FORESTS AND FORESTRY ARE CHANGING.

How could they not when faced with an increasing population, changing climate, shifting demographics, emerging technologies, and intensifying wildfires?

Since 1966, the World Forestry Center has adapted with forestry’s changes. The roots of our mission – to create and inspire champions of sustainable forestry – have remained consistent. But our methods and programs have evolved with the needs of the time.

We are focused on shaping a society that values and takes action to support the economic, ecological, and social values of forests. We know that a sustainable forestry future calls for careful choices and collaborations. It requires that key stakeholders have important conversations about complex issues. It demands that people imagine and invest in what is possible.

And our ability to keep up with the changing future of forestry depends on the support of a network of donors, sponsors, partners, and volunteers. We can not do this work alone.

This issue of the Evergreen is full of examples of how the World Forestry Center is already doing this work. But in the years ahead, as forestry continues to evolve, so must we. We must strengthen what is working, refine what could work better, and build what tomorrow’s sustainable forestry challenges require. The health of our economy, our environment, and our society depends on it.

Now is the time. Join us.
LEADERSHIP HALL SPOTLIGHT

Announcing our 2019 Leadership Hall Honorees

We are delighted to announce the formal induction of H.N. “Mike” Miller and Eric L. Schooler into the Forestry Leadership Hall.

Mike Miller began his career in forestry as a seasonal firefighter with the Douglas Forest Protective Association in Roseburg, Oregon. After graduating from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1959, he began working for the Oregon Department of Forestry. In 1978 he became Assistant Forester and then in 1980 the Oregon Board of Forestry selected Mike to be the ninth Oregon State Forester.

The 1980s were turbulent times for the forest industry. As State Forester, Mike deftly guided the agency through the economic recession with minimal layoffs and helped pass legislation that helped reduce the economic impact on logging and milling companies. He played a crucial role in updating the Oregon Forest Practices Act. It was during this period that Mike served on the board of the World Forestry Center and was appointed by Governor Atiyeh as Chairman of the Federal Forest Planning Review Committee.

In 1986, Mike accepted the post of Executive Vice President of the Associated Oregon Loggers. During his fourteen-years of leadership, he helped give contract loggers a voice at the state and federal level on issues impacting their operations.

Since 2000, Mike has served as the Executive Director of the Friends of Paul Bunyan Foundation. The foundation has distributed nearly a million dollars to organizations that further the science, education, and public understanding of forest-resource issues and the management of Oregon’s forests.

Mike was a founding member of the American Loggers Council and served as president of the National Association of State Foresters. He is a Golden Member of the Oregon Society of American Foresters, having joined in 1959. He has received honorary awards from each organization.

Mike continues to serve as Treasurer on the board of Keep Oregon Green, a position he has held for the past thirty-three years.

Eric L. Schooler has served as President and CEO of Collins since 2000, overseeing over 311,000 acres of FSC-certified forestlands in California, Oregon, and Pennsylvania and six manufacturing plants. Eric is always focused on increasing productivity, efficiency, and cost-effectiveness while staying true to the product guidelines and integrity of the company.

Eric was instrumental in adding Collins’ hardwood mill in Richwood, West Virginia and implementing a rebuild of the sawmill in Chester, California. He led the design and construction of the state-of-the-art hardwood sawmill for the Greenwood Tree Farm Fund in Boardman, Oregon and oversaw the retodling of the Lakeview sawmill by adding an efficient small log side to process thinnings and small logs.

Eric had twenty-eight years of experience in the forest products business before joining Collins, giving him a broad background in the industry. He began his career at Publishers Paper Co., later working as Mill Manager at West Coast Forest Industries, and Production Manager at Seaboard Lumber Company. Additionally, he has served as Operations Manager at Crown Zellerbach/Cavenham Forest Products and Vice President of Manufacturing for Hampton Lumber.

Today, Eric continues to preserve Collins’ long-standing commitment to land and resource stewardship. As part of their dedication to sustainable forestry, the company focuses on the health of the forest ecosystem, supports the renewable production of wood, and provides social and economic support to the surrounding areas and communities.

Eric served on the board of the World Forestry Center from 2001 to 2016, and as Executive Committee Chairman for six years. He now sits on the Advisory Council. He is a past member of the Governor’s Sustainability Advisory Board in Oregon, the recent past Chairman of the Western Wood Products Association, and currently serves on the board of Oregon Forest Resources Institute.

If you would like to make a donation, please contact Merrit Thompson, Development and Community Relations Manager at 503-488-2122 or mthompson@worldforestry.org.

Thank you to those who have already supported Mike and Eric’s inductions into the Forestry Leadership Hall.

Thank you to Collins for supporting the induction of Eric Schooler.

We hope you will honor Eric by making a contribution in support of his induction.

If you would like to make a donation, please contact Merrit Thompson, Development and Community Relations Manager at 503-488-2122 or mthompson@worldforestry.org.

Thank you to those who have already supported Mike and Eric’s inductions into the Forestry Leadership Hall.

Thank you to Collins for supporting the induction of Eric Schooler.

We hope you will honor Eric by making a contribution in support of his induction.

If you would like to make a donation, please contact Merrit Thompson, Development and Community Relations Manager at 503-488-2122 or mthompson@worldforestry.org.
Governor Brown Returns to the World Forestry Center for Wildfire Update

“The time to act is now,” agreed Oregon Governor Kate Brown as she addressed the members of the Oregon Council on Wildfire Response at the World Forestry Center.

“...recommend that we make significant investments in mitigation and fire suppression, as well as substantive policy changes for helping communities adapt and recover from fire,” said Brown. “It’s imperative to Oregon’s future to act on these recommendations and procure the funding to do so...I look forward to working with you as we take bold actions to ensure a healthier and more vibrant Oregon for generations to come.”

The September 26 meeting was the second time this year that the entire Wildfire Council gathered at the World Forestry Center. This meeting was focused on sharing progress and nearly-final recommendations with the Governor.

The Council, created by Governor Brown via executive order in January, has been charged with evaluating best practices in fire prevention, management, and suppression and making recommendations for Oregon’s future wildfire management. The group includes a wide variety of experts in the fields of conservation, healthcare, forestry, and government.

“Wildfire impacts all aspects of our society and requires that a broad base of stakeholders evaluate its impacts and potential solutions through an ecological, economic, and social lens,” said Joe Furia, Executive Director of the World Forestry Center. “It is a lens that we at the World Forestry Center bring to all forestry issues.”

Who Will Own the Forest?
Conference Highlights Climate, Trends Influencing Global Forest Investment

On Wednesday, September 18, the World Forestry Center welcomed nearly 400 professionals to our Washington Park campus for the 15th annual Who Will Own the Forest? conference.

This year, the two-day event began with its first-ever keynote address, sponsored by Freres Lumber Company. Eric Corey Freed, Sustainability Disruptor at Morrison Hershfield, offered his dynamic take on the risks and rewards of a timber future.

“You’re not in the timber business,” said Freed. “You’re in the most-valuable-and-renewable-commodity-on-Earth business.”

The program continued with sessions on the global megatrends influencing forestry, including climate change and shifting demographics. “Climate change presents new risks and opportunities for investors in forests,” said World Forestry Center Deputy Director Sara Wu. “These issues are only growing in importance.”

Another first was the session on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in the forestry industry. The panel included World Forestry Center Board Member Thomas RaShad Easley, Assistant Dean for Community and Inclusion at Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, and Bettina von Hagen, CEO of EFM.

Thank you to everyone who made Who Will Own the Forest? possible, including this year’s Title Sponsors: Farm Credit, Roseburg, and Timberland Investment Resources.

Hagenstein Lecture Amplifies Emerging Voices

Ten young leaders in forestry brought thought-provoking dialogue to the World Forestry Center in late October.

The fourth annual Emerging Voices in Forestry featured dynamic conversations on the predictability of wildfire, opportunities for women fighting those fires, and the actions required to evolve forestry for the future. “These conversations were envisioned as a way to feature new voices in forestry,” said World Forestry Center Senior Fellow, Rick Zenn. “We wanted to highlight the work being done by this next generation.”

Emerging Voices is part of The Hagenstein Lectures, a public initiative led by the World Forestry Center and the Society of American Foresters to honor the legacy of professional forester William D. Hagenstein.
International Fellows Share Findings at Forestry Lightning Talks

The World Forestry Center’s eight International Fellows presented findings from their independent research projects to an audience of over 100 friends, colleagues, and program supporters.

This free, public event represented a culmination of the Fellows’ six-month research projects. Each of the eight natural resource professionals presented a ten-minute overview of their area of study, research findings, and how they plan to implement what they’ve learned after the Fellowship.

The presentation topics were as varied as the fellows themselves. They touched upon the economic, ecological, and social benefits of forests.

“The fellows come to the Pacific Northwest because we have one of the most productive forestry practices in the world,” says Shadia Duery, International Fellowship Program Manager. “They select research projects relevant to their work at home. These presentations are a distillation of months of work.”

For those unable to attend the talks in person, you can watch videos of the 2019 talks at worldforestry.org/ForestryLightning19.

Reflecting on the Fellowship Experience

The 2019 International Fellows share their parting impressions of the World Forestry Center’s one-of-a-kind professional development program.

Richard Banda (Malawi) “When I go back home, I will develop a multiple benefit reforestation project proposal with the support and guidance from the connections I have made here. This project will have a socio-economic impact on the communities and control deforestation and environmental degradation in Malawi.”

Fen-hui Chen (Taiwan) “All the activities, including study tours, guest speakers, and meetings, arranged by the program have facilitated my understanding of the fundamental knowledge of natural resource management in the Pacific Northwest.”

Temitope Dauda (Nigeria) “These past six months have been the best period in my career and personal life. I have worked with brilliant minds that specialize in conserving landscapes and have learned how to approach landscape conservation at a scale that reflects the needs and aspirations of the local people.”

Zhongyuan Ding (China) “As forestry in my country has been experiencing rapid development and finding itself at a crossroads, it is crucial to make a comparison with others, rethink about ourselves, and gain global awareness.”

Romain Matile (France) “My research project was focused on forest fire prevention and prescribed burning, and I have been able to collect valuable information in this area. I had the opportunity to meet people very involved in these activities that allowed me to expand my professional network.”

Rodolfo Vieto (Costa Rica) “The human and financial resources that the Harry A. Merlo Foundation have provided allowed me a worthwhile cross-cultural and professional experience, strengthening me as an agent of change for Costa Rica and Central America.”

Ana Kanoppa (Brazil) “This program changed my career completely and forever. When I return home, I will be able to replicate all that I have learned here for future generations of women and children… not only in Brazil but wherever I am.”

Will Maiden (United Kingdom) “Oregon is one of the best places globally to investigate forest issues, and I feel very lucky to have spent six months looking into a subject close to my heart.”

Richard Banda (Malawi) “When I go back home, I will develop a multiple benefit reforestation project proposal with the support and guidance from the connections I have made here. This project will have a socio-economic impact on the communities and control deforestation and environmental degradation in Malawi.”

Fen-hui Chen (Taiwan) “All the activities, including study tours, guest speakers, and meetings, arranged by the program have facilitated my understanding of the fundamental knowledge of natural resource management in the Pacific Northwest.”

Temitope Dauda (Nigeria) “These past six months have been the best period in my career and personal life. I have worked with brilliant minds that specialize in conserving landscapes and have learned how to approach landscape conservation at a scale that reflects the needs and aspirations of the local people.”

Zhongyuan Ding (China) “As forestry in my country has been experiencing rapid development and finding itself at a crossroads, it is crucial to make a comparison with others, rethink about ourselves, and gain global awareness.”

Romain Matile (France) “My research project was focused on forest fire prevention and prescribed burning, and I have been able to collect valuable information in this area. I had the opportunity to meet people very involved in these activities that allowed me to expand my professional network.”

Rodolfo Vieto (Costa Rica) “The human and financial resources that the Harry A. Merlo Foundation have provided allowed me a worthwhile cross-cultural and professional experience, strengthening me as an agent of change for Costa Rica and Central America.”
Charitable Beneficiary Designation

A tax-wise way to leave your legacy

We are grateful to those of you who have informed us that the World Forestry Center is listed as a beneficiary under their estate plan. Our long-term goal is to invest in building a healthier future by creating and inspiring champions of sustainable forestry that will have economic, ecological, and social benefits lasting for generations!

Choosing to list the World Forestry Center as a beneficiary of your retirement plan, life insurance policy, stock brokerage account, or bank account is a meaningful way for you to leave a legacy.

Advantages of Beneficiary Designation Gifts

Easy to Do – Simply fill out a brief beneficiary designation form provided by your retirement/life insurance plans or brokerage/bank account administrator. (World Forestry Center, Inc. is our legal name and our tax ID # is 93-6034757)

Tax Saving – By making a gift from your retirement plan, stock brokerage account, or bank account to the World Forestry Center, your estate will receive a 100% charitable deduction, thereby saving estate taxes, and avoiding income taxes on those assets.

Probate Free – Gifting assets via a beneficiary designation will avoid the probate process and ensure that the World Forestry Center receives your contribution in a timely manner.

Revocable – You can modify or revoke the beneficiary designations at any time during your lifetime.

Inexpensive – In most cases, there is no need to amend your will or trust, thus saving legal fees.

Always consult with your financial/legal advisor regarding any beneficiary designations.
To discuss listing the World Forestry Center as your beneficiary, please contact Rick Zurow at rzurow@worldforestry.org