

Alumni

Joel Smith('59) received the Distinguished Service Award at the SFRC Annual Awards Banquet held April 12th.

John Morris('67) (right) received the Outstanding Alumnus Award at the SFRC Annual Awards Banquet held April 12th.

Eric Holzmueller('06) and **Kristi Bender**('04) were married December 29, 2007. Kristi is the coordinator of recruitment for the College of Agriculture Sciences at Southern Illinois University and Eric is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Forestry at SIU.

Dan Schultz('77) received the SFRC Outstanding Staff Member award for his work in hosting Conclave.

Faculty

Martha Monroe received the Crystal Vision Award from the League of Environmental Educators for her unique long-term contributions that further LEEF's goal and mission. Martha was also awarded the University "Scholarship of Engagement" by the College of Education.

Alan Long was awarded the Herbert Stoddard Sr. Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association of Fire Ecologists for his work in fire ecology and management.

P.K. Nair is the first IFAS researcher to become a fellow of three agricultural societies: American Society of Agronomy, Soil Science Society of America and the Crop Science Society of America. He also received a Doctor of Science *honoris causa* degree from the University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain.

Janaki Alavalapati has taken the position of Professor and Head of the Department of Forestry at Virginia Tech. Congratulations!

Appreciation For Our Supporters

Without the support of friends we could not maintain our level of academic excellence.

Thanks to the following for their contributions to the School's Unrestricted Fund: **Temple Inland Foundation** for matching **James DeCosmo's**('81) donation, **The Rayonier Foundation, Dr. & Mrs. Tillinghast Lybass, Mr. & Mrs. Norman Carlson**('51), **William M. Bennett**('54), **Samuel E. Poole**('70), **James Rath**('84), **Mr. & Mrs. George Park**('54), **Susan Kett**('82), **Charles Haynes**('57), **Donna Legare**('75) & **Joseph Walthall**('76), **Charles Houder III**('74), Lieutenant Colonel **Ryan LaPorte**('92), **Thomas Leetch**('57), **David Morse**('03), Rev. **Paul David Kidd**('59), **Linda Fallon**('93), & **Douglas Shipley**('03). Thanks to **C&B Farms & Michael Chambers** for their support of **Don Rockwood's** research program. Thanks to the following for their contributions to the School's Forestry Alumni Fund: **A. Chester Skinner Jr.** for the turpentine still project, **Joel**('59) & **Polly Smith** for trail maintenance, & Dr. **Anne Bower**('96). Thanks to **Packaging Corporation of America; Barbara Jones Parish, Marilyn Evans-Jones, & Virginia Jones Ramsdell** in memory of **Edward Eugene Jones, Jr.**; and the **Leon County Extension Office** for their contributions to Project Learning Tree. Thank you to **James & Joh-Nana Lybass** for their support of the Lybass Scholarships. Thanks to **Wayne Smith & Mitzi Austin** for their contributions to the Wayne Smith Student Leadership Fund, John Gray Endowment for Excellence in Forest Resources and Conservation and the Alumni Turpentine Still Project in memory of Pete Gerrell. Thank you to the following for their contributions to the William Paul Shelley, Sr. Memorial Scholarship Fund: **Mr. & Mrs. James Ferman & Mrs. Glenn Rankin** in memory of **Paul Shelley**. Thanks to **Southern Forestry Consultants, Inc.** and **Farm Credit of Northwest Florida** for their contributions to the Forest Stewardship Fund. Thank you to **Kristi & Talbot Menear** for their contribution for the **William James Menear Jr.**('55) Scholarship in honor of William James Menear.

Director's Letter



This issue of the SFRC Newsletter focuses on our undergraduate programs. We are happy to report that enrollment is growing and graduating seniors are finding good jobs. Total undergraduate SFRC enrollment is approximately 160 students (76 in Geomatics, 46 in Natural Resource

Conservation and 38 in Forest Resources and Conservation). This number is up from 138 the previous year.

Not only is enrollment up, but students from all three majors are finding jobs in their profession. In the last two years, 90% of graduating seniors in the Forest Resources and Conservation (FRC) major have found positions in the Division of Forestry, private consulting, industry, federal agencies, non-governmental organizations and graduate school. All (that is, 100%) of the Geomatics graduates have taken positions with surveying or engineering firms or gone on to graduate school.

So, while sometimes we hear that jobs are scarce for FRC graduates or that the real estate slowdown has impacted the surveying industry, our graduates are finding good jobs. We believe that there are at least two reasons for this. First, the professional demand has always existed and will continue to exist in the future in both geomatics and forest

resources. While both professions are dynamic, society will need good stewards of our natural resources more than ever in the future. Similarly, surveyors and mappers will always be in high demand.

Second, the SFRC faculty are committed to giving students the very best education possible with strong technical classes, personal attention, targeted internships in the profession, and special emphasis on problem solving, critical thinking, communication skills, lifelong learning and professional development. As examples of professional development and leadership opportunities are: 15 undergraduates attended the Southeastern Chapter of the Society of American Foresters (SAF); 11 attended the national SAF meeting in Portland, OR; 14 attended the annual meeting of the Florida Surveying and Mapping Society; and several students in all three majors became officers of clubs and helped to organize many events including Conclave (see below), annual award banquets, golf tournaments, club activities, fund raisers and more.

Perhaps we are biased, but we firmly believe that the combination of future demand for our graduates and the high quality of education that our students receive make the SFRC a great choice for high school and community college students. If you agree, please send us promising students who will become the leaders of their profession.

Tim White

Association of Southern Forestry Clubs'

2008 Conclave

On March 6-8, the University of Florida Forestry Club hosted 250 students and advisors for the 51st Association of Southern Forestry Clubs' Conclave.

This annual event pits competitors from 16 southeastern university forestry programs against each other in contests ranging from traditional lumberjacking events such as log chopping, pole climbing, and crosscut sawing, to technical natural resource events like photogrammetry, timber estimation, and dendrology. Competing students gamely slogged through their events in four inches of downpouring rain on the first day, and were awarded with a sunny and windy Saturday for finishing off the physical events.

Perennial favorite Stephen F. Austin University took away this year's championship cup. The gator foresters managed to pull off a respect-

able sixth place finish on top of running the entire event.

The event was sponsored by Stihl, Inc., with additional major support from Rayonier, Inc., SFRC, and Environmental Services, Inc. Many SFRC alumni were spotted at the event, with several gamely joining in to help move logs, time events, and generally keep things running smoothly. Photographs and results from the events can be seen on the conclave web site at: <http://sfrc.ufl.edu/Conclave2008>.

Go Gators!



