MOSAF exhibits at school counselor’s conference
Bruce Palmer

“I have some students that are interested in natural resources.” “I didn’t know that there were any jobs available in forestry.” “One of my own kids wants to go into forestry.”

Those were just a few of the comments heard at the Missouri SAF exhibit at the Missouri School Counselor’s Association convention November 7-8 at Tan-Tar-A. The MOSAF Executive Committee decided to approach this new audience at its long range planning meeting last January. The exhibit helps meet SAF’s strategies of recruiting students that have an interest in the profession and educating teachers about forestry.

One of the main objectives of exhibiting at the conference was to dispel the myth that there are no forestry jobs. School counselors influence students’ college and career choices. If we could inform them about the different career choices and outlook for jobs that will eventually result in more students enrolled in forestry programs and more graduate foresters in the job market.

MOSAF members Tim French, Steve Westin, Mike Huffman and Bruce Palmer staffed the exhibit. They explained some of the job choices that graduate foresters have – everything from land managers to urban foresters to researchers and teachers. They supplied reference materials for the counselor’s files on SAF-accredited colleges, careers and sources of information.

Most counselors were astonished to learn that forestry jobs are in demand. A surprising number said that their own children were interested in forestry and they were taking the information home. And a few counselors were even interested in a career change for themselves.

The conference was good exposure for SAF and positioned us as the experts on forestry information and careers. It is an event worth continuing in the future.

Tim French and Steve Westin talk to a teacher from Licking High School about forestry careers. They were staffing the MOSAF exhibit at the recent Missouri School Counselor’s Convention.
From the MOSAF Chair

Greg Hoss

How fast a year can pass. Back in January the Long Range Planning Committee met and laid out our goals for the year. This committee consists of the current officers – Chair, Chair-elect and Secretary-Treasurer, plus the past five Chairs. We looked at the SAF Strategic Plan and made our own plans. As with many years, we did some of the things we planned and others just never got started.

Some of the highlights of our Goals that were addressed during 2004:

**Habitat for Humanity.** We want to work with local Habitat for Humanity groups and provide trees for the new homes. Our plan was to provide the trees at MOSAF expense and provide several MOSAF members on-site to plant the trees for the new home owner. During the year we did assist on two projects: one in the St. Joseph area and another in the Columbia area. Lead foresters on the projects were John Fleming in St. Joe and Dave Larsen in Columbia. Both had help from other SAF members.

**Career booths to outreach to potential new foresters.** We set up a MOSAF booth at the State FFA Convention in Columbia, headed by Tim French and his staff of foresters and a second was at the Missouri School Counselors Convention at Tan-Tar-A, headed by Bruce Palmer.

**Technical Training.** We continued with one meeting each year that is Technical Training for foresters. There is no business meeting. This year, in June, we cosponsored a Timber Tax Workshop taught by Bill Hoover from Purdue University that was attended by nearly 50 foresters. A similar session for landowners brought in more than 20 landowners.

**Mark Twain National Forest Plan.** Tom Draper, Ralph Allison, Brian Brookshire and others attended the Forest Planning open house to make comments, in the name of MOSAF, about the Forest Plan. They will later have the opportunity to make comments before the final plan is released.

Other activities for 2004:

**Leadership academy.** The Academy, sponsored by the National SAF office, had not been held in several years but was again held in 2004. Dave Larsen, MOSAF Chair-elect, John DePuy, MOSAF member and Chair of the SAF Soils Working Group, and Greg Hoss, MOSAF Chair attended from Missouri. This was a very good four day session held at the Lied Center in Nebraska. About 70 SAF leaders from around the country attended. Listening to speakers, National SAF staff and state society leaders helped to focus the three of us on SAF’s mission and how we can get more involved and be better leaders.

Our Fall MOSAF meeting was held in Van Buren in late October. About 30 members attended the dinner and business meeting on Thursday night. On Friday about 35 members met at Deer Run Conservation Area near Ellington and spent the day looking at even-aged and uneven-aged cutting units on the Missouri Ozark Forest Ecosystem Project. It has been about five years since the timber sales and we looked at how the forest has responded to the cutting.

**HSD Report**

Dave Larsen, Chair-elect/2005 Chair

I want to take this opportunity to tell you about the 2004 House of Society Delegates and ideas for 2005 MOSAF projects. I attended the 2004 HSD session in Edmonton, Alberta. I represented you at the round table of Society chairs from the states and sections. Several interesting issue were raised in the session. They included:

- Declining numbers of SAF members and what this means for the future.
- How to get the scientific forestry message out to the public.
- Success stories on joint meetings with other societies (I really bragged about the MNRC).
- Issues of why SAF members drop out and optional solutions.
- Issues of national staff needs.
- National staff success stories. For example, Rita Neznek organized an 80 organization conservation-oriented coalition in support of some bills in Congress. SAF was recognized as the leader of the coalition.

In the next year as chair of MOSAF, I would like you to think about two things. SAF is an organization that represents the profession of forestry and helps you as a forester keep up to date. How can SAF do a better job with this mission?
Evaluating physiological response and genetic variation of oak species for flood tolerance
Jerry Van Sambeek, North Central Research Station and Mark Coggeshall, MU Center for Agroforestry

Many bottomlands that had been cleared for agriculture throughout the lower Missouri River floodplain suffered considerable damage in the 1993 and 1995 floods. Although wind-blown light-seeded species are expected to reforest many of these abandoned agricultural lands, there is also considerable interest to include large mast species, especially bottomland oaks, within any proposed afforestation efforts.

A cursory survey of the literature indicates that the limited information on flood tolerance of many woody species is based on case-histories or greenhouse studies rather than large, replicated field studies. It is unclear how much genetic variability associated with flood tolerance exists within bottomland oak species, especially those that grow over a wide hydrologic gradient. The collection of acorns from upland sources of these species could potentially lead to survival and growth problems when planted on flood-prone sites.

As part of the floodplain initiative, the University of Missouri Center for Agroforestry proposed constructing a facility in 1998 to evaluate plant tolerance to flooding for use in riparian buffer strips and bottomland restoration. This facility was built on a wide flood plain along Sulfur Creek near New Franklin in Howard County with minimal disturbance of the soils within each flood channel. Soils within the flood channels gradually change from Carlow silt clay to Nodaway silt loam adjacent to the creek. These bottomland soils are characteristic of more than a half million acres found north of the Missouri River.

The Flood Tolerance Laboratory facility consists of twelve 20 x 600 feet long channels. Channels are separated by berms 6 feet high and 20 feet wide constructed from soils that were excavated to create a water retention pond. Each channel can be independently left dry or flooded for varying durations to depths up to 2 feet deep with either flowing or standing water during the dormant or growing season. Pumps distribute up to 250,000 gallons of water per day from the retention pond to the channels through control valves while adjustable flood control gates at the drain end of each channel maintain flooding depth. The choice of twelve channels allows for choice of six flooding treatments with two replications to three flooding treatments with four replications.

The goal of our project is to determine the extent of genetic variation for flood tolerance that exists within and among oak stands, especially for oak species typically found along hydrologic gradients from frequently flooded bottomlands to dry uplands. In 2003, we examined survival and growth of 1,700 one-year-old bare root seedlings of cherrybark oak, water oak, willow oak and black walnut from the University of Tennessee’s Tree Improvement Program.

In 2004, we examined growth of 800 one-year-old container-grown seedlings of swamp white oak and bur oak grown from acorns collected on both upland and bottomland stands. We are planning to evaluate seedlings from over 50 single tree collections of seven oak species during the 2005 growing season. Preliminary results show black walnut is maladapted for flood prone sites. Although species differences exist for oak survival and growth in response to flood duration, no differences have been found when flooded with 6 inches of standing or flowing water for five weeks.
Other research currently supported by the UMC Center for Agroforestry and the USDA Forest Service within the Flood Tolerance Laboratory facilities includes evaluating flood tolerance of hardwood nursery-stock produced by the George O. White and other tree nurseries, flood tolerance of native and forage grasses and legumes for riparian buffer plantings, and carbon flux from buried woody debris. To enhance our understanding of the observed responses, each channel will be instrumented with sensors to monitor soil temperature, oxygen and water content before, during and after flooding.

Council Notes: It’s time to express your passion

Bob Cunningham, District IX Councilman

Have you ever been asked why you chose a career in natural resources? I am sure most of us have answered that question many times. Have you ever changed your reasons for wanting to work with natural resources? If you are like many SAF members I know, then you are still passionate about your profession.

Let me shift directions and ask you if your passion for SAF is the same today as when you first joined? Some will say more, others will say it is the same, and some may even say no. My challenge to everyone is to increase the number of members that have more passion for SAF.

For the past several years, SAF has experienced declining membership. In Voting District IX alone (Great Plains, Missouri, Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky-Tennessee and Ouachita), we are down 131 members from 2003. There are many reasons for this. Changes in employment sectors, economics, forest ownership and lifestyles are some of the variables.

Let me ask a few more questions. Has the amount of forest land changed significantly in your state? Are the lands previously owned by forest industries still covered with forests and in need of professional management? Are special interest groups still raising issues that affect natural resource management? Yes, the forests are still there and the issues are more complex than ever. So how can a smaller number of SAF members be the voice that is needed?

First we must truly understand who is SAF. It is people like you and me that are united by a mission statement, share core values and work together through a strategic plan. More importantly, SAF is a volunteer organization drawn together by passionate beliefs in causes, processes and relationships. One cannot expect to draw the same level of satisfaction as others if their membership does not include participation, involvement and the desire to network with other members.

Our membership is often limited by simple problems. I recently met a new member that practiced forestry for almost 30 years. When asked why he had never joined until now, his answer was, “Nobody had ever talked to me about SAF nor asked me.” He was truly excited about his participation and was looking forward to future involvement. How many potential members like this one are in your community or state? Still yet, is it your Membership Committee chair’s sole responsibility to call potential members? What would be the effect of ten or twenty members encouraging one person to join or renew their membership? Better yet, what would be the effect of every member working to recruit membership?

Students and retirees are development areas that need more attention. Student membership and student chapters are the “in-growth” that fuels the sustainability of SAF and signals the future of our profession. I encourage every member to become involved with students and support the mentoring process. Why do so many professionals simultaneously retire from their careers and SAF? These are the keepers of our legacy and professional wisdom, and as such must be revered as a valuable resource.
and utilized. Let’s seek ways to forge their collective experiences and abilities into powerful tools to strengthen SAF’s credibility and community presence.

Leadership is a tough sell. Yes, we are all busy and finding time for a leadership role can be challenging. To empower a volunteer leader is to support that person. How many times have we seen a great society or committee chair step down from their position and “fall off the planet”? Did they burn out or did something else happen? Good leaders have great teams. When the responsibility is shared, the potential for success is amplified and future leaders are motivated to serve. The next time someone volunteers to serve your state society, tell that person first how much you appreciate his or her efforts and then offer to help them.

As you might guess, I am still passionate about my profession and SAF. The next time someone asks why they should join SAF, tell them about your passion and what SAF stands for, and then tell them about the good things we can accomplish together.

Call or send me your comments: Bob Cunningham, Council Representative, Voting District IX, P.O. Box 138, West Plains, MO 65775; 417-255-9561 x 225; Bob.Cunningham@mdc.mo.gov.

Mizzou students descend upon Edmonton
Chris Hart, Curtis Geter and Chris Lohmann, MU Student Chapter

The National SAF meeting is a wonderful time for professionals to exchange ideas, make important decisions and simply live-it-up for a while, but what do students do at these meetings? Well, here is what three Mizzou Student Chapter members did at the CIF-SAF joint convention the first week of October.

Chris Hart, Curtis Geter and Chris Lohmann arrived Friday, October 1 at the Edmonton International Airport. After a short brush with customs and a few U.S. dollars exchanged for Canadian paper, they were whisked away to the downtown area by a SkyShuttle. “Thanks SAF.” The students arrived at the Days Inn Downtown where their single room was waiting for them. A quick stroll around the area gave them their bearings in preparation for the days ahead.

Saturday was check in at the Shaw Convention Center, only a seven block walk. The University of Alberta students put on an informal meeting for all of the students from across the two nations to become better acquainted. Then the Quiz Bowl began. Teams of four students competed against other schools in a one-on-one bracket type tournament of forestry trivia. The Mizzou students could only watch, but are determined to have a team competing in next year’s event.

On Sunday, Monday and Tuesday the young men attended full days of informational sessions at the convention and still found time to take in cultural and social events. The Loggerhead Pub’s two social events proved to be not only a great place for chatting with professionals and possible employers, but there was also a good deal of excellent music performed by foresters.

The skyline of Edmonton, Alberta – site of the 2004 SAF-CIF national convention. In the right foreground is the Muttart Conservatory which houses Edmonton's botanical gardens.
Time was found in between sessions on Monday to visit the Muttart Conservatory where four glass pyramids house three climate zones and a floral garden. Monday evening all the student attendees were invited to the University of Alberta’s on-campus seventh-story bar, RATT (Room At The Top), for additional student bonding. The boys skipped the afternoon sessions on Tuesday in order to do some sight seeing at the Provincial Museum of Alberta and to log some much needed study time.

Wednesday rolled around and it was time for the 9:00 bus tour to the Ukrainian Village and Elk Island Nature Reserve just east of Edmonton. Some of the more weathered individuals on the tour wanted to know if the students had gotten on the wrong bus. “No”, they replied, “We simply cannot afford to pay for the discounted student trip or to pay for another night.” As anticipated, the tour was a fine cultural experience, but there was an added bonus.

Bob Cunningham and his wife were on the tour and, understanding the student condition, treated the young men to dinner at the Sherlock Holmes Pub, a local favorite. After good food and good conversation they all bid farewell and it was off to the airport in another SkyShuttle to catch an evening flight.

Upon arrival back in Columbia the students were both mentally and financially drained, but are now determined to make an even better showing at next year’s convention in Ft. Worth.

--- Reminder ---

When you renew your SAF dues this year, don’t forget to update your e-mail address. You’ll get the latest state and national news by e-mail. E-mail also saves MOSAF hundreds of postage dollars each year.

--- Reminder ---

Candidates for MOSAF Offices

Jason E. Jensen – Candidate for Chair-Elect

Employer: Missouri Department of Conservation, Piedmont

Employment History:
- Summer 1989 & 1990 - Chippewa Nat’l. Forest, MN
- Summer 1991 - Routt Nat’l. Forest, CO
- May-September 1992 - North Central Experiment Station, Upper Peninsula, MI
- October 1992-Present - Missouri Department of Conservation

Number of Years as a SAF Member: 16

SAF Positions Held:
- Member Policy & Legislation Committee, Student mentor program

Personal Vision for Missouri SAF:
I feel that I have brought some innovative approaches and solutions to the field of forestry in Missouri. As our membership continues to decline, I think we need to try some new approaches to re-energize our state chapter. People that are involved will take more pride and ownership in the organization. In addition to energizing our current members we need to reach out to non-members and show them why they should become members.

We also need to raise the profile of the forestry profession in the state. We need to have recognized representatives of SAF at field days and tours. This will help to get SAF’s name out in front of the public and in front of our elected officials. I believe that if the public realizes that forestry has a professional society that they will begin thinking of forestry as a true profession. They will begin to realize the true value and benefits that our forests provide. They will see the need to seek the assistance of professional foresters in helping them manage their forests. We need to try some innovative approaches to the problems facing foresters today so that future generations of foresters are not dealing with the same issues.

Terry J. Truttmann, CF – Candidate for Chair-Elect

Employer: Missouri Department of Conservation, Chillicothe
Employment History:
Since 1990, I have been employed by MDC as a Resource Forester. Prior to that I had a tree trimming company in St. Louis County and was the Arborist for St. Louis county parks. I had several jobs after graduating from SIU in Carbondale in December of 1994. Jobs included everything from Park jobs, landscaping and a Naval weatherman in California.

Number of Years as a SAF Member: Since 1975

SAF Positions Held:
• Secretary/ Treasurer MOSAF currently
• Certified Forester

Personal Vision for Missouri SAF:
I would like to see MOSAF develop a yearly budget. This would allow us to notify members in advance of money or chances to attend conferences and workshops. This would also organize the society to better hand over the controls to a new executive committee. There would be developed a history and future direction.

I would also like to see the secretary/treasurer position extended to two years. This would give more consistency to the bookkeeping duties. Serving a year is just too short. It keeps the society in a constant flux. By time the duties are understood the year is gone and a new person has to figure everything out. I would also like to see the committees be more active throughout the year, having a larger part of leadership in the state society. More buy in more activity.

Frances Dilsaver – Candidate for Secretary/Treasurer

Employer: Missouri Department of Conservation, Springfield

Employment History:
• 1982 – Student Conservation Corp
• 1986-88 - University Assistantship during Master’s Program
• 1988-89 – South Carolina State Parks – Naturalist
• 1989 – National Wildlife Federation – Wilderness Camp Staff
• 1989-90 – Georgia 4-H Outdoor Education Facility – teaching staff
• 1991-95 – Missouri Dept. of Conservation – Forest Area Specialist
• 1995-present – Missouri Dept. of Conservation – Resource Forester

Number of Years as a SAF Member: 22

SAF Positions Held:
• Student Chapter Chairman - 1986

Personal Vision for Missouri SAF:
• Keep members informed of issues that may affect their profession.
• Make membership desirable due to professionalism and the quality of meetings

Mike Huffman – Candidate for Secretary/Treasurer

Employer: Missouri Department of Conservation, Jefferson City/Clinton

Employment History:
• 1982 - Urban Forest Technician, Murray City Utilities, Murray, Utah
• 1983 - Forest Technician, U.S. Forest Service, Huntsville, Utah
• 1987 - Assistant Resource Forester, Missouri Department of Conservation, Chillicothe
• 1988 - Assistant Resource Forester, Missouri Department of Conservation, Clinton
• 1989 - Resource Forester, Missouri Department of Conservation, Clinton
• 1998 - Forestry Regional Supervisor, Missouri Department of Conservation, Clinton
• 2002 - Forestry Administrative Programs Supervisor, Missouri Department of Conservation, Jefferson City

Number of Years as a SAF Member: 24

SAF Positions Held:
• SAF Student Chapter President - Utah State University
• MOSAF Program Committee Member
• MOSAF Forest Heritage Committee Member
• 2000 MNRC Exhibits and Sponsors Committee Chairman
• 2004 MNRC Steering Committee Chairman
• SAF Student Mentor
• Certified Forester
Personal Vision for Missouri SAF:
MOSAF and its members should be recognized as the experts on forest resource issues in the State. The media, legislature and the public should immediately think about soliciting MOSAF’s input on all forest resource issues. We, the members of MOSAF, need to be proactive in working with these individuals and organizations. We have to seek out opportunities to make contact and provide comment.

Don’t forget to vote by December 10!

Brown elected VP of SAF


“An effective Society of American Foresters can serve the needs of practicing foresters, as well as the needs of society at large, in a multitude of ways,” says Brown, state forester for the state of Oregon. “I’ve identified two specific areas of focus that need to be addressed. One of those, effective communications, is a challenge that has faced our profession since day one. The other, globalization, is a more recent issue, but one that becomes more embedded each day in the problems that we try to solve in our respective responsibilities.”

Brown’s previous work experience includes service as director of private lands management with the American Forest and Paper Association in Washington, DC, (2002-03) and director of forest policy with Willamette Industries/Weyerhaeuser Corporation in Ft. Mill, South Carolina, (1999-2002.) Brown was the state forester of Missouri from 1992-99. He holds an MS in forestry from Southern Illinois University and a BS in forestry from the University of Missouri.

The 2004 SAF elections also resulted in the election of four new representatives on the SAF Council, the organization’s 14-member governing body. The newly elected representatives include Rick N. Barnes, CF, of Roseburg, Oregon, who will represent Voting District 2 (Oregon); Bernard S. Hubbard, CF, of Newberry, Michigan, will represent Voting District 5 (Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin); Frederick W. Cubbage of Raleigh, North Carolina, will represent Voting District 8 (Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina); and Robert A. Daniels of Mississippi State, Mississippi, will represent Voting District 11 (Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas.)

Department of Forestry News
The School of Natural Resources,
University of Missouri-Columbia

Talk at the National SAF meeting in Edmonton was that enrollment is down in forestry schools around the country. Our department is contrary to this trend as we are up in numbers from our low about eight years ago. We have done this in two ways: first, recruiting. Both by ourselves and with the help of SAF and MDC we have gotten students to consider forestry as a career. One of our very effective recruiting tools is SNR Showcase, a day where we invite high school students and their parents to MU to see what our school is all about.

Second, we have an agreement with the Fisheries and Wildlife Department to offer a five-year course sequence where a student can complete two bachelor’s degrees – one in Forestry and one in Wildlife and complete the full curriculum in each discipline. This option has been very popular with students and should be very popular with employers as they get an employee with both a forestry and wildlife background.

Recently we have had very good success with finding jobs of students. Those of you that are hiring students or entry level foresters know good candidates are hard to find.

The biggest change at The School of Natural Resources is that Harold “Gene” Garrett will step down as the director at the end of December. Mark Ryan will be the next interim director until the position is filled. A national search is under way to find a new director. Gene will continue as Professor of Silviculture and Director of the Center of Agroforestry.
Fifty Years Ago
From the archives of the Ozark Section

Officers for 1954: Chairman, Albert Engstrom; Vice Chairman, Paul Burns; and Secretary-Treasurer, Fay Meade. National SAF membership – approximately 10,000 members. Financial report as of February 3, 1954: $657.63

Summer Meeting – October 1-2, 1954, Crossett, Arkansas was cancelled due to high fire danger.


February 4 – Registration all morning at the Crossett Experiment Station. During the morning, a tour of the paper and lumber mills of Crossett Industries took place. After lunch was a talk about the company’s forestry work by Sulo Sihvonen, Head Forester, Crossett Industries. A discussion followed the talk and then the movie “Sound of America” was presented. This was followed by a slide show of forestry work in a district given by Roger Bruce, District Forester, Crossett Industries.

At 3 p.m. the group returned to the Southern Forest Experiment Station. Talks were given on forest genetics by Roland Schoenicke and on forest soils by Robert Zahner. Then the group returned to Eldorado for a 7 p.m. social hour at the Petroleum Club of the Randolph Hotel and an 8 p.m. banquet at the Garrett Hotel. The speaker at the banquet was H.J. “Bo” Rowland, Reynolds Aluminum Co. Over 174 attended the dinner.

February 5 – The morning meeting took place in the Plantation Room of the Garrett Hotel. Committees were appointed: Nominating Committee consisting of Peter Fletcher, Robert Gierow and Russ Reynolds; Auditing Committee with Nelson Rogers, Osal Capps and Charles Burke; and Resolutions Committee made up of Harold Howell, Michel Afanasiev and Richard Holecamp.

Next on the program was “Fire Organization in Unit 1” by Custer Ross, District Forester, Arkansas Forestry Commission. He described the organization for detection and suppression of fires in Unit 1. Mr. Ross said that from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. is the critical time and that aerial patrols are good with less towers and more airplanes needed.

Next was the talk “Sawmill Debarkers and Chippers” by Don Tufts, Crossett Lumber Co. He discussed the utilization of the entire log. He said the average price for chips is $12 per cord and that 0.9 cords of chips are recovered for each MBF of lumber sawn.

Next was “Use of Wood Waste” by John Crafton, Chipcraft Co., Morristown, Tenn. This was a talk about wood chips used in the company’s operation. The last speaker spoke on “Wood and Sawmill Business of the Future” by Winston Purifoy, Crossett Lumber Co. This was a talk on wood substitutes. He concluded by mentioning that the outlook for lumber looked bright.

Later the business meeting took place with Al Engstrom presiding. The report of the Planning and Policy Committee was made by Robert Clark. Bob made a motion that new officers take over their duties on July 1 following their election. The motion passed. Discussion on voting by mail followed. Committee reports concluded with the Nominating Committee after which new officers for 1955 were elected.

Last on the morning’s program was a discussion on the development of the Society of American Foresters and a discussion of forestry by William Hall, a charter member of SAF. Robert Clark suggested that the Ozark Section place a member as a candidate for National Council and for President. A committee of Clem Mesavage, Don Stauffer, Gus Hoyer and Milton Henry was appointed to select a candidate. It was mentioned that the amount for attending a national meeting for the Section Chair was raised to $150. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.
Upcoming Events


February 2-4. Missouri Natural Resources Conference, Tan-Tar-A Resort, Osage Beach. Contact: Renee Cook, 636/922-2833 x 3; renee.cook@mo.usda.gov or www.mnrsc.org.

April 1. Arbor Day

June 1-5. Midwest Wildfire Training Academy, Jefferson City. Information will be posted later this spring at www.mufrti.org/summer/.

October 19-23. Society of American Foresters National Convention, Ft. Worth, Texas. Contact: Madelaine Morgan, SAF director of meetings and conventions; 301/897-8720 x 111. For more information, visit www.safnet.org/natcon/.

SAF CFE opportunities

The Department of Natural Resources Conservation at The University of Massachusetts Amherst announces three web-based distance learning courses in Forestry and Natural Resource Conservation for the Spring 2005 semester.

FOREST 597D - Professional Ethics in Forestry (1 credit) is taught by Dr. Lloyd Irland, who has written and consulted extensively on this subject. Professional ethics consists of a loosely defined body of rules, knowledge, and customs designed to help people make “right” choices in the practice of any trade or profession. Existing Ethics Codes in the forestry and conservation fields are stated in very general terms. Interpretation is required to apply them to tough real world situations. This course will equip people to apply professional ethics in the complicated and often contentious arena of natural resource decision making, where the future of forests, water, and wildlife are decided.

FOREST 597T: Timber Harvesting (2 credits) is taught by Dr. David Kittredge (University of Massachusetts - Amherst). This is the lecture-based portion of a course on harvesting, and includes weekly units on economics, safety, environmental protection, harvest equipment and techniques, and planning. Case studies, homework assignments, participation in online discussions, and two written examinations provide for online learning and feedback.

FOREST 597M: Managerial Economics (3 credits) is taught by Dr. John Wagner of the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry. Learn how to use economic information to make business decisions. Managers of both profit and not-for-profit organizations in the public and private sectors use economics for this purpose daily. Decisions require identifying alternatives for achieving given objective(s) in the most efficient and effective manner. Disciplines like biology, ecology, soils, physics, chemistry, silviculture, forest health, and hydrology provide the basis for understanding interrelationships among biological and physical inputs and outputs that society demands; for example, paper, water, timber, or biodiversity. However, these disciplines do not examine the costs and benefits of allocating scarce resources-environmental inputs-to produce the different outputs society wants. This course provides tools for analyzing systematically the costs and benefits of achieving different societal objectives.

These courses are designed for students currently enrolled in natural resource programs, and for practicing professionals seeking continuing education credits for licensing or certification. The Society of American Foresters evaluates college coursework at the rate of 15 SAF Continuing Forestry Education credits per credit hour, making these courses worth between 15 and 45 Continuing Forestry Education credits in Category I. This format is particularly convenient for practicing professionals, as it allows them to participate in the course at their convenience, working around their field and office schedules. Professionals can earn Continuing Forestry Education credits without the expense and lost work time of traveling to a workshop or conference.

Information on registration and tuition for all three courses is at UMass Amherst Continuing Education: https://www.umassulearn.net/. For course details, syllabi and instructor information, see: http://forest.fnr.umass.edu/distance/.