

National Association of University Forest Resources Programs

<http://www.naufrp.org/>

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NAUFRP

Overview

What is NAUFRP?

An association that represents 67 of our nation's most prestigious universities that have programs devoted to forests and natural resources.

Mission

To promote long-term investments in university-based education, research, and engagement programs to advance the health, productivity and sustainability of our nation's forest resources for the well being of all who depend on their many benefits for quality of life.



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Overview

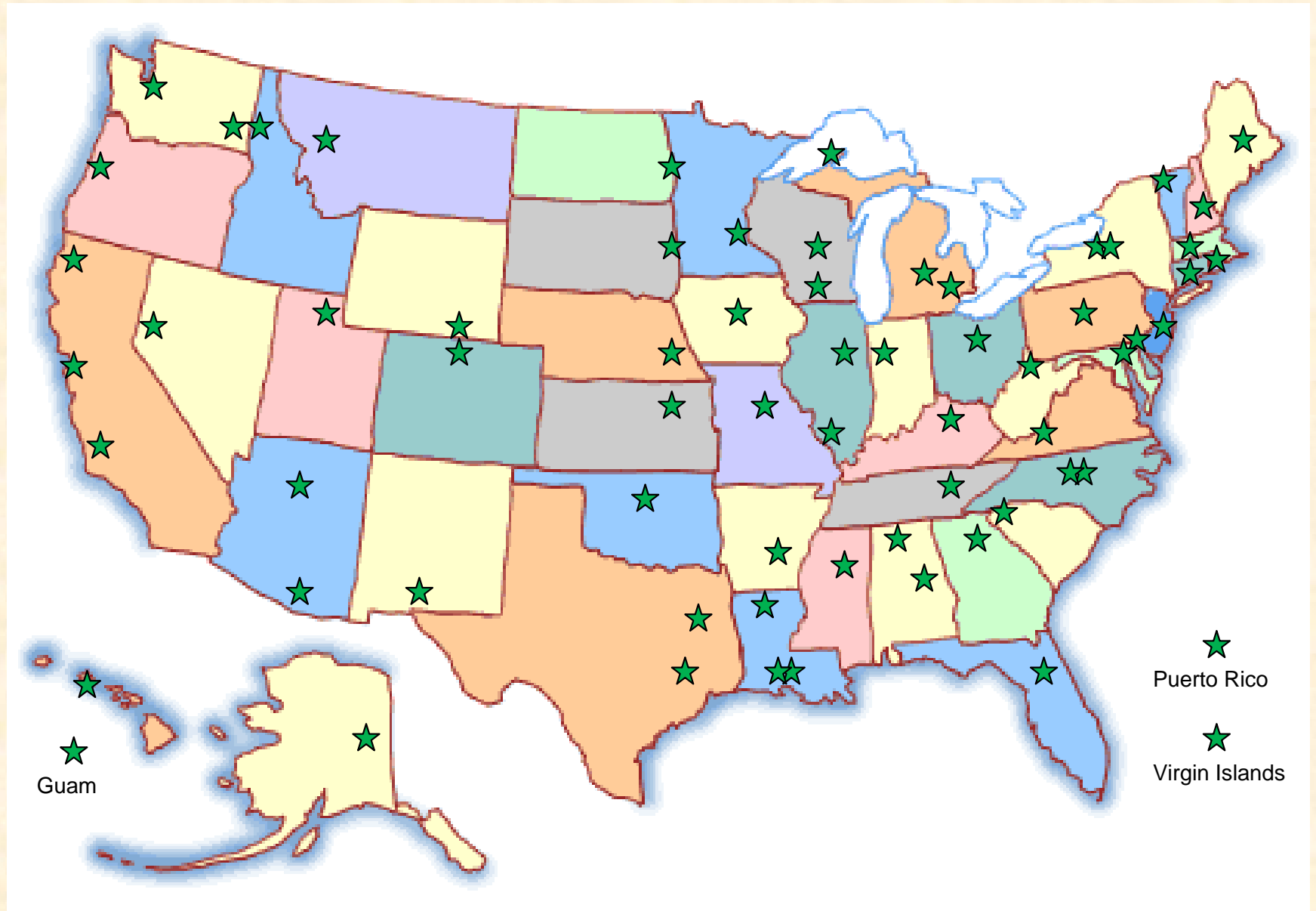
Background

- Formed in 1981 as a 501 (c) (3)
- Annual budget of approximately \$110,000
- Generated from membership dues and special grants
- Used for government relations, administrative staff, association activities, and membership on the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities (APLU) Budget Advocacy Committee (BAC)



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Where are We?



Guam

Puerto Rico

Virgin Islands

Organizational Structure

National Officers

- President
- Past President
- President Elect
- Secretary/Treasurer

Regional Chairs

- North Central
- Northeastern
- Southern
- Western

National Committee Chairs

- Policy
- Education
- Research
- Extension
- Diversity
- International

Executive Committee

- National Officers
- National Committee Chairs
- Regional Chairs
- At-large Appointees



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Activities and Accomplishments: Policy

1. Promote Federal Appropriations: M-S, RREA, AFRI

- Membership on APLU Board of Agriculture Assembly (Cornerstone)
- 30-40 Hill visits each year
- Deans' Congressional Receptions: ≈ 30 from 25 states in 2007, 2008
- Regular visits with OMB
- Coordination with partners for consistent requests



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Activities and Accomplishments: Policy

2. Advocate for NAUFRP's National Agenda

- Influence national legislation: Farm Bill, climate, carbon, bioenergy, forest health
- Sign as NAUFRP on advocacy letters to Congress and Executive Branch: approximately 10 per year
- Develop position statements, e.g., one pagers
- Serve as the Chair of the Forestry section of APLU's Board of Natural Resources (BNR is equivalent to APLU's Board of Ag)
 - Chair of BNR the past two years (Hopper)
 - Vice-chair of APLU Commission for Environment, Food and Energy
- Partner to form alliances, e.g., Forests in the Farm Bill Coalition, Forest Climate Working Group



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Activities and Accomplishments: Policy

3. Foster Communication and Collaborations with Partners



Activities and Accomplishments: Policy

4. Foster Communication and Collaborations with Each Other

- Getting to know other colleagues
- Becoming familiar with other programs
- Providing the national listserve for:
 - Faculty positions
 - Graduate assistantships
 - National news (NIFA, USFS, etc.)
 - General discussions (e.g. salary levels)

Activities and Accomplishments: Education

1. “Keathley Report” 2003-2004

- Conference and resulting report funded with grant from CSREES
- Identified critical areas of need in graduate education
- Resulted in USDA National Needs Fellowships

2. Annual Discussions with and Input to SAF

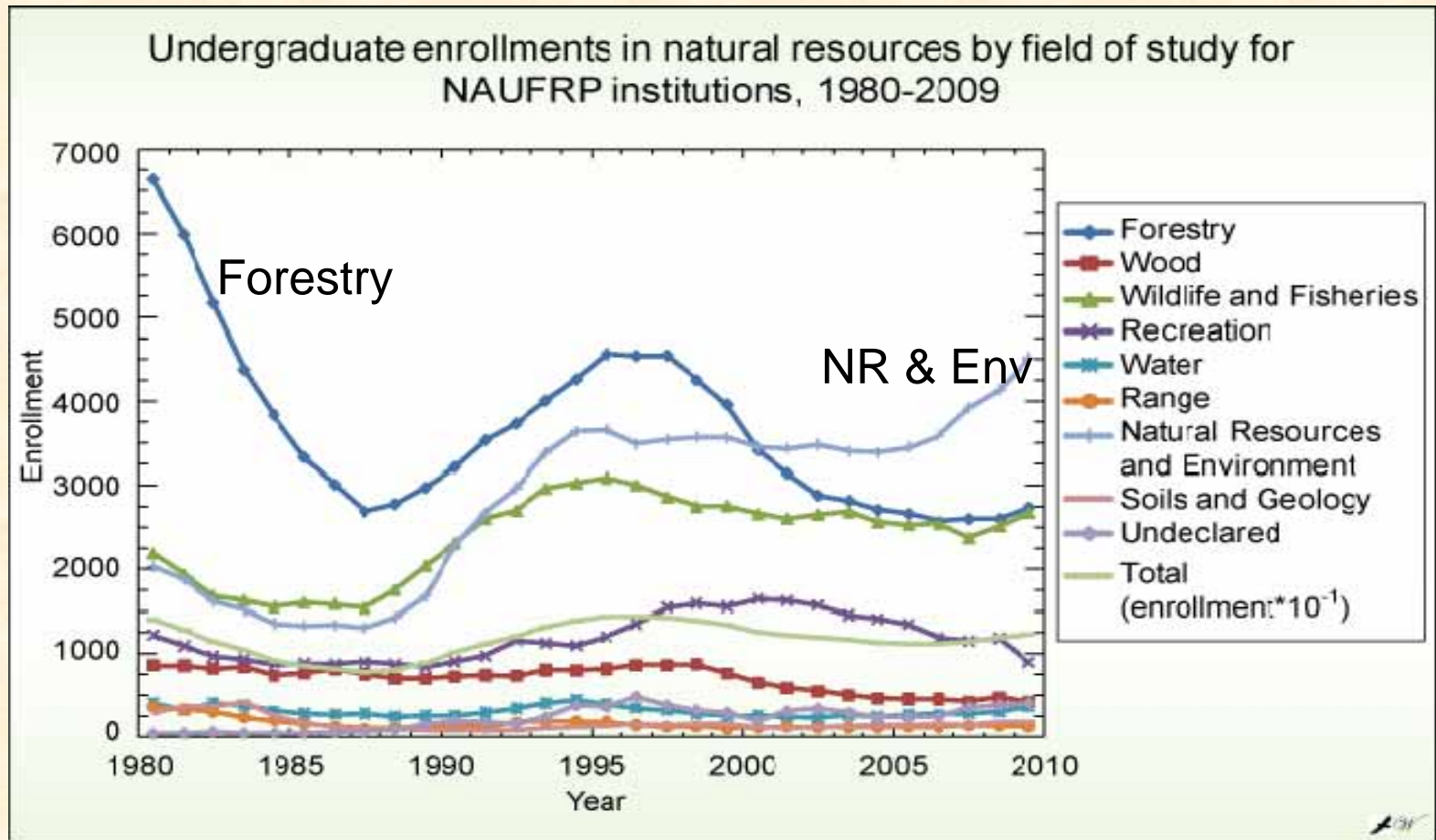
- Needs and changes in accreditation, e.g. Terrestrial Ecosystem Mgmt
- Trends in undergraduate education
- Recruiting and careers, e.g., Choose Forestry Brochure, Go Forestry Video (<http://www.goforestry.ca/>)

3. Recruiting Surveys and Tools

- National recruiting website with links to all NAUFRP schools (forestrycareers.org)
- Southern recruiting survey and analysis: what works and what doesn't
- Plans for national recruiting survey and analysis

Activities and Accomplishments: Education

4. National and Regional Enrollment Data for 30 Years (Sharik)



12 reasons identified for drop in FOR enrollment: 1. Job market; 2. salaries; 3. disconnect with natural resources (but see growth in NR/Env and WF)



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Activities and Accomplishments: Education

5. Current Undergraduate Education Task Force (Layton)

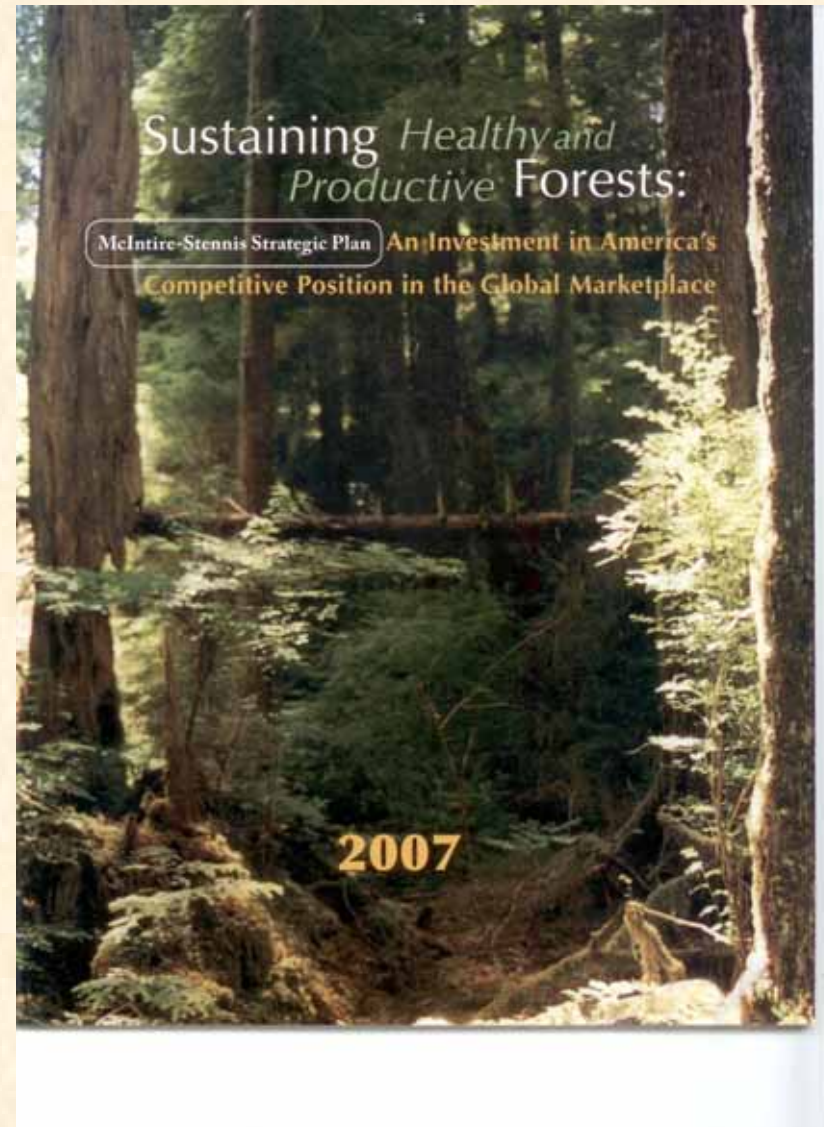
- Developing a comprehensive strategic plan for enhancing UG education in natural resources
- Draft plan submitted yesterday to NAUFRP Executive Committee
- Full report and action steps due by Spring, 2011 covering best practices and innovative ideas in:



Activities and Accomplishments: Research

1. National Summit (2006): *Forest Research for the 21st Century*

- 100 people from universities, government, industry and NGOs
- Identified national priorities for research and graduate education
- Resulted in National Strategic Plan for Research
- Recommended increase in M-S funding from \$25 M to \$65 M in 2015 (currently at \$29 M)
- Well known by NPLs at NIFA who mentioned that RFAs were impacted in 2009



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Recent Accomplishments: Research

2. Promoting Forest Resources in AFRI

- Senate sub-committee language specifying “forest resources” should receive 10% of NRI (now AFRI) funding
- Historically running at 2 to 3%
- So, NAUFRP mounted a multi-faceted campaign to promote “forest resources” in AFRI
 1. Two visits each year by a 3-person team to NPLs and AFRI leaders
 2. Searchable database of faculty willing to serve on review panels:
 - ✓ 2009: 100 faculty enrolled; 20 were asked to serve; and 12 did
 - ✓ 2010: 200 faculty enrolled; survey of results still pending
 - ✓ An NPL said: *“This is a very, very useful resource. We have our own database here, but yours is much easier to use”.*
 3. Direct encouragement to faculty to submit quality proposals
 4. Success stories of awarded grants posted on website with 9 now posted across a disciplines

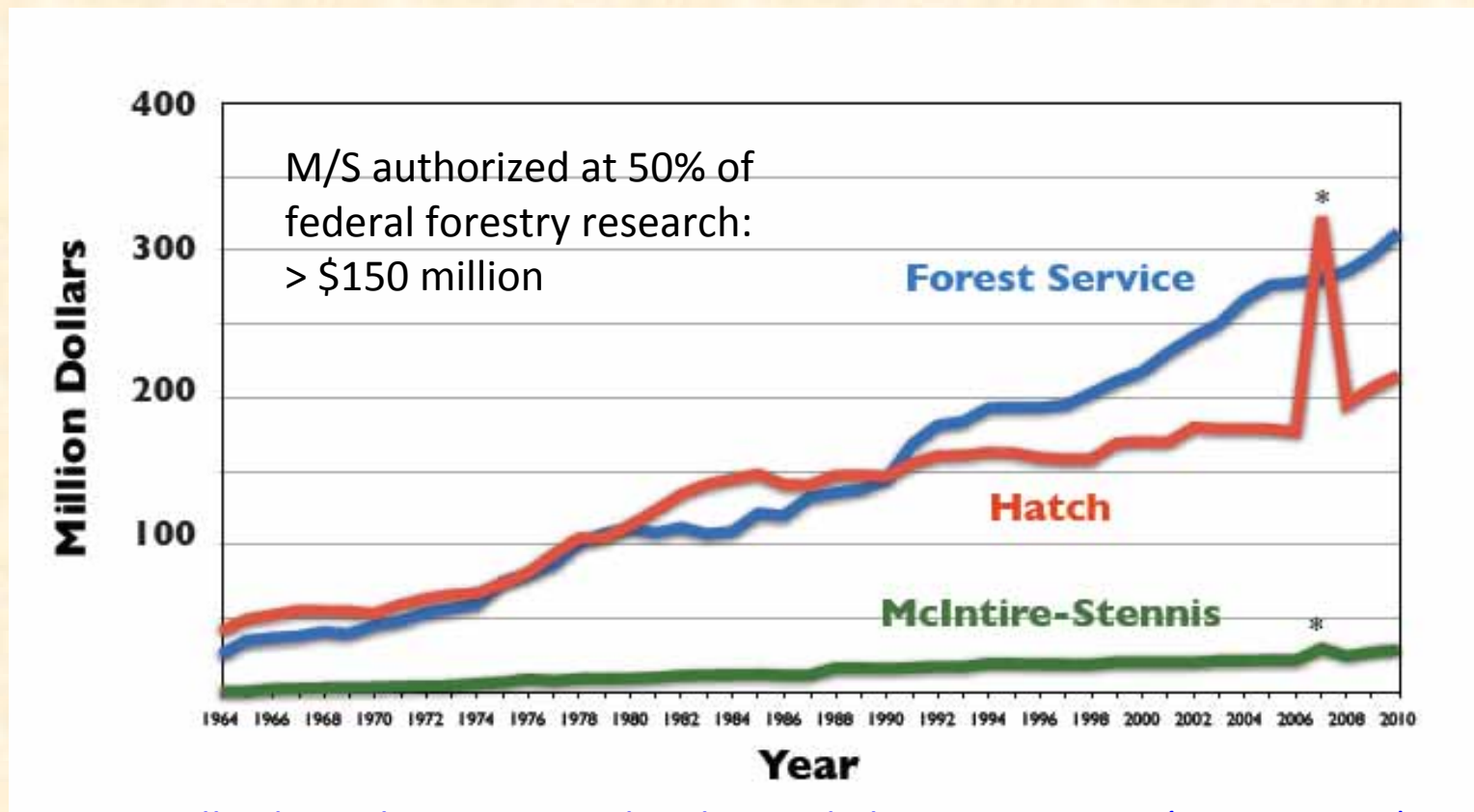


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Activities and Accomplishments: Research

3. Advocating for Increase in McIntire-Stennis Funding

- Original M-S legislation authorizes funding at 50% the amount appropriated for Federal forestry research conducted directly by USDA; yet, M-S funding has lagged way behind (currently at \$29 million)
- NAUFRP is mounting a major campaign to celebrate the 50th year anniversary of M-S, asking for \$50 million per year



Bullard, Brinker, Brown, Blanche, and Thompson, 2010 (JoF, in press)

Activities and Accomplishments: Extension/Engagement

1. RREA Funding (\$4 million)

- NAUFRP Hill visits to advocate higher appropriation level
- Joint Congressional reception with ECOP

2. RREA Focus Fund Projects

- Grants for targeted projects in extension/engagement
- NAUFRP Extension Chair works with NIFA to promote these grants

3. Family Forests Education Award

- Annual award jointly given with National Woodlands Owners Association
- Honors a university-based extension or outreach program



Activities and Accomplishments: Diversity

1. National Center for Workforce Diversity

- NAUFRP initiated with SAF a joint plan for this national center
- Plan approved by NAUFRP Executive Committee and SAF Council in 2007 and 2008
- Now seeking more partners and aiming for implementation

2. Diversity Summits

- NAUFRP sponsored two diversity workshops with many partners: Edmonton, 2005 & Orlando, 2009
- Both aimed to identify action steps for implementing the National Center for Workforce Diversity

3. NCSU Diversity Website

- NAUFRP partnered with ongoing efforts at NCSU: <http://communityfordiversity.ncsu.com>

4. 1890 Institutions

- 2008 Farm Bill, 1890s eligible for M-S funding
- NAUFRP reaching out to engage in our organization



Activities and Accomplishments: International

1. International Task Force to Monitor Global Graduates

- NAUFRP heads the task force in cooperation with the International Partnership for Forestry Education

2. World Forestry Congress in Buenos Aires

- NAUFRP past-President was a voting member for the U.S. State Department Delegation in 2009

3. IUFRO International Council

- NAUFRP holds the US seat on this council and participated in the Council meeting at the IUFRO World Congress in South Korea
- NAUFRP is the co-sponsor with the USFS of the 2014 World Congress

4. Facilitating more International Collaborations

- NAUFRP meeting with new Conference of Deans and Directors of European Forestry Faculties and Schools (ConDEFFS) in Romania (Goldfarb)



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Activities and Accomplishments: Regional Committees

1. Regional Meetings

- Once or twice each year to discuss regional efforts

2. Regional Surveys

- Started in South, 1994 and in West, 2004; standardized in 2009. Annually tracks: enrollments, grad stipends, faculty FTEs and salaries
- NE and NC regions initiated surveys in 2009

3. Regional Engagement with Partners

- Southern Leadership Tour
- Western joint task force with Western Forestry Leadership Coalition

4. Regional Recruiting Efforts

- UT/UK led a major effort to bring recruiters together at a 2008 workshop in Knoxville. Actions: regional survey, clearinghouse website, analyses of effective methods
- NAUFRP plans to expand this to more majors and beyond the region, plus hold a follow-up workshop



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Future Directions

Learning:

Create opportunities in recruitment, curriculum development, learning styles, distance learning, graduation and employment rates, outcomes assessment: Education Strategy

Discovery:

Promote M-S funding and increased competitive funding through AFRI: BNR Road Map for FR, FWL, Water, Recreation -- Annual Strategy under M-S

Engagement:

Advocate for RREA and partner to reward university extension/engagement programs: RREA Strategic Plan



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Future Directions

- Policy:** Set a national agenda and promote investment in university-based FRNR lifelong learning, discovery and engagement: Farm Bill, Forests-Climate-Energy
- International:** IUFRO 2014, ConDEFFS, FRNR Education Globally
- Diversity:** Collaborate to increase faculty, student, and workforce diversity
- Partnerships:** Strengthen BNR effectiveness and distinction re BAA, expand stakeholder engagement and “ownership”
- Communication:** Actively engage with partners to educate and advocate for the health, productivity and sustainability of forest and natural resources for the well being of all Americans

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