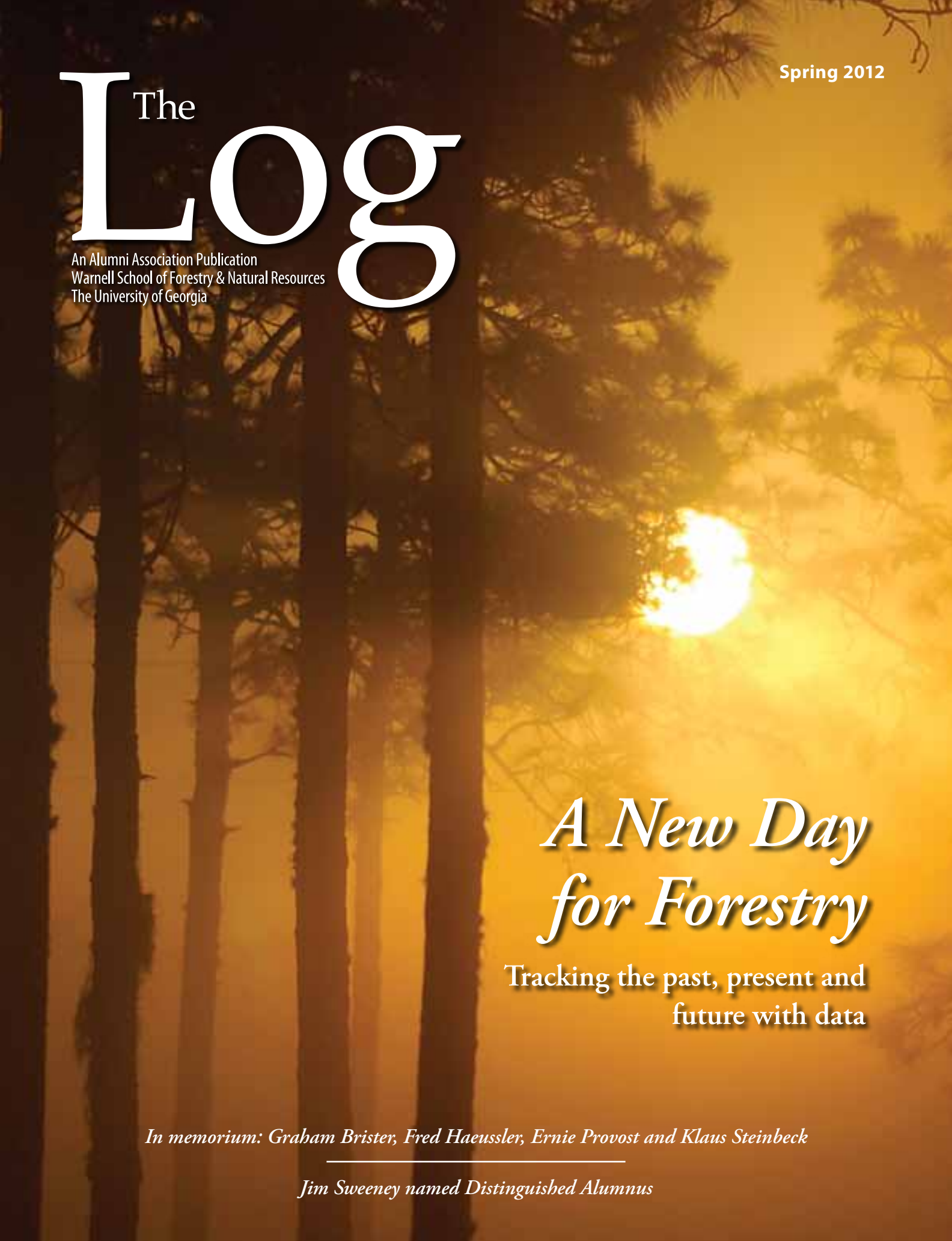

Spring 2012

The Log

An Alumni Association Publication
Warnell School of Forestry & Natural Resources
The University of Georgia

A New Day for Forestry

Tracking the past, present and future with data

In memorium: Graham Brister, Fred Haeussler, Ernie Provost and Klaus Steinbeck

Jim Sweeney named Distinguished Alumnus

A 'Plum' Good Game

Thank you to our sponsors! Plum Creek hosted its third annual charity golf tournament in November, once again bringing a significant windfall to two Warnell School funds: $20,000 for the Provost Graduate Scholarship and $59,000 for the Center for Forest Research Graduate Assistantship Support Fund. The tournament was not only a fundraising success, but dozens of golfers enjoyed a brisk morning at The Georgia Club just outside of Athens. "We had a great day of golf, and I had the opportunity to practice my swing many times," said Dean Mike Clutter. "Thanks to Plum Creek and all of the sponsors that have made this event so successful. We look forward to September 29, 2012, for next year's event."

Special Thanks to our Tournament Co-hosts:

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Nov. 28-29	**Estate Planning for Forest Landowners**, Georgia Center
Dec. 3	**Timber Income Tax**, Georgia Center
Dec. TBA	**Deer Ecology and Management**, Flinchum's Phoenix

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Remembering those who helped build Warnell

As many of you know, our forestry program is one of the oldest in the United States and the oldest continuously-operating program in the South, an area of the country where forestry and natural resources makes a considerable contribution to the economic and social well-being of the region. Warnell has educated several generations of natural resource managers — individuals who have contributed to and strengthened Warnell's mission over the years. Sadly, we have lost some of those who helped build our programs after World War II. In this issue, we review the careers of several individuals who made a huge difference to our school.

Ernie Provost was generally recognized as being one of the best teachers to ever be associated with Warnell. While I was in school here in 1983, I shared an office with another student who had taken Dr. Provost as an undergraduate. This person relayed to me the difficulty of Dr. Provost's multiple "guess" exams and mentioned that he had not done well in the class — making the worst grade he had ever made in college, a D. He then quickly said that Dr. Provost was the best teacher he had ever had during his educational career. Puzzled by this apparent inconsistency, I asked how he reconciled the grade with his statement. What came next was story after story about how Dr. Provost engaged and excited students in the classroom. While many did not perform well, we all left with a life-long understanding of his contribution to our education. We will miss "Uncle Ernie."

Klaus Steinbeck was, for many of us, that individual who helped us understand the practical ramifications of our forestry decisions. He provided a generation of foresters with the silviculture education needed to be successful in our careers. But along the way, Klaus provided much more — an appreciation for our chosen profession, the importance of respect and collegiality, and a great respect for the resources we are charged with managing. But most importantly he taught us how to grow trees.

For those of us who had the opportunity to know **Graham Brister**, he was a quiet man with many insights — if you listened carefully to his suggestions. He was a masterful teacher that was comfortable taking complex quantitative information and breaking it down into manageable and understandable methods. With a wealth of forestry knowledge collected from his many years of working around the world, he provided us with an understanding of the breadth and depth of our chosen field.

I had the opportunity to know **Fred Haeussler** early in my career while a forester at Union Camp in Savannah, Ga. Fred was proud to be a forester and proud to be a Dawg! He was the president of our professional society (SAF), a strong champion of foresters and forestry, and one of the most enthusiastic supporters of our profession. Fred loved nothing more than talking to folks about being a forester and all of the responsibilities that go with our profession — Fred loved being a forester.

We will miss these guys and the impacts they have had on us and our profession.

Mike Clutter

Mike Clutter,
Dean, Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources

FEATURES

IN EVERY ISSUE

On the cover:
The sun rises over a pine tree stand in the Southeast U.S. The forest industry is seeing a new future as it evolves with changing material demands and consumer use. Photo by Paul Crate.

Table of Contents photo:
A herd of impalas, African antelopes, are seen at sunset during a study abroad trip to Botswana last year. The program was Warnell's first to the sparsley-populated country, and it will continue in summer 2012.Photo by Tyler Geitner

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How are we doing?
We welcome letters to the editor and feedback from our readers. Submit news items, questions or address changes to:

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The Log
Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources
180 E. Green St.
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602
THE LOG is an Alumni Association publication. It is published twice a year in the fall and spring.

Warnell on the Web:
www.warnell.uga.edu

New faculty joins the Warnell School

Three new faculty members have joined the Warnell School. **Drs. Brian Irwin, Elizabeth King and Clint Moore** are rounding out our faculty, each ading their own unique expertise to the Warnell School's award-winning research efforts.

Brian Irwin

Dr. Brian Irwin is joining the Warnell School and Georgia Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, where he is assistant unit leader in fisheries. He arrives from Michigan State University, where he had been a fixed-term assistant professor. Irwin previously held a post-doctoral research position with the Quantitative Fisheries Center (MSU) and received his Ph.D. in natural resources from Cornell University, a master's degree from Auburn University, and a bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois. The overarching goal for his research program is to better understand ecological processes and decision making linked to the conservation and management of natural resources. His recent research has relied on constructing quantitative models as descriptions of aquatic systems and fisheries management, including working with both retrospective and prospective models. "The mission of the Warnell School is very motivating to me," said Irwin. "I look forward to collaborating with our partners, other faculty and staff to help train students interested in confronting the challenges and questions posed by ongoing ecological changes, varied stakeholder values, the exploitation of natural resources, and connecting science to real-world problem solving."

PHOTO BY SANDI MARTIN

Elizabeth King

PHOTO BY SANDI MARTIN

Dr. Elizabeth King has come to UGA with a joint position with the Warnell School and Odom School of Ecology. King was most recently a postdoctoral research associate at Princeton University, lecturing in the department of ecology and evolutionary biology. She earned her bachelor's degree from Reed College in 1993, master's in 1998 and Ph.D. in 2004 from the University of California, Davis. King is a former Fulbright Scholar, and she has focused her research to date on rangeland ecology, restoration and management. "Today, we can find the signatures of human activity everywhere on the planet," King said. "Natural resource management is the gatekeeper between impacts that yield great benefits to societies, and those that threaten the very livelihoods, economies and ecosystem services we all depend on. I think this makes the study of natural resources one of the most important sciences of today. It's an honor to join Warnell, a leader and powerhouse of research, education and outreach in this arena."

Clint Moore

Dr. Clint Moore (BSFR '82, PhD '02) has joined the Georgia Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit as an assistant unit leader and adjunct assistant professor. His research interest is in the understanding and scientific management of wildlife populations and their habitats, with a focus on the development and application of statistical, biological modeling, and decision analytic tools. Moore is not new to Warnell. He has previously been a graduate research assistant and earned two degrees at Warnell. Before joining the Cooperative Unit based here, he was a statistician with the U.S. Geological Survey's Patuxent Wildlife Research Center for a decade. When he came to Warnell as an undergrad, he said, he was a kid from metro Atlanta who wanted to "build roads through the woods." Warnell changed his mind, leading him to wildlife management and research, and instilling an interest in how the two disciplines can be linked to make efficient conservation decisions. "The appeal of this line of work is that it allows me to work in all areas where conservation decisions are made, from re-establishing endangered species, to sustainably harvesting game species, to reducing populations of undesired species," he said. "I continue to look into these questions as I transition to my new role in the Georgia Cooperative Unit. Through my interaction with graduate students and faculty in Warnell, I hope to give something back to the family that started me off so well."

PHOTO BY SANDI MARTIN

PHOTO BY THEAR KIRK FRALEY

New Oysterfest raises money for club

The University of Georgia Student Chapter of the American Water Resources Association hosted its first-ever OysterFest at Flinchum's Phoenix on Friday, Feb. 17. The new fundraiser was created to establish a fun, yearly tradition for members and colleagues and to bring awareness and new membership to the club. Funds will be used for attending and hosting a range of multidisciplinary, water-resources focused educational activities including seminars, field excursions, service-learning projects, and social networking opportunities. A special thanks to Bob Bahn and Matt Belflower for supplying the oysters and Andrea Fritts and the fish lab for lending the coolers.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Warnell staff recognized at Homecoming festivities

Three staff members were recognized at Homecoming festivities in 2011 for their service to the Warnell School. Michelle Dillard, Emily Saunders (BSFR '05, MNR '10) and Dustin Thompson (BSFR '95) won the annual Alumni Staff Awards, presented each year to an outstanding staff member who has been with the school for at least five years. Award winners are chosen from nominations sent in by anyone in the school.

Dillard, an accountant in the school's fiscal office, has been with Warnell since 2002 but has worked for UGA for more than 26 years. Married to Jeff Dillard, she said she appreciates the support of her coworkers. "It makes your job easier when you have such a great group to work with," she said.

Thompson gets a broad Warnell experience with his job as forest resources manager. His office is at B.F. Grant Forest, but he works on all of Warnell's properties. He's also put in many years of service to the school, starting out as a student worker before moving into a full-time position after graduating in 1995. He has been married to Lisa for 17 years, and the couple has two children, 13-year-old Caitlyn and 10-year-old Madisen. "I appreciate the award very much," he said.

Saunders doesn't just work at Warnell — she's an alumna as well. The school's student and career services coordinator,

PHOTO BY SANDI MARTIN

L-R: Emily Saunders, Dustin Thompson and Michelle Dillard

Saunders is the person students go to for resume, interview and job placement help. She also organizes school events, helps with recruitment, and oversees scholarship applications. She and husband Andrew (BSFR '05, MFR '07) hope their daughter Riley will be part of Warnell's graduating class of 2033. "Anyone who knows me knows that I love this school," she said. "Our students and alumni are so passionate about natural resources, and I am constantly impressed by their accomplishments. As any new mom will tell you, balancing work and family is a challenge, but I am so fortunate to love my job and the people I work with so much. It's wonderful to be recognized as a valuable member of the Warnell family."

Forestry, wildlife clubs bring home Conclave championships

IT WAS A SIGN. On the way to NC State University to compete in the 2012 Forestry Conclave, forestry club member Carl Della Torre heard the song "We Are the Champions" play on the radio. And that's exactly what both the UGA Forestry Club and the UGA student chapter of the Wildlife Society are: champions. Both teams came back to Athens with top prize trophies, winning both conclaves overall. And both took home other first place awards.

The UGA Forestry Club placed first in both technical and physical events, with 16 Warnell students competing in multiple events. The Wildlife Society's UGA student chapter also impressed judges at the Southeastern Wildlife Conclave in Tennessee, placing first in quiz bowl and team competition.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF DANIELLE HERNANDEZ

The UGA Forestry Club

FORESTRY INDIVIDUAL PLACEMENTS:

- 2nd place, mens' crosscut saw: Team captain Daniel Atkins and Carl Della Torre
- 3rd place, women's bow saw: Lauren Austin
- 2nd place, pole classification; 3rd place, men's bow saw: Eric Biang
- 3rd place, women's crosscut saw: Danielle Hernandez and Michelle Jennings
- 2nd place, log birling; 2nd place, pole climb: Tyler Lock
- 3rd place, timber estimation: Ethan Robertson
- 1st place, wildlife: Noah Shealy and Briana Williams
- 2nd place, photogrammetry: Caleb Skipper
- 3rd place, dendrology: Robin Studdard
- 2nd place, log chop; 3rd place, Stihl Man competition: Carl Della Torre

The Wildlife Society's UGA student chapter

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ANNALIESE ASHLEY

WILDLIFE INDIVIDUAL PLACEMENTS:

- 1st place, quiz bowl: Cody Seagraves, Aaron Mathys, Camille Beasley, John Rossow, Annie Davis
- 1st place, essay: Ashley Alred
- 1st place, dendrology: Matthew Walter and Camille Beasley
- 1st place, game calling, "other" category: Courtenay Conring
- 1st place, freeform art: Matthew Walter
- 1st place, color photography: Annaliese Ashley
- 1st place, trail camera photography: Abby Prieur
- 3rd place, archery: Swanny Evans
- 3rd place, flycasting: Rob Dukes

Water certificate program expands to graduate students

A program that boosts student understanding of our water resources is now attracting graduate students after years of being open only to undergrads. Since being approved by the Board of Regents last fall, the Graduate Water Resources Certificate Program already has seven graduate students signed up to earn the credit, which hopes to train students how to manage our water supply for an ever-expanding population while also protecting its long-term ecological health. It is an interdisciplinary program that is ultimately reflected on students' transcripts. This program, said Warnell's Dr. Todd Rasmussen, helps make students a "jack-of-all-trades" when it comes to knowledge of water resources.

Since beginning about 10 years ago, 41 undergraduate students have earned the certificate. Before the development of this program, students interested in fleshing out their environmental-based degrees with water resources training would have to either choose a specific major that would lead them to those classes, or opt to minor in that field, requiring a significant number of credit hours that the student may not have been able to spare. The certificate program boosts students' water resources education and gives them a bonus for their resumes. It is also a boon for employers, Rasmussen explained, because they then get workers who have more well-rounded knowledge. "We are trying to show the broader impacts a water resources manager needs to know," Rasmussen said.

The Warnell School hosts the water certificate program, but it is supported by more than 100 faculty members across campus. Any student in any school on campus can sign up for the program. Students who opt to earn this certificate must take classes in five of six categories and ultimately complete 18 credit hours total from an approved list of courses that relate to the curriculum. The program is also part of an effort to create more understanding of water resources and how they are affected by human behavior. UGA now has a website — water.uga.edu — dedicated to highlighting publications and resources related to teaching and research of this field. "We are trying to build up awareness of water on campus and around the state," Rasmussen said.

For more information about the Water Resources Certificate Program, visit

water.uga.edu

5 questions with Steven Castleberry

Steven Castleberry

Current Position: Professor of Wildlife Ecology and Management

Education: B.S. and M.S. from Warnell, Ph.D. from West Virginia University

Teaching: Vertebrate Natural History and Mammalogy

Personal: Wife Nikki, daughters Makenzie and Kadie

You're studying the little researched Northern Yellow Bat to determine habitat use and roosting ecology. Why has this bat been ignored for so long and why the interest now?

Bats in general were ignored for many years. People saw them as blood-sucking, rabies-carrying pests. I think we have turned a corner in getting people to realize that they serve valuable ecological functions such as regulation of insect populations, pollination and seed dispersal. With bat populations in general thought to be in decline, there is now interest in finding out more about all bat species. We don't know if yellow bat populations are declining or what effect habitat changes are having because we really don't know much about the species.

For many years you have been involved in research on the Allegheny Woodrat, which has seen a dramatic decline in its population over the last 40 years. What are your thoughts on stopping this decline?

Isolating the causes of the population declines has been elusive. The declines are thought to be caused by a combination of factors most of which have not been adequately investigated. Dr. Mike Mengak and I are currently looking at habitat influences on the genetic structure and diversity of populations in Virginia. Habitat changes may have genetically isolated local populations which can have detrimental effects. An understanding of how land use affects movements, and subsequently gene flow, will allow us recognize potential dispersal barriers and mitigate if necessary. This information is only one piece of a large puzzle, but will make an important contribution towards stopping the decline.

You and Dr. Joe Nairn are collaborating on a project to resolve the taxonomic uncertainty between two subspecies of fox squirrels, the southeastern fox squirrel and Sherman's fox squirrel. Why is it important that we do some DNA detective work to settle this genetic question?

With habitat loss and changes in land use, fox squirrels appear to be less common throughout Georgia than in the past. The subspecies that occurs throughout most of Georgia is the southeastern fox squirrel. Sherman's fox squirrel occurs mostly in Florida, but possibly in parts of south Georgia. Both states consider Sherman's a species of conservation concern. The issue is that no one knows where the range of Sherman's stops and the southeastern begins, or if they even represent different subspecies at all. The states can't effectively manage their fox squirrel populations without this basic information.

What led to your interest in these often berated animals? Bats and rats aren't the cuddliest species in the forest.

I guess beauty is in the eye of the beholder. They may get a bad rap, but they are critical components of natural systems. Without rats and mice there wouldn't be any of the charismatic species that everyone loves. I guess I see some similarities between them and myself. I tend to stay out of the limelight too.

As a mammal researcher, is there an issue that is particularly troubling to you?

White-nose syndrome in bats has the potential to have major ecological and economic impacts in the U.S. The disease is caused by an introduced fungus that causes bats to wake up during hibernation and use up their fat reserves. Most essentially starve to death before spring. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently estimated that about six million bats have been killed by the disease since 2006. At this point we can only guess at what impact the loss of these bats and their ecosystem service in regulating insect populations will have.

Catty Behavior

Camera project catches the real life of cats

When Kerrie Ann Loyd started watching the video footage cat owners handed over, she saw some surprising behavior captured by the collar cameras. She also saw some not-so-surprising behavior. There were cats who spent a lot of time unsuccessfully stalking birds and lizards. And some who were quite good at hunting down prey. There were lazy cats. Active cats. Cats who explored the neighborhood, and cats that never left their yard. Proof, Loyd said, that felines are just unpredictable. "You can't lump them together and say this is what cats are doing outdoors," she said.

The "kitty cams" project has definitely proved to be interesting. Assistant Professor Sonia Hernandez first approached National Geographic in 2008 with her idea of attaching cameras to cat collars in light of recent public controversy over the potential negative effects of cats on native wildlife. Previous studies on cat predation were limited because researchers could only estimate how many animals were killed by cats because the felines don't always bring their prey back home where owners see them. By recording up to 12 hours of footage, this new technology helped fill gaps in predation research. "We were hoping that with direct observations we could better identify and quantify the types of wildlife cats were harassing or depredating, but also learn more about how owned, free-roaming cats spend their days and what risks they might encounter," Hernandez said.

National Geographic, which may produce a documentary using this research, redesigned existing "critter cams" to fit the kitty cams project. The cats' owners downloaded the footage each night to a portable hard drive that they eventually turned over to Hernandez and Loyd, a graduate student. Researchers ended up with 55 felines with enough footage to analyze, all in the Athens area, ranging from urban to rural cats. On average, the cats were outside six hours per day, and they recorded about seven to 10 days of footage for each cat. Some of the results:

- The video footage captured just 39 predation events, showing that a minority of owned cats are hunting, although those that do hunt can be very destructive. Some of the hunter cats were killing wildlife five times per week. One owner discovered that her cat killed two birds in her yard in one day.
- Green lizards called anoles are the most common cat prey in Athens, followed by mammals, invertebrates and then birds.
- Four out of 55 cats were "cheating" on their owners, meaning they would go to another person's house and get all the perks of being their pet, including petting and food. In one instance, Loyd said, "they were putting this cat on the phone with people."
- No two cats were alike. Some were very active and explored, while others never strayed far from home. "You'd be surprised how much time some cats spend on the porch waiting for their owners to come home," Loyd said.

Loyd has finished analyzing the videos and is now doing a statistical analysis of the different behaviors and events that were caught on video. The team is specifically interested in any interactions cats had with other wildlife and any risky behavior or situations the cat encountered, such as running across a road or coming across other strange cats. "One thing I saw cats doing that I didn't expect was them eating and drinking things away from home, like going down into storm drains and drinking runoff," Loyd said.

Plenty of Room For Trees:

Study finds empty urban areas ideal for carbon storage

As bad as its air quality is, Atlanta's smog could be worse. Researchers have found that 1.2 million metric tons of carbon dioxide is stored in millions of trees that make up its urban forest. Urban forests are a great way to implement carbon sequestration programs. And a recent study conducted by Drs. Jacek Siry, Pete Bettinger, and Krista Merry found that there is a substantial area of urban land that can be planted with trees and help reduce atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases.

More than 150,000 acres are in or near 15 cities in the Piedmont region of the southern U.S. alone. Should the U.S. develop a sustainable and efficient urban forest carbon credit trading program, knowing where to plant trees will be invaluable. Their research indicates that should those empty acres be used for forest carbon sequestration, it could potentially remove substantial amounts of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Although forest carbon credit programs around the world have been evolving slowly due to unfavorable regulations carbon trading remains a viable method of reducing greenhouse gases while also offering a potential revenue stream for cities selling the credits. In an effort to mitigate greenhouse gases, several broad initiatives have been put forth around the world and in the U.S., including an emissions trading program that turns carbon credits into an international commodity. With carbon credits, companies and people can pay to be allowed to emit carbon dioxide. However, carbon credits and carbon markets — formalized by initiatives like the Kyoto Protocol and European Union's Greenhouse Gas Emission Trading Scheme — are riddled with roadblocks and problems. The U.S. never signed onto the Kyoto Protocol, and although there is no national cap on carbon emissions, the Environmental Protection Agency is still required to do something on this issue. Distracted by a poor economy, public support for carbon markets is waning.

As urban development continues to encroach upon existing forestland, it will lead to increased carbon emissions. Already, nearly 20 percent of Georgia forestland is located within metro areas. But it also shows that urban forests could be key to carbon sequestration. Implementing an emissions trading program would be a good way to set standards for urban forest carbon sequestration.

Graphic Illustration by Wade Newbury

I Can't See My House from Here

Poor visibility a quandary for park managers

National park managers have a dilemma. People who visit national parks come for the clear air and scenic vistas. But a new Warnell study at the Great Smoky Mountain National Park has confirmed that poor visibility caused by bad air quality could be driving people away from this popular park, results that can shed light on how park managers around the country can attract new visitors with improved air quality.

Dr. Neelam Poudyal, an assistant professor of natural resource recreation and tourism, chose the Great Smoky Mountain National Park because it has the most visitors in the nation with more than nine million annual visits. But it has also suffered from declining air quality, with the average national visual range dropping to just 25 miles from approximately 100 in its heyday. One recent study showed that on very hazy days during the summer season, visitors could see less than five miles. Despite being the most visited park in the country and being surrounded by rapid population growth, it has also seen considerable decline in the number of visitors. Poudyal says that if park managers improved average visibility in the Great Smoky Mountain National Park, it could bring up to one million additional visitors every year.

Poudyal noted that the park could also be affected by development nearby — three new coal-fired plants are being built within 186 miles of the park, and more than a dozen already exist within the park's airshed. "Development and air pollution may further deteriorate the visibility at Great Smokey in the future," Poudyal said. "A bigger challenge for park managers is that the sources of pollution lie outside the park boundaries where park service and park managers have no control."

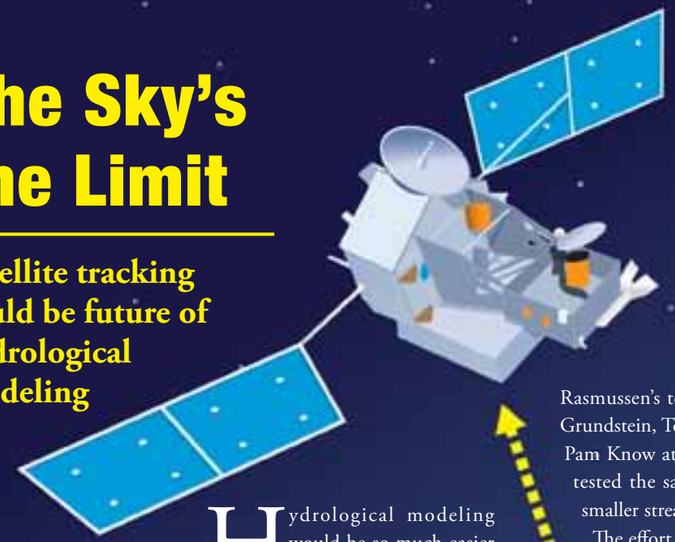
Poudyal looked at whether impaired visibility affects visitation at the Great Smoky Mountain National Park, estimated the long-run elasticity of visitation demand, and quantified the benefit of visibility improvement programs in terms of visitors. He looked at monthly visitation data from March 1988 to December 2009, visibility information from the Interagency Monitoring of Protected Visual Environments and data collected by the National Park Service.

What he and co-author Dr. Gary Green found was that emissions from power plants, automobiles and wildfires affected visibility and then had a corresponding effect on visitation to the park. So what can we do? "Complete restoration of natural visibility may be difficult if not impossible to obtain, but most of the haze-causing pollution are human induced," Poudyal said. "They can be minimized with effective government regulation and market-based incentives for power plants and auto industries to install or adopt cleaner technologies."

Photos courtesy of Interagency Monitoring of Protected Visual Environments

The Sky's the Limit

Satellite tracking could be future of hydrological modeling



Hydrological modeling would be so much easier, Dr. Todd Rasmussen knows, if only researchers could get the data they need for every place they need it from. Modeling allows researchers to anticipate water resource needs, manage water quality, and predict natural hazards. But for many regions, the data just aren't there — either because the area is too remote, or because a natural disaster has cut off the area. "We face enormous difficulties getting into disaster areas during and after large events, and this data is essential for knowing what's going on," said Rasmussen

So Rasmussen and his colleagues in Atmospheric Sciences at UGA are looking to the sky to assess what's on the ground. They are proposing that modelers use a system from NASA called Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission Multi-Satellite Precipitation Analysis (TRMM MPA) to track rainfall reaching the ground. The satellite project, funded by the U.S. Department of Energy, could help predict streamflow by remotely sensing meteorological observations needed for modeling. The study region for the project, which started in 2009, is currently targeting the Savannah River watershed, but will be extended to the entire Southeast and beyond.

Satellite tracking in science is not new. Researchers in other fields use it to track sea turtles and other wildlife, for instance. Should satellite tracking prove to accurately assess hydrological conditions on the ground, Rasmussen said, it could be useful in more than just making models. It can help predict natural hazards, such as floods and spills. "Being able to predict where and how fast a disaster unfolds provides vital information for first responders," said Dr. Rasmussen.

NASA's satellite program, which began in 1998, uses equipment that is 250 miles in the air. It measures precipitation 16 times per day, every 92.5 minutes, by using a space-borne weather radar system much like those we now have on the ground. The advantage of the space-based weather system is that it covers the globe, and peering down from above provides better detail, especially in mountainous areas.

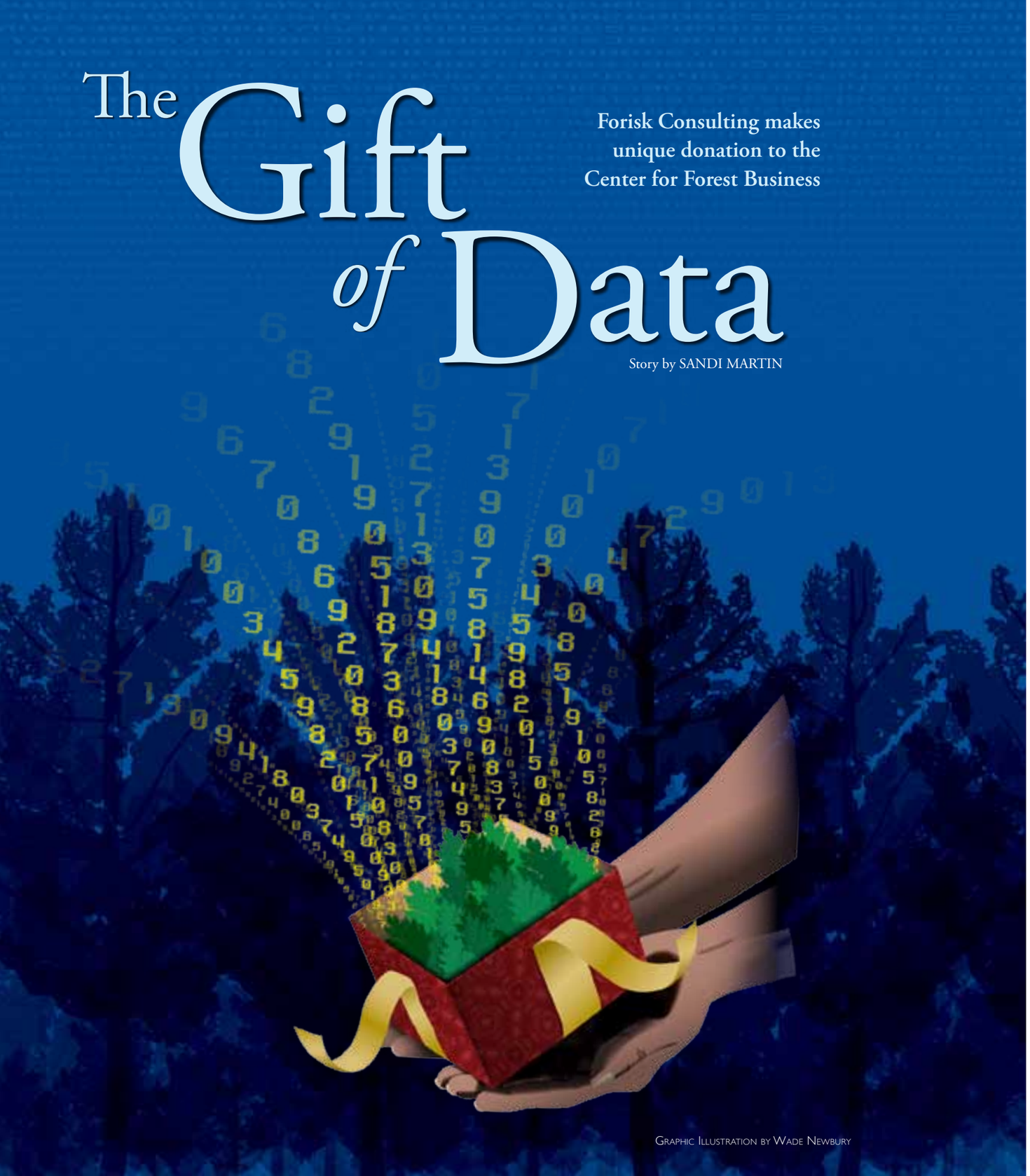
Rasmussen's team — which includes Professors Andrew Grundstein, Tom Mote, Marshall Shepherd, and John and Pam Know at the University of Georgia — have already tested the satellite on both the Savannah River and a smaller stream, Pen Branch, at the Savannah River Site. The effort compares ground-observed streamflow with forecasts from space, and, in some cases, has found errors in the ground-based data. This implies that the space-based method may be more accurate — and cheaper — than ground-based methods. But there are many other reasons why remotely sensing hydrological conditions is beneficial. Because rugged terrain and other inaccessible areas often mean scarce data, satellites can offer near real-time information. "Satellites provide high-resolution information from remote areas that contribute to major damage in urban areas," Rasmussen said. "Our goal is to tap into this information in order to prepare and respond to disasters of the future."

Graphic Illustration by Wade Newbury

The Gift of Data

Forisk Consulting makes unique donation to the Center for Forest Business

Story by SANDI MARTIN



Graphic Illustration by Wade Newbury

Brooks Mendell had a quandary. His company, Forisk Consulting, had pioneered a unique Wood Demand Research Program that tracks and analyzes raw material consumption by forest companies and manufacturers across the U.S. And now it was so big he wasn't quite sure what to do with it. "At some level the research supports a lot of our consulting and publishing, but it's also a program built to support ongoing research in a way that we are not in a position to take advantage of," he said.

So he gave it to the Center for Forest Business. Donating this program to the Center for Forest Business was the smart move, he said, because the Warnell School has researchers with the depth and breadth to utilize the program's full potential: to build cross-state models of how the forest industry works and to evaluate forest industry investments over time. "Warnell has the forest economic horsepower and credibility to address these questions. At the end of the day, that's what the forest industry and grant-giving institutions are asking for," Mendell said.

The Brown Valuation Group valued Forisk's donation at $204,000. There are 140,000 lines of data already in the database, compiled and updated quarterly from volunteered information from 3,600 mills across the U.S. The donated database allows researchers to see where the forest industry has been — and where it's going.

A UNIQUE GIFT

Mendell (PhD '04) began the data collection in 2005 because, well, it simply did not exist. "No one had a detailed understanding of how much wood the forest industry used at the local level," he said. "We do now." The data gathered by Forisk helps show how changes in wood use by mills affect local stumpage prices and timberland investments. Since expanding nationally, Forisk's program includes data that help create Shapefiles showing locations and raw material usage throughout the United States.

Dean Mike Clutter said the data donation will certainly help redefine ongoing economics research. "These data provide additional information about the timber supply, demand and price relationships that exist here in the United States," Clutter said. "When we couple these data with Warnell's Timber Mart South price data we can test a variety of important hypotheses concerning the formation of prices for raw forest products. Warnell forest economists will benefit from having these data available to enhance our economics and finance research."

The Wood Demand Research Program generates income for the Center for Forest Business in two ways. One, it generates subscription revenues from its Shapefiles and Wood Demand Report products. Two, it supports and attracts grants and other types of research funding. Currently, firms that own and manage nearly 30 million acres of timberlands in the U.S. use Forisk's Shapefiles. Tim Sydor (PhD '05), who managed the Wood Demand Research Program at Forisk, has joined Warnell as a research scientist to maintain the program and Shapefiles for the Center for Forest Business. The program gathers up-to-date data daily and puts out a quarterly report that is provided free to mills that participate as data providers. Others can order a subscription. "It provides us with a very good feeling of the health of the industry, the ups and downs, how different markets and different states respond to changes in end uses in lumber," Sydor said. The forest industry, he said, is definitely undergoing a change.

LOOKING BACK TO SEE THE FUTURE

Center for Forest Business Director Bob Izlar has watched the forest industry change how it does business — and the business of making money changed with it. To understand the future of forestry, he said, you have to understand its past. Until the 1980s, he said, traditional forest products companies — those that owned both timberland and mills — were in a bit of a pickle. They managed millions of acres of forestlands nationwide, but

they were being hampered by red tape. Financial accounting rules forced them to carry timberland on their books at the original purchase price — not the current fair market value. "This might mean that Union Camp carried thousands of acres of Georgia forests acquired in 1928 on its books at $1 an acre, when the retail value might be 500 to 1,000 times that or more," he said. So they made the business decision to sell off their timberland, contracting with private forestland owners to supply pulp and paper mills in the Southeast.

A new ownership class arose. Beginning in earnest in 1995 and peaking in 2011, more than 40 million acres of U.S. timberland changed hands. Most went to real estate investment trusts (REITs) like Plum Creek and Rayonier, timber investment management organizations (TIMOs), and private investors. Southern timberland alone accounted for about $24 billion in land sales. "The impact on the forested landscape and management has been at the 'sea change' level," Izlar said. "We have a completely new ownership class with different end objectives."

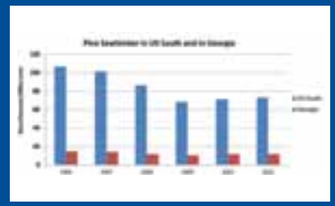
Major forestry player Weyerhaeuser finalized its conversion to REIT status in 2011, signaling the end of publically-held, vertically-integrated forest products companies. Forest companies had actually been in a state of flux since the 1970s, Izlar explained, when a trend began of traditional businesses either merging with each other or acquiring others through hostile takeovers. "Manufacturing operations were consolidated or restricted to specific product lines," he said. "Mills were shuttered to maintain market share. This was not a trend mirrored by foreign forest products firms. As the forest products industry went through this long, painful process of first consolidation and then disintegration particularly in pulp and paper manufacturing, part of the industry was reinventing itself. New products like Parallam, Scrimber, Oriented Strand Board, Waferboard, Medium Density Fiberboard and other engineered wood products gained market share from plywood, veneer and sawtimber."

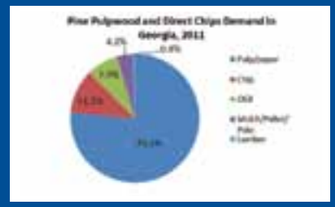
Bob Izlar, Director of the Center for Forest Business

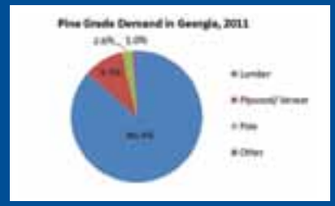
Globalization, however, has also had a major impact on the forest industry. In the late 1970s, American companies began shipping southern pine chips to Japan and Sweden. When Asia became a global player, "it suddenly became important in Laurens County what the Japanese stock market was up to on a daily basis. Since then, countries in the Southern Cone have become our competitors in forest products even using the same species," Izlar said.

Mike Clutter, Dean, Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources

Dr. Brooks Mendell (pictured, left) created the Wood Demand Research Program because "no one had a detailed understanding of how much wood the forest industry used at the local level. We do now."







(Above) Example of data from the Wood Demand Research Program

Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, South Africa, and Oceania have all taken places in the global market. Specialty producers in places like northern Sweden and Austria are our trading partners. Many reasons are given for the rise in globalization, including transportation, labor, technology, and restrictive government regulations. "It is true that these and other factors contribute to globalization and tend to make one nation or region more competitive than another," Izlar explained. "However, there is one major factor at play that can make or break any deal and that is foreign exchange." As currencies have become more volatile through time, an international trader's competitiveness can also wax and wane on currency fluctuation. "If the U.S. dollar strengthens, we can buy more of a foreign currency per dollar and vice versa," he said. "Exchange rates affect prices, investment returns and investment activities."

According to Izlar, the U.S. South is still the world's low-cost producer. "Contrary to prevailing opinion, we have productive forests close to markets, a strong land ethic amongst private owners, generally favorable government regulation and a healthy forest industry," he noted. "Sure, we are highly dependent on housing and full recovery there may not come until late 2014, but the base remains strong."

FUTURE IS IN THE DETAILS

This is where the Wood Demand Research Program helps. The data in the program is invaluable to timberland industry researchers, who can use it to estimate the health of the forest industry and track trends in wood usage and impacts on prices. The data compiled from the mills covers everything from pulpwood to an estimate of how much wood use is being used by bioenergy facilities in the U.S. Researchers are particularly watchful of bioenergy, which is new territory for an industry that has relied on housing construction and other traditional wood uses for its business.

Mendell said he thinks this program gives Warnell a national platform. "As researchers and analysts, we must do our best to 'know what's knowable' when helping forestry managers and timberland owners make investment decisions," he said. "The Wood Demand Research Program is unique in this way. It puts Warnell in a position to answer questions about the health of local forest industries in the South and anywhere else in the US."

*Graduate*PROFILE

Yenie Tran

Yenie Tran may not have started out in forestry, but even as a doctoral student she's got more experience in the industry than most of her peers. Tran, whose degree was in marketing from UGA's Terry College of Business, has nearly a decade working in forest policy issues in Washington, D.C. But that's not enough for Tran. She headed back to Georgia last year to get a quantitative edge to her already considerable forestry background. "I loved being in D.C., I loved working with landowners, I loved deepening the understanding between landowners and federal policy makers," Tran said. "So one of the reasons I came back was to deepen my own quantitative skills."

Tran, who grew up in Kennesaw, got her master's degree at American University in D.C., but she said her parents instilled a love of environmental stewardship in her before she ever discovered her love of forestry. Her parents, Chieu Tran and Yen Le, are from Vietnam and were farmers before immigrating to the U.S. in 1975. It wasn't easy for them to own farmland here, she said, "but they always taught me the value of land stewardship and land ethics, so that has always been important to me."

Tran, who is being advised by Dr. Jacek Siry in forest economics, said earning her Ph.D. will help strengthen her ability to decide how reports are biased and impactful. She has spent years working in forestry, natural resources and agricultural policy, getting her feet wet with the Pinchot Institute for Conservation and ultimately moving on to the National Association of Conservation Districts as a western issues and forestry specialist. It was at the Pinchot Institute that Tran was first introduced to forestry. "It was love at first sight," she said. "I haven't gone back since."

Tran is excited about the new work she'll be doing at Warnell, however. She's just joined an ongoing carbon research project with Drs. Siry and Neelam Poudyal, which looks into different facets of urban forests, including how to monetize carbon and the effectiveness and feasibility of carbon credits. She's specifically studying what cities and homeowners think of carbon credits and their willingness to pay.

PHOTO BY SANDI MARTIN

But Tran has another agenda in mind: Returning to D.C. and fighting misconceptions about the forest industry. "My bottom line goal is to be a better policy adviser, but to also look at legislation that affects forestry and look at it in more of a quantitative way," Tran said. "And hopefully when I'm done I can go back to D.C. and influence policy in a positive way, because I feel like there's a lack of understanding of forestry. We're fighting against people who think cutting down trees is bad, but it's so much more complicated than that."

*Undergraduate*PROFILE

Lauren Cameron

Lauren Cameron's not done with his undergraduate degree, but he's already looking to the future. The 21-year-old junior is already thinking of studying exotoxicology in graduate school once he earns his BSFR in water and soils. But Cameron's not adverse to hard work. The Indiana native is putting himself through school, carries a full class load, has two jobs and helps support his mother and three younger brothers.

It can be easy to fall behind, Cameron said, but he works hard to keep up with everything, even if it means sacrificing personal time with friends or hobbies and school clubs. "I make it work," he said. "I still manage to make good grades and have fun. I have also started working out every day to help destress." Cameron's mother, Renee, gets the credit, he said. "My mother always taught me to have a strong work ethic, and she would only be satisfied if I did my very best. And I have been a hard worker as a result."

Cameron's determined to put that same work ethic to use in both school and his ultimate career. He said he's wanted to work in the environmental field since high school, when a physics teacher encouraged him to compete in regional, state and national science fairs. While competing in the Georgia Junior Science and Humanities Symposium and as an International Sustainable World Energy Engineering Environment Project Olympiad, he worked on alternative fuel projects: one comparing the physical properties of biodiesel to gasoline and the other where he made biodiesel from algae. It really sparked his interest in water contamination issues. "Doing science competitions really got me into the environmental field," he said. "I chose water and soil resources because I am interested in pollution control and mitigation, and this major is the most closely related to my goals."

When he's not driving a campus bus or tutoring underprivileged kids in Athens through A-to-Z In-Home Tutoring, Cameron tries to find time for his mixed martial arts or watches anime. Once he finishes his undergraduate degree, Cameron plans to earn his master's degree at UGA and stay near his family in Moultrie, Ga., "because of logistic reasons. I have two well-paying jobs and it would be difficult to find jobs that pay as well somewhere else. Also, my mother has poor health, and I already live four hours away from home as it is. So I'm not really planning on going too far. Plus, I love Athens."

PHOTO BY SANDI MARTIN

Taiwan Tech Trek

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOYCE HUANG

By JOYCE HUANG

Wildlife Pre-Vet

Taiwan Trek Tech (TTT) is an internship and research program sponsored by the National Science Council of Taiwan. Through TTT, I served as an intern at the National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium in Pingtung, Taiwan.

Starting in late June, the program offers eight weeks of internships and/or research opportunities to 200-250 young adults of Taiwanese descent. It offers a variety of opportunities in government agencies and research institutions, so numerous types of majors can apply. The purpose of this program is not only to provide various internships and/or research opportunities, but to also increase competitiveness within Taiwan's citizens for such opportunities, as well as to expose international applicants to Taiwan's culture.

During my internship, I interned in the coral lab under the direction of Dr. Tung-Yung Fan. I had the opportunity to work and assist the graduate studies and visiting researchers with their research projects. Some of the tasks that I was assigned was to take water parameters of the coral research tanks. Water parameters included pH, salinity, temperature, and light intensity. I learned a lot about the conditions that corals had to be kept in to reduce stress — which may lead to the more severe symptom of bleaching. Eventually, along with the other TTT interns, I conducted a coral larvae settlement project. The interns and I wrote a journal article that is currently in the publication process. After the competition of the internship, I presented the research the interns and I conducted in front of the National Science Council.

For the duration of the internship, I also had the opportunity to experience the local Taiwanese culture and cuisine through trips with the other students. We went to many local night markets — despite the small size in comparison to the cities' — that were crowded with street vendors and the residents. The aroma of food would waft through the streets and entice me to go to the vendor. Another amazing opportunity was learning how to open-water scuba dive. For the certification dives, I dived into the "Coral Garden," which contained hundreds of colorful corals and reef fish. The fish were friendly and didn't shy away, but instead they swarmed around when I had food in my hands! I even saw the corals that were used in the research lab.

Life on "Africa Time"

Last year, student John Rossow traveled to Botswana, Africa, for a month for the first-ever study abroad trip to one of the most sparsley-populated countries in the world. Led by Dr. John Carroll, the program will continue in summer 2012 with lessons on conservation issues and undertaking a camera study of aardvark dens.

By JOHN ROSSOW

Wildlife Pre-Vet

Whether it is the stunning panoramas, the unique cultures, or the breathtaking wildlife, traveling abroad to explore a foreign country for the first time is a remarkable experience. But to live that exploration out of a tent in the heart of the Botswana bushveld turns it into something truly extraordinary.

I knew I was in for the trip of a lifetime as my fellow classmates and I were being carried across the Limpopo River in a cable car, looking out over the water glistening with the reflected light of the sun, to be delivered into what seemed to be an entirely new world. The drive from the river to our camp within the Tuli Game Reserve revealed a flora and fauna that we had only seen in pictures and which I personally could not tear my eyes away from for a single minute of our journey. When I arrived in camp the sun had fully set and our group of 11 students, 2 TAs and a professor was introduced to the network of tents that served as our home-base by lantern light and headlamps alone. When I awoke the next morning to strange bird calls as the first rays of light touched the sky, I was able to watch the sun rise on a new world — one that I would live in and love for the next 27 days.

Life in the bush cannot be planned, and the unexpected can happen at any time, but as a group we started to live on "Africa Time" and learned to be ready to experience something new and unbelievable at any moment, whether seemingly life threatening or borderline religious in nature. From climbing to the top of Eagle Rock to witness a Verreaux's Eagle in flight on a day's game hike, to quietly observing a pack of hyenas and their cub from the safety of the Land Rovers, I was ready for any experience. When it came to fighting off an unknown bug that swept through camp or simply dealing with the unpleasantness that was an "Eco-loo," I learned to roll with the punches. It was the knowledge that each and every day would present another wonder just a short hike or game drive away that made the experience so exceptional.

I travelled to the wilderness of Botswana and had the adventure of a lifetime! Over the weeks I lived in the bush I learned to drive a stick-shift Land Rover on the wrong side of the dirt road, I played Frisbee in the sand of the dried up Motloutse River as kudu roamed the nearby hills, and I lived with 13 of the best people I've ever met in one of the most beautiful places I have ever seen. I will never forget the awe-inspiring sights of Botswana, and I will always long to return to a life on "Africa Time."

PHOTOS BY TYLER GEITNER

Something Old, Something New

Traditions keep Warnell special

By EMILY NUCKOLLS

One of my favorite aspects of working at the Warnell School has been seeing what it is like for our students to attend a small school on a big campus. I graduated from high school with a class of 100 and found myself a bit lost my first year at UGA — some of my freshman classes had more students than my entire high school! Further along in my education my class sizes rapidly dropped, but I never found that "small school" feeling that I had growing up and that Warnell students enjoy here. A smaller school means you truly get to know your classmates, professors and staffers recognize you by name in the hallways, and nobody can get away with skipping classes or slipping through the cracks. Students get a personalized education in a caring, supportive environment while enjoying all the resources of the larger university.

In such a close-knit community, traditions become bonding agents, uniting students across majors and graduating years. Whether you were helping to build the original Flinchum's Folley, enjoying a tailgate in the Mary Kahrs Garden, or will be working with the federal agencies going into our new research facility in Whitehall Forest, our land and buildings set us apart from other schools on campus and make a Warnell education unique. We also celebrate some Warnell specific traditions. Have you ever caught up with old classmates on a rocking chair out back at Flinchum's Phoenix during Homecoming? Did you participate in Forestry or Wildlife Conclave? Can you still taste the winning chili or mystery meat from a Chili Cook-off or Wildlife Dinner? Warnell graduates from every decade have stories and memories from these events — something that makes their time here special and wouldn't be possible in a larger environment.

While we continue these traditions to ensure future graduates get that same small school attention, we are excited to be adding new events, majors, buildings and opportunities to Warnell. I am proud to announce that this year we hosted our first Warnell Weekend, a two-day celebration for alumni as well as current students and their families. We hosted a tour of the school, took you back out to Whitehall Forest to try your hand at a lab class, and held a family friendly picnic out on our lawn. I hope this event will bring together students, new and old, and families to share in what it means to be a part of the Warnell Family.

Finally, I want to recognize the hard work of our Forestry Club officers in re-establishing the Cypress Knee yearbook, which has not been produced for many years. When students graduate, they will have a keepsake of their time here. We do, however, need alumni's help to sponsor this endeavor. Do you have a copy of your Cypress Knee at home? Would you be willing to help our future graduates have that same privilege?

As always my door is open. Drop me a line if you are in Athens, I would love to show you around our school; you can see what has changed and what will always, thankfully, stay the same.

Sincerely,

Emily Nuckolls

For additional information on Warnell traditions, helping sponsor the Cypress Knee, or upcoming Alumni events contact the Alumni Relations Office at (706) 542-7602 or enuckolls@warnell.uga.edu

PHOTO COURTESY OF PLUM CREEK

Distinguished Young Alumnus:

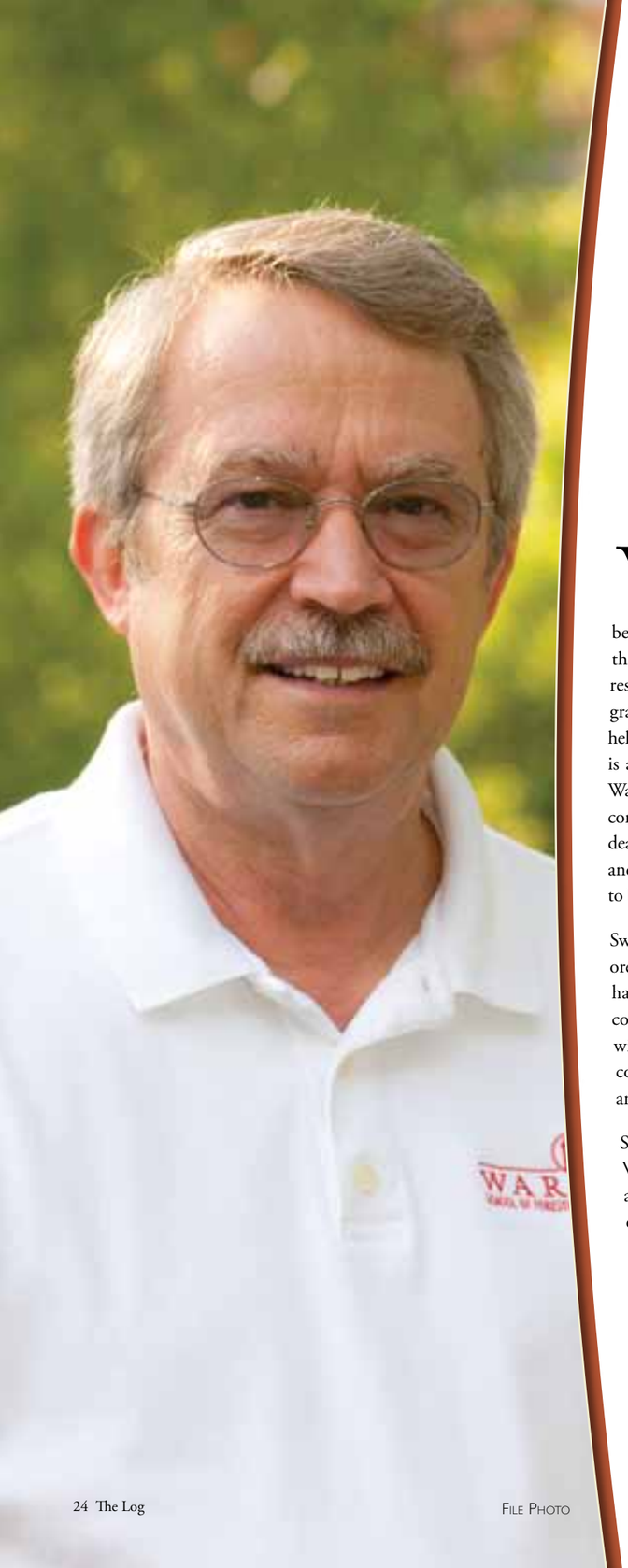
Grant Harvey

Grant Harvey didn't pick Warnell at first. The business track was the route he had chosen to follow, but quickly found the classes were not enjoyable. His grandfather had always encouraged him to pursue forestry, and after much pessimism he visited Warnell. "I greatly enjoyed the visit and knew it was the route I wanted to pursue, so I began taking the necessary courses for admission." That, he says, was a very good decision. Just six years after graduating, Harvey was recognized as one of the Warnell School's most promising young alums.

He was named the Warnell School's Distinguished Young Alumnus at the 2011 Homecoming festivities last October. Upon graduating from Warnell in 2005 with his BSFR, Harvey took a job with Plum Creek, and has quickly progressed through the company's ranks, starting off as a resource forester and moving up to his current position. As resource supervisor for Plum Creek's Brunswick, Ga., district, Harvey oversees the resources and financials for 350,000 acres. "It is a great job, with large amounts of responsibility," he says. "I love that my company trusts me to make decisions which can have a significant impact on our business. Forestry is one of the few industries that I think of where individuals are given such large amounts of authority over company assets."

His grandfather's advice to pursue forestry turned out to be a good choice for Harvey. And Harvey has some good advice for students still at Warnell: Find a good mentor. His is Todd Reitz, who hired him to work with Plum Creek but is now the unit manager in Mississippi. "Todd did things for me that I did not understand at the time," Harvey says. "He asked me to get involved in many projects, attend meetings and challenged me to lead projects. All of these things exposed me to more people and more of the business than I ever expected. I was quickly doing more than I ever imagined I would be doing when in school."

It is because of Plum Creek that Harvey met his wife Rachel. The couple met when she was working in the IT department in Athens, and he was frequenting the Plum Creek office here for GIS software system testing. The two married in 2009 and had a son, Weston, in 2010. A second son, William, followed in 2011, while the family was relocating to Coastal Georgia for his current position with Plum Creek. Harvey says the family is rounded out with their 3-year-old Vizsla. "I greatly enjoy bird hunting with him when I have the chance," he says. "I still fish and hunt every chance I get. I will trade any day of hunting or fishing to see my Warnell buddies."



File Photo

Jim Sweeney

Distinguished

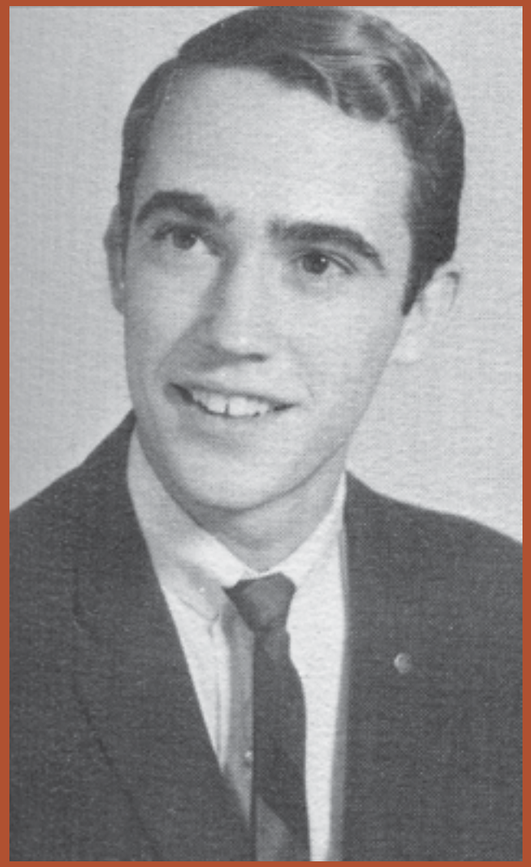
Alumnus

of the Year

When Dean Mike Clutter was looking over nominations for Warnell's Distinguished Alumnus Award, he didn't have to look far for an outstanding member of a former class. Dr. Jim Sweeney (BSF '67, MS '71) was right there in the building next door, overseeing the Warnell School's research and public service programs. Distinguished alums are graduates who have made significant contributions to the school, helping advance its teaching and community mission. Dr. Sweeney is a fine example of an alumnus that has greatly benefitted the Warnell School, said Clutter. "Jim Sweeney has been an important contributor to our success here at Warnell," he said. "As associate dean for research and service, Jim has helped direct our programs and improve our research and outreach efforts. We look forward to his continued involvement at Warnell."

Sweeney said the award was a pleasant surprise. "I am indeed honored to win this award," he said. "Looking back at the others that have been so recognized over the past, it is truly humbling that I could in some way be counted among that group." Previous award winners have included pioneers in the forest and natural resources community, such as Reid Parker, Harley Langdale, James Alfriend and Claud Brown.

Sweeney has been the associate dean of research and service at Warnell since 2002, even serving as interim dean for more than a year after Dean Arnett Mace took on the duties as Provost of the University. His distinguished career, which began at the University of Arkansas after he earned his doctorate in wildlife biology from Colorado State University in 1975, is peppered with numerous awards and recognitions. Sweeney has been in both the public and private sector, and his career includes a long stint in the U.S. Forest Service, several years as director of wildlife issues for the American Forest and Paper Association in Washington, D.C., and later as wildlife manager for Champion International Corporation, where he directed the fisheries and wildlife program on 5.5 million acres of commercial forest land. He's the author of more than 75 articles, an invited presenter at scientific meetings and workshops, and has been on national committees on everything ranging from biodiversity to the Endangered Species Act. Yet in 2002, he came back to where his love of forestry was nurtured.



Jim Sweeney is pictured above in the 1967 edition of the Cypress Knee

When Champion International was taken over by International Paper Company, Sweeney wasn't ready to take an early retirement. As luck would have it, Warnell was in the market for a new associate dean. "Bob Warren, whom I knew professionally, heard I was available and encouraged me to apply," Sweeney said. "I thought about it and decided it would be fun to go back to the institution that started me off on a very successful career and give something back to that program if I could."

Sweeney is not native to Georgia. He and his twin brother, John, grew up in Baltimore, Md. He attended an advanced engineering high school with the intention of becoming an engineer, inspired by the space race of the 1960s. "But this all changed after we took a career placement test in high school," he recalled. "The high school counselor met with us and told us our test results indicated we would be happier in a natural resources field like forestry." Neither he nor his brother had really been exposed to the idea that one could have a career in natural resources, having grown up in the city. But the idea grew on them, and they applied to forestry schools along the East Coast. "Georgia was high on our list, and both of us could attend for essentially the same price as one of us at some of the other northern schools," he said. "So we headed South and have never regretted it."

He and wife Sheila have made themselves at home since returning to Georgia. The couple met while they were both working at the U.S. Forest Service in Washington, D.C. "She swept me off my feet," Sweeney said. The last decade has been a pleasure. "It has been fun," he said. "Both my wife and I like the community, and I like my job. Being able to help a college program that is near and dear to my heart is rewarding."

Now Accepting Nominations for

Alumni Steering Committee, Young Alumnus Award & Distinguished Alumnus Award

If you would like to nominate an alumnus for the Steering Committee, visit our website, download and return your submission form to the Warnell Alumni Office.

If you would like to nominate an alumnus for Distinguished Alumnus please mail a letter of nomination to: Dean Michael Clutter, Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602. Young Alumnus nominees must have graduated from Warnell within the past 10 years and be under 40 years old.

All nominations are due September 28, 2012.

Contact Emily Nuckolls at (706) 542-0713 or enuckolls@warnell.uga.edu for information.

A Homecoming Success

It was a beautiful weekend for golf and football. Homecoming 2011 was a huge success, as dozens of alumni came back to Athens last November to tee off, celebrate at the annual alumni dinner and raise money for the Warnell School. Sponsors and golfers helped raise more than $11,000 during the Reid Parker Memorial Golf Tournament, which will help support the Center for Forest Business' Graduate Assistantship Support Fund. The golf tournament, held the Friday before the Homecoming game at the UGA Golf Course, was renamed last year to honor the longtime professor, who passed away in January 2011. The first tournament bearing his name was a success for the Warnell School.

It could not have been possible without the generous support from the following sponsors:

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Class Notes

1950s

Howard H. Jones Jr. (BSF ’57) recently donated some darts to the Warnell School. He writes that he found them while cleaning out some old records and memorabilia, and says, “At the time I was there, Professor Jenkins was trying to develop a dart gun to anesthetize wild animals, primarily deer. As one of his students, I was allowed to help by loading the darts which had been tooled in several different configurations. I could be wrong but I think we were using nicotine sulfate mixed with

honey and molding the mixture around the shaft of the darts. I believe we then had to refrigerate the loaded darts. The tails of the darts were dipped in reflective paint so they could be spotted in the dark with a strong flashlight … I have nothing but fond memories of my time at Warnell and will continue to support the school.”

1960s

Richard F. Masse (BSF ’65) has been retired from the military and U.S. government since 2000. He flew with the U.S. Navy and U.S. Air Force for 29 years. Upon retiring from the military, he took a job with the National Guard, Air Directorate and served as the first Natural and Cultural Resource Program Manager where he was responsible for writing policy and subsequent implementation of all related resource issues on Air National Guard bases and air-to-ground gunnery ranges. Since retirement, Mr. Masse and fiancée Carol Thomas have been traveling, visiting Europe, South America and the U.S. He now lives in St. Leonard, Md.

1970s

Ed Robie (BSFR ‘71) continues his career with the Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry in Norcross, Ga., but is now part-time. Wife Kate is now retired from her long career in the timberland investment business. Their son Jack deployed on March 11 to the USS Enterprise and is serving with the Red Ripper Squadron flying the F18/A Super Hornet. Their daughter-in-law, Maggie, is serving in the same carrier group as her husband. She flies the MH60 Seahawk and will be aboard the USS Supply. The Robies’ daughter Meg is a fourth year student in UGA’s landscape architecture program.

Dr. James L. Smith (BSFR ’76, MS ’79), who works for The Nature Conservancy, recently received a unique honor: The International Spatial Accuracy Research Association named an award after him, the “Early Career Scientist” award. To be given out every four years starting in 2014, the award will go to a young international researcher with significant potential to contribute to the spatial accuracy research community. The ISARA named the James L. Smith Medal for his past contributions to the field. Dr. Smith is a previous winner of the prestigious John Wesley Powell Award from the U.S. Geological Survey.

1990s

Chris Lynch (BSFR ’95) is currently living in Panama City and working for the St. Joe Timberland Company as a production forester.

Brian (BSFR ’99, MFR ’01) and **Kristen Stone** welcomed daughter Lorelai Leigh Stone on March 18 at 4:57 a.m. The newest addition to the Stone family weighed seven pounds, 13 ounces and was 20.5 inches long.

2000s

Sarah Fritts (BSFR ‘03) is now a Ph.D. student at North Carolina State University studying the efficacy of biomass harvesting guidelines at sustaining reptile, amphibian and small mammal populations.

Kevin Middlebrooks (BSFR ‘04) is currently working as an environmental scientist with CH2M HILL in their Atlanta office. He specializes in stream restoration and has designed and implemented projects throughout the Southeast in both urban and rural settings. His current responsibilities are working with Gwinnett County to help them implement stream restoration and stormwater treatment projects as a part of their watershed improvement plan. He lives in Decatur, Ga., with his dog Maggie.

Glenn (BSFR ’05, MS ’10) and **Hayden Martin** (MS ’10) welcomed daughter Jane Ivy Martin on March 16. She was 20.5 inches long and weighed eight pounds.

Parker (BSFR ’06) and **Tammie Bennett** welcomed son Grey on Oct. 12, 2011, at 12:50 a.m. He was seven pounds, three ounces and 20 inches long.

Kristen Felton Peney (BSFR ’07) graduated from Johns Hopkins University in December 2011 with a master’s degree in environmental science and policy.

Josh Goodman (BSFR ’10) married Lauren Ellerbee on Oct. 8, 2011. He is now employed with Milliken Forestry Company and resides with his wife in Cartersville, Ga.

Alums make Bulldog 100

Warnell alumni continue to impress in the business world. The UGA Alumni Association’s third annual “Bulldog 100: Fastest Growing Bulldog Businesses” program names two alumni-owned businesses as part of the 2012 rankings. The Warnell alums were honored at a prestigious ceremony in January for their savvy business management.

Monroe-based Zup Co. Inc. headed by **Mike Zupco IV** (BSFR ’95) came in at No. 33 this year, while **Stanford Huff** (BSFR ’80) landed at No. 93 with his co-ownership with other UGA alumni of Babush, Nieman, Kornman and Johnson LLP in Atlanta.

The Bulldog 100 rankings are compiled annually to recognize alumni who succeed post-graduation in business. To be considered for the program, an organization must have been in business for at least five years, have revenues of $100,000 or more for the calendar year 2007 and be owned or operated by a UGA alumnus. The program recognizes the fastest-growing businesses regardless of size by focusing on a three-year growth rate average. Atlanta-based CPA firm Gifford, Hillegrass and Ingwersen LLC ranked each company in order of the compounded annual growth rate to compile the top 100.

For more information, visit www.uga.edu/alumni/bulldog100.

Athletic Association Professorship in Forestry Created in Reid Parker’s Memory

The Warnell School is pleased to announce that the University of Georgia is creating a professorship in Reid Parker’s memory. A joint effort between the UGA Athletic Association and the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, this chaired professorship will support an individual in the general area of forest operations and management. The Athletic Association has chosen to provide $250,000 to honor the contributions Reid made to athletics at UGA, and the Warnell School is matching that, through contributions, to create a $500,000 fund to endow this professorship. We will be searching for the first recipient of this chair over the coming year.

Calling all Warnell grads!

Tell us what you’re up to these days, and we’ll send you a free Warnell School bumper sticker. Don’t forget to include your address!

Alumni Office
Warnell School of Forestry & Natural Resources University of Georgia
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In Memorium: Ernest Provost

Dr. Ernest E. Provost, one of Warnell's most beloved former professors, passed away on Friday, Nov. 25, 2011, at his son's home in Sylva, N.C. He was 90. Provost, fondly referred to as "Uncle Ernie," challenged Warnell students for more than 30 years as a wildlife professor. His outstanding career and notable teaching methods earned him numerous awards and accolades, including being named professor emeritus. Upon his retirement in 1991, he was recognized by students and colleagues who named an undergraduate scholarship in his honor. He was most recently honored again with the establishment of the Ernest E. Provost Graduate Support Fund. "Dr Provost has been repeatedly recognized as one of the best teachers to ever work at UGA," said Dean Mike Clutter. "His teaching style has been often mimicked but never as effectively as when Ernie was 'holding court.' He influenced a generation of wildlife students through his teaching and research. Fondly known as an 'ornery old cuss,' Dr. Provost knew how to push students to levels of achievement that we never imagined."

Dr. Provost was a native of Needham, Mass., and was the son of the late Ernest M. Provost and Martha Wilson Provost. Dr. Provost served in the South Pacific with the U.S. Marine Corps for three years during World War II. A zoologist, he earned his undergraduate degree from Purdue University and his master's degree and Ph.D. from Washington State University. Before joining UGA's faculty, Dr. Provost worked for the state of Washington as a game warden while at WSU. He joined UGA in in the 1960's with a joint position with the Warnell School and Department of Zoology, teaching for 31 years.

Provost's distinguished career was punctuated by recognition by his peers and students. The Georgia Department of Natural Resources honored him for 30 years of service providing instruction to conservation rangers through the UGA Center for Continuing Education. He was also the first recipient of the Crockford-Jenkins-Hayes Wildlife Conservation Award from the Georgia Wildlife Society and a former winner of the Outstanding Teaching Award from the Warnell School in the 1960s. Dr. Provost was an avid skeet shooter and held numerous national and world championship trophies and awards from his many years of participation in the sport. He was a lifelong member of the Athens Rifle Club.

Married to Marguerite Emily Bareiss in 1947, Dr. Provost is survived by two sons, Randall (Randy) Paul Provost, M.D., of Sylva, N.C., and Wayne Seton Provost of Bishop, Ga.; and five grandchildren, Joli Dawn Provost, Beverly Roberson-Provost, Nicholas Ernest Provost, Valerie Michelle Provost, and Renee Catherine Provost. The family requests that memorials be made to the E.E. Provost Undergraduate Fisheries and Wildlife Scholarship at the Warnell School.

A photograph of Dr. Provost from the 1972 yearbook.

Distinguished former professor Klaus Steinbeck dies at age 74

Former renowned professor Dr. Klaus Steinbeck, 74, passed away on Thursday, Feb. 16, 2012. Dr. Steinbeck, a distinguished professor at the Warnell School for 32 years and Georgia Forestry Hall of Famer, is survived by his wife of more than 50 years, Phyllis. Dr. Steinbeck made an indelible impression on the Warnell School and its students and alumni, said Dean Mike Clutter. "Klaus educated a generation of foresters about silviculture and about life," Clutter said. "We will miss having Dr. Steinbeck involved in Warnell."

Dr. Steinbeck was born in Munich, Germany, on Dec. 11, 1937, but emigrated to the United States as a child and became a citizen in 1964. He earned his B.S. and M.S. in forestry at UGA, and his Ph.D. in tree physiology at Michigan State University. Before joining UGA's faculty in 1968, he performed research for the U.S. Forest Service's Forest Science Laboratory in Athens. His collegiate work pioneered research of short rotation woody crops, conducting experiments to optimize rotation lengths, spacing and other cultural practices for multiple fast-growing southern hardwood species. His ground-breaking work with coppice-regenerated sweetgum, black locust and American sycamore plantations garnered millions of dollars of research funding from the U.S. Department of Energy that resulted in dozens of research publications in scholarly journals and elsewhere. Today, his work with short rotation woody crops is gaining renewed interest as biomass energy is once again attracting national attention.

Dr. Steinbeck has a long list of accomplishments and awards from his 32 years on the Warnell School's faculty, including training hundreds of undergraduate and graduate forestry students, teaching silviculture and regional silviculture, among other courses. Dr. Steinbeck also served for several years as faculty advisor to the UGA Forestry Club, and he was so popular with students they honored him with Professor of the Year, Outstanding Faculty Member and Outstanding Advisor awards. Dr. Steinbeck won the Superior Teaching Award at UGA Honors Day in 1980 and again in 1999.

In addition to his wife, Dr. Steinbeck is survived by daughter, Rika Griffeth and children Michael and Brad; daughter, Katie Coffey, husband Darrell and children Jason, Katrina, Hunter and Kala; son, Karl Steinbeck, wife Julie and children Emily and Hunter McGuire; daughter, Katrina Selvidge, husband Elijah and children John and Mary Kathleen; sister, Ulrike Von Schelinha; and brother, Jochen and his wife, Linda. He was preceded in death by his parents Fritz and Lieselotte Steinbeck.

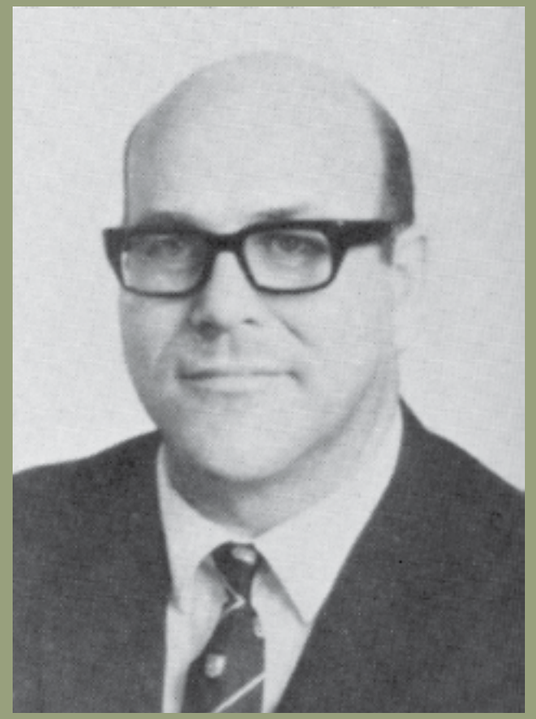
The family asks that memorials be made out to the Warnell School or the Parkinson's Foundation.

Former professor Graham Brister *passes away at 80*

Dr. Bob Cooper learned by example. When he's teaching one of his classes at Warnell, he remembers the way his master's advisor, Graham Brister, composed himself in front of students, how he mentored them, and patiently explained difficult lessons. "He once told me that students were his number one priority, and that everything else gave way to his courses and his students," Cooper said. "He certainly always had time for me, even time for deeper discussions about teaching, research and careers."

Dr. Brister passed away on Nov. 20, 2011, at age 80. Although he had retired from the Warnell School in 1998, his legacy lives on in his distinguished research and through former students like Cooper. His teaching career was punctuated by numerous awards and honors, including the Alumni Association's Faculty Award for Outstanding Teaching and a recognition at UGA's Honors Day for superior teaching. He is survived by his wife, Alison, and children, Stuart Brister and Katrina Brister Wasscher and their loving families. A native of England, Dr. Brister earned his undergraduate degree from Aberdeen University in Scotland and his master's degree from Oxford University. After graduation, Dr. Brister worked for the Colonial Forest Service in Nairobi, Kenya, then a British colony, for 17 years. But he wanted to be a college professor in the U.S., son Stuart said, so he relocated to Seattle to get his Ph.D. from the University of Washington. Stuart said he remembers the drive across the U.S. in the early 1970s after Dr. Brister took a job at UGA teaching biometrics. "If there's one thing he loved, it was forestry," Stuart Brister said.

Dean Mike Clutter, another former student of the late professor, said Brister will be terribly missed. "Graham Brister was one of those individuals that you wanted to sit with and discuss your challenges and aspirations," Clutter said. "He was always one of those people who help make important decisions a little clearer and easier. Maybe it was that proper Scottish accent or the respect he gave everyone with which he worked — he was always a fun guy to learn from. He will be missed by our forestry community."



A 1972 faculty portrait of Dr. Brister

Cooper also took two quantitative forestry courses as an undergrad with Dr. Brister. "I can honestly say that he influenced my style of teaching — especially quantitative subjects — and graduate student mentoring more than anybody else in my life. Whatever success I have had in those arenas I owe in no small amount to him," he said. Cooper remembers that Dr. Brister was a challenging professor who nevertheless "showed a great deal of patience and understanding with students who for one reason or another weren't picking up the material as quickly as the rest of the class. He always treated students with respect, and never seemed to be too busy for them outside of class."

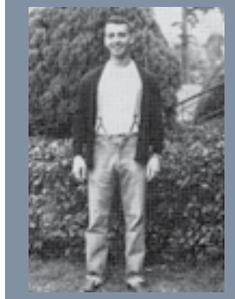
Longtime supporter, Warnell alumnus Fred Haeussler dies

The Warnell School lost one of its most dedicated supporters last fall. Fred W. Haeussler, of Savannah, died on Friday, Oct. 28, 2011, at age 79. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Carol Christine Haeussler. Mr. Haeussler (BSF '54) was an extraordinary member of the forestry community, and his loss will be felt throughout the industry, said Dean Mike Clutter. "I had the opportunity to work with Fred at Union Camp and later interact with him as one of our most supportive alums," he said. "Fred loved being a forester and he loved being a bulldawg. It was always fun to work with Fred because of his excitement and enthusiasm was contagious. We will all miss working and playing with Fred."

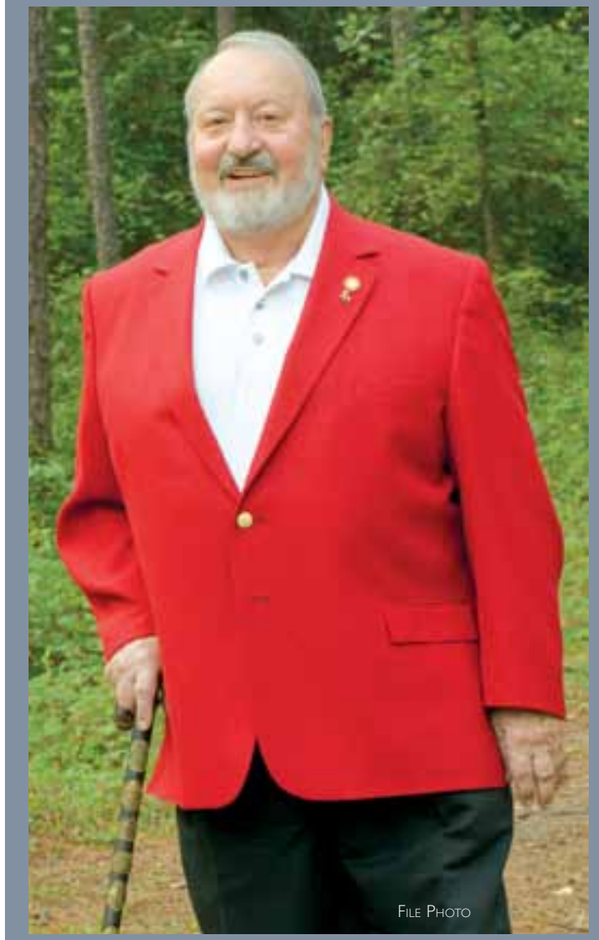
Born June 4, 1932, in Cincinnati, Ohio, to Fred and Katherine Alles Haeussler, Mr. Haeussler was the son of German immigrants and a first generation American. He was the first of his family to obtain a college education, and used as his life motto words from his high school track coach: "Determination wins!" Mr. Haeussler earned his bachelor's degree in forestry in 1954, lettering in track and cross-country under Coach Spec Towns. He was an active student while at UGA, participating in numerous clubs and activities, winning Outstanding Male Senior in 1954. Mr. Hauessler earned a master's of forestry degree from Duke University in 1955, and then served in the U.S. Air Force for two years as an Office of Special Investigations Agent.

But he ultimately launched a long and successful career in forestry, joining Union Camp Corporation in 1957, beginning as a conservation forester and advancing to management positions, including regional land manager of more than one million acres of timberland. He was with Union Camp for 37 years. Mr. Haeussler was a dedicated and influential member of the Society of American Foresters, and over his membership and forestry career was recognized for his contributions to the industry, including being inducted into both the Georgia and Alabama Forestry Halls of Fame. He is survived by three sons, Mark S. Haeussler and wife Elizabeth; Timothy J. Haeussler and wife Lisa; Michael E. Haeussler and wife Allison; and five grandchildren.

Mr. Haeussler working as Editor for the 1954 edition of the Cypress Knee.



Mr. Haeussler, pictured in the 1954 edition of the Cypress Knee. "If not seen, always heard in the Forestry school. His personality does not even exceed his scholastic achievement."



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