

NAUFRP NEWS

National Association of University Forest Resources Programs

Creating Knowledge – Developing Leaders

May 2022 Issue 3

President’s Message-Janaki Alavalapati

Dear NAUFRP members and friends:

Hope you all had a very successful Spring 2022 semester! I want to THANK each of you for your active engagement in NAUFRP activities. Due to COVID concerns, we had to condense our Spring Executive Meeting and organize it virtually on March 14. One of the highlights of the meeting was Dr. Bob Wagner’s (Research Chair) report detailing the changes in doctoral dissertation topics in forest resources from U.S. universities over four decades (a publication will appear in Forest Science) and thoughts on “how do we develop better national mechanisms and approaches for cooperatively identifying, communicating, coordinating, and advocating for U.S. forest and forest products R&D priorities, capacities, and funding. Stay tuned, Bob will be providing more details about this important issue. Thank you all for participating in NAUFRP’s April 6 Town Hall meeting with Mr. Robert Bonnie, Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation at USDA. His

remarks and Q&A session with you about USDA climate initiatives that relate to forestry and natural resources were insightful and productive. Since we heard very many positive comments on this format, NAUFRP will continue to organize two or three these town hall meetings each year. Since pandemic situation is getting better, the Executive Committee is planning to have an in-person meeting in Washington DC on May 23-24. The goal of the meeting is deliberate key issues impacting forestry and natural resources programs and develop plans to address them.

According to NAUFRP bylaws, we will solicit nominations for President-Elect and Secretary/Treasurer. Successful candidates will assume these positions starting January 1, 2023 and serve for two years. Ms. Terri Bates will send a formal announcement about nominations. We have a slight change in our leadership Dr. Nancy Matthews (University of Vermont), who served as the Chair of Northeast Region, has taken up the position as Provost at Central Michigan University. Congratulations Nancy!! Dr. Bill Hubbard, Assistant Director and State Program Leader for Natural Resources, Environment & Sea Grant at University of Maryland has come forward to serve as the Chair of Northeast Region. Please join me in welcoming Bill! As always, please note that the impact of our association depends on your engagement, your thoughts, and your creativity. We welcome your feedback on making our association more relevant and effective to you. I want to take this opportunity to wish you, your families, and your teams a wonderful summer!

Best regards

[Janaki Alavalapati](#), Dean, School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, Auburn University & President of NAUFRP

Washington Update—Randy Nuckolls, Washington Counsel Congress Begins Consideration of FY 23 Budget

President Biden submitted his FY 23 Budget request to Congress in early April. The House of Representatives and Senate moved into high gear in May holding hearings in regard to the funding requests of the various agencies. Recent hearings in both the House and Senate Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittees have heard testimony from Department of Agriculture representatives about the FY 23 budget requests for NIFA, including the President’s proposed 20+ percent requested increase in McIntire-Stennis funding from \$36 million to \$43.3 million. The USDA budget documents emphasize the need for increased McIntire-Stennis funding as an important way for the Administration to address the challenges of climate change.

Your NAUFRP representative Linda Nagel and I have worked closely with the Budget and Advocacy Committee of

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Meetings

NAUFRP Executive Committee May 23-24, 2022 Washington, D.C.

NAUFRP Executive Committee Sept. 19, 2022 Baltimore, MD

NAUFRP President’s Reception Sept. 19, 2022 Baltimore, MD

NAUFRP General Assembly Sept. 20, 2022 Baltimore, MD

SAF Convention Sept. 20-24, 2022 Baltimore, MD

Committee Work

Diversity— Yeonsu Kim

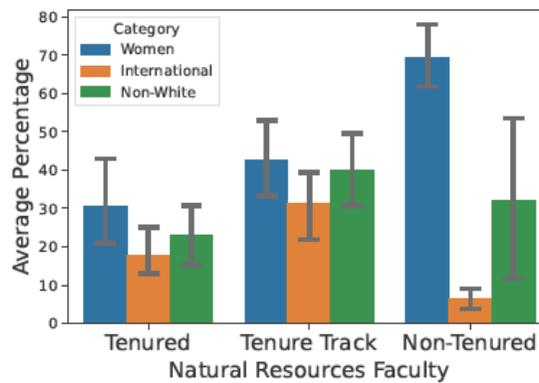
The Diversity Committee have been conducting a short survey to establish point-of-contact at all NAUFRP member institutions, share ideas/resources, and set goals for the committee. As of now we have only had 36 responses out of 102 requests (a 35% response rate). If you have not filled out the NAUFRP Diversity Survey that was sent out in December and February, it would be immensely helpful if you could take the time to do so. We have provided the link to the survey below.

FAEIS (Food and Agricultural Education Information System) collects data each year on the life, food, veterinary, human, natural resource, and agricultural sciences and makes this data available by request. As such we are able to create a much shorter survey on diversity that only asks for information that FAEIS does not collect such as: Does your department have a committee assigned to address DEI (diversity, inclusion, equity) issues?

While we are still seeking out re-

sponses to the survey, and hope that now with the end of the semester we will have better luck, we have created a graph (shown below) from the FAEIS data concerning the diversity within different types of faculty specific to the Natural Resources Professions.

If you have any questions or comments concerning the diversity survey or about our upcoming report, please email Dr. Kim at Yeon-Su.Kim@nau.edu or Annie Elko at ame477@nau.edu. Google Form Diversity Survey Link: <https://forms.gle/JtYPuffETP7UevKd6>



Policy—Dennis Becker

Participating in FACA (Forest and Agriculture Climate Alliance) meetings, which are gaining steam for the upcoming Farm Bill. FACA steering committee is identifying priority areas to focus those requests. I will provide feedback on the research priorities when the time comes.

Participated in webinar for SEC Climate-Related Disclosures for Investors: <https://www.sec.gov/news/press-release/2022-46>

Participating in USDA Forest Service wildfire roundtables for Regions 1, 4, and 6 representing the role of research in the infrastructure law expenditures

New member on the APLU Farm Bill committee

Steering committee member on the APLU/NIFA Climate Smart Solutions conference being planned for later this calendar year. Details to come later about focus and purpose. Location most likely in Kansas City.

Co-signed letter of support for funding the USFS Forest Stewardship Program at \$22 million in FY23.

Co-signed letter of support for funding the USFS Forest Inventory and Analysis Program at \$84 million in FY23.

Extension Committee, Jeff Stringer

The call for nominations for the 2022 Family Forest Education Awards was circulated in April. The awards, co-sponsored by NAUFRP and the National Woodland Owners Association, recognize excellence in continuing education programs focused on family forest owners. The Comprehensive Program and Individual Project awards will be presented to educational institutions deemed to have delivered educational programming and resources most benefiting family forest owners.

The 2021 winner of the Comprehensive Program Award, focused on holistic programming most benefiting family forest owners over the

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NAUFRP Executive Committee

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[David Newman](#), Past-President
SUNY-College of Environmental Sciences & Forestry

[Kathleen \(Katy\) Kavanagh](#), President-Elect
Oregon State University

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University of Florida

[Yeon-Su Kim](#), Diversity
Northern Arizona University

[Andrew Storer](#), Education
Michigan Technological University

[Jeff Stringer](#), Extension
University of Kentucky

[Don Hodges](#), International
University of Tennessee

[Dennis Becker](#), Policy
University of Idaho

[Bob Wagner](#), Research
Purdue University

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Stephen F. Austin State University

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NAUFRP Washington Counsel
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NAUFRP Executive Liaison
[Terri Bates](#)

Committee Work

(Extension Committee Continued from page 2)

last five years, was awarded to the University of Maryland Extension. In a deviation from tradition, the 2021 Individual Project Award focused on exemplary educational programming responses to the 2020 pandemic. The University of Kentucky, Department of Forestry and Natural Resources Extension was selected for its "From the Woods" a livestreamed weekly webinar and podcast delivery, developed in response to the need to maintain valuable educational delivery during the pandemic.

This year the 2022 Individual Program Award will accept nominations that addresses a specific family forest issue or problem, not necessarily focused on pandemic response. [Nominations for both awards are sought by August 20, 2022](#) with the awards being presented at the NAUFRP General Assembly meeting help in conjunction with the Society of American Foresters meeting in Baltimore, MD, September 20-24. Click on News at www.naufrp.org for more information and the awards nomination form. If you need further information contact NAUFRP Extension Committee Chair, Jeff Stringer at the University of Kentucky, stringer@uky.edu.

APLU Liaison — Linda Nagel

The [Budget and Advocacy Committee](#) (BAC) of the [Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities](#) (APLU) engaged in a new process to develop multiple options that represent the Board on Agriculture Assembly (BAA) priorities for federal agriculture and natural resource appropriations budget recommendations that are both aspirational yet realistic. President Biden's FY 2023 budget request (PBR) was released on March 28, after the BAA had completed the [Unified Request for NIFA Funding FY 2023](#). (A comparison of the PBR, BAA recommendations, and final FY 2022 numbers can be found [here](#).) The Unified Request for FY 2023 carries forward the BAA's priority funding lines and is organized by Research, Cooperative Extension, Education, and Infrastructure, with an aspirational ask of \$46 million for the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Research Program. Going forward, the FY 2023 process and outcomes will inform the FY 2024 process.

The Joint Committees on Organization and Policy (COPs) [Summer Meeting](#) will be held in person in Washington, DC July 19-21, 2022.

Education—Andrew Storer

SAF Accreditation: There have been staffing changes at the Society of American Foresters. Carol Redelsheimer is no longer with SAF and Jocelyn Harris has been appointed as the Associate Director of Accreditation. Jocelyn is now leading the SAF Education Policy Review Committee. Prior to Carol's departure, the 2021 accreditation handbook was completed, along with the associated visiting team manual. Both the 2021 Accreditation handbook and the Visiting Team Manual Under 2021 Handbook are available for download through links at <https://eforester.org>. Programs that are currently preparing for accreditation visits have the option to operate under the 2017 or the 2021 standards.

Global Forest Education Project Update: All the FAO 2021 regional assessment reports on forest education can be found accessed via the following link: <https://www.fao.org/forestry/forest-education/99204/en/>. These were products developed from the International Conference on Forest Education in June 2021 and response to a survey that was administered in 2020. This is an opportunity to see what the challenges are for forest education in specific regions around the globe. FAO is also in the final stages of formatting

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Regional Corner

Northeast— Bill Hubbard, University of Maryland has taken over as NAUFRP Regional Chair from **Nancy Mathews**, University of Vermont who has been selected to become Provost at Central Michigan University this summer.

South— Hans Williams — Southern NAUFRP Group to hold annual summer meeting in conjunction with the SGSF Annual Meeting, Greenville, SC, June 6-9.

<https://southernforests.org/news-events/events-meetings/sgsf-2022-annual-meeting>

The School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences at **Auburn University** became the College of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences on February 4, 2022. The college celebrated its 75th Anni-

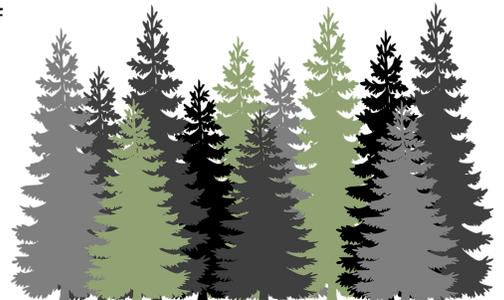
versary Gala on March 13, 2022 with Mr. Chuck Leavell, Rolling Stones Keyboardist, Grammy Award Winner, and Honorary U.S. Forest Service Ranger as the keynote speaker. The college also changed its name to "College of Forestry, Wildlife and Environment" to better reflects its academic, research, and extension programs."

Additional Celebrations to note: **Stephen F. Austin State University** Forestry is celebrating its 75th Anniversary and the **University of Florida** School of Forest, Fisheries, and Geomatics Sciences is celebrating their 85th Anniversary.

Dr. Steve Bullard is appointed Associate Dean of College of Forest Resources and Associate Director Forest and Wildlife Research Center at MSU

<https://www.msstate.edu/newsroom/article/2022/03/bullard-joins-cfrfwrc-associate-dean-and-director>

Western, Charles Goebel — Colorado State University – Dr. John Hayes, Dean of the Warner College of Natural Resources at Colorado State University, is retiring in June 2022. Dr. Hayes joined CSU in 2014, previously serving as the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Science Dean for Research and director of the Florida Agricultural Station. <https://warnercnr.source.colostate.edu/warner-college-dean-john-hayes>



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Committee Work (cont.)

(Education Committee Continued from page 3)

the assessment of global forest education report, based on a synthesis of the regional reports. The report is authored by Mika Rekola (University of Helsinki) and Terry Sharik.

Biennial Conference on Undergraduate Education in Natural Resources: The 2022 BCUENR meeting was hosted by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln School of Natural Resources and College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources on March 23-24, 2022. This 14th BCUENR was held virtually with the theme 'Inclusive Natural Resources Education'. The 2024 NCUENR will be hosted at Oregon State University.

New initiatives to promote diversity, equity, inclusion, and sense of belonging in forestry education programs: There are extensive data on the trends in enrollment (through the FAEIS data) and surveys of the reasons that student enroll in these programs. Data that have not been systematically collected include the thoughts and actions of instructors, admin and others. These will be important if we are to develop best practices in DEIS in forestry education programs. This provides the greatest opportunity to enact change beyond that developed from student feedback). The continued collection of FAEIS data will give the overall picture of progress. There is also interest in new leadership in some of these scholarly efforts. Dr. Tara Bal (Michigan Tech) and Dr. Marcella Windmuller-Campione (University of Minnesota) have prepared a white paper to propose work in this area, and are requesting support from NAUFRP (among others) for an initiative that relates to developing best practices to promote diversity, equity and inclusion in forestry and natural resources education. The education committee chair and the diversity committee chair are initiating work with Drs. Bal and Windmuller-Campione to develop a proposal to NAUFRP from their white paper.

Research—Bob Wagner

Change in doctoral dissertation topics in forest resources from U.S. universities over four decades: Results from this work were accepted for publication in *Forest Science*

and should be in print in the next month or two. Citation is: Wagner, R.G., K.M. Bellisario, and N.N. Kong. 2022. Change in doctoral dissertation topics in forest resources from U.S. universities over four decades. *Forest Science* XX: XX-XX.

Publishing results of 2020-21 U.S. Forest and Forest Products R&D Capacity Summit: The initial organizing committee for the 2020-21 summit continued meeting weekly to keep the momentum following the results and recommendations from the final summit report submitted to the NAUFRP Executive Committee at the Fall 2021 meeting: Huff, Emily S., Robert G. Wagner, J. Keith Gillless, and Michael Goergen. 2021. U.S. Forest and Forest Products R&D Capacity: Results from 2020-21 Stakeholder Summit. Unpublished report to National Association of University Forest Resources Programs. 37p. A draft manuscript, led by Emily Huff, summarizing the results of the summit was prepared for *Journal of Forestry* and will be submitted for publication shortly.

Next steps following from 2020-21 R&D Capacity Summit: Our summit organizing committee consisting of Robert Wagner (Purdue U.), Emily Huff (Michigan State U.), Michael Goergen (U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities), and Keith Gillless (U.C. Berkeley, retired) discussed options for next steps following from the results and recommendations from 2020-21 R&D Summit report.

The fundamental question we discussed is: *Based on what we learned from the 2020-21 R&D Summit, how do we develop better national mechanisms and approaches for cooperatively identifying, communicating, coordinating, and advocating for U.S. forest and forest products R&D priorities, capacities, and funding?*

A rough draft of a proposal for solutions and next steps was developed by our team and is attached: Wagner, R.G., E.S. Huff, M. Goergen, and J. Keith Gillless. 2022. Stronger R&D Needed to Address Threats and Capture Opportunities for U.S. Forests and Forest Products.

Feedback and additional team members are sought. Contact [Bob Wagner](#) for a copy of the draft proposal.

Notable new book: *Speaking Skills for Graduate Students*, published by Larry Nielsen. Larry, a former NAUFRP leader and now professor emeritus at NC State and well-regarded public speaker, prepared this short ebook (only available through Amazon) as a resource for new graduate students in natural resources who will be giving their thesis presentations and their first scientific talks. Larry suggests it would be a good supplement to professional development seminars or courses that most of our programs offer for starting graduate students.

See McIntire-Stennis Research Projects at NAUFRP institutions summarized at [McIntire-Stennis Projects – National Association of University Forest Resource Programs \(naufrp.org\)](#)

Regional Corner, *cont.*

(Western MAUFRP Continued from page 3)

[announces-retirement-at-end-of-2021-22-academic-year/](#)

Humboldt State University – In January 2022, Humboldt State University became Cal Ploy Humboldt, California's third polytechnic and the first in Northern California.

<https://www.humboldt.edu/polytechnic>

Oregon State University - Oregon has passed and signed legislation establishing what will be one of the largest forests in North America with management dedicated to long-term scientific research at a watershed scale. The state has fully funded the \$221 million necessary to set aside the 82,500-acre Elliott State Research Forest on the southwest coast of Oregon. The vision for the Elliott State Research Forest is based on a collaboratively developed research and management plan implemented with the overlay of a Habitat Conservation Plan under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Elliott, home to three endangered species, will be a world-class, publicly owned forest that is actively managed to support long-term research to inform how our forests can achieve broad-scale conservation goals, mitigate and adapt to climate change, while also producing traditional and climate-smart forest products for a growing global population. The Elliott State Research Forest will contract with

Oregon State University as the state's land grant institution to lead the research management program.

https://www.forestry.oregonstate.edu/sites/default/files/041421_esrf_proposal.pdf

University of Idaho – The College of Natural Resources at the University of Idaho will be launching three new Associate of Science degrees in the Fall of 2022, the first of their kind at UI. The degrees include: 1) A.S., Forest Operations and Technology; 2) A.S., Forest Nursery Management and Technology; and 3) A.S., Wildland Fuels and Fire Technology.

The three degrees will be delivered by the Department of Forest, Rangeland and Fire Sciences and will leverage UI's resources near Moscow including UI's 8,500-acre working Experimental Forest and Pitkin Forest Nursery.

Utah State University – In late April 2022, **Dr. Linda Nagel** was named the next Dean of the Quinney College of Natural Resources at Utah State University. For the past seven years, Dr. Nagel has served as professor and head of the Department of Forest and Rangeland Stewardship in the Warner College of Natural Resources at Colorado State University.

[https://www.usu.edu/today/story/usu-names-linda-nagel-as-dean-for-](https://www.usu.edu/today/story/usu-names-linda-nagel-as-dean-for-quinney-college-of-natural-resources)

[quinney-college-of-natural-resources](#)

Washington State University – This spring **Dr. Matthew S. Carroll** will retire from the Forest Ecology and Management program in the School of the Environment. Dr. Carroll has served for 35 years as an outstanding social scientist with an emphasis on natural resource issues, particularly community adaptation to wild-fire. His teaching included courses on natural resource policy, natural resource sociology, and ethics in research and natural resource management. In addition, he has led a specialized course on Irish history and natural resources by actually taking groups of students to Ireland for three weeks in the summer. Dr. Carroll was very active in service, serving several appointments in the WSU Faculty Senate and acting as Associate Director for Graduate Programs in the SOE for a three-year term at the end of his career.



(Washington Report continued from page 1)

APLU on a unified approach and messaging to Congress in support of increased funding for both competitive and capacity funds in the NIFA budget. The APLU unified request for McIntire Stennis is \$46 million and for the AFRI competitive grant program the request is \$500 million, significant proposed increases for both.

While the Administration's request was good news for the NIFA budget and McIntire-Stennis in particular, our early discussions with Congressional Appropriations staff indicate that FY 23 may be a difficult year for significant increases. With midterm elections looming, spending on Ukraine support growing and inflation a major concern, most senior Congressional appropriations staff have been candid in our discussions that there may be little new money available in the FY 23 funding cycle despite the Biden Administration requests.

NAUFRP will continue working closely with key Members of Congress and staff and our partners at APLU to share the importance of the key USDA and other agency funding programs of importance to NAUFRP members. It is very important that NAUFRP members develop and maintain close relationships with your individual institution's government relations officer so that programs of importance to your faculty and students are well understood by your campus spokesperson with Congress and included in the messaging from your University to your state's Congressional delegation.

Randy Nuckolls,

NAUFRP Washington Counsel