverts Cooperators, they have reached out to over 8,000 additional landowners in the state.

Two WI Coverts workshops are scheduled for August 2010. Applications are due by June 15. For more information on the WI Coverts Project visit: (http://forestand-wildlifeecology.wisc.edu/wl_extension/wicovertsproject.html) or contact: Jamie Nack by tel. 608-265-8264 or email (jlack@wisc.edu).

USGS Wisconsin Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit earns award

The Unit was awarded a National Cooperative Research Unit Award for Scientific Excellence in 2009. The award recognized Dr. Chris Ribic and Dr. Mike Samuel for their scientific productivity and leadership on projects with relevance to the needs of the state, region, and nation. Both Chris and Mike thank their students, post-docs, and technicians for their efforts that led to this award.

Two staff members receive CALS awards

Laurie Ballentine, FWE University Services Associate and **Matthew Moore**, Russell Labs Administrative Center Instrument Maker, received a College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Classified Staff Award at a ceremony on April 28. "Laurie allows the wheels of the Forest and Wildlife Ecology department to turn," stated Ray Guries, Interim Vice Dean and Associate Dean for Research, who introduced both Laurie and Matt. Laurie's duties

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Interim Dean and Director Irwin Goldman congratulates Laurie Ballentine.



Photo by Wolfgang Hoffmann



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include timetable development and management, room scheduling, assisting with classroom materials, travel arrangements and office logistics. Her colleagues describe her as the first person that faculty and students in the department go to when they need a problem solved . . . and she provides answers quickly and with good cheer. Laurie played a key role in maintaining access and general sanity when the Department of Forest Ecology and Wildlife Ecology merged. Congratulations, Laurie!

Matt Moore's co-workers describe him as an exceptionally innovative problem solver with a passion for making things work and work well. "Matt's imagination, creativity and background in engineering have made him an invaluable asset to the research and teaching community in Russell Labs," commented Ray Guries at the award ceremony. As an instrument maker who handles countless repairs and improvements to facilities, Matt has saved the Russell Labs departments thousands of dollars in repairs. Congratulations, Matt!

Matt Moore receives congratulations from Interim Dean Irwin Goldman.



Photo by Wolfgang Hoffmann

Calling All Friends & Alums

Come Celebrate at Kemp!

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Kemp Natural Resources Station. The year was 1960 when Susan Small and Sally Greenleaf made the most generous donation of land and buildings to the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Their gift created Kemp Station to serve "as a research and educational center" dedicated to the conservation of our natural resources.



If you who have attended "Summer Camp" at Kemp, you no doubt have fond memories of hours spent in the boathouse classroom on beautiful Tomahawk Lake.

Thousands of people have passed through Kemp Station over the intervening years –scientists working on research projects, students attending field courses, or friends and neighbors participating in outreach events. There is a good chance one of those individuals was you! No matter what the reason, all experienced the distinct beauty and unique character of "Kemp."

To commemorate our anniversary, Kemp Station invites you to attend a reunion and picnic on Saturday, August 21, 2010. There will be food and fun as we celebrate 50 years of natural resources research and education. This will be a great opportunity to reconnect with fellow Kemp "alums," share your favorite Kemp stories, tour Station grounds, and learn about the Station's ongoing programs of research and teaching.

Event details are available at www.kemp.wisc.edu. We hope you will join us for the celebration. It is sure to be a grand day. - *Tom Steele, Kemp Natural Resources Station Superintendent*

PS: Do you have an old photo or a good Kemp story to share? If so, then we want to hear from you! We are collecting photos and stories for a summer exhibit in the Minocqua Museum. Plus, we will display all photos during the Station's anniversary celebration. Please email your materials to (kortman@wisc.edu). Thanks and I look forward to seeing you in August!



Faculty News

Radeloff receives Romnes Faculty Fellowship

Prof. Volker Radeloff was one of six of the UW-Madison's most promising faculty to receive a Romnes Faculty Fellowship from the Graduate School Research Committee. This highly competitive award is named for H.I. Romnes, a former President of the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation



Volker Radeloff

(WARF) Board of Trustees. The award, supported by WARF, recognizes exceptional faculty members who have earned tenure within the last four years. Each winner receives an unrestricted \$50,000 award for research support. Prof. Radeloff studies the causes and consequences of land use change in the U.S. and former Soviet Union. He documents the impacts of historic events and human disturbance on ecological phenomena, including wildfire, invasive species, and loss of biodiversity.

Karasov awarded distinguished lectureship

Bill Karasov, Professor and Chair of the Department of Forest and Wildlife



Bill Karasov

Ecology, was awarded the 2010 August Krogh Distinguished Lectureship of the Comparative and Evolutionary Section of the American Physiological Society (APS). The lectureship is awarded to a distinguished

scientist who has made major and meritorious contributions to the scientific areas represented by the Comparative and Evolutionary Physiology Section of the

APS. It is the most prestigious award given by the section. Prof. Karasov delivered his lecture, titled "Digestive physiology: A view from molecules to ecosystem," at the organization's meeting in Anaheim, CA, on April 24-28. He was also recognized at the Comparative and Evolutionary Physiology Section Luncheon and Business Meeting. Professor Karasov's research focuses on the physiological ecology of terrestrial vertebrates, particularly the ecological implications of how they process energy, nutrients, and toxins.

Recent publications

The Changing Social Landscape in the Midwest: A Boon for Forestry and Bust for Oak? By Tricia G. Knoot, Lisa A. Schulte, Nancy Grudens-Schuck, and Mark Rickenbach. *Journal of Forestry*, July/August 2009.

Serving Members and Reaching Others: The Performance and Social Networks of a Landowner Cooperative. By Mark Rickenbach. *Forest Policy and Economics* 11 (2009): 593-699.

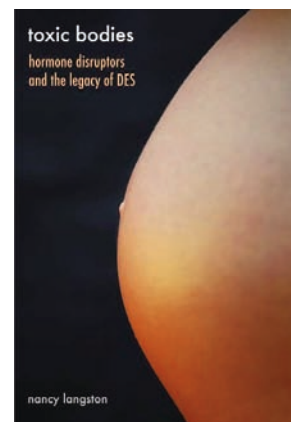
See Wisconsin Through the eyes of 19th Century Surveyors. By Natasha Kassulke and David Mladenoff. The article was originally published in the Wisconsin DNR magazine. It is now available in PDF format from Prof. Mladenoff's Forest Landscape Ecology Lab web site: <http://landscape.forest.wisc.edu>

Avifauna Response to Hurricanes: Regional Changes in Community Similarity. By Chadwick Rittenhouse, Anna Pidgeon, Thomas Albright, Patrick Culbert, Murray Clayton, Curtis Flather, Chengquan Huang, Jeffrey Masek and Volker Radeloff. *Global Change Biology* 16 (March 2010): 905-917.

Effects of Drought on Avian Community Structure. By Thomas Albright, Anna Pidgeon, Chadwick Rittenhouse, Murray Clayton, Curtis Flather, Patrick Culbert, Brian Wardlow and Volker Radeloff. *Global Change Biology* 2010 (In press, On-line version currently available).

Langston's new book, *Toxic Bodies*, now available

Toxic Bodies: Hormone Disruptors and the Legacy of DES, a new book by Professor Nancy Langston, explores why our environment has become saturated with synthetic chemicals that disrupt hormones and asks what we can do to protect human and environmental health. A focal point of the book is the use of the hormone-mimicking drug diethylstilbestrol (DES). Despite being a known carcinogen, the drug was prescribed to women as an estrogen substitute and was fed to cattle to promote rapid weight gain, thereby entering the food system through animal products. In her book Professor Langston argues that the industry and the federal government knew as early as the 1940s that these chemicals caused cancer as well as disrupted sexual development. Yet they were approved by regulatory agencies and widely marketed to producers and consumers. The book explores how scientific uncertainty has been manipulated to delay regulation and shows how we can use history to make better policy. The book is published by Yale University Press.





Satellite image featured on NASA web site

Research by faculty and staff in the department was recently featured on NASA's "Image of the Day" web page. The featured photo shows forest disturbance in the area around Charleston, SC, following Hurricane Hugo's landfall there in 1989. In their study the researchers compared satellite images from before and after the hurricane and identified those areas damaged by Hurricane Hugo. By analyzing the type of forest damaged, they were able to predict which birds were most impacted. To view the image and read more about the study, see: <http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/IOTD/archive.php?m=04&y=2010>. Scroll down to the April 1 image. The NASA photo and article are based on research conducted by Chadwick Rittenhouse, Anna Pidgeon, Thomas Albright, Patrick Culbert, Murray Clayton, Curtis Flather, Chengquan Huang, Jeffrey Masek and Volker Radeloff.

Research examines impact of extreme weather on avian communities

A team lead by Forest and Wildlife Ecology professors and postdocs recently published two papers related to the ecological effects of extreme weather in the journal *Global Change Biology*. In the first, led by postdoc Chadwick Rittenhouse, hurricanes were linked to subsequent changes in the number and types of species in avian communities as far as 100 km away from the storm track. In the second, led by postdoc Thomas Albright, droughts were associated with declines in the abundance of migratory birds in the Great Plains. The work has implications for future avian diversity as climate change alters the frequency and intensity of such extreme weather events. The work was funded by NASA under a project led by FWE professors Anna Pidgeon and Volker Radeloff.



Photo by Dave Freerks

Hooded Warblers (pictured above) are one of many bird species threatened by extreme weather.

NSF grant funds CWD research

Prof. Mike Samuel and Prof. Tim Van Deelen are two of four co-principal investigators on a project that the National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded just under \$385,000 to study chronic wasting disease (CWD). Their research will focus on developing a sensitive, rapid and reliable method to measure the infectious prion protein in soil and other environmental samples. This is an important initial step toward determining the importance of direct vs. indirect CWD transmission.

Student News

Congratulations to graduate student award winners

Shawn Serbin awarded \$5,000 fellowship. Ph.D. dissertator Shawn Serbin was awarded the Dr. Laurel Salton Clark Memorial Graduate Fellowship by the Wisconsin Space Grant Consortium (WSGC). The award was established in 2004 in honor of Dr. Clark, a Columbia Space Shuttle astronaut and Wisconsin resident. The \$5,000 award is granted annually to a graduate student pursuing studies in the field of environmental or life sciences and whose research has an aerospace component. Shawn plans to use the award to enhance his dissertation research titled "An Integrative Approach to Quantifying Forest Carbon cycling in the Upper Great Lakes Region." Shawn earned his M.S. in Forest and Wildlife Ecology and Environmental Monitoring in the spring of 2008 under the guidance of Prof. Tom Gower. He is currently working with Prof. Phil Townsend and hopes to complete his Ph.D. in the summer of 2011.

Forestry Ph.D. students Jodi Brandt, Patrick Culbert, and Maxim Dubinin each received a NASA Earth and Space Science Fellowship for 2009-2010. The fellowship supports training a highly qualified workforce in disciplines needed to achieve NASA's scientific goals. All three students are advisees of Prof. Volker Radeloff.

Monica Fowlds, a Wildlife Ecology M.S. student advised by Scott Lutz, received the Terry Amundson Memorial Scholarship. The Scholarship is given to an outstanding graduate student in Wildlife Ecology or Veterinary Science whose studies emphasize wildlife disease.

Corey Halpin, Forestry Ph.D. student working with Prof. Craig Lorimer, received the Best Student Presentation Award at the North American Forest Ecology Workshop in Utah in June
Awards, continues on page 8



Awards, continued from page 7
2009. Corey presented a poster titled “Long-Term Effects of Alternative Group Selection Harvesting Designs on Stand Production.”

Ph.D. students Karl Malcom and Van Butsic were both awarded a Wisconsin Distinguished Graduate Fellowship from CALS for the 2010-2011 academic year. Karl was awarded the Richard M. Heins Award and Van was awarded the Louis and Elsa Thomsen Award. Both awards cover tuition, benefits, a stipend and research flex funds. Karl is working with Prof. Tim Van Deelen and Van is working with Prof. Volker Radeloff.

Incoming Ph.D. students Christine Locke and Jennifer Stenglein received

Biological Sciences Recruitment Scholarships. The scholarships are awarded by the biological sciences division to aid in recruiting top students. Christine is working on a Forestry degree with Prof. Adena Rissman and Jennifer is a Wildlife Ecology student working with Prof. Tim Van Deelen.

Forestry grad student featured in journal article

Forestry Ph.D. student Delgerjargal (Degi) Dugarjav was featured in “A bridge to somewhere,” an article in the 11 Nov. 2009 issue of the journal *Nature*. The article focuses on the academic and cultural challenges faced by graduate students who



Degi Dugarjav

study abroad. Degi came to the UW-Madison from Mongolia to work with Prof. Tom Gower. The article’s author, Virginia Gewin, quotes Degi in several places to bring a personal

perspective to the points she makes in the article. Degi’s research interests include the forest carbon cycle, tree biomass estimation and forest stand dynamics. She says her lab colleagues at the Forest Ecosystem Ecology lab “are like my family here and I am grateful to them for being highly supportive and encouraging.”

Postdoc participates in Symposium fostering research collaboration

by Olivia LeDee

The Dissertations Initiative for the Advancement of Climate Change Research (DISCCRS) hosts an annual, week-long symposium for early-career climate researchers from across the nation and world. I am a postdoctoral associate in Forest and Wildlife Ecology and was fortunate to be a participant in the DISCCRS V symposium in March of this year. The goal of the program is to foster networking and intellectual exchange across traditional disciplinary boundaries. In this process, early-career researchers interact with peers from other disciplines, established scholars, program officers from the U.S. National Science Foundation and National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and professional development trainers.

For an intense week in sunny Arizona, I met peers working on topics ranging from carbon-sensing satellites to international security concerns and loss of homelands in the South Pacific. I learned a great deal about communicating climate science effectively to the general public and how to build a successful interdisciplinary collaboration. I met established scholars with major contributions to climate change research, learning more about the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the future of environmental governance. The program was a great reminder to



Pictured above is the DISCCRS V cohort at their symposium in Arizona in March. Olivia LeDee is pictured in the middle row, third from the left.

continue to conduct climate research in a highly interdisciplinary manner.

Each year, an interdisciplinary committee selects about 30 scholars based on academic record, commitment to interdisciplinary research, and leadership potential. It is a great experience. If you are interested, applications for DISCCRS VI are due in August 2010. For more information, see their web site: <http://www.disc-crs.org/>.



Congratulations 2010 Undergraduate Symposium participants

Congratulations to the many undergraduate students in the Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology who participated in the 2010 Undergraduate Symposium at Memorial Union on April 15. The Symposium gives students an opportunity to present to the public their findings on original research projects they have been working on. Listed below are the student participants, the titles of their projects, and their mentors.

Mallory Berrey, Megan Evansen, Carl Hutter
Large Carnivore Conservation Problems and Solutions in Developing Countries
Mentor: James Berkelman

Brittany Baures
Evaluating the Impacts of Wind Farms on Birds and Bats in Southeastern Wisconsin
Mentor: David Drake

Candice Haskin, Erica Knoebel
Impacts of Ecotourism on Ecosystems, Species, and Local Communities
Mentor: James Berkelman

Elicia Hildebrand
Siamese Crocodiles—Doomed for Extinction?
Mentor: James Berkelman

Abigail Kalscheur
Suppressive Qualities of *Pseudomonas Fluorescens*
Mentor: Sarah Schliemann

William Mattrisch and Eric Brown
Economic Importance of Mangrove Ecosystems in Western Mexico
Mentor: James Berkelman

Yushi Oguchi and Wandscheiska Torres Figueroa
Applying the “One Health” Paradigm to Western Mexico
Mentor: James Berkelman

Brittany Pietrantonio-Davis and Jacklyn Millenbah
Environmental Education’s Impact on Wildlife Conservation Throughout the Americas
Mentor: James Berkelman

Ravin Raatz-Robinson
Effects of Cap Size and Age on Carbon and Nitrogen Cycling in Hardwood-Hemlock Ecosystems
Mentor: Sara Schliemann

Emily St. Aubin, Breann Bender and Amy Towell
Waste Management and its Impact on the Environment
Mentor: James Berkelman



Chris Bartelt (left) and Aaron Hendricks give it all they’ve got in the cross cut saw competition. Behind them Griffin Garcia (left) and Alex Rahmlow stabilize the log. Photo by Reid Rice

Forestry students compete in Woodchuck Games

Forestry Club students took third place overall at the 3rd annual Woodchuck Games held April 24 at the Central Wisconsin Environmental Station in Amherst Junction. The lumberjack competition is sponsored by the UW-Stevens Point forestry students. This year six teams of forestry students from around the Midwest competed in events such as log rolling, sawing, and chopping. “The competition provided a fun opportunity to get to know students from other forestry schools in the Midwest,” says Aaron Hendricks, UW Forestry Club President. The UW-Madison competitors listed below were among the top four finishers in eight events.

Women's Single Buck, 3rd place - Jana Caliebe, Time 53.72

Jack and Jill Log Rolling, 4th place - Chris Bartelt and Jana Caliebe, Time 38.73

Jack and Jack Log Rolling, 1st place - Kevin Langhus and Aaron Hendricks, Time 25.71 and 3rd place - Kevin Langhus and Reid Rice, Time 29.03

Female Pulp Toss, 3rd place - Jana Caliebe and three contestants from UW-Stevens Point, Time 3:51.6

Cross-cut Saw Jill and Jill, 4th place - Jana Caliebe and Sarah Holter, Time 9:57

Jack Ax Throw, 2nd place - Nick LaBonte

Dendrology, 1st place - Nick LaBonte

DBH Estimation, 4th place - Chris Bartelt

Congratulations to all of the students who competed in this year’s event. “Hopefully next year if we can get a little practice in, we can go up there and take first place,” says Aaron.



A heartfelt thank you to all of our donors

The Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology was fortunate to receive a number of generous donations in the past year. We thank each of you for your contribution and continuing interest in our department, programs, and students. Below is a list of those who contributed in 2009.

Dr. R. Bruce Allison
Mr. and Mrs. Perry J. Baird
Mr. Robert K. Blitzke and Ms. Jane F. Grogan

Professor Gary A. Borger
Professor Scott A. Bowe
Professor and Mrs. Joseph Buongiorno

Mr. Terrence Bush
Mr. Gregory S. Colby
Connor Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald J. Cook
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick F. Culbert

Mr. Barry E. DeZonia
Ms. Marla K. Dillman
Professor Phillip D. Doerr
Mr. Terry D. Droessler and Ms. Kathy Ketchum

Ms. Kristi L. Du Bois
Mr. and Mrs. David E. Evenson
Mr. Kenneth L. Fabel
Professor and Mrs. Donald R. Field
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Mrs. Maureen W. Giese
Mr. Lawrence E. Gohlke
Mr. Steven C. Grabarski
Mr. Benjamin James Gramling
Mr. and Mrs. James W. Hale
Mr. Andrew A. Hancock
Dr. Douglas D. Hansmann and Ms. Denise D. Thornton

Ms. Amanda G. Harford
Mr. Thomas M. Hauge
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Memorial Resolution honors Ronald L. Giese

Ronald L. Giese, professor emeritus of Forest and Wildlife Ecology, died October 18, 2009, at his home in Middleton at the age of 75. To honor his achievements and contributions to the Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology, his colleagues have prepared a *Memorial Resolution of the Faculty of the UW-Madison*. An abstract of the Memorial Resolution is read at the UW-Madison's Faculty Senate meeting and the Memorial Resolution becomes a permanent record of the university. Following is a summary of the resolution.

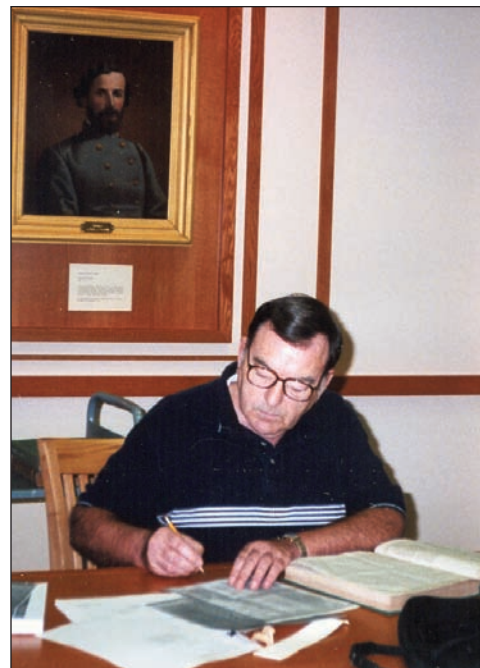
Professor Giese was born in Milwaukee on June 28, 1934. He completed his undergraduate degree in botany and zoology from the Wisconsin State University in Milwaukee in 1956. He went on to earn M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in forest entomology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1958 and 1960, respectively.

In 1960 Dr. Giese joined the faculty of Purdue University as an assistant professor of forest entomology and environmental science. He quickly rose through the ranks and attained full professorship in 1967. Ron was recruited to the University of Wisconsin-Madison as professor and chair of the Department of Forestry in 1975. He continued to serve as department chair for 23 years until his retirement in 1998, at which time he had the longest continuous tenure as a department chair within the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. During this time, Ron built the fledgling department into a national leader in forestry education and research.

In addition to his administrative responsibilities, Dr. Giese was active in academic research and advising students. During his university tenure he published over 100 research papers and served as major advisor to 7 M.S. and 15 Ph.D. students. He was recognized nationally for his leadership in research and policymaking organizations.

Following his retirement from the UW-Madison in 1998, Dr. Giese was able to pursue his interests in genealogy and history. He wrote two award winning books on family genealogy. While volunteering at Poplar Forest in Lynchburg, Virginia, he published five historical monographs on Thomas Jefferson's agricultural pursuits in tobacco. He also volunteered his time and expertise at the State of Wisconsin Historical Society and the Waterloo Area Historical Society.

Dr. Giese was a skilled mentor and advisor and a dedicated administrator. At the time he retired the Department of Forest Ecology and Management was recognized nationally for the quality of its educational programs and productivity and research accomplishments of its faculty. He is survived by his wife, Renie; sons Ron, Jr. (Albuquerque, NM) and Greg (Madison, WI), and three grandchildren.



Professor Emeritus Ronald Giese enjoyed conducting historical research following his retirement from the UW-Madison.

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