



MINNESOTA
Forest Scene

Leading the way with education, research and outreach

FALL 2009 — ISSUE 3



The Challenges of Natural Resources Education

I recently looked at the University's forestry curriculum of 1909. At first glance, the curriculum was surprising similar to today's. There are basic biology, chemistry and math courses; writing and public speaking; dendrology, measurements, ecology,

silviculture, policy, plus courses providing field experience. We did eliminate the elective course on horse packing, but have since added GIS, augmented policy and planning courses, and incorporated the dramatic findings from a century of discovery in science.

The program in 1909 was described as having "developed in response to societal concern for the conservation and wise use of natural resources." This concern continues today and additional issues (climate change, energy, the economy, etc) add more complexity. In turn, this complexity demands even more from our faculty and curricula.

We see great success in the careers and contributions of our graduates and recognize that, to continue this, we must be mindful of challenges forestry and natural resource management will face in the future. I want to emphasize that our faculty is moving to meet the educational demands of today and tomorrow. We have not just updated our models; the courses, their content and the manner of instruction is evolving. In the hallways, there is ever present discussion of change and creative ways to address it. Experiential learning, interdisciplinary problem solving, critical thinking skills and new technologies are a few of the discussions I hear. We thank you, the graduates and active professionals for the dialog that continues this important evolution.

Thank you for your continued support and enjoy the third edition of the Forest Scene!

Alan Ek - Professor & Head, Forest Resources



Protecting the Future of Ash in Minnesota

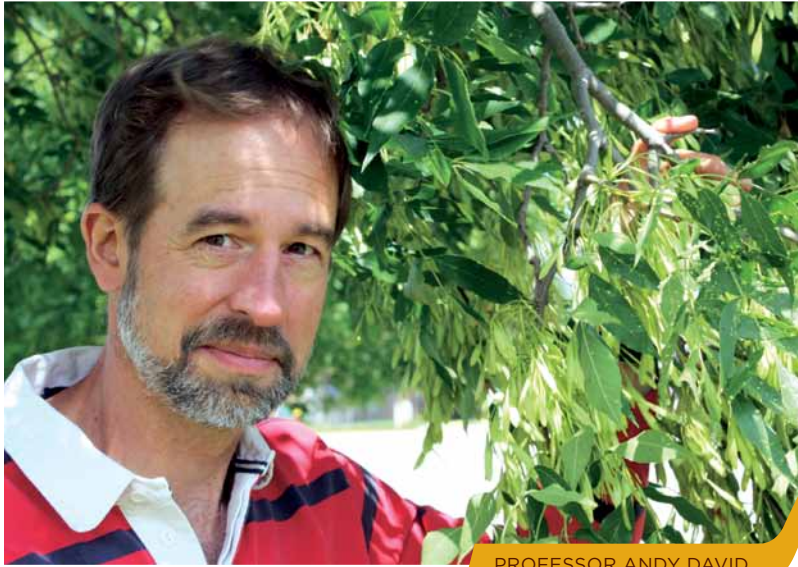
With the arrival of the emerald ash borer (EAB), an invasive beetle, into Minnesota, the future of our state's ash trees is looking less than bright. EAB has killed or damaged millions of trees since its discovery in Michigan in 2002 and has passed barriers to prevent its spread – it is now found in ten states and areas of Canada. But thanks to the foresight of Andy David, Associate Professor with the University's Department of Forest Resources, the long-term outlook for Minnesota ash has promise.

With family in Michigan, David has seen first hand the effects EAB. "I realized that it eats all ash trees, and once EAB gets to all the trees in an area, that variation

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PROFESSOR ANDY DAVID



Forward Thinking

The long-term goal for this project is to prepare for an ash tree reintroduction or breeding effort. If EAB can be controlled, ash can be reintroduced using locally adapted seed sources. If EAB cannot be controlled, it may be possible to breed ash with other species that coevolved with the insect and have resistance or tolerance to it.

“There are 900 million ash trees in Minnesota and it’s hard to believe they are going to go away. Trees start to flag and die within a year. They are gone within two,” says David. “The take home message is that we really need to be careful about what materials we ship around the world and what else is carried along.” ■

is lost. All those genes are gone for good. That, in many ways, represents millennia of evolution and adaptations,” said David. “My thought was, if we do nothing, we are going to lose a genetic resource in Minnesota.”

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A Genetic Resource

As instructor of a course titled “Conservation of Plant Biodiversity”, David recognized that preventing the loss of this genetic resource was something he could do. He designed a plan for collecting ash seeds throughout Minnesota to gather as many seeds and as much genetic diversity as possible. The project, titled Conservation of Minnesota’s Ash Genetic Resources in Response to Emerald Ash borer, began more than two years ago and has been extended to June 2011.

The project partnered with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and University of Minnesota Extension to maximize the amount of ash seed collected across the state. “My idea was to create a model system that would involve a number of different organizations and at the same time, raise their knowledge level and awareness because I knew sooner or later EAB was going to get here,” says David.



Saving Seed

The workers and volunteers collecting seed record information on the tree source, where it was collected, and other details before sending the seed to David and his students who then clean it. From there, David sends the seed to one of three places; the National Plant Germplasm System (NPGS) in Fort Collins, Colorado; the North Central Regional Plant Introduction Station (NCRPIS) in Ames, Iowa; or the USDA Forest Service National Seed Laboratory (NSL) in Dry Branch, Georgia. At these locations, the seed is dried down to 7-11% moisture level where it can be stored frozen and remain viable for up to 20 years. So far, seed has been collected from more than 325 ash trees.



Welcome Professor Davenport!



MAE DAVENPORT, PH.D.

Assistant Professor of Human Dimensions of Natural Resources and Environment

The Department of Forest Resources is pleased to welcome Dr. Mae Davenport in her new appointment as Assistant Professor of Human Dimensions of Natural Resources and Environment.

Dr. Davenport comes to us from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale where she was teaching and conducting research with their Department of Forestry. Her background includes a bachelor's degree from the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth, MN, a Masters in Forestry – Recreation Management from the University of Montana, Missoula, and her Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota's Natural Resources Science and Management program. Davenport's two primary areas within the human dimensions discipline are human beliefs, attitudes and behaviors associated with ecosystem change, as well as community capacity for ecosystem planning and management.

This fall she is teaching a course titled "Sustainable Land Use Planning and Policy" and is also in the process of developing a summer field course for Recreation Resource Management students. "The most exciting aspect of starting my position here has been getting to know the students," says Davenport. "The students at this University are extremely engaged in their education and have high expectations for their instructors."

The unique abilities, skills, and knowledge that Dr. Davenport brings to the campus will add crucial strength to departmental and college education, research and outreach efforts. Please join in welcoming her to the campus and our programs! ■

Student Spotlight: Michael Carson



At the young age of eight, Michael Carson discovered what he wanted to do when he grew up: become a forester. His parents moved the family into the country, a few miles outside of Lincoln, Nebraska, and decided to plant trees for a tree farm that would later provide for the kids' college education.

"We had to plant around 8-9,000 trees, so back then I hated trees," says Carson. "Then I met a forester while we were doing that, and he was telling me about what he did. When you are eight years old and love to be outdoors, it sounded like a dream job!"

Carson started his education at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in agronomy, but soon decided to follow his passion and pursue forestry. After comparing programs in nearby states, he chose the University of Minnesota and is now a junior in Forest Resources with a specialization in Conservation and Ecosystem Management.

While this is his first semester in the program, Carson is adapting to the new environment successfully. He is feeling good about classes, is enjoying "Minnesota nice", and has already started work in one of the Department's labs helping with research. As part of a disturbance and release study, Carson prepares tree cores and cookies so they can be examined under a microscope and significant periods of release can be identified. "I am glad to be doing work in my field. I enjoy the work and the flexible hours, too," says Carson.

Carson has also found the students, faculty, and campus to be a welcoming. "In general, it seems like everyone has a lot of knowledge and the professors are really friendly. I feel really at home here despite being so far away from home," he says. "The city took a while to get used to, but the University is like its own city within a city." ■

STUDENT CLUBS UPDATE

The Forestry Club was founded in 1907, making it one of the oldest clubs here at the U! The club has remained an important group for students, both socially and educationally. In 2006, the club was recognized by the University's Student Activities Office with the first Tony Diggs Excellence Award for Outstanding Student Organization of the Year.

We remain active year round. Members participate in a variety of activities such as the Midwest Foresters' Conclave, which consists of lumberjack events, highway cleanup, and broomball, and Forester's Day in the spring, which includes field events and a club banquet. Spring 2010 will mark the 75th annual Foresters' Day celebration.



Forestry club's most popular event is the annual tree sale in which students harvest trees from different sites. Proceeds from tree sales provide money for student scholarships and fund the club activities. This year's tree sale will be running from November 27th until Christmas Eve (or until the trees are gone!). The tree sale lot is located near the intersection of Cleveland Avenue and Larpentour Avenue near St. Paul campus in the parking lot of the University's Les Bolstad Golf Course. ■

- CLUB PRESIDENT, STEPHEN RUDOLPH

Another popular group among forestry students is the University's student chapter of the Society of American Foresters. SAF is a nationally recognized professional organization and is a great group for students interested in making professional connections. We attended the 2009 SAF National Convention in Orlando, Florida, in early October. We also look forward to heading to the University of Wisconsin-Steven's Point in the spring to defend our back-to-back championships in the Lake States Quiz Bowl. ■

- CLUB PRESIDENT, DAN EK

RRM Minor Expanded to International Scope

Natural resource based tourism contributes significantly to economies and communities around the world as well as here in Minnesota. According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, 58 million visitors came to the U.S. in 2008. Of Minnesota's 39 million visitors, 4% were international travelers. In response to the importance of international tourism and to enhance the University's goal of internationalizing educational opportunities, the Recreation Resource Management (RRM) minor has been expanded to include an international tourism option.

The international tourism option invites students to complete 19 credits, including three core courses. Students can then complete the remaining coursework off-campus at a partner institution or at the University with an experiential field seminar. Both choices internationalize a student's learning and life experience. Dr. Ingrid Schneider, RRM major and minor coordinator, said, "With a flattening world, international experience is essential. This minor creates a competitive edge for our students and broadens the reach of the University of Minnesota."

The minor is available spring 2010, and the first off-campus offering will likely be in the Caribbean where discussions are underway with the University of West Indies in Jamaica. Given the Caribbean's history and place in tourism as well as its accessible location and use of English, the region seems a natural first step. According to Dr. Schneider, student response to the new option has been eager and enthusiastic. ■

Henry L. Hansen Fellowship

Henry Hansen held many different titles at the University of Minnesota; student, alum, gopher fan, researcher, professor, and donor among others. He was a student of forestry, gaining his Bachelor's and PhD with the University. As an alum and ardent Golden Gopher hockey fan, Henry and his wife, Charlotte, held season tickets for 50 years! He conducted much of his research at the U in the areas of forest management, woodland ecology, and outdoor recreation resources with an emphasis on regeneration and management of Lake States pine forests. As a professor with the department for thirty six-years, Henry influenced many graduate and undergraduate students.

Henry, along with his family, also left his mark as a donor. In 1997, Henry and Charlotte, their sons David, Mark, and Trygg, and Henry's sister Hazel, established the Henry L. Hansen Forest Ecology Fellowship. (A second fellowship of the same name was established in 2001.) This fellowship has since assisted numerous graduate students as they studied forestry and forest ecology.

Henry passed away in May of 2005 but has left behind a great legacy. Through his varying roles at the University of Minnesota, he has and continues to touch many lives. Charlotte and many family members still live locally—our thanks to their vision and continually generous spirit! ■



(top) Director Ron Severs leads a wagon tour of the grounds.



(bottom) Administrators of the Cloquet Forestry Center, past and present.



Attendees of the All Class Reunion enjoy a chili feed and good company.

CLOQUET FORESTRY CENTER CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION RECAP

The Centennial Celebration was the highlight of 2009 for Cloquet. Each and every year, for the past 100 years, researchers, instructors, and students have come to the Cloquet Forestry Center to establish research helping to answer relevant questions on managing the world's natural resources and/or to get the experiential education that will help them become highly trained managers of our natural resources. Cloquet's 100th anniversary allowed the opportunity for past and present researchers, instructors, and students as well as the general public to visit the Center and become reacquainted with its research, teaching, and outreach mission. The week-long celebration included educational workshops, seminars, forest

management, and research field tours. The week concluded with Alumni activities that included an all-class reunion and an Alumni and Friends Day Celebration.

When participants were asked in a follow-up survey how likely they were to attend an event like this again, nearly 90% indicated they would be "very likely" to attend.

The Cloquet Forestry Center staff would like to say thank you to all who helped make the Centennial a fun and rewarding event. Your wonderful comments and positive feedback is very much appreciated. ■

RON SEVERS, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS



The University's Raptor Center captures the attention of kids from the Fond du Lac Reservation Ojibwe schools at the centennial celebration.



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We want to hear from you!

Please send news, stories, photos
or comments that you would like
to share to:

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STAY CONNECTED! GET INVOLVED!

As an alumnus, there are many opportunities to stay connected, get involved, and make a difference.

Advise a student who has an interest in working in your career field through the **Mentor Program**. Join the Alumni Society at the **Holiday Social** on December 8th.

Attend the annual **Classes Without Quizzes** on Saturday, April 10, 2010 – a special event for all ages to learn about the latest scientific research and how it affects our daily lives. **Donate** to a scholarship, fellowship or department fund. Or just take an hour to sit in on one of our regular classes or seminars.

If you are interested in participating, please contact the alumni office for more information at 612-624-1745. To discuss giving options, call the Development office at 612-624-4285 or contact the department head at 612-624-3400. More information can be found on our website. ■



Cloquet Forestry Center Introductory Field Session Classes

Published annually from 1928 until 1993, the Gopher Peavey included class photos. This first set covers the Introductory Field Session classes from 2002-2009, and in subsequent issues we will include additional years and advanced field session photos as available. These photos are also available electronically by request.

- Jenna Williams

2002



Sitting, left to right: Amy Butler, Kelsey Hallcock, Angela O'Donnell, James Jacobs **Standing, left to right:** Robin Brill, James Murphy, Brad Danks, Jon Drimel, Craig Ferguson, Jenn Glenn, Kyle Nelson, Jane Sparks, Xo Vang, Katie Frerker, Dave Ronzani, Chris Hallman, Tracy Williams, Stephen Bartz, Andrew Chandler, John Berglund

2003



Kneeling, left to right: Nick Anthony, Jennifer Williams-Klauk, Jill Determan, David Arras, Tim St. Aubin, Eric Prom, Jeremy Steil (TA) **Standing, left to right:** Eileen Carey, Donald Asleson, Chris Watson, Lars Loberg, Jeff Busse, Shannon Batzko, Jason Bushmaker, Jill Lien, Ryan Kirk (TA), Mariah Mickman, Phil Splett, Tom Burk

2004



Sitting, left to right: Greg Schulz, Zach Laursen, Samantha Wangsgard, Kala Peebles, Tom Anez, Nick Perry **Kneeling, left to right:** Dustin Jacobson, Dorian Hasselmann **Back, left to right:** Joseph Hansen (TA), Dan Wiley, Phil Splett, Lucas Miller, Mark McElroy, Matt Whitmore, Bill Hakala, Jennifer Hoffman, Monica Zachay, Karl Mueller, Tom Burk, Josh Muchow, Andrew Fyten, Adam Fisher, Pouya Najmaie, Michael Lankton, Rebecca Montgomery, Jon Martin (TA)

2005



Front, left to right: Philip Potyondy, Zach Chamberlain, James Fisk, Terry Serres, Josh Beiningen **Middle, left to right:** Jamie Hallen, Brandon Gallagher, Amber Ellering, Rebecca Price, April Colligan, Marisa Capezzuto, Katherine Kimball, Kala Peebles (TA), Leah Rathbun (TA) **Back, left to right:** Rebecca Montgomery, Reid Nelson, Chris Gronewold, Andrea Dierich, Hugh McElroy, Tom Burk, Ryan Brubaker, Josh Donatell, Dan Van Stelten, Mark MacPhail, Ben Patnode, Ryan Gerardy, Kara Grones, Lori Golithly, Katherine Christensen, Phil Splett

2006



Front, left to right: Kala Peebles (TA), Nate Anderson, Sarah Prentice, Margeurite Pettus, Teegan Wydra, Alex Vollmer
Second row, left to right: Leah Rathbun (TA), Mark Westphal, Justin Hartzell, Tiffany Triggs, Joseph Thompson, Megan Bowdish
Back, left to right: Ryan Mulvihill, Tom Burk, Drew Peterson, Jason Dean, Elizabeth McCarthy, Pamela Herou, Mike Dyste, Lori Knosalla, Janelle Frick, Sterling Malcomson, Troy Holcomb, Adam Knorr, Andrew Erickson, Matthew Wakefield, Ben Gosack, Jacob Boeshans, David Schuster, Stephan Papiz, Rebecca Montgomery

2007



Front, left to right: Joe Norcross, Rebecca Montgomery, Sarah Belcher, Andrea Hess, Sarah Dacy, Krista Starn, Brita Franz, Michelle Martin (TA)
Middle, left to right: Matt Kessler, Rebecca Dierich, Mike Reinikainen, Bridget Helwig, Erin Baumgart, Mike Haubrich, Lisa Held, Katie Kove (TA), Jessica Ebensteiner
Back, left to right: Emma Schultz, Tom Burk, Roger Kochevar, Ben Conti-Masanz, Charles Eckman, Liam McClannahan, Luke Reese, Adam Flett, Zach Hylinski, Phil Splett, Phil Jubert, Ricky Bokovoy

2008



Front, left to right: Katie Kove (TA), Mollie Thiet, Sonya Ewert, Sarah Gunderson, Brittney Wedgewood, Dan Ek, Peter Dieser
Back, left to right: Rebecca Montgomery, Dan Lamere, Brandon Wiarda, Kell Hansen, Erin Strom, Michelle Hansen, Sam Petska, Danny Thompson, Blair Olson, Meghan Karschnia, Luther Overholt, Maura Conlin, Kat Larson, Eric Otto, John Segari, Tom Burk

2009



Front, left to right: Emily Hanson, Davin Shokes, Michelle Cummings, Luke Woeste, Kathryn Switalski
Middle, left to right: Rebecca Dorff, Ferron Fisher, J.T. Meier, Hannah Fisher, Rachael Nicoll, Paul Sowers, Rebecca Montgomery
Back, left to right: Phil Splett, Terry Serres (TA), Erika Wertz, Tracy Merth, Celie Borndal, Roy Franklin, Chad Roy, John Zobel (TA), Steve Rudolf, Tom Burk