

# National Association of University Forest Resources Programs

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



**NAUFRP**

National Association of University Forest Resources Programs

# Overview

## What is NAUFRP?

An association that represents 65 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 that advance the health, productivity and sustainability of our nation's forest resources for the well being of all.

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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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# Organizational Structure

## National Officers

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

## National Committee Chairs

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

## Regional Chairs

- North Central
- Northeastern
- Southern
- Western

## 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 the 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, ~ 10 letters per year
- Develop position statements
- Serve as Chair of the Forestry section of APLU's Board of Natural Resources (BNR is equivalent to APLU's Board of Ag)
  - Chair of BNR 2009-2010 (Hopper)
  - Vice-chair of APLU's Commission for Environment, Food and Energy
- Partner in alliances, e.g., Forests in the Farm Bill Coalition, Forest Climate Working Group

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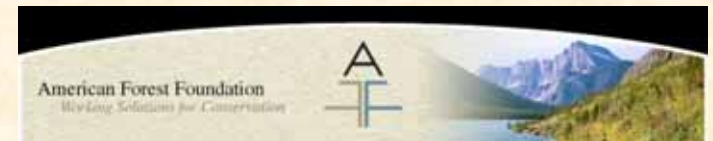


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# Activities and Accomplishments: Policy

## 3. Foster Communication and Collaboration with Partners



# 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

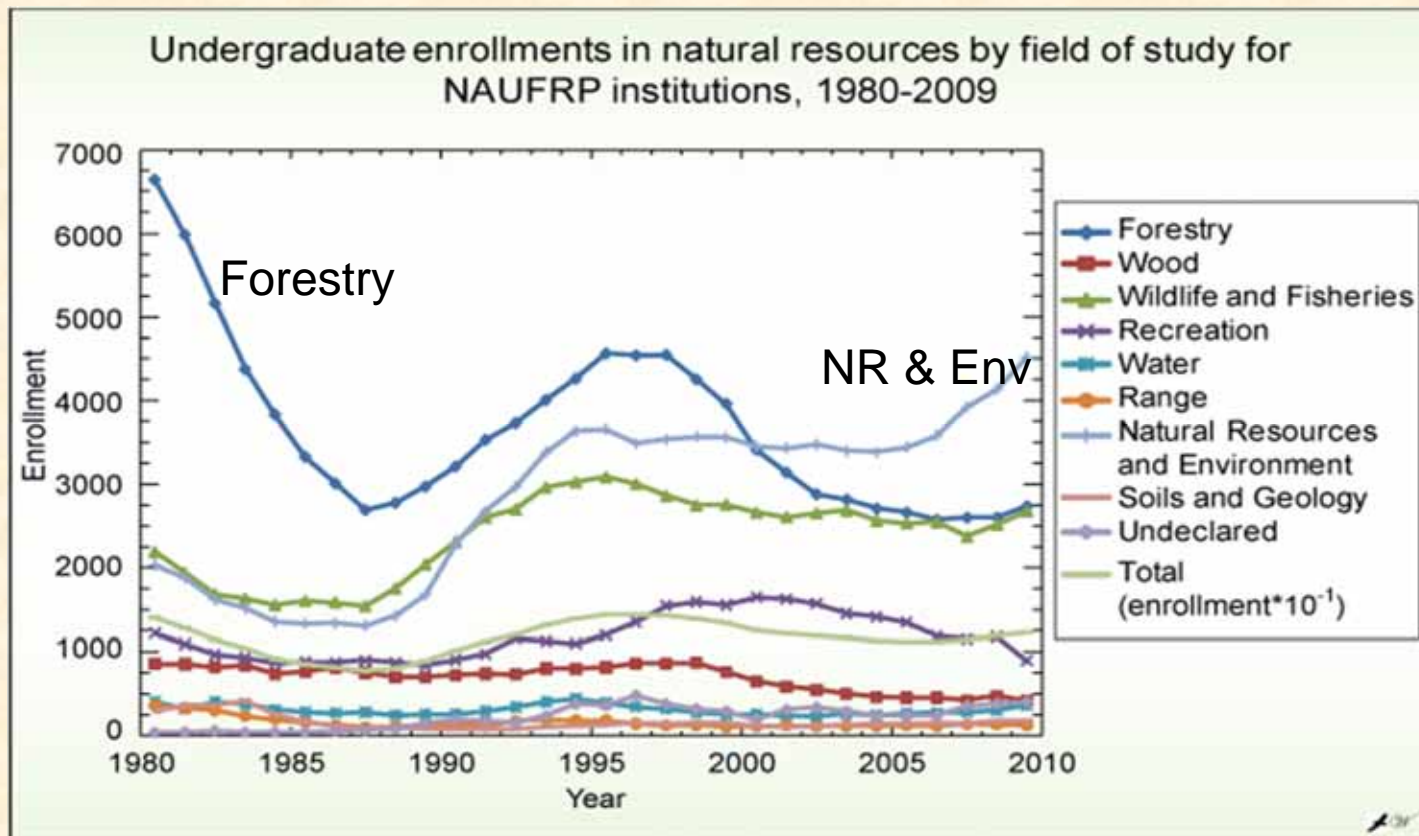
- Needs and changes in accreditation, e.g., Terrestrial Ecosystem Mgt
- Trends in undergraduate education
- Recruiting and careers, e.g., Choose Forestry Brochure, Go Forestry Video (<http://www.goforestry.ca/>)

## 3. Recruiting Surveys and Tools

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



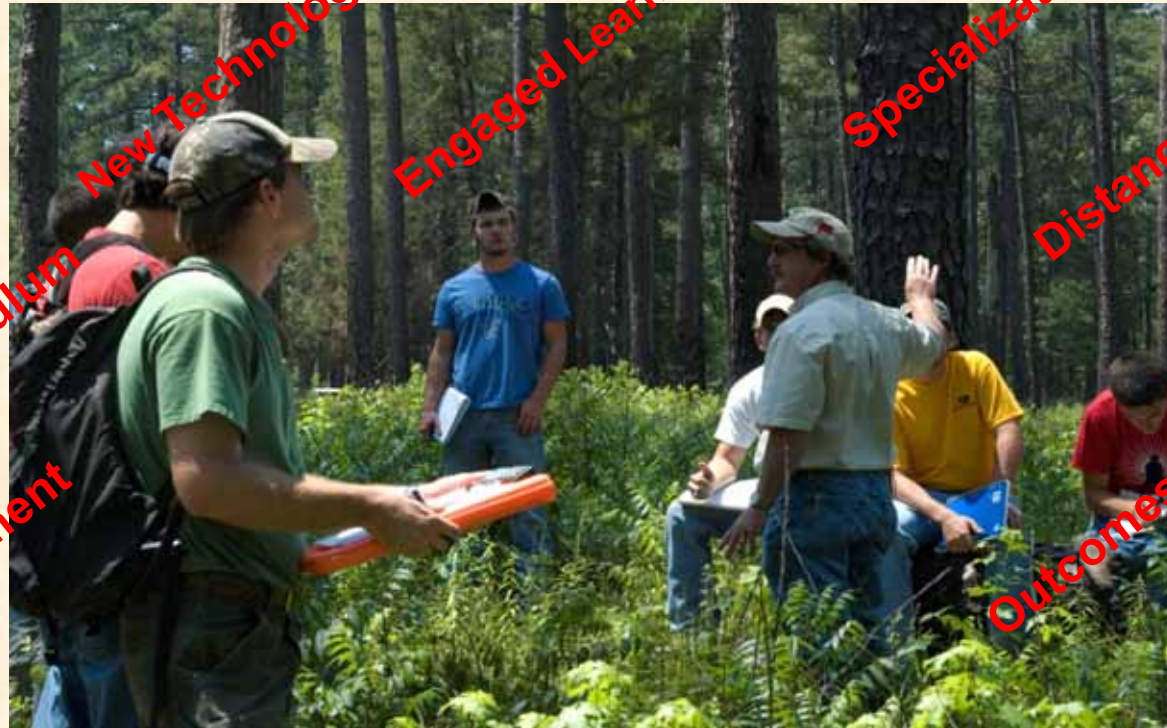
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# Activities and Accomplishments: Education

## 5. Undergraduate Education Task Force (Layton/Allen)

- With NIFA \$, developed a comprehensive plan for enhancing UG education in natural resources (approved by ExComm March 2011)
- Working discussion covering best practices and innovative ideas in:

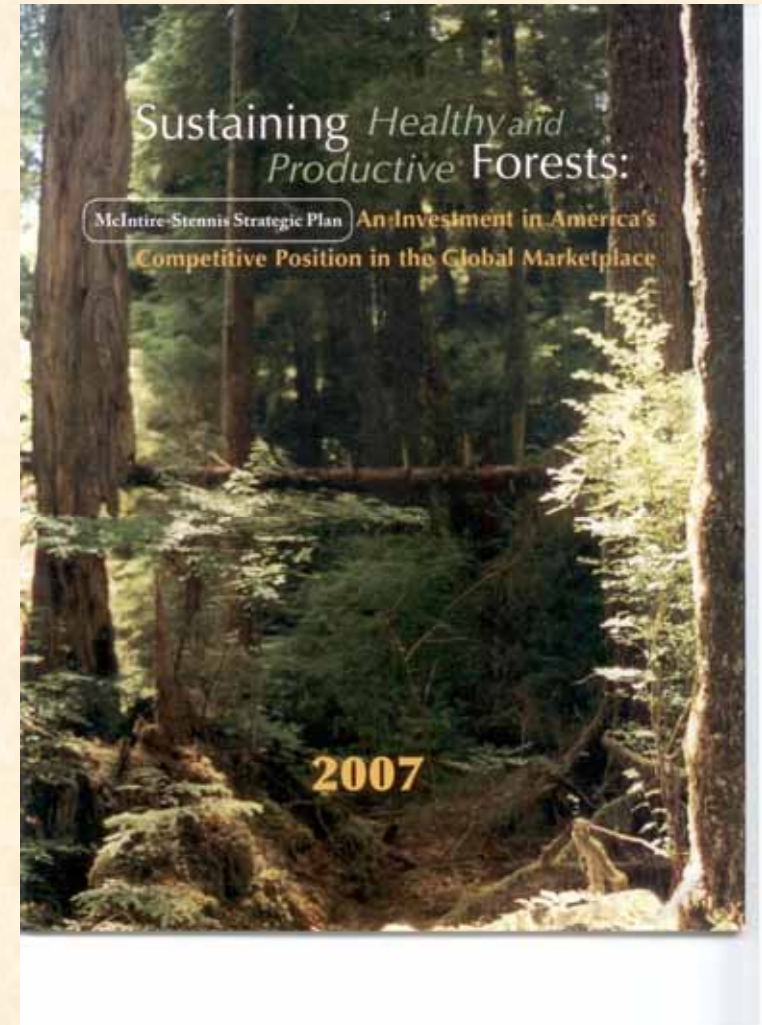


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# Activities and Accomplishments: Research

## 1. National Summit (2006): *Forest Research for the 21<sup>st</sup> 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
- Well known by NPLs at NIFA who mentioned that RFAs were impacted in 2009 and beyond



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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:
    - ✓ 273 faculty enrolled; 23 were asked to serve in 2011 or 2012
    - ✓ 6 served in 2011; 7 served in 2012
    - ✓ 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 NAUFRP website with 9 now posted across a range of disciplines



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# Activities and Accomplishments: Research

## 3. Advocating for Increase in McIntire-Stennis Funding

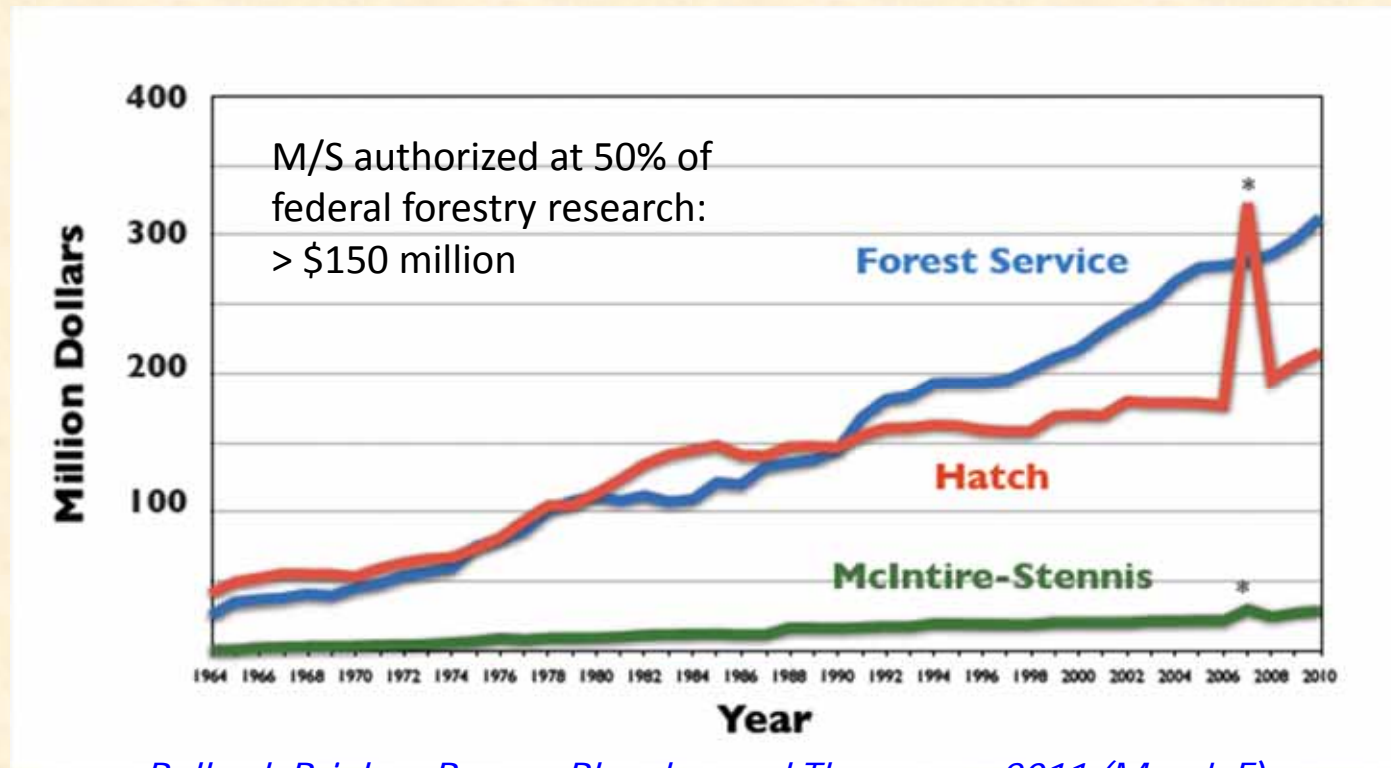
- Original M-S legislation authorizes funding at 50% the amount appropriated for Federal forestry research conducted directly by USDA; yet, M-S funding has lagged way behind (currently about 19% authorized level)
- Campaign to recognize and celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the M-S program • Article • Video • National and local activities (DVD and print materials distributed nationally in September)



*A 'Driving Force' in Developing the Nation's Forests: The McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Research Program*

Bullard, Brown, Blanche, Brinker, Thompson (2011)

- Letter from FRAC to Secretary of Agriculture (August 2012) states “We recommend increasing McIntire-Stennis funding and allocating \$50 million under the existing formula arrangement, as recommended by the NAUFRP.”



*Bullard, Brinker, Brown, Blanche, and Thompson, 2011 (May JoF)*

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# Activities and Accomplishments: Research

## 3. Advocating for Increase in McIntire-Stennis Funding

- Senate Resolution Passed on September 22, 2012

112th Congress  
2d Session

S. Res. 576

### In the Senate of the United States

September 22, 2012

Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Signing of Public Law 87-788, an Act Commonly Known as the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act

Whereas October 10, 2012, marks the 50th anniversary of the signing of Public Law 87-788 (commonly known as the "McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act") (16 U.S.C. 582a et seq.), which authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to encourage and assist States in conducting a program of forestry research;

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## Activities and Accomplishments: Research

3. Currently working with the Forest Service on IDC Recovery and also on Graduate Student Tuition ... a process that began in the spring of 2010
4. Proposed "Cooperative Research Unit" model for USFS scientists.

# Activities and Accomplishments: Extension/Engagement

## 1. RREA Funding (\$4 million)

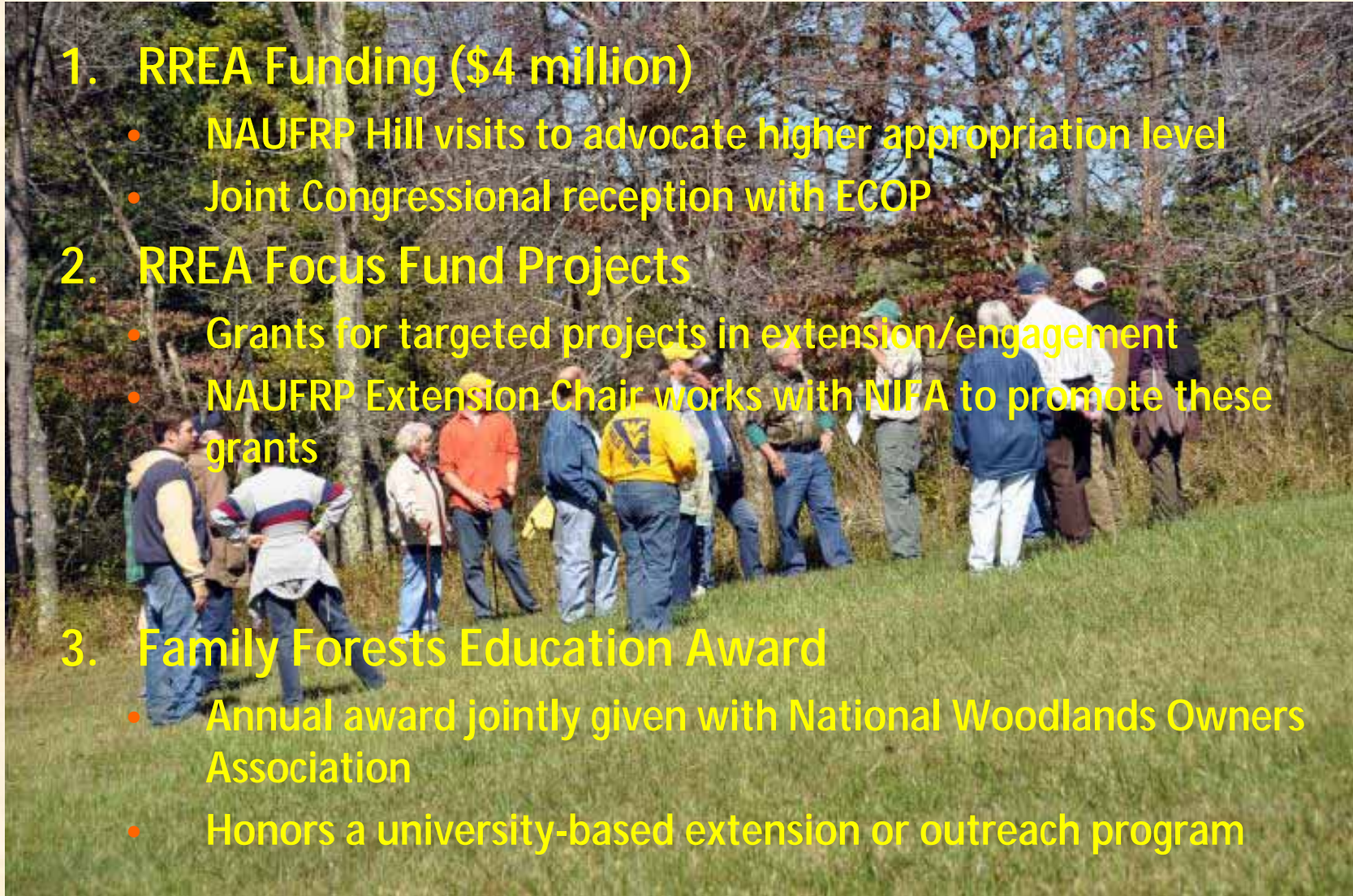
- NAUFRP Hill visits to advocate higher appropriation level
- Joint Congressional reception with ECOP

## 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. 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 a co-sponsor with the USFS of the 2014 World Congress

## 3. Facilitating International Collaboration

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

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# Activities and Accomplishments: Regional Committees

## 1. Regional Meetings

- Once or twice each year to discuss regional efforts

## 2. Regional “Comparative Data” Surveys

- Started in South, 1992, and in West, 2004; standardized in 2009. Annually tracks: enrollment, 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

# Activities and Accomplishments: General Communications

## Foster Communication and Collaboration with Each Other

- Chance to get to know colleagues from around the U.S.
- Chance to learn about other programs
- NAUFRP maintains a national listserv for:
  - National news (NIFA, USFS, etc.)
  - Faculty positions
  - Graduate assistantships
  - General communication

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# Challenges

1. Declining federal, state, and university budgets
2. Reorganization of forestry units within university organizational structures
3. Enrollment shifts from forestry to natural resource management, wildlife, environmental science, etc.

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# Future Directions

## Education:

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

## Research:

Promote M-S funding and increased competitive funding through AFRI; BNR Road Map for FR, F&W, Water, Recreation; Realign Research Priorities

## Outreach:

Advocate for RREA and partners to reward university extension/engagement programs; RREA Strategic Plan

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# Future Directions

**International:** IUFRO Salt Lake City 2014, FRNR Education Globally

**Diversity:** Continue to collaborate to increase faculty, student, and workforce diversity

**Partnerships:** Strengthen wherever feasible, including internationally



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