



NAPFSC



August 1998

R E P O R T

A report to the members of the National Association of Professional Forestry Schools and Colleges

President's Message

Albert R. Vogt

Greetings to my NAPFSC colleagues and all our partners. The first six months as NAPFSC President have been busy but very interesting. I have spent time with the usual preparation of testimonies for the Senate and House Agriculture Appropriations Committees, involving several visits with Congressional and Executive staff. With the help of our Washington Counsel, Randy Nuckolls, we have worked to help hold the line with McIntire-Stennis and Renewable Resources Extension Act funding for FY1998-99. See page 7 for Randy's Washington, DC Update report. Executive Committee members are serving the Association well and making important contributions.

The Executive Committee has completed and implemented a Strategic Plan of Action. At our March meeting, we agreed to prioritize the implementation of several initiatives, which lead to numerous productive conference calls.

Enhanced Funding in Support of Forestry

The NAPFSC Strategic Plan addresses a number of actions that call for greater collaboration with forest resource agencies and stakeholders. In June a group of NAPFSC members, including Larry Tombaugh, Perry Brown, Al Ek and I, visited with congressional staffers, the Office of Management and Budget, the Council on Environmental Quality, the Office of Science and Technology Policy, USDA (CSREES and USFS), the American Forest and Paper Association and others. Our intent was to encourage coordination of a multiyear effort to increase federal support for sustained management of nonfederal forest

Association and others. Our intent was to encourage coordination of a multiyear effort to increase federal support for sustained management of nonfederal forest lands into the next century.

There is a critical need for a cohesive national effort to provide research, extension and assistance to nonfederal forest land- owners. We are pursuing a strategy that follows the recommendations of the National Research Council (NRC) based on the report of a study entitled "Forested Landscapes in Perspective: Prospects and Opportunities for Sustainable Management of America's Nonfederal Forests." The NRC report concludes that nonfederal land stewardship should be emphasized at the national level and will require increased federal invest- ments to ensure production of goods and services from these lands.

We discussed the need for universities, agencies and stakeholders to unite to strengthen and increase research and extension partnerships. The idea of a new infrastructure of collaboration is based on a "balanced portfolio" involving significant increases over current levels of formula funding, cooperative programs, competitive grants and private sector investment.

Advocacy from the 9.9 million nonfederal forest landowners who will benefit from increased federal investment is essential. They must be involved and represented in the process of preparing and delivering the proposed actions to ensure their needs will continue to be served in the next century.



NAPFSC

REPORT

Bi-Annual Newsletter of the
National Association of Professional
Forestry Schools and Colleges

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- Albert R. Vogt. . . .President
- Perry J. Brown. . . .President-Elect
- Gregory N. Brown. . . .Past President
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- John E. Gunter. . . .Chair, Extension
- Daniel E. Keathley. . . .Chair, Education
- William R. Bentley. . . .Chair, International
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- James P. Lassoie. . . .Chair, Research
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- Donald H. DeHayes. . . .Chair, Northeast Region
- Frederick W. Cabbage. . . .Chair, Southern Region
- Charles R. Hatch. . . .Chair, Western Region

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President's Message

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We proposed and found widespread interest in NAPFSC sponsoring a planning "summit" to establish a "forest resources coalition to promote research, education and assistance for nonfederal forests." At the summit, specific plans for uses of increased funds will be established to conduct priority research, outreach and assistance. Strategic plans will include a schedule of federal funding commitments, expectations for accomplishments and defined measurable outcomes. It will best serve us to link to the President's current priorities and the provisions of the 1998 Farm Bill.

The summit will address increased federal support *and* coordination of efforts among NAPFSC, the National Association of University Fish and Wildlife Programs (NAUFWP), key public agencies, e.g., NRCS, DOE, EPA, NASA, NOAA, USFS, USGS, ARS, NASF, state and private forestry, cooperative forest industry programs and landowners. The eventual plan should be responsive to the NRC report, which was developed in response to the 1990 Farm Bill, and beyond.

My aspiration is to be prepared with a powerful initiative proposal for consideration in the FY2001 budget.

Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems

A newly authorized Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems in the Agricultural Research, Extension and Education Reform Act authorizes \$120 million per year through 2003. Included in the Act is a priority mission area "Natural resource management, including precision agriculture." I represented NAPFSC at a stakeholders meeting where I urged forestry to be included in the RFP being developed by CSREES. I also submitted a written statement to CSREES and to the NASULGC Board on Agriculture that emphasized the need to include the nonfederal forestlands in the RFP.

Cultural Diversity

In the NAPFSC Strategic Plan, we recognize the need to bring cultural diversity to our schools, faculty and professions. We are exploring how we can engage cultural diversity in NAPFSC. This year's general session at the Annual Meeting will dedicate one discussion section to this challenge. Several individuals have been invited to collaborate on how we can accomplish that goal.

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NAPFSC Regional Officers, 1998-99

North Central Region

Chair	Carl Settergren settergrenc@missouri.edu
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Extension	Tom Warner
International	Pete Schaefer
Legislative	John E. Phelps
Policy	Dennis C. LeMaster
Research	Alan Ek

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Extension	Bill McComb
International	Dave Schoeder
Research	Bruce Wiersma

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Education	Bruce Bongarten
Extension	George Hopper
International	Wayne Smith
Research	Arnett Mace

Western Region

Chair	Charles R. Hatch crhatch@uidaho.edu
Education	Don Arganbright
Extension	Ed DePuit
International	Jerry Allen
Legislative	Terry Sharik
Policy	Norm Pillsbury
Research	George Brown



Committee Reports

National Education Committee

Daniel E. Keathley, Chair

The major event this spring was the Second Biennial Conference on University Education in Natural Resources, which was held in Logan, Utah, on March 7-10. The conference was well attended, with solid representation from programs in all regions of the US. There was also a good diversity of disciplines within natural resources, not just forestry. Sessions covered curriculum assessment, teaching methods, outreach education, computerized instruction, graduate programs, collaborative learning, ethics, social values and gender, case studies and capstone courses. Terry Sharik served as conference chair and did an excellent job of structuring the meeting to include individual presentations, discussion time and panel presentations. It was an outstanding opportunity to compare approaches to teaching, evaluate new ideas and to learn from top teachers who have already tried and refined many new techniques. Clearly, the conference should be continued in future years.

Efforts continue to focus on the SAF accreditation. Greg Smith has configured a task force that will conduct a total review of the current accreditation process and standards. Discussion of accreditation at an evening session of the Second Biennial Conference on University Education in Natural Resources was quite spirited and resulted in the formulation of an interim plan of adding additional examples to the current accreditation materials. This will provide clearer guidance to programs that are preparing for an accreditation review and should also give guidance to review team members concerning the broad array of

ways in which many of the standards can be fulfilled. Discussion of this topic will continue at the SAF National Convention in Traverse City in a session titled "SAF Accreditation: Are We Beating a Dead Horse?" This will be a pro and con debate between Greg Smith and Dennis LeMaster, followed by audience discussion. The focus of this session will be on whether the current system can be modified to accommodate the growing breadth of forestry and technology advances like distance learning. It should be an interesting discussion. 

National Extension Committee

John E. Gunter, Chair

As of this writing, it appears that the Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA) will be funded at \$3,192,000 for federal FY1999. Both the House and Senate appropriations bills carry this figure, which represents level funding from FY1998. While a different amount could come out of conference, it is not considered likely that will happen. I am disappointed that the NASULGC recommendation of \$4 million for RREA did not prevail, especially in view of the ground swell of grass roots support that was generated last year. We are working hard to have USDA and NASULGC recommend funding RREA at \$9 million in the FY2000 budget request. That amount and more is sorely needed if we are to make a dent in addressing the educational needs of forest landowners brought on by increasing demands on nonfederal forests. It will likely take another ground swell of stakeholder support to achieve that level of funding. We will let you know when the time comes as to how you can assist in the process.

Extension foresters report substantial progress on the ANREP and NREM fronts in the last year. ANREP, the Association of Natural Resources Extension Professionals, entered its third year with increased membership, a new committee structure and sponsorship of the first National Extension Natural Resources Conference in Deerwood, Minnesota. Over 200 natural resources educators attended the four-day conference. A website (www.uga.edu/soforext/anrep/anrephome.html), listserv (anrep@listserv.uga.edu) and email address (anrep@arches.uga.edu) were created in the spring of 1998.

Resources and Environmental Management Base Program of the Extension System (ES) has renewed itself as a focal point for natural resources and environmental management activities in the System nationwide. NREM is one of seven Base Programs initiated by the Extension Committee on Policy and implemented by ES before the merger with CSRS. Following the creation of CSREES, the Base Programs have been revisited to some extent. A website (www.uga.edu/soforext/nrem/nrem.html) and listserv (nremnet@reeusda.gov) have been created. NAPFSC members are invited to visit the web pages and participate in the listserv activities.

A summary of RREA accomplishments, including 1997 impacts in each of the 13 southern states, has recently been completed. This two-page fact sheet highlights the importance of natural resources in the South and the educational activities and impacts of natural resource-based extension specialists through the RREA



President's Message

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NAPFSC Executive Washington D.C. Liaison

We have developed an ambitious action plan for NAPFSC that would more than tax our ability to accomplish without some staff assistance in the Washington, DC area. NAPFSC has contracted with Ms. Mary (Terri) Bates, formerly Executive Director for the National Association of State Foresters, for a one-third time appointment through April 27, 1999, to coordinate with the Executive Committee and act as liaison with NAPFSC Washington, DC counsel to assist NAPFSC. Continuation of this position will require approval of a dues increase by the general membership. You should have received my proposal. We will discuss and vote on the dues increase at the general session meeting in Michigan.

I am very optimistic about the opportunities ahead for forestry schools and colleges. There is a mood of increased cooperation across the spectrum of stewardship agencies and with the private sector. The hard work of many before us has positioned NAPFSC to be at the table. Thanks to all of them!

Our success will require leadership and follow through by the Executive Committee, as well as delegation of actions to members. It will require taking advantage of the regional NAPFSC structure. Additionally, it will require the Executive Committee's open, continuous dialogue with one another as we strive to meet our purpose "... to advance excellence in education, research, and outreach for sustaining healthy and productive renewable forest resource environments for their management and use." 

President-Elect's Message

Perry J. Brown

NAPFSC's General Assembly meeting will follow a different format than used in previous years. We have designed the meeting to provide an opportunity for the Assembly to interactively discuss and contribute suggestions to the Executive Committee for actions on key issues.

The Friday, September 18, afternoon session will be general, similar to past meetings, but it will consolidate the business we usually conduct in two half-day sessions to one. The meeting begins at 1 p.m.

On Saturday, September 19, the meeting starts at 8 a.m. with a plenary session followed by three workshops, each to be offered three times to facilitate participation of members in panels on all three issues. Each workshop will feature panelists external to NAPFSC. Below is a description of each workshop.

- Dan Keathly, National Education Chair, will lead a workshop on the topic of "Why Accreditation?"
- NAPFSC's Washington Counsel, Randy Nuckolls, will head a workshop which focuses on expanding federal funding for forestry.
- I will lead the third workshop on cultural diversity for NAPFSC.

Following these workshops, where we hope to have substantial input from NAPFSC members, we will reconvene for a short plenary reporting session before adjourning at noon. 



1998 Annual NAPFSC Meeting September 17-19, 1998

Headquarters Hotel, Grand Traverse Resort, Traverse City, Michigan

Executive Committee Meeting:

Thursday, September 17, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Director's Room
Friday, September 18, 8 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.
Director's Room

General Assembly Meeting:

Friday, September 18, 1 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Peninsula A
Saturday, September 19, 8 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
Peninsula A, B and C

NAPFSC Reception:

Friday, September 18, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Tower C





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program. Copies can be obtained from Kay Vaughn by calling (706) 542-9022 or on-line at www.uga.edu/soforext (a color printer is recommended for best results.)

Southern extension foresters recently developed an initiative focusing on reforestation education. With higher timber and nontimber forest values, intensive forest management opportunities and an eroding forestland base due to conversion and environmental set-asides, the need to incorporate reforestation methodologies and opportunities into forest management education has increased. Coordinators and contacts for each of the southern states agreed to work together to obtain critical resources for enhanced programming in this area. They also seek to collaborate with other interested cooperators. 

International Committee

William R. Bentley, Chair

I represented NAPSFC at two meetings of an ad hoc committee held in Washington, DC, to consider making a bid by the United States for the XII World Forestry Congress in 2004. Dr. Robert Lewis made a preliminary presentation for a US bid during the World Forestry Congress last fall in Turkey. The ad hoc group, including the Forest Service and State Department, met to consider a plan for a bid, which was developed by the Society of American Foresters. While the merits of a US bid were many, the cost and energy of making a bid was high and the likelihood of success was low. Consequently, the ad hoc group decided not to make a formal bid.

The theme of the proposed US bid was private forestry. The United States has more forests in private ownership and more private owners than any other nation, and the diversity of our private ownership is enormous. Showing off the results of private ownership is important, as developed and developing nations wrestle with the policy issues of sustainable forestry, forest products trade, green certification and other related issues. One possibility would be a less ambitious meeting and one or more tours for professionals from overseas. One obvious time would be just before and just after the year 2000 meeting of SAF. The success story of private forestry would be an interesting theme to exploit during the 100th anniversary of America's professional forestry association.

NAPFSC members who are interested in this idea should contact me with suggestions and expressions of support. I will coordinate this information with Bill Banzhaf, SAF, AF&PA, Forest Service, small owner associations, state foresters and other possible partners.

During the coming year, we will look at various ways that International Forestry is developing at NAPFSC institutions. A decade or two ago, most forestry schools shared the same general focal point of economic and rural development held by agriculture. The end of the Cold War and shift toward a global economy has dampened American enthusiasm for USAID and other development assistance agencies. Some forestry schools are focused on international trade or multinational business aspects of forestry, and a few seem to be heavily invested in collaborative research with overseas counterparts. We will look at these aspects as well as new ways to spotlight the international dimensions of forests and forestry. Again, your input will be helpful. 

National Policy Committee

C. P. Patrick Reid, Chair

Perhaps one of the more significant activities that involved the National Policy Committee over the past six months was the composition of a NAPFSC response to a request by Congressman Vernon Ehlers (R-MI), Vice Chair of the House Committee on Science, concerning national science policy. Congressman Ehlers posed seven questions to which we responded with the help of the NAPFSC Executive Committee, Randy Nuckolls and Scott Berg. Although space is limited to provide you with the entire text of the response, I have listed each question with excerpts from our prepared response (some responses appear in their entirety). Hopefully, this will give you some idea of our reply. The questions were as follows:

1) On what broad national goals should federal science policy be based?

“The forests and other renewable natural resources of this country are primary contributors to the economic health of the nation; are reservoirs of biodiversity important to the well-being of our citizens; and are significant to the maintenance of environmental quality of our atmosphere, water, and soil resources—while providing diverse recreational and spiritual renewal opportunities for a growing population. National science policy must recognize the role of forests in global issues related to climate and economies and the need for providing the knowledge base for the wise management of these resources for the long-term benefit of society. The challenge is great as these resources are decreasing in their extent and are experiencing increasing demands for use and access, many of

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Washington, DC Update

Randy Nuckolls



It was a busy summer for NAPFSC in Washington, DC, as the appropriations process swung into full speed and as NAPFSC executive committee members held a series of meetings with top Administration officials concerning a proposed “summit” on nonfederal forests for the 21st century and on the forestry research provisions of the Agricultural Research bill signed by President Clinton

on June 23, 1998.

FY99 Appropriations

For the first time in several years, USDA-CSREES formula funding appears set for an increase, although most likely a minor one. The Senate Agriculture Appropriations bill approved a three percent increase for formula funds, including McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Research. The Senate bill provides \$21,112,000 for McIntire-Stennis, a \$615,000 increase from the FY98 level of \$20,497,000. The Senate bill also continues funding for the National Research Initiative at \$97,200,000 and level funding for the Renewable Research Extension Act at \$3,192,000.

The House bill does not contain the formula funding increase for McIntire-Stennis, preferring to keep the current level of \$20,497,000. However, the bill increases funding for the National Research Initiative to \$99,550,000 and maintains level funding for RREA.

Both the House and the Senate Agriculture Appropriations bills included language to eliminate funding for the Fund for Rural America. As you may know, this program was started by the Clinton Administration several years ago and has had its funding cut back each year. The congressional concern appears to be with how the program has been managed by USDA. Republicans in Congress have described it as a “slush fund” for Clinton Administration initiatives without a clearly defined focus.

The tentative schedule calls for the House and Senate to iron out their funding differences on the Agriculture Appropriations bill in a conference committee in late July, or early September. A final update will be provided at the NAPFSC Annual Meeting in Traverse City, Michigan.

Agricultural Research

Congress approved, and the President signed into law in late June, the Agricultural Research, Extension and Education Reform Act of 1998. This legislation reauthorizes a number of agricultural research programs and provides several exciting new opportunities for forestry. NAPFSC worked closely over the past year with House and Senate Agriculture Committee Members and staff on language emphasizing the importance of the forestry economy and the significant need for greater research on nonfederal forestry issues.

The legislation establishes a new competitive grants program at the Forest Service. The priority areas for research are: the biology of forest and range organisms; functional characteristics and cost-effective management of forest and rangelands ecosystems; interactions between humans, forests and rangelands; wood and forage as a raw material; and international trade, competition and cooperation. The bill calls for the Secretary of Agriculture to use up to 5 percent of the funds appropriated for Forest Service research to make competitive grants and to give priority to proposals with collaborative research, matching funds and in cooperation with existing research efforts.

In addition to encouraging the Secretary to use Forest Service funds for competitive grants, the legislation also established a new mandatory \$600 million competitive grants program, the Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems, and directed that \$120 million per year over the next five years be spent from USDA administrative savings. The legislation directs these new mandatory dollars to critical emerging agriculture issues including: agricultural genome; food safety, food technology and human nutrition; new and alternative uses and production of agricultural commodities and products; agricultural biotechnology; natural resource management, including precision agriculture; and farm efficiency and profitability. The Department of Agriculture held a stakeholders meeting on July 9, with the senior leadership of USDA to receive comments from outside groups on the new initiative. President Al Vogt testified on behalf of NAPFSC on the importance of including forestry research in all the priority areas, particularly in the area of natural resource management.



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which are in direct conflict with one another. Federal science policy must address national goals that relate to the appropriate use of our nation's forests and related natural resources, whether they be in public or private ownership. The National Association of Professional Forestry Schools and Colleges (NAPFSC) is an association of 67 academic institutions organized to advance excellence in education, research and outreach for sustaining healthy and productive renewable natural resources, including their management and use. Hence, NAPFSC is committed to aiding in the development of national science policy related to the nation's forest resources."

2a) What is the government's role in supporting basic and applied research?

"Forest resources provide an array of benefits to the nation's citizens, many of which are not directly related to economic outputs supported by specific industrial sectors. The federal government has an obvious role in fostering research related to public forest lands, and the many multiple uses that they sustain. . . . A diversity of research information must be available to all sectors of society facilitated by appropriate research support to research institutions committed to applied problem solving and public outreach, such as the NAPFSC member institutions. Government, in addition to providing federal research support for fundamental research, should also provide positive incentives that encourage integrated multidisciplinary, multiagency and multi-institutional research programs that truly address complex natural resource problems and issues."

2b) How can the government best encourage an effective level of industry investment in pre-competitive research?

"The federal government should encourage industry investment in pre-competitive research by cooperative approaches that allow industry, academic institutions and federal granting agencies to collaboratively develop research priorities that are viewed as of critical interest to the industry sector while addressing a needed national goal of sustainable forest resources. In this model of cooperative forestry research, the forest industry establishes research priorities and pathways, issues requests for proposals and cooperatively develops research projects with academic institutions through such organizations as the National Association of Professional Forestry Schools and Colleges, and with individual researchers. Industry makes a commitment to cost-share a percentage of the research project, and then seeks other research partners at the state and federal level. . . . The federal government can become part of the cooperative research effort by contributing funding, agency personnel and infrastructure resources. Important areas are rewarded through competitive grant funding from both the private and public sectors. An example of this type of approach that could be further enhanced is the Research Program of the American Forest and Paper Association's 'Agenda 2020 - Sustainable Forestry.'"

3) How can the nation enhance and make the most effective use of government/university/industry partnerships?

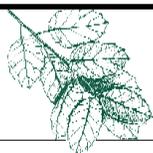
"A number of programs that currently encourage research partner-

ships need to be strengthened. Such support would build and maintain a collaborative infrastructure based on a 'balanced portfolio' involving formula funds, competitive funds and specially funded research initiatives. This would ensure that the 'best science' from the academic, governmental and industrial research sectors is applied to the issues facing the nation's forest resources. . . . Formula research funds . . . are key to maintaining an infrastructure that can readily respond to changing research needs while ensuring continuity for critical, long-term research projects. USDA research funds from the Hatch and McIntire-Stennis Acts promote cooperation among universities, government research organizations and industry. . . . University/government partnerships such as the fish and wildlife and the park studies cooperative research units are excellent, successful models of research collaboration under formal cooperative agreements that focus on research."

4) What is the most effective role for the states in supporting university research, and how can the federal government best support that role?

"Attention needs to be given to strengthening the commitments of state agricultural experiment stations to natural resource and forestry-related issues and to stimulating closer collaboration between the agricultural and forestry research communities, since many of the same problems are facing both land uses. . . . The strategic importance of forests and their related natural resources, such as wildlife, water and range requires that incentives be established to encourage support of research that not only impacts the natural resources of the individual states, but also which conceivably impacts regional, national and global

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Past President's Message

Gregory N. Brown

FY2000 Budget Committee

You have received the budget chronology for the FY99 federal budget from various sources. Jim Lassoie served as NAPFSC's representative to the FY99 Budget Committee and continues to serve as an alternate on my behalf to the FY2000 Budget Committee. Bob Moser, Vice President at Ohio State, currently serves as chair of the FY2000 Budget Committee, and organizations represented on the committee include sections under the Board on Agriculture, i.e., Experiment Station Section, Cooperative Extension Section, Academic Programs Section, and International Programs Section (all representing the old COPS); 1890 College's research, 1890 College's extension, Vet Med, Human Sciences, Forestry, CARET and the Chair of the FY2001 Budget Committee. Several Washington, DC-based individuals serve in ex-officio capacities. NASULGC will be asked to request a significant increase in base funding in two priority areas: Food Safety and Agroecosystem Management. This latter area will include Forest Ecosystem Management as well. USDA priorities, on the other hand, include Safe and Secure Food Supply and Greater Harmony Between Agriculture and the Environment. Hence, USDA's budget request and those supported by our NASULGC Budget Committee will be on parallel tracks. These two budget areas will be regarded as soft earmarks in formula funded areas. Forestry will submit a one-page priority request with each other organization represented on the Committee. The hope is that in the FY2000 budget, a major thrust for an increase in Renewable Resources Extension Act funds (NIPF management), will be identified under the agroecosystem thrust. You will hear more about the FY2000 Budget process over the year ahead.

In the past, the budget committees to which forestry has had a representative have been under the Board on Agriculture. The parent Commission on Food, Environment and Renewable Resources which is composed of the Board on Agriculture and several other Boards, including our Board on Natural Resources, plans to develop an umbrella budget committee which will deal with agencies beyond USDA such as EPA, USDI and others of interest to our group.

NASULGC - EPA Research Task Force

I currently serve as the NASULGC Forestry Section's representative to this Task Force, which is in addition to the Board on Natural Resources' two members on the Task

Force. This particular NASULGC Task Force has been ongoing for several years and has been so successful that it often serves as a model for new NASULGC partnerships being developed. They have promoted and developed scientific advisory groups to EPA Research and Development, have assisted EPA in obtaining their budget request each year, have worked with EPA to substantially increase EPA's research and development budget in recent years, have supported numerous workshops and have supported the successful development of post-doctorate and scientist exchanges. In the future this Task Force plans to work toward the establishment of cooperative research units between EPA and universities, development of a national water initiative, enhancement of diversity relative to allocation of EPA grants, and establishment of an EPA information dissemination system through an extension-like network.

USGS - NASULGC Partnership

During the closing days of my term as Chair of the Board on Natural Resources, I was appointed to chair the new USGS-NASULGC Partnership. An initial meeting was held at the USGS Headquarters in Reston, Virginia, in late January 1998. Representation was broadly based across a spectrum of all the boards under the Commission on Food, Environment and Renewable Resources of NASULGC and across all programs under the USGS. Since that time, conference calls have been conducted, and we are currently in the process of establishing five different theme groups representing natural resources, hazards, environment, information management and human resources, all which are target areas under the USGS programs. The leader of each of these theme groups will be a USGS employee and there will be three to four others representing NASULGC groups serving on each theme group. Each theme group will be expected to identify one to two areas where the new USGS-NASULGC Partnership can concentrate on meeting USGS goals as identified in the USGS Strategic Plan and in advancing university-related interest. For those of you not familiar with the USGS structure, it is composed of four major divisions: Biological Resources Division (under which many of us have Cooperative Fisheries and Wildlife Research Units), the Geologic Division, the National Mapping Division, and the Water Resources Division (under which many of us have Water Resource Centers). In the future this USGS-NASULGC Partnership will be looking at programs mutually beneficial to both universities and the

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Regional Reports

Western Region

Charles R. Hatch, Chair



The western region's spring meeting was hosted by Dr. Norm Pillsbury at California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo. The meeting's agenda emphasized distance education topics. In addition to NAPFSC members, Dr. Hal Salwasser, Director of the Pacific Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, participated in the meeting.

Distance Education: Dr. Terry Sharik (Utah State University) and Dr. Douglas Piirto (Cal Poly) provided the backdrop for our detailed discussion of distance education opportunities and challenges in the western region. Dr. Sharik summarized distance education issues that were discussed at the Second Biennial Conference on University Education in Natural Resources, and Dr. Piirto presented a seminar on his distance learning experiences. Our discussion quickly focused on conductivity and compatibility issues; i.e., can we communicate with each other. This year we plan to describe distance education facilities at each institution and begin to identify course work we might deliver through distance education collaborations. Natural resource policy, regional silviculture, fire and harvesting were course work that generated immediate interest. We also raised financial and credit hour accounting mechanisms that might create incentives for schools to participate in distance education collaborations. As a result of these discussions, the western region recommends that NAPFSC begin discussions with SAF on issues related to the accreditation of distance education courses and programs. In the near future, we will have course work offered in our curricula that is delivered

from both accredited SAF programs as well as from programs that SAF does not accredit. Before long, distance education programs will be offered that may need to be evaluated for accreditation. We believe it is important that SAF and NAPFSC begin to discuss and develop accreditation procedures to address distance education activities.

Western NAPFSC/NAUFWP Meeting: We discussed the merits of and an agenda for a joint meeting in the western region between the NAPFSC and NAUFWP memberships. An agenda structured around integrated natural resource management, that focused on providing an understanding of problems and approaches to their solutions, as viewed by each discipline, was proposed. The purpose of the meeting would be to identify and clarify differences between the disciplines and to highlight collaborative opportunities. The respective chairs of the two memberships are currently discussing a joint meeting.

RREA Summary: We are summarizing RREA activities in the western region to effectively articulate the program's contributions in our area. The western region's RREA summary brochure, modeled after the southern region's brochure, will be completed prior to our fall meeting.

Comparative Data Survey: The western region, using the southern region's questionnaire, conducted a "Western Forestry Schools Comparative Data Survey" of its members. Statistics on enrollment, credit hour production, funding levels, personnel and salaries have been collected from and distributed to member schools. 

Southern Region

Frederick W. Cabbage, Chair

The southern group of NAPFSC met at the Forest Landowners Association (FLA) Meeting on April 29, 1998, in Orlando, Florida. Activities discussed included the following:

We have been developing a brochure on the impacts of forestry in the South in cooperation with FLA, which was reviewed and approved for publication shortly.

Results of the Southern Forestry Schools Comparative Data Survey were sent out in May.

We discussed various programmatic and funding issues related to southern forestry schools and the increasing pressure on nonindustrial private forests in the South. The research and education implications of the new report on nonfederal forest lands also were discussed. We will seek to work with FLA, the Forest Service and the state foresters in developing cooperation and seeking support for enhanced southern forestry research and extension efforts. These concerns should dovetail well with recent national NAPFSC initiatives.

We also discussed a proposal to work with the USDA Forest Service Research Branch as partners in examining the US Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forestry. This proposal would be to develop partnerships between Forest Service researchers and academic institutions to assess the applications of the Criteria and Indicators and means to enhance their application.



Washington, DC, Update

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The \$120 million in mandatory spending for this new program for FY99 is still the subject of controversy in Congress. The House Appropriations Committee approved language in its FY99 Agriculture Appropriations bill that would prohibit the Secretary of Agriculture from spending any funds to finance the Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems. This prohibition was not based on any disagreement about the need for additional agriculture research, but rather is the result of a jurisdictional fight between the Appropriations Committee and the Agriculture Committee in the House about mandating that USDA administrative savings go to research funding rather than being subject to the annual decision-making of the Appropriations process. The Senate Agriculture Appropriations bill does not preclude the use of the \$120 million for the new research initiative and NAPFSC, and other university-based organizations are working to convince House members that including this prohibition is not in the best interests of the research community and that it goes against what the House approved earlier this spring.

NAPFSC Executive Meetings in Washington

Senior NAPFSC officials, led by President Al Vogt and President-elect Perry Brown, met in Washington in early June with senior Administration and industry officials to

discuss recent changes in federal policy regarding public timber and the increasing pressures being placed on non-industrial private forests as a result of that shift. NAPFSC is proposing a stakeholder's "summit" on nonfederal forest issues in early 1999. This summit would help develop an action plan or multiagency presidential initiative to significantly increase the federal investment in collaborative forestry research, extension and landowner assistance programs.

The June meetings were held with the House and Senate Agriculture Committees, senior officials at USDA, OMB, the White House Council on Environmental Quality, the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, the National Association of State Foresters, the Forest Landowners Association and the American Forest and Paper Association. Everyone agreed that greater focus needs to be placed on emerging challenges facing nonfederal forests and that increased coordination between the Forest Service, CSREES and other federal agencies is critical to addressing many of the issues raised in the recent National Research Council report "Forested Landscapes in Perspective." These summer 1998 meetings will undoubtedly be only the beginning of what will need to be a major effort by NAPFSC over the next several years to bring greater awareness of the growing need for expanded federal forestry research and extension activities. 



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utilization, conservation and protection. . . . State-supported and land-grant universities could serve as a key catalyst in this process because of the numerous research programs centered in their departments, schools and colleges of forest resources. As the primary association for administrators of such academic units, NAPFSC has proven to be an important mechanism for coordinating research efforts among institutions with compatible and reinforcing strengths."

5a) Given the increasingly international nature of science, how can the nation best benefit from and contribute to international cooperation in research?

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Past President's Message

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USGS, which could include assisting USGS with their budget process and expanding their R&D program, particularly that available to universities. In turn, universities could contribute to USGS through collection of data, through long-term research programs, through multidisciplinary research programs and as a partner with USGS in working toward other competitive research opportunities.

NASUGLC Partnerships currently include, in addition to the EPA-Partnership and the newly developed USGS-Partnership, the long-standing USDA-Partnership and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)-Partnership. 



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“The quality of the environment and the stewardship of natural resources are of global concern and are key to reaching world stability in food and fiber production, protection of biodiversity and the quality of human life. . . . Science must provide the foundation of knowledge underpinning natural resource management systems which allow sustainable use of soils, water, forests, fisheries, wildlife and domestic plants and animals. . . . Special federally sponsored research programs should be established which encourage the exchange of faculty and students, provide the two-way flow of new knowledge and technology and are based on mutual gain by participating organizations in different countries.”

5b) What types of multilateral science agreements are needed to facilitate international collaboration?

“Agreements must be in place that allow free exchange of information, research materials and transfer of research equipment, avoiding unnecessary restrictions imposed by cooperating countries. NAPFSC could help facilitate such agreements by involving a consortium of US institutions through its network of regional international chairs.”

6) How can the federal government best help meet national needs for science and math education at all levels?

“Support should be provided for education at all levels that gives a more holistic view of the importance of science and mathematics to society. Often the message to young people appears to emphasize the physical and chemical sciences and engineering and

how they relate to our society. Much more emphasis needs to be given to the underpinning that science provides to a much broader segment of our national and international society, including the use, conservation and protection of our nation’s natural resources. Young people must realize that new knowledge is not spontaneous and that research and scholarship by colleges and universities in the sciences is absolutely the foundation of maintaining a high standard of living and a quality of life by all our citizens.”

7) How can the nation most effectively leverage federally funded R&D in the face of increasingly constrained resources?

“Funds spent by the federal government for research and development are a significant investment that are more than offset by the return to the average US citizen in both economic terms and in their quality of life. The products from these federal dollars, over a wide range of federally supported research projects, can and need to be documented as to their benefit to society. In many cases, the expenditure of these federal funds can be shown to leverage state and private dollars for research and development. Research programs that enhance the nation’s global competitiveness assure a robust economy which in turn provides the capacity for private investment in R&D.” 

National Committee Reports Absent:

Legislative and Research

Regional Report

North Central Region

Carl Settergren, Chair



The North Central NAPFSC group met jointly with NC-NAUFWP last April 16 at the Max McGraw Foundation in Dundee, Illinois. Mike Kelly (NAPFSC) and Bruce Menzel (NAUFWP) from Iowa State led discussions concerning the development of a joint CSREES NCR-10/23 cooperative regional research proposal dealing with riparian zone problems and management. They presented a prospectus and skeletal proposal outline that were subsequently adopted by the two groups. It was also suggested that NCA-1, Soil Science, be approached to become involved since their scientists could play a vital part in this effort. As a first step in developing the proposal, Linda Donoghue, North Central Research Station Director for the Forest Service, hosted and assisted Kelly and Menzel in leading a workshop held in St. Paul this past July. Representatives from Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota, Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan and Indiana participated. Initially, a writing team, made up of those attending the St. Paul meeting, was identified to draft a proposal to form a NCR committee. Anne Spacie from Purdue will lead the writing team and drafts of the proposal will be routed electronically to all NC-NAPFSC/NAUFWP institutions for editorial comment. The team will meet again in early December to work out the final details and proceed with getting the NCR committee organized on an ad hoc basis. The proposal will be submitted to the North Central directors early next year. Once the regional project is approved by the directors, it will serve as a spring board for a series of multistate research proposals developed under the umbrella of this committee.

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NAPFSC News

National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education and Economics Advisory Board Update

Submitted by Larry W. Tombaugh

The National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education and Economics Advisory Board (NAREEEAB) was established by the 1996 Farm Bill. It replaces the Agricultural Science and Technology Review Board, the Joint Council on Food and Agricultural Sciences and the National Agricultural Research and Extension Users Advisory Board. The 30 board members were appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture on September 13, 1996, based on the 30 categories designated in the Farm Bill. I was appointed to the one seat that is allocated to the forestry sector. Last fall, I was elected to the seven-person Executive Committee.

Under the excellent leadership of Dr. Victor Lechtenberg, Dean of Agriculture at Purdue, the Board has been very busy and quite productive. My role is to ensure that the forestry sector is adequately represented in priorities and in budget decisions. The following are some accomplishments to date.

An early legislated assignment of the Board was to recommend a roster of names of people to serve on a Strategic Planning Task Force on Facilities. This task force was to have reviewed all agriculture and forestry research facilities and to have made recommendations about their future. We were able to get one forestry representative on this task force.

The major job of the Board has been to establish recommended research, education and extension priorities to the Secretary. To help in this task, the Board has held two public input sessions in Washington and two regional listening sessions. We have been able to arrange for excellent representation of forestry interests at these sessions. The following people have made presentations: Randy Nuckolls, John Pait, Al Ek, Harry Haney, Tom Fox, Perry Brown and John Mandzak. All did truly outstanding jobs.

Both William Banzhaf and Henson Moore have followed up on the priorities by urging Secretary Glickman to carry through with the forestry issues in the CSREES FY2000 budget. Mr. Moore's letter states: "As your department completes its work on the FY2000 research and extension budget, I urge you to ensure that the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service is provided appropriate resources to allow it to target research and extension programs on the issues facing nonfederal forests."

Finally, we were privileged to have had both Al Vogt and Under Secretary of Agriculture for Research, Education and Economics, I. Miley Gonzalez, at North Carolina State University in the spring to demonstrate the importance of his agency to forestry research, extension and education. Under Secretary Gonzalez received an excellent overview of McIntire-Stennis projects, NRI projects, RREA activities, special grants and USDA graduate fellowships. 



American Forestry & Paper Association Agenda 2020 Seeking New Partners

Submitted by Scott Berg

After three years of effort, the American Forestry & Paper Association (AF&PA) Agenda 2020 now has broad acceptance and significant influence, both directly in the forest and paper industry and with the wider research community who work with and support the industry. Using a "pathways model," the Sustainable Forestry Component of Agenda 2020 has identified over-arching needs and initial focus areas related to biotechnology, physiology, soil productivity and remote sensing. Through a process of project evaluation and prioritization, close to a dozen three-

year projects have received approximately \$10 million in funding from the Department of Energy and cost-share contributions from companies within the forest and paper industry.

Over the past year, AF&PA and NCASI members have peer reviewed almost 80 preproposals, held a poster session for the top 25 and selected 13 highest priority projects for



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During the NC NAPFSC business meeting in Dundee, the chair introduced and welcomed a number of guests, each of whom gave brief presentations on their agencies' research and operational goals and priorities. Various ways in which they could cooperate and interact with forestry schools and programs within the region were discussed. The guests included: Larry Biles, CSREES, Washington, DC; Bob Hollingsworth, US Forest Service, NFA, Region Nine Milwaukee; Linda Donoghue, Director, US Forest Service, NCRS, St. Paul; Tom Murn, Regional Research Chair, AF&PA, Potlatch, Cloquet, Minnesota; Marvin Brown, President, NASF, Jefferson City, Missouri; and Al Vogt, President, NAPFSC.

Al Vogt spoke to the group about NAPFSC's National Strategic Plan and how we, as a regional organization, need to become involved. Al summarized some of the organization's current priorities and initiatives. Mike Kelly, Chair-elect for NC NAPFSC, reported on the exhibit manned by himself and Bruce Menzel on behalf of NAPFSC and NAUFWP at the last MANRRS (Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences) meeting in Des Moines. He presented a resolution on behalf of NC NAPFSC advocating a continued partnership with NAUFWP in providing a presence at future MANRRS annual conferences. The following was approved unanimously:

Joint Resolution

Whereas, attracting a more diverse assemblage of students to our programs is a stated goal of both NAPFSC and NAUFWP, and whereas the MANRRS organization provides a means of direct communication with students from a variety of cultural and ethnic backgrounds, the North Central Region of NAPFSC recommends that it be resolved that NAPFSC and NAUFWP continue the joint sponsorship and staffing of a NAPFSC/NAUFWP booth at the Career Fair held in conjunction with the annual MANRRS Conference.

Columbia, Missouri, was selected as the site of the next meeting, which will be held in mid- to late-January 1999.

Regional Committee Report Absent:
Northeast

NAPFSC News

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recommendation to federal agency partners. At the same time, AF&PA has been working with other federal agencies and programs to become partners in funding these high priority research projects. Several of the research projects under consideration for this year were highlighted during the Natural Resources Deans' Tour held in February at Amelia Island, Florida.

AF&PA is pleased to announce that the Forest Service has agreed to become a partner in working with the Agenda 2020 process to identify common priorities and engage in jointly funded research projects in the area of Sustainable Forestry. Specifically, the USFS Research Deputy Chief's Office has committed to fund four of the Agenda 2020 projects in FY 1999. DOE is currently reviewing the other projects to determine which ones best fit its mission and objectives, and will likely fund four additional projects for a total of eight. These additional three-year research projects will contribute an extra \$3.23 million to the program. AF&PA will continue to work aggressively to find sources of funding for as many of the top 25 projects as possible.

AF&PA and NCASI plan to issue another RFP this fall, and to ensure that all members of NAPFSC directly receive copies of the RFP. This year we will be working closely with the Forest Service, as well as DOE, to enhance opportunities for collaboration and ultimate support for an even wider portfolio of research projects in Sustainable Forestry for FY 2000.

As a final note, AF&PA has announced a manager position that will spend half-time working to further the objectives of Agenda 2020 in the area of Sustainable Forestry, as well as to assist with the implementation of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative. For more information on the Agenda 2020 program, or to obtain a copy of the job description, please call Scott Berg at (202) 463-2456.

MANRRS Conference a Success

Submitted by J. Michael Kelly

The Minorities in Agricultural, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS) annual meeting was held in Des Moines, Iowa, in April. This year's conference, hosted by the Iowa State University College of Agriculture, was by all accounts a glowing success with over 600 individuals in attendance. The NAPFSC and NAUFWP organizations joined forces to provide a booth for the day-long fair that is an integral part of the meeting. The display emphasized graduate education programs at member institutions. Availability of assistantships and employment opportunities also were discussed.