Quarterly Cruise

Fall 2014
Quarterly Cruise
College of Forestry Fall 2014

Front cover photo: Newberry National Volcanic Monument, OR. Courtesy of Alicia Magedman, Natural Resources
Back cover photo: Sunset of Buffalo Point, UT. Courtesy of William Osmer, Recreation Resource Management
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America’s #10 College Town

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So you’re considering moving to Corvallis, Oregon and attending Oregon State University, but you want to know what Corvallis has to offer and how you’ll be able to stay busy when you aren’t in class or studying. Corvallis has plenty of activities to keep you occupied. Did you know that Corvallis was recently ranked the #10 best college town in America? This is, in large part, due to Corvallis’ livability, the student to resident ratio, the various cultural offerings, school presence, and the number of large employers.

Upon arriving in Corvallis, the first thing you will notice is the number of people biking, running or walking to their destination. The numerous parks, bike paths and hiking trails will inspire you to get your workout on. And the fact that Corvallis is surrounded by beautiful views of the Cascade’s doesn’t hurt. Corvallis received a gold rating from the “League of American Bicyclists” in 2011, as a bicycle friendly community. In 2011, the U.S. Census Bureau released data showing that, at 9.3%, Corvallis had the highest percentage of bicycle commuters of any city in America. To top it off, there are at least SEVEN bike shops in Corvallis!

After you get settled into your new living arrangements, you can get a taste and feel for the Corvallis culture by attending the 42nd annual Corvallis Fall Festival. For more information on the festival, visit corvallisfallfestival.org. This two-day event includes music, food and art. According to Christine Hackenbruck, Executive Director of the festival, the Fall Festival was started as, “a way to welcome back OSU students and their families to Corvallis,” and to showcase how Corvallis is the “epicenter of arts and culture in the mid-Willamette Valley!” This year’s festival includes music from the “Strange Tones,” “Kokobola,” and “Coming Up Three’s,” as well as a performance by the OSU Steel Drum Band. There will be various food and drink options served by local non-profit groups in an effort to raise funds that will allow them to give back to the community. Activities also include an Art Discovery Zone for children with spin art, puppet making and theater, multimedia sculptures, art trading cards, and many more fun activities. This area is great for all ages! This year’s Fall Festival is scheduled for September 27th and 28th, 2014.

For more information on events, restaurants and things to do in Corvallis, check out the Visit Corvallis website at visitcorvallis.com. There is even an Oregon State University section that highlights events, restaurants, and hotels near OSU.

*Whatever type of activity you enjoy, Corvallis has something for everyone...including you!*
So, you’re all settled into your new Corvallis home...
You have been checking out what is available in town and the
surrounding areas; but do you know what is available here on
campus?

Events and Activities
The Oregon State University campus has numerous activities
and services to offer students. By visiting the Student Events
and Activities Center website you’ll find information on
the many opportunities for students to get involved. These
organizations include the African Student Association, the
Chinese Association and many other organizations that
promote diversity awareness events and activities for students.

Clubs and Organizations
Are you looking for other ways to stay active, make new friends
and get involved? Here in the College of Forestry we offer eight
different clubs and organizations for students interested in
meeting new friends and colleagues, and developing teamwork
and leadership skills while getting more involved in the fields of
forestry and natural resources. These clubs include:

• Ambassadors for Forestry, Agriculture and Natural Resources
• American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing
• Forest Products Society, OSU Chapter
• Forestry Club
• International Forestry Students Association, Student Chapter
• Society of American Foresters, OSU Student Chapter
• Xi Sigma Pi
• Association of Unmanned Vehicle Systems International

OSU has a club and organization for just about anyone. You can
find a list of available clubs and organizations to join by visiting
oregonstate.edu/seac/about-us

Health Services
OSU offers health services for students including mental health
services at CAPS (Counseling and Psychological Services). CAPS
services are available to individuals, couples and groups for
private consultations. For more information visit oregonstate.
edu/counsel.

Student Health Services is also available to keep OSU students
healthy and provides numerous services and information
related to health and safety. Visit the Student Health
Services website at studenthealth.oregonstate.edu for more
information.

Fitness
Are you looking for a way to stay in shape? Check out Dixon
Recreation Center for cardio rooms, weights, racquetball
courts, climbing room, indoor track, pool, sand volleyball
courts and so much more. Check out Dixon’s website for hours
at oregonstate.edu/recsports/dixon-recreation-center.

Whatever your interest or passion, Oregon State University has
something for you!
Promising Beginnings
Sadé Beasley, this summer’s PROMISE Intern for Student Services, is planning to transfer into the College of Forestry after discovering how she could use her passion for engineering in a way that would ensure a brighter, more sustainable future for natural resources protected by Native American lands.

Sadé is of Tlingit decent, an Alaskan tribe. Both her father and Grandmother are members of the tribe. She began her OSU journey as a Civil Engineering major and her first two years as a Beaver was a time of self-discovery and learning. She began working in the Native American Longhouse as an office assistant in order to get more in touch with her Native American heritage. Being involved in the different programs and events the cultural center had to offer gave her a sense of belonging. The following year, she decided to join the Lonnie B. Harris Black Cultural Center as the Community Outreach Coordinator. She wanted to help foster an African American community on campus, and focused on bringing together students from diverse backgrounds. Her dedication to the community extended as far as being one of the first to charter Zeta Phi Beta, an African American sorority on campus.

This summer, Sadé was hired by the College of Forestry’s Student Services Office as a PROMISE Intern. PROMISE is a program, coordinated by the Office of Equity and Inclusion, that promotes and encourages the success of students particularly from historically under represented groups. The internship consists of ten 40-hour work weeks in which the student mainly focuses on one project. Sadé spent the summer helping Brittany Goltry, Manager of Undergraduate Recruitment Programs, with developing a community college database and Native American tribal recruitment partnerships.

Sadé Beasley with her dogs

She researched for and developed databases, and coordinated meetings and events with local tribes in order to establish and strengthen connections between the college and the tribes.

About halfway through the summer, Sadé decided that the College of Forestry was a perfect fit for her, and plans on transferring into the Forest Engineering degree program. She said that she would like to use her passion for civil engineering in a forest setting in order to teach Native American tribes how to better manage and conserve their natural resources. She wants to give back to her community through outreach and education, thus developing crucial relationships between humans and the environment in which they live.

Native American Longhouse, Eena Haws
The Native American Longhouse, Eena Haws (Chinook for “Beaver House”) is managed by the Office of Diversity Development, a unit of Intercultural Student Services. It is one of eight cultural centers on the OSU campus, and serves as a place for multicultural and intercultural celebration. The Native American Longhouse (NAL) provides opportunities to build a better understanding between Oregon’s tribes and visitors of all cultures through events, activities, workshops and programs. The NAL supports a community of people from diverse backgrounds and hosts events such as pow wows and salmon bakes. The center also serves as a place for relaxation and learning, offering a library filled with books on Native American history and culture, as well as a self-service kitchen and large open common room for visitors to use.

For more information about the Native American Longhouse, visit oregonstate.edu/nal/home, or email NativeAmericanLongHouse@oregonstate.edu.
Collaboration between Oregon State University’s College of Engineering and College of Forestry has given rise to the Oregon BEST Green Building Materials Laboratory (GBML). Research in the lab includes projects ranging from innovation in concrete use and other materials to the production of composite wood products. As Oregon’s top promoter of green and sustainable technologies, Oregon BEST (Built Environment and Sustainability Technologies) provides funding for the lab and most of the projects.

Dr. Fred Kamke, Co-Director of the GBML and Professor of Wood Based Composite Science, focuses his studies on constructing a new composite wood called VTC wood. The goal is to increase density of low density species, such as poplar, to improve strength and durability to a level that rivals that of Douglas-fir.

VTC wood is created via a VT compressor machine that uses hydraulic pressure and steam to heat and compress veneers into finer sheets. The veneers that exit the machine come out substantially thinner than when they entered. However, when compressed into a composition of several veneers, the strength doubles. It takes an average of 15 minutes to compress one veneer. In order to test this new composite, the lab has invested in a Multi-Chamber Modular Environment Conditioning (MCMEC) system which is used as a means for determining the expected durability of a wood product. The system is comprised of three 8-foot cubed chambers arranged in a row, each sharing a common removable wall or the wall to be tested. Each test wall is exposed to a wide range of extreme environmental conditions, including humidity and temperatures of both high and low magnitudes. The chambers are also equipped with a water sprayer and a solar simulator. The system is computer controlled and designed to replicate severe weather changes.

The Green Building Lab is a repository of new ideas and creative technology. Undergraduate students in the Renewable Materials major, part of the College of Forestry’s Department of Wood Science and Engineering, are able to participate in exciting activities occurring at the lab. With around 60 undergraduate students, the Renewable Materials major is relatively small, but, as Fred Kamke says, “It’s a major of discovery!”

The lab offers research opportunities galore to Renewable Materials students. Students are currently working on improving the density, strength, and durability of spalted wood, a wood that has been discolored by decomposition. It has a decorative appeal and makes use of wood which would have otherwise been discarded because of its weak properties. This makes for a fascinating and innovative project. Dr. Kamke also mentioned that Renewable Materials graduates tend to have little difficulty finding employment opportunities resulting in nearly 100% job placement for alumni!

The Oregon BEST Green Building Materials Laboratory is an exciting and innovative center that creates sustainable products, conducts innovative research, and provides awesome experiences for students.

Learn more about Renewable Materials at renewablematerials.oregonstate.edu

Career Opportunities
• Environmental Manager/Engineer
• Materials Scientist
• Wood Products Scientist
• Sustainability Manager
• Chemical Engineer in RM
• Civil Engineer in Green Building/Design
• Marketing Director
• Interior Designer

Graduates are in high demand and find careers in lumber mills, plywood plants, architectural firms, interior products companies, green building companies and environmental testing firms.

For more information on forestry careers, visit oregonforests.org/content/careers.
Ambassadors for Agriculture, Forestry, and Natural Resources serve as student representatives of Oregon State University, the College of Agricultural Sciences (CAS), and the College of Forestry (CoF). Ambassadors participate in promotional and recruiting activities including on- and off-campus events, professional conferences, as well as industry and alumni events. Ambassadors are given opportunities to develop and enhance their leadership, communication and time management skills, explore individual and group dynamics, and prepare for student and pre-professional success. As student leaders, Ambassadors receive opportunities to network and expand their influence with university administrators, faculty, industry leaders and politicians. Furthermore, Ambassadors gain an increased knowledge of Oregon State University, the Colleges of Agricultural Sciences and Forestry, as well as the agriculture, forestry, and natural resources industries, and positively contribute to the overall mission of OSU, CAS, and CoF.

To be considered for an Ambassador position, you must be current full-time undergraduate or post-baccalaureate student with junior or senior class standing, enrolled in a degree program administered by the College of Agricultural Sciences or the College of Forestry, and intend to enroll at OSU the following academic year. Ambassadors receive a $1,500 scholarship for their year of service. To learn more about becoming an Ambassador please visit agsci.oregonstate.edu/ambassadors.

Tiffany Netz– CoF Ambassador
Junior in Forest Engineering–Civil Engineering

Growing up in Roseburg, Oregon, I had a lot of opportunities to explore the outdoors. Some of the most enjoyable memories I have are of spending time out in the forests with my dad. Whether it was hunting, fishing, gold prospecting, shooting or picking blackberries, I loved every second. In high school I batted around ideas of what I wanted to do with my life. I loved math and science and enjoyed being outside, but I didn’t really realize I could use all of those things in one career.

I came to OSU as a general engineering major to fulfill my desire for a math and science based career. During Engineering Awareness Week I was required to go to presentations for three engineering majors within OSU. I went to presentations on the majors I was interested in (Ecological and Environmental Engineering), but I was not awestruck by them. On a whim I decided to go to the Forest Engineering presentation and I fell in love right away. This program had everything I was looking for and everyone I talked to was incredibly kind and helpful. I switched majors into the Forest Engineering–Civil Engineering program the next term.

It is amazing how well a major I never knew existed could fit me so perfectly. I have learned so much in the past 3 years and am so happy to be a part of such a rewarding program. Along with my courses, I have also been involved with student groups such as Strengthening Education and Employment for Diverse Students (SEEDS), Xi Sigma Pi Honor Society, Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) and International Forestry Student Association (IFSA). I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at OSU and I look forward to developing leadership skills while sharing my experiences with prospective students as an Ambassador for Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources.

CoF Clubs
Society of American Foresters, OSU Student Chapter

OSU was granted a charter by the Society of American Foresters (SAF) in the fall of 1980 to form a student chapter. Student members must be undergraduate or graduate students in programs closely related to forestry and natural resources. Both faculty and students are welcome.

The goals of the SAF Student Chapter are to promote professionalism in the field of forestry, encourage interaction between professional foresters and students, provide opportunities for taking part in active forest management projects, and help educate the public about forest resources and their management. In addition, the SAF Student Chapter strives to build fellowship among students and provide an opportunity to openly discuss and debate forestry issues.

SAF activities include coordinating a job fair, managing a Christmas tree farm, hosting guest speakers, participating in community natural resource education, and traveling to State and National SAF Conventions.

To learn more, visit the official SAF–OSU website clubs.forestry.oregonstate.edu/saf or visit their Facebook page.
Recent Ecampus alumna, Colleen Emery, shows that you can truly do it all as a College of Forestry distance student. This past winter, she graduated with a B.S. in Natural Resources and with an individualized option titled Human Wildlife Interactions. A truly unique option, it accommodated credits earned overseas in Madagascar as well as courses that emphasized her passion for human interactions with ecosystems and wildlife.

Colleen began her academic career in South Carolina where she earned an associate’s degree. Later she decided she wanted to study abroad for a semester. Having a deep interest in Madagascar and lemurs, she decided to travel to the small tropical island just off Africa’s southeastern coast. The program was offered through Stonybrook University in New York. Colleen wanted very much to study under Patricia Wright, a very accomplished primatologist and conservationist. A highly regarded scientist, Patricia became the first woman to be awarded the Indianapolis Prize for her conservation efforts. She even discovered a new species of lemur!

With a well-accomplished and successful role model in mind, Colleen set off for Madagascar in the fall of 2013. Her education abroad consisted of traveling the island on a 10-day cross-country trip attending classes that focused on local culture and language, as well as local forest ecology and conservation. She also completed a two-week independent research project. On the cross-country trip, her cohort visited villages all across the island. During each visit, the mayor of the village would greet them and the people would make dinner and introduce the students to their culture through dance and stories. Colleen’s favorite visit was at a two-day homestay village where she ate a potato-themed feast!

But, most notably, she helped to establish Ranomafana National Park, and through her research center and conservation efforts, empowered the people of Madagascar to conserve their home. Her research center teaches children as well as adults the importance of natural resource conservation and educates the public about wildlife management, mainly focusing on endangered lemurs.

Much of her experience proved to be eye-opening to a world much different from that of her own. The Malagasy people of Madagascar slash and burn their forests to provide sustenance for their families and villages. Colleen hopes the research she does in the future will help to educate the people on how to better manage their resources as well as produce substantial amounts of food for those they love.

After returning from Madagascar, Colleen set herself up to complete her degree via Ecampus and found a job in the Forest Sciences Lab working with USGS on a study that analyzes mercury and lead concentrations in different species of bird blood. This research led her to complete an independent research project for the Natural Resources program option in mercury sheds into bird feathers. She also focused on how to interpret what levels of mercury are indicative of poor health with respect to bird functionality. Eventually, she wants to publish her research and is planning on presenting her findings thus far at the American Ornithology Conference.

Story continued on next page.
As if all of these accomplishments weren’t enough, Colleen also works for the Bureau of Land Management on a project called Aquatic and Riparian Effectiveness Monitoring Program. The program includes surveys on over 250 watersheds around the Pacific Northwest, extending from northern Washington all the way down to northern California. These surveys consist of eight field days using laser prisms to determine river/stream gradient, and measuring substrates as well as pool densities in order to determine overall health of the water systems. These streams/rivers are re-monitored every 6-8 years with the intention of determining improved management strategies. The program also consists of invasive species management.

Overall, as an Ecampus alumna, Colleen enjoyed the flexible nature of the program as it allowed her the flexibility she needed to study abroad, accommodate her work schedule, and the time needed to volunteer at Chintimini Wildlife Center in Corvallis. Her favorite part of being in the College of Forestry was being surrounded by welcoming and friendly advisors, professors and students. She loved how the college made great efforts and strides to provide and recommend different career opportunities and she advises prospective students to just “go for it!” She says that no other program offers such an individualized degree or compares with the breadth of knowledge gained from the Natural Resources program.

International Programs
Madagascar: Biodiversity and Natural Resource Management

Want to study abroad like Colleen while earning credits towards your CoF degree? Check out the School for International Training (SIT) program coordinated through OSU’s Office of International Programs.

Visit oregonstate.edu/international for more information on OSU’s Study Abroad programs.

The CoF also has its own study abroad advisor who can help you discover the right program for you, as well as how to fit travel into your time at OSU. Contact Michele Justice, Director of International Programs, at michele.justice@oregonstate.edu.

Check out the CoF study abroad web page at international-programs.forestry.oregonstate.edu.
Paul Foshay  
Senior Systems Support Specialist

Paul oversees operations, manages students, coordinates the network infrastructure, and deploys applications to systems. At the Helpdesk, he offers user support, wireless network connection help and set up, and assistance accessing networking files.

An OSU alumnus, Paul has been a full time employee for almost 12 years. He started as a student in Computer Engineering, but later switched to Business Management and Information Systems. He loves technology and its place in the always changing world, but mostly enjoys helping people get the resources they need. He’s well known for getting the job done, and getting it done right. He goes to great lengths to help computer users get the help they need.

One of his favorite hobbies is woodworking; mostly making furniture. He enjoys learning about new innovations in renewable materials as he is a dedicated advocate for the green initiative and supports preserving the environment for future generations.

Mike Altimus  
Director

Mike is the director of the Forestry Computing Resources and has been at OSU for 12 years. Mike spends a lot of time providing workshops for faculty, staff and graduate students as well as presenting students with useful tips and tricks on how to successfully utilize Microsoft Office programs.

He enjoys working with a great group of friendly and knowledgeable people in the college, and enjoys the ease of getting to know students and watching them grow. Mike is fascinated by new strides in forestry with regard to the technology used by students and faculty throughout the college.

Born and raised in Arizona, he went to Arizona State University and graduated with a degree in Computer Science. He believes that Corvallis is the perfect town to raise a family in and loves the small-town setting.

Gary Hart  
Information Technology Consultant

You can almost always find Gary at the front desk! He answers general questions and provides general tech help. He started as a student worker in the CoF’s Student Learning Center.

He majored in Spanish at OSU and now is a postbaccalaureate student studying Computer Science via Ecampus. He’s always been interested in the environment and fell in love with the College of Forestry. He loves how the college is small and familiar. It’s easy getting to know everybody on an individual basis. He says that teachers and staff often come to the Helpdesk for advice and assistance, due to its close proximity and easy access.

His mission is to give people the information they need, when they need. He makes it a top priority to give the right advice/information the first time. He loves the problem solving aspect of the position, and his favorite part about the job is making international students feel more welcome, comfortable and more at home.

For more information regarding Helpdesk Staff and Services visit the College of Forestry Computing Helpdesk web page at helpdesk.forestry.oregonstate.edu
Autumn Granger-NR Advisor

What can be more exciting than meeting someone new and fascinating? We are pleased to welcome our new Natural Resources academic advisor into the College of Forestry.

Originally a born and raised Iowan from Des Moines, Autumn became an Oregonian in the 6th grade when she and her family moved to Salem. She fell in love with Oregon and its abundance of beauty and never-ending supply of adventure. She enjoyed herself so much that she decided to enhance her education at the University of Oregon, obtaining a B.A. in Business and a minor in Economics.

Autumn began her career working at Western Oregon University in the Office of Admissions, but eventually decided that administration was not her forte. So she attended graduate school at Oregon State University in 2003, and completed a master’s degree in Counseling.

After completing her second degree, Autumn took some much needed time off to spend with her family. But her passion for student success motivated her to return to work, and she obtained a part-time job at Linn-Benton Community College with the TRIO Student Support Services. In 2011, she switched things up again and started advising in the Department of Horticulture here at OSU.

Over the last few months, Autumn has discovered that the College of Forestry is a very warm and inviting place to work, filled with kind and friendly staff that are fun and easy to get along with.

Outside of Peavy Hall, Autumn leads a very peaceful and enjoyable life. She spends time with her family, which includes her husband, two kids, two cats and a parakeet. They enjoy kayaking, visiting Oregon parks and adventuring in the local mountains, desert and on the coast.

For prospective students, Autumn offers some helpful advice: “You’ve gotta check it out for yourself! Is it a right fit for you? Get out there and test the waters a bit, try new courses and adventure to new places. You’ll find your niche!”

Tree Trivia

As a future Fernhopper, it is essential to know your trees! Start practicing early on, and you too can be a tree ID whiz! Try to figure out the name of this evergreen conifer.

Hints: A Pacific Northwest native, this tree has cones shaped like tiny rose buds, or the bowl of a smoker’s pipe and are yellow-green when young, but brown when mature. They typically have tiny, scale–like leaves that overlap like shingles and form flat sprays like a fern. Their wood is often aromatic.

Answer: False Cedars (Calocedrus, Thuja, Chamaecyparis)

For more information on this species and other species in Oregon, visit oregonstate.edu/trees/conifer_genera/false_cedars.html.