

NAUFRP Education Chair Interim Report

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1. Am exploring the possibility of NAUFRP becoming a “Professional Partner” of IFSA along with IUFRO, the European Forest Institute (EFI), Commonwealth Forestry Association (CFA), International Partnership for Forestry Education (IPFE), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Center for International Research (CIFOR), Silva Network, and International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO). John Hayes (past International Chair) was assisting with this and reported that attempts to reach the IFSA leadership were unsuccessful. (2-A-3)
2. Developed a survey to be administered to students attending the 2014 IUFRO World Congress and SAF Annual Convention regarding their perspectives on enrolling in undergraduate forestry programs in the U.S. and elsewhere. Overall response rate was 53% (n=526). This was a follow-up to our U.S. surveys conducted in 2004, 2007, and 2010. The data from both venues have been analyzed and that from the SAF National Convention is in draft manuscript form to be submitted to the *Journal of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Education*. The findings from the IUFRO survey were presented at the ISSRM in Houghton, MI, on June 25, 2016, and at the IUFRO Regional Congress for Asia and Oceania on October 26, 2016. They were also presented at the SAF National Convention in Madison, WI, on November 5, 2016, and will be submitted for publication in *Society and Natural Resources*. We also administered the survey to all NAUFRP institutions encompassing all areas of natural resources (and including graduate students) as a way of broadening the scope of the survey and reducing the bias in the sample population. The data have been analyzed and we are now in the manuscript preparation phase, perhaps for submission to the *Journal of Forestry*. (1-D-1-a)
3. Conducted an analyses of NAUFRP-member institutions to determine if there is any relationship between the proportion of women and minorities in the natural resources student body and the content of their respective web sites. The results of the study were presented at the SAF National Convention on November 4, 2016 in a special session on diversity and inclusion, and will be submitted for publication in the *Journal of Forestry*. (1-B, 1-D)
4. Served on an ad hoc steering committee organized by Susan Stout (USFS) and Carol Redelsheimer (SAF) to organize a special session on diversity and inclusion at the SAF national convention in Madison, WI, on November 4, 2016. Manuscripts from oral presentations may be invited for publication in a special issue of the *Journal of Forestry* on “diversity and inclusion” and I volunteered to assist with the editing. The committee also arranged for oral histories of several people to be recorded on this topic and recommended that a new SF Working Group on Diversity and Inclusion be formed. (1-D, 4-A-2)
5. Worked with Hannah Abbotts from Michigan Tech and Terri Bates from NAUFRP to redesign the NAUFRP website for unveiling in Madison, WI, on November 1 and 2, 2016, to obtain feedback from the membership prior to full implementation. This feedback was used to make revisions and the new prototype was delivered to Terri Bates at NAUFRP. It is in the final stages of revision prior to becoming operational. (3-C)
6. The development of an Educational Clearinghouse on the NAUFRP website is awaiting fundamental changes to be made to the NAUFRP web site. Two documents ready for posting include a list of

references on NR student enrollments and diversity, and a summary of “Best Practices for Improving Communication Skills in Natural Resource Majors.” (3-C)

7. Visited the new USDA FAEIS administrators at Virginia Tech to cooperate on data management related to NAUFRP natural resource academic programs at NAUFRP institutions. Arranged for these administrators to present at the NAUFRP Executive Committee Meeting and General Assembly in Madison, WI, on November 1 and 2, 2016, respectively. Since then, FAEIS has been gathering data from our member institutions for the years 2013-2016 (with mixed success), confirming the lead contacts for each university, and recording the degree programs for each institution for cross-walking with our joint CIP code classification into Natural Resource and Conservation “academic areas.” (1-B-3)
8. Served on the Advisory Committee for the Global Outlook on Forestry Education (GOFE) Project, jointly sponsored by IUFRO and IFSA. In the process of developing a survey tool to be administered to recent graduates. Utilizes a Behavior Event Interview (BEI) process to obtain a deeper understanding of the competencies of these graduates in relation to curricula in forestry and natural resources. NAUFRP participating institutions may include Michigan Tech, Virginia Tech, Michigan State, University of Georgia, University of Maine, and Southern University and A&M. (1-C-3, 4-A)
9. Submitted a report to the Blue Ribbon Commission on Forestry and Forest Products on “Enrollment Trends in Natural Resource Degree Programs in the U.S.: Implications for Research Capacity in the Profession” for incorporation into their larger report (1-C-3).

*Numbers and letters in parentheses refer to specific sections in the *NAUFRP Undergraduate Education Strategy* Report (Layton et al. 2011), where the first order is a goal, the second order an objective within a goal, the third order a task within an objective, and the fourth order a task within a task.