



WORLD
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WFI Bids Farewell to Australian Nathan Trushell

After completing his six-month Fellowship, Nathan had the following to say:

"It is easy to get caught up in your own forestry world at home; fortunately I recognized this and took the opportunity to participate in the WFI program. I would have to say it has opened my eyes to a much bigger global forestry sector, which is good because that was one of the things that I wanted from the program.

I knew that the US was the world's largest wood producer, but it is only when you get here and try to get your head around this immense forestry sector that you appreciate how big it really is. And including Canada really gets your head spinning. In six months there is no way you can expect to cover everything, you can only get a slice of this highly diverse industry.

Because forestry has some serious reputation issues in Australia I was interested in looking at communication strategies that support the forest products sector. Unfortunately, there is no magical solution but I did learn about some of the strategies and trends being employed here. There is a lot of good work going on, but like Australia the challenges of a large and highly



Helen, Nathan, Megan, and Alex relaxing in Hawaii before arriving at WFI.

fragmented forest sector still exist.

If I was on a polygraph right now I would have to tell you that travel featured fairly high on my list of reasons for coming to the US. My family and I had the chance to travel around the PNW, the Canadian Rockies and British Columbia, the east coast from New York to Memphis and northern California. We are now embarking on our departure via Arizona, California and Hawaii. Outside the PNW it would be hard to beat the Canadian Rockies for scenery and the high paced atmosphere of New York. Of course, all of this was not just for pleasure as I met with many forest sector professionals during these trips.

It was not only me that enjoyed this time, my wife Helen and daughters Alex

and Megan also had a great time. So much so that we are still trying to work out how to get all the stuff they accumulated back home.

One of the great things about the WFI Fellowship program is the chance to get to know the other fellows from other parts of the world and of course the staff at WFI. We had some great laughs and I will look forward to catching up with many of them in the future."



Nathan will return to work at VicForests, a state-owned enterprise responsible for sustainable forest management in Victoria, Australia.

Recent Events



Hull Oakes Lumber, the last steam powered mill in Oregon, introduced Fellows to historic sawmilling methods.



Fellows headed to Mt. Hood for a ski break. Despite the freezing weather, Mariane (right, Brazil) greatly enjoyed her very first snow experience.



Linsen Zhao (China) toured Portland parks for his urban forestry project and discovered this Chinese sculpture, "Da Tung" (Universal Peace).



Deepak (Nepal) smiles at Mt. St. Helens on this rare clear winter day. The only other volcanic visitors were a herd of elk and a few lone sledders.

Parr Lumber Provides Solutions, Not Just Products

Thanks to WFC Director David Hamill, Fellows enjoyed a lively discussion with Parr Lumber's procurement team at their Hillsboro distribution center. Parr is primarily a west coast lumber retailer, but the company also functions as a distributor, broker, wholesaler, manufacturer, and builder with 750 employees.

Parr managers did an excellent job explaining the complex wood supply chain to Fellows. When asked how they are able to stay competitive with such diverse offerings, Director of Procurement Matt Jeffries explained that they are constantly challenged to prove the value they bring to clients, otherwise they are the first to be eliminated in the supply chain. Providing excellent service and "solutions, not just products" has led to success.

A recent innovation from the company is their "Get Real" programs, a response to the green movement. Parr sees a need for smaller,

energy efficient, quality homes in the market and the Get Real program provides customers with sustainable solutions without getting caught up in labeling and certification.

Fellows were impressed with the Parr managers' passion for their work. Employees tend to stay with the company for a long time, and many managers worked their way up from entry level positions. Matt Jeffries, for example, started as a truck driver. His advice for success: "be innovative, and never assume that what you did yesterday will get you through tomorrow."



With lumber yards throughout the Portland area, the company uses a centralized dispatch system to efficiently deliver goods to clients. Managers work together for sales commissions and are financially rewarded on their ability to cooperate with each other.



Parr's "BBQ Truck" is an example of their commitment to their clients. After recent flooding in the Oregon coast range devastated local communities, Parr providing free meals and emergency building supplies.

Deadline Approaching for 2008 International Educators Institute

The World Forestry Center's International Educators Institute (IEI) is a unique week-long professional development program and Pacific Northwest field study tour. The tour is a joint effort between the WFC Education Department and the World Forest Institute and will be held July 14-20, 2008. Since 1996, IEI participants have traveled to Portland from 23 countries and 27 states. Participants are international forest researchers and successful master educators.

Each day, the dramatic forest landscapes of Oregon and Washington offer IEI participants opportunities to experience the forest and explore a range of fascinating and interrelated environmental, social, and economic topics. Behind-the-scenes tours, field interviews, and hands-on projects are organized thematically and complimented by a wide diversity of guest presenters and viewpoints. The week-long tour is an opportunity to exchange "best practices" in education, gain new per-

spectives, and meet new professional colleagues.

To qualify for selection, applicants must have professional or personal experience in natural resource fields, have teaching responsibilities, demonstrate leadership in their field, and be proficient in the English language. An application is required and must be returned by the deadline of February 29, 2008. For more information, please contact Program Manager Angie DiSalvo at adisalvo@worldforestry.org.

Recent Events



Deepak Tamang, third from right, gathers with his extended Nepalese family for a photo under the Nepali flag after giving a presentation on forest issues at home.



Retired Oregon State Parks forester Al Tocchini and Linsen Zhao (China) survey storm damage at the Klookty Creek Sitka Spruce, the famous Oregon Heritage Tree which lost its top this winter.



Finley National Wildlife Refuge, located in Corvallis, is a federally managed site that provides winter habitat for Dusky Canada Geese, a subspecies that winters primarily in the Willamette Valley.

Fellows Search for Innovative Products in New Homes

Posing as an unusual nuclear family, Fellows went shopping for a new home in Portland. The US housing market has slowed to the lowest pace in decades, and real estate agents were happy to show Fellows newly constructed homes lingering on the market. This was an opportunity to compare construction practices and living styles between cultures, and to better understand the American lifestyle that drives the US lumber industry and economy.



Linsen Zhao (China) Mariane Bueno de Camargo (Brazil), and Namgon Kwag (Korea) explored the guts of an unfinished luxury home in northwest Portland. When completed this home will be over 4,500 square feet.

The tour was of particular interest to Korean Fellow Namgon Kwag, who works for Eagon Ltd., a luxury building products supplier and builder. For his project, Namgon is searching for innovative home products that could be introduced to the Korean market, particularly in flooring or windows. Namgon paid special attention to heating systems, which are done quite differently in the US. Korea has a unique radiant floor-

ing system for heating called the "Ondol."

The average American house size has more than doubled since the 1950s and now stands at 2,300 square feet, although Fellows saw homes double that size with price tags of up to USD \$700,000. Some memorable features included Brazilian hardwood flooring, extensive use of OSB, large kitchens, media and wine rooms, and creative storm water management systems.



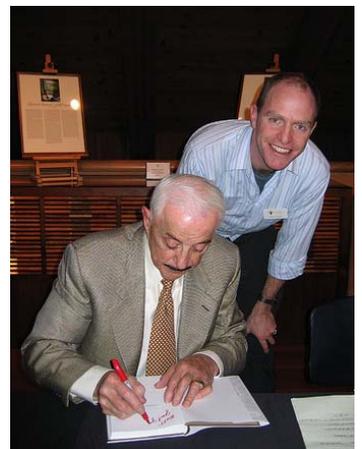
Mariane Bueno de Camargo, Brazil, examines Douglas-fir framing in her American dream home.

Harry Merlo's Autobiography "Vintage Merlo" Now Available

Harry Merlo, the founding father of the World Forest Institute, and current Chair of the World Forestry Center, has written an autobiography appropriately titled, "Vintage Merlo." Hard work is a key tenet of Harry's many successes, but he has always attributed his good fortune to the life lessons he learned from his mother. "Vintage Merlo" is a loving tribute to Clotilde Merlo, as the book traces Harry's realization of the American Dream.

A book launching party was held at the World Forestry Center in January, attended by nearly 200 guests, who were treated to wine, appetizers, dessert, and even a harmonica waltz by the man of honor himself.

"Vintage Merlo" can be purchased through the World Forestry Center's bookstore for \$19.95. All proceeds of sales go towards the World Forest Institute. To order by phone, please contact Maria Jeffrey at 503-488-2111.



Matt Pope (Australia) is now an official "Friend of Harry" with his newly signed autobiography.

Updates from our Alumni Around the Globe



Chinese alumnus Xiaoli Wang dressed as a Miao bride (a local minority group) while in China's southwest countryside.



German alumnus Andrea Schuck and his family spent Christmas in their new home in Germany, where they moved to after spending nearly a decade in Finland.



Russian alumnus Igor Danilin sent in this winter pic outside his office at the Russian Academy of Sciences in Krasnoyarsk.



Taiwan alumnus Yen-Chang Chen is the Director of the Fushan experimental research station. These monkeys seem to enjoy picnicking on his roof.

Send us your updates and photos for the next issue!

Global Connections: 2007 Alumni Meet Again



Left: Pei-jung and her son with Jasjit. Right: Pei-jung, Jasjit's wife Rajni, and Jasjit at the Fushan Botanical Garden.



WFI alumnus Pei-jung Wang (Taiwan) and Jasjit Singh Walia (India) met up in Taiwan at the invitation of the Taiwan Forestry Research Institute (TFRI) in December 2007. Coordinated by Pei-jung, Jasjit enjoyed a whirlwind tour of Taiwan's forest recreation and eco-services projects, and came away inspired by Taiwan's achievement in community involvement, development of tourist infrastructure, and

the protection of traditional aboriginal knowledge.

Jasjit's tour began with a presentation he gave on "Enhancing livelihood opportunities through Himachal's eco-tourism initiative" at the TFRI office in Taipei. The following day they took the bullet train to Chiayi's Luman Community, an old timber harvesting site now converted to an ecotourism development, featur-

ing a 19th century rail-road built by the Japanese to transport logs.

Other activities that followed included a presentation to students at National Chiayi University, and visits to Alishan Forest Recreation Area, Yushan National Park, Tataka recreational area, Chugpu research station, Luodong Forest District Office and Fushan Botanical Garden.

Aussie Alum Returns to the Pacific Northwest

WFI Alumnus John Turland is now living in Olympia, Washington where he works for Washington's Department of Natural Resources as a Senior Forest Management Analyst.

John completed a 12 month WFI fellowship in 2007 where he undertook a study on North American forest modeling software and approaches and the potential applicability to Australian native forest management.

John's decision to move to the USA to work was the result of career advancement opportunities coupled with the outdoors lifestyle that was too hard to resist. He has spent much of his recreation time fishing for salmon, hiking, snow shoe-

ing and a little skiing as well. "The mountains, rivers, winter snow and lush forest scenery of the PNW more than compensate for beautiful Sydney beaches and weather – for now anyway," says John.

In his current position, John is involved in growth and yield modeling, formulating forest management planning models and determining strategic sustainable timber supply forecasts that balance economic, social and environmental management objectives on state trust lands. "Learning about silvics of forest trees in the Pacific Northwest, management policies, regulations and using imperial measurement units have all been reasonably steep learning curves,"



John enjoying the snow at Mount Hood Meadows in Oregon.

explained John. "But the foundations provided with the WFI Fellowship training combined with the plethora of knowledge and literature provided by DNR staff have facilitated the transition into the US forest industry."