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World Forest Institute

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## Fellows Visit East Side Forests at MC Ranch



*Namgon, Sara, Rex, Rick Wagner (ODF), Min, and Deepak overlooking Ponderosa pine forests at MC Ranch.*

In early June, WFI Fellows and staff made an annual visit to Chairman Harry Merlo's eastern Oregon property in La Grande. This year's tour included a visit to a bioenergy pilot project supplied with wood residue from MC Ranch.

Deepak Tamang (Nepal), Min Zhao (China), and Namgon Kwag (Korea), joined staff Angie DiSalvo and Sara Wu for a week in La Grande. Every visit brings new surprises. First, it became apparent enroute to La Grande that the unusu-

ally wet winter and prolonged rains had left the landscape much more green and lush than in past years. Rex Christenson, MC Ranch manager, commented that it was perhaps the wettest year he'd seen since he was a child. The second surprise came on the second morning, when we awoke to white powder covering the ground. It was snowing in June! One would think that the cool temperatures and moisture would help to reduce the threat of wildfire, but it could also encourage the growth of dense under-

brush, which later becomes dry fuel in the summer.

Rex toured the WFI group, pointing out wildlife, invasive species, areas that had been cleared of slash and then mulched over by SuperTrak equipment, experimental plots using a variety of mulching intensities, regrowth, burn sites, historical markers, and a site that had been marked for leave trees by WFI Fellows in 2006. Rick Wagner of the Oregon Department of Forestry later joined the group for an overview of project

*Continued on Page 3*



*Fellows learned about forest management tools such as thinning and mulching, both of which are used on the ranch.*

## Researchers and Teachers Come Together for 2008 IEI

### Scenes from IEI



Participants explored two different forests at Mt. St. Helens, one set aside for research and one for wood production.



Ana Lu Fonseca (Mexico) thanks Gerald Sampson for a tour of Warm Springs Forest Products Industries.



Sue Cummings, an Education Specialist with the US Forest Service in Washington DC, rides on the Wind River Canopy Crane to learn about canopy research.



Indro Ganguly (India), Amber Lindsey (Oregon) and Tina Aldinger (Germany) smile at the end of a six-mile hike exploring old-growth forest characteristics.



The 2008 International Educators Institute class. Participants represented many regions, including China, Mexico, Nepal, the Philippines, Brazil, India, Germany, South Carolina, New Hampshire, Oregon, Washington, Colorado, Washington DC, Virginia, and Minnesota.

In July the World Forestry Center hosted the 12th annual International Educators Institute. This weeklong study tour is set against the dramatic Pacific Northwest landscape and uses local examples to explore sustainable forestry issues. The tour is conducted by the Education Department and the World Forest Institute.

A diverse group of twenty participants came together from around the world, including award winning environmental educators and natural resource professionals. Each day a different theme led participants to examine social, economic, and environmental issues, including themes of forest research, protection, communities, disturbance, and management. Participants also exchanged best practices in forestry education and provided their own unique perspectives on global issues.

"IEI was an amazing experi-

ence! As an educator, it meant the world to have hands-on experiences that dealt directly with forestry, on-going research, and education," said Amber Lindsey, an Oregon high school teacher. "I really benefited directly by talking to fellow participants who were both educators and researchers. There was so much information that I can take back to my classroom that I think it will take me years to process!"

The group stayed overnight in the Columbia River Gorge at Menucha retreat center. Long travel days were spent visiting with the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Mt. St. Helens National Volcanic Monument, Weyerhaeuser Learning Center, the Portland urban forest, and US Forest Service lands. For many participants, this was their first experience in the Pacific Northwest.

Living and traveling together

with people from around the world lends itself to a deep level of cultural exchange. Participants gain new respect for different cultures and ways of life. "I came back with a sense that I need to do more, help others and be prepared. The role of educators and care givers of our planet can only be accomplished if we set aside differences and start learning from others," said Carlos Yrurettagoyena, an environmental manager at a paper mill in Mexico. "Tolerance, patience and care should be the main ingredients."

One of the key components of the program is creating an international network related to the World Forestry Center. Participants plan to keep in touch to exchange ideas and information. There are many stories of previous participants working together beyond the week-long course. More photos and information can be found at <http://internationaleducatorsinstitute.blogspot.com/>.

## Urban Forest Modeling Leads Chinese Fellow to Florida

### Join WFI for “Who Will Own the Forest? 4”

The annual WFI summit is scheduled for September 8-10, 2008 at the World Forestry Center. A diverse group of 28 speakers will discuss forest ownership issues such as investment, timber, and conservation values. Participants come from lenders, timberland investment management organizations, real estate investment trusts, forest industry, forestry consulting services, private equity groups, institutional investors, financial analysts, conservation groups, law offices, fund advisors, and others.

Registration is filling quickly and spaces can be reserved on-line at <http://wfi.worldforestry.org/wwotf4/>. Registration before August 8 is \$650, after August 8 it is \$750. However, WFI alumni can attend free of charge.

### MC Ranch cont. from page 1

uses for wood waste, such as fireplace logs made of wood residues.

This year’s trip also included an off-site visit to a pole-making facility using slash which would otherwise be burned and wasted, thus reducing the threat of wildfire and creating jobs locally. There was also a visit to see the first biofuel pilot project in the area, set at the Enterprise school. The generator is expected to go online later this year, fueled by wood chips from slash.

In the evenings, after wonderful meals prepared with local ingredients by Kathryn Christenson and Dodi Tombleson, there were campfire chats, harmonica solos by our host, Mr. Merlo, and delightful traditional songs from the international fellows.

In June Chinese Fellow Dr. Min Zhao visited the University of Florida in Gainesville to expand upon her research in urban forestry. Her project revolves around quantifying the benefits of urban forests, and better understanding the urban forest carbon cycle. Urban forests are thought to perform many important ecological functions, but there are few methods to quantify the value of these functions.

The US Forest Service developed one model, the Urban Forest Effects (UFORE), to quantify forest structure, function, and value. To better learn how to use this complicated method, Min paired up with Dr. Francisco Escobedo, an expert who has used the model in multiple cities in the US and abroad. He graciously hosted Min at the University of Florida’s School of Forest Resources and Conservation for several weeks while she learned the ins and outs of the model.

Learning UFORE required Min to first become famil-

iar with the model’s theory and methods, and then how to properly collect field data. The model has detailed, statistically based sampling and data collection protocols that ensure accurate calculations. Working along Dr. Escobedo’s team in urban areas around Gainesville, Min learned how to follow the sampling protocols.

Much time was then spent in the lab formatting additional data for the model, including weather and air pollution data. In addition to calculating structure and biomass, the model gives values for total carbon and annual carbon sequestered. Results can be used to track urban forest changes over time, which in Florida can assist in managing natural disturbances such as hurricane damage.

Min also met with other researchers in Gainesville, including Dr. Wayne Zipperer, a forest researcher at the US Forest Service, and Dr. Ed Gilman, a professor at UF’s Environmental Horticulture department. Min is a professor at Shanghai Normal University and exchanging research and



*Min gained hands-on experience learning to lay out plots and collect urban forestry data for UFORE, including DBH, height, species composition, and tree health.*

teaching ideas with colleagues was of great benefit.

The trip to Florida was a great success and Min was particularly excited to meet with many of the experts whose work she had previously studied. She has plans for further collaboration with Dr. Escobedo, and hopes their work will benefit many urban forests in the future.



*Dr. Francisco Escobedo and his wife Claudia hosted Min in Gainesville. One of Min’s favorite excursions was a trip to a Florida State Park where the local wildlife included alligators. “I was so excited to experience this!” exclaimed Min. “I really enjoyed that nervous and excited moments without any fences!”*

## Updates from our Alumni Around the Globe



*Upon her return to Brazil Mariane Bueno de Camargo's family welcomed her with a barbeque party.*

**Mariane Bueno de Camargo** (Brazil 2007-08) has accepted a new position at Caxuana S/A, after meeting the company's president at her final project presentation in Oregon. She will be based in Uberlândia City in Minas Gerais State, in central Brazil, jumpstarting their new microclonal garden for eucalyptus and pine trees. Caxuana is a medium-sized company with 19,000 hectares of pine and eucalyptus plantations and about 5,000 hectares of natural forests (for conservation). They also export products such as molding, blanks, panels, MDF, and flat jams.

**Jes Munk Hansen** (Denmark 1995-96) recently relocated to the US and is now President of Grundfos Pumps Corporation's North America Region, based in Olathe, KS. Grundfos is the world's largest water pump manufacturer, with some sales to the pulp and paper industry .

**Roger Naylor** (UK 2000-01) recently joined International Woodland Company in Copenhagen as an Investment Forester. IWC is a forestry investment advisor. Also with IWC is **Mikkel Brings Nielsen** (Denmark 2004-05), who will be stationed in Singapore for 18 months, beginning this August.

## Chilean Alumnus Surprises Portland with Visit

Sandra Silva Perez (Chile 2000-01) is the regional director at Puerto Montt for a Chilean export promotion agency, Pro-Chile. She accompanied several Chilean seafood exporters to LA to promote retail sales, and then decided to visit Portland before returning home. Overlapping her visit was another member of the WFI family, Christine Silventoinen, who is married to Finnish alumnus Jussi Silventoinen (Finland 1996-97). Jussi is a forest industry consultant at Indufor Oy, where he is Head of Management Consulting.



*Runar Gareyev (Russia 1996-1997), Sara Wu, Christine Silventoinen, and Sandra Silva Perez.*

## Aussie Tony Scherl Visits Scandinavian Alumni



*Australian alumnus Tony Scherl (2004-2005) spent several weeks traveling throughout Europe in July and made time to visit with other alums in Denmark and Finland.*

*In Copenhagen, Denmark, Tony met Mikkel Nielsen, just as he was packing up to relocate to Singapore for his employer. Mikkel recently married his sweetheart, Tine, in May (left). Tony and Mikkel completed their Fellowships at the same time and reminisced about the good times in Portland. Mikkel toured Tony around Copenhagen by bike wearing the latest cycling fashion (bottom right), as the town is famous for its bike culture.*

*Tony also visited with Jussi Silventoinen and his wife Christine in Helsinki, Finland. Together they toured Porvoo, a historic Finnish town not far from the capital (top right). The town was originally a Swedish fort and trading center, and the port is now a prime tourist spot.*