What is the Quarterly Cruise?

The Quarterly Cruise is a newsletter distributed to prospective students once a term. Its purpose is to provide a sneak peak of life in the College of Forestry, with articles on people, projects and events. It is a window into our community and gives prospective students an idea of who they’ll be rubbing elbows with if they decide to enroll in one of our fantastic majors!

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International Programs: Study Abroad

The College of Forestry’s International Programs places great value in providing immersive study abroad experiences for all students, regardless of financial standing or major. Programs to travel abroad with the College of Forestry can span from a year to a few weeks in order to accommodate each student’s individual goals. The connections and skills gained from studying in another country with faculty and students from around the world are invaluable for a student’s education, career and life. The memories and friendships made through these programs last for a lifetime.

Starting in the summer of 2016, the CoF will host several exciting new programs where students will get the chance to explore, learn and even earn class credit! One such program will take place in the Peruvian Amazon, where students will immerse themselves in dense biological diversity while living at a field research station in Madre de Dios. Another opportunity involves venturing to the Malaysian Borneo, where participants will work alongside fellow students from around the world to conserve tropical forests while living at a research station in the heart of a wildlife sanctuary that is home to native species such as the orangutan. Students can also travel to Australia to study measures put in place to conserve the continent’s unique biome, and get up close with their topic as they snorkel along the Great Barrier Reef. In Costa Rica, students will wind along the country’s volcanic spine, making stops to learn about conservation of local habitats, and see where some of the world’s finest coffee and fruit originate. Visiting Spain offers the immersive cultural experience of interacting with local families through homestays while working on research alongside students from the University of Valladolid.

“My decision to study abroad has been the single most important educational and life experience that I have made for myself,” says Renewable Materials student Dylan Dripps, who visited France with the CoF. “My advice to anyone thinking about studying abroad is to stop thinking about it, and make it happen!”

Stop by the College of Forestry’s International Programs office or visit our website

Native American Longhouse, Eena Haws Cultural Center

The Native American Longhouse, Eena Haws (Chinook for “Beaver House”) is one of eight cultural centers on the OSU Corvallis 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 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 a large common room for visitors to use.

For more information on the Native American Longhouse
Becca Armstrong is doing it all!

Becca Armstrong has made the most of her time in the College of Forestry. As a senior in Renewable Materials with the Marketing & Management option, she is looking forward to graduation and what lies ahead for her future.

This past year, Becca served as an Ambassador for Agriculture, Forestry & Natural Resources, a group of students selected to represent OSU and the Colleges of Agricultural Sciences and Forestry. For Becca, the most rewarding part of being an Ambassador is the opportunity to meet with new students entering the College of Forestry. She enjoys helping students feel more secure and confident in a new place. It gives her a sense of giving back to the College, which is important to her since she feels that the College and its faculty and staff have done so much for her.

Growing up and helping with her family’s small sheep farm in Southern Oregon made Renewable Materials a good fit for Becca. She explains that her degree allowed her to, “learn how to manage natural resources sustainably while finding new and innovative ways to do things that the industry has been doing for generations.” The Marketing & Management option taught her to better use business and communication skills, which she feels will benefit her in the future with her career.

During her sophomore year, Becca traveled abroad through AHA International. She lived in Siena, Italy and had the opportunity to experience many aspects of the Italian culture. Becca was able to travel to many cities in Italy including Rome, Venice, Florence and Pisa. One of her experiences in Siena was volunteering at a daycare where she taught children to speak English. Traveling abroad taught her that life should never be too planned because even the best plans can change. Her travels also increased her self-confidence, inspired her to take chances, and reminded her of the importance of spending quality time with people around her.

Becca was heavily involved with her sorority, Sigma Kappa, and served as President in 2015. She was the Vice President for the International Forestry Students Association (IFSA) student club, and worked in the College of Forestry’s Student Services Office. She also volunteered as a 2nd/3rd grade girls’ basketball coach through Corvallis Parks and Recreation, and participated as a student athlete on the Intercollegiate Horse Showing Association (IHSA) team. Becca says that learning to balance school, work, Ambassador duties, and other obligations was a good lesson in time management and setting priorities.

Becca’s advice to new students? “The College of Forestry offers so many chances for students to travel, experience personal growth and leadership, and become a better student and future employee, so set your goals high, communicate with your advisor or other faculty members early in your college career, and don’t be afraid to try new things. Step outside your comfort zone often, and get involved in any way you can. You truly have the world at your feet; all you have to do is take the first step.”

Great advice from a student who has used her time in the College of Forestry to do just that!
Meet Anyssa French!

Living in Missoula, Montana, Anyssa French is working on her Natural Resources degree online through OSU Ecampus. She is focusing on Fish and Wildlife Conservation and hopes to complete the degree with full knowledge of the management of ecosystems and all of their intricate parts.

Anyssa began working on her Natural Resources degree two years ago after taking a two year break from university. She says that with a full-time job, trying to juggle a school schedule was too difficult. Anyssa explains that utilizing the flexibility of Ecampus classes through OSU is what really allowed her to go back to school because she can work at her own pace and squeeze homework in throughout the day.

If you are considering an Ecampus degree, don’t think that there won’t be any “hands-on” learning. Many of Anyssa’s classes require her to go outside, make observations and conduct experiments. Anyssa says that it is refreshing to have something like that every term to “mix things up” and get you moving.

Being an Ecampus student didn’t stop Anyssa from taking advantage of some of the opportunities the College of Forestry provides. This last winter, Anyssa was able to go on an Alpine European study abroad trip that allowed her to travel through Switzerland, Italy, Austria and Slovenia. Through this study abroad trip, she was able to learn about different perspectives and processes of sustainable forestry, production and wooden structures. She went with two other OSU professors, one OSU advisor, and a large group of Slovenian students.

Anyssa suggests that any students looking into Ecampus make a personal space just for doing school work. That way, distractions will be eliminated and you will have easy access to all the supplies that you need.

For more student profiles

NEW Natural Resources Option: Landscape Analysis

Natural Resources is one of the seven majors offered in the College of Forestry, both online and on campus. Within the Natural Resources major, students incorporate a specialty option of their choosing to allow them to develop depth and a particular focus within natural resources. There are a total of 16 pre-approved options for Natural Resource students to choose from, the newest being the option in Landscape Analysis, which is available online and on campus. The eight Natural Resource options available online through OSU Ecampus are: ecological restoration, fish and wildlife conservation, human dimensions in natural resources, individualized specialty option, landscape analysis, natural resource education, natural resource policy and management, and urban forest landscapes.

The Landscape Analysis option is perfect for students wishing to know more about geographic information science (GIS) technology in a natural resource field. Imbedded within this option is the ability to earn the GIScience Undergraduate Certificate through the College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences (CEOAS). Some of the classes that students in this option will take include Cartography, Remote Sensing, GIS in Water Resources, and Advanced GIS Applications.

GIS skills ranked in the top five when employers in the natural resources field were surveyed about the skills they expect applicants to have. GIS skills prepare students for careers including wildfire ecology, land use planning, and ecological restoration.

If you are interested in learning more about the Landscape Analysis option offered through the Natural Resources major, please contact a Natural Resource advisor. To enroll in the GIScience Certificate Program, please contact Kuupio Walsh.
OSU Pyromaniacs

The Student Association for Fire Ecology (SAFE) at OSU is often known by its nickname the "Pyromaniacs." As you may have guessed, the Pyromaniacs are a group of students interested in fire and fire ecology. Most club members are students in the Forest Engineering, Resources, and Management department, but some are also from the department of Forest Ecosystems and Society. Though the club primarily consists of graduate student members at this time, it is certainly open to undergraduates.

SAFE is an excellent place for students to share research, network and access resources related to fire ecology. A recent opportunity provided to the club was to have dinner with Doug Decker, State Forester. After dinner, the club attended Doug’s Starker Lecture on the Tillamook Burn, where he gave perspective on the significance of the fire, addressed its impact, and discussed how we need to be adjusting to new realities.

The Pyromaniacs have a logo of a flaming squirrel. Club advisor, John Bailey, explained that the flaming squirrel became the logo because of how he often explains the complexity of fire. Fire on a small scale in a controlled environment is very predictable using physics; but on a larger scale, forest fires have too many variables, such as complex topography, fuel sources and wind. It would take an infinite amount of data to do a similarly accurate prediction. Even if this massive amount of information could be obtained and accounted for, there would always be something you couldn’t predict: which way the squirrel will run. A squirrel caught on fire could spread the fire in any direction, making it impossible to know with certainty how the fire will behave. That unpredictability is what Dr. Bailey says, “makes fire magical.”

For more information on the College of Forestry’s student clubs and organizations
Tree Trivia!

Time to test your tree knowledge! Try to guess this tree of the Pacific Northwest with these clues:

- Long, brown seed pods that can be over one foot long
- Some have huge, sharp, multi-pointed thorns
- Foliage has a “feather” appearance to it

To learn more about species of the Pacific Northwest

Answers: Honeylocust (Gleditsia)
Office of Undergraduate Recruitment

258 Strand Agriculture Hall
Phone: (541) 737-0833

CoFProspectiveStudent@oregonstate.edu

http://undergrad.forestry.oregonstate.edu/future-students/quarterly-cruise