What is Quarterly Cruise?

The Quarterly Cruise is a newsletter distributed to future students and published once a term. It is designed to provide a sneak peak of life at Oregon State, with articles on people, projects, clubs, and events. We’re providing a window into our community to give future students an idea of who they’ll be rubbing elbows with if they enroll in a College of Forestry major.

View past Quarterly Cruise newsletters in our Quarterly Cruise Archives.

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Design & Writing
Aleksa Wood, Brittany Goltry, Brooke Harrington, Kaitlyn Hickam, and Rebecca Armstrong
Peavy Hall Construction Kick-off

On October 29, 2016 Oregon State University’s College of Forestry kicked off construction of the Oregon Forest Science Complex (OFSC). The Oregon Forest Science Complex will include a brand new Peavy Hall and the A.A. “Red” Emmerson Advanced Wood Products Laboratory, which will house sophisticated manufacturing systems, a “high-bay” lab with a unique strong floor for full-scale product testing, and a “design” lab to support interdisciplinary education programs.

The groundbreaking ceremony had around 250 guests, and featured speakers including Oregon Governor Kate Brown, OSU President Ed Ray, and the Dean of the College of Forestry, Thomas Maness.

In his speech at the construction kick-off, Dean Maness said, “I am excited [that] the complex itself will be a teacher.”

One of the goals of the complex is for the building itself to provide a learning experience. It is designed to show innovative new building techniques, demonstrate diverse views on forest management and natural resources, and provide space for learning and research.

Dean Maness also said “Our students, who already know the importance of gaining experience in the field, will soon have a state-of-the-art classroom and research experience as well.”

The OFSC is scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2018. Visit the Oregon Forest Science Complex website for more information.

Tree Trivia

- Bark is thin, scaly, and grayish.
- Produces small, nearly round cones that are about 2-3 inches long with no prickles.
- Found in the high mountains of Western Canada and the United States.
- Usually under 50 feet tall and 2 inches in diameter.
- Grows at or near timberline from 7,700 to 12,000 feet elevation.
- Needles occur in bunches of five.

Answer: Pinus albicaulis, known as Whitebark Pine.
Philosophy Behind the Environment

Michael Paul Nelson is a faculty member in the College of Forestry with a non-traditional forestry background. His education is founded in philosophy and ethics, which has led him to ponder the dilemmas in the natural resources world. Michael says that as a philosopher, he is trained to take on natural resource arguments and try to answer difficult ethical questions related to natural resources and conservation ethics. These skills have led him to become the OSU Lead Scientist and Principle Investigator for the H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER) Program. This multi-million dollar research program is sponsored by the National Science Foundation, and is located in Oregon’s western Cascades Mountains.

The H.J. Andrews was established in 1948 for the pursuit of long-term research, education and science-based management. The long-term data that has been collected at this site can help scientists study the impacts of different harvesting management strategies, determine how the ecosystem reacts to harvesting, and observe the legacy effect over time. Michael explains that they are “still learning new things from these units, and with climate change, this long-term data is important to look back on as the system is impacted.”

In addition to his work with the H.J. Andrews Forest, Michael also pursues many other scientific studies such as the Wolves and Moose of Wolf Isle Royale project. The Wolves and Moose of Isle Royale project is the longest continuous study of a predator-prey relationship in the world, entering it’s 58th year in 2016. This project is based on a remote wilderness island in Lake Superior. Michael’s role as the “environmental philosopher and historian” for the project began with his interest in the reestablishment of wolves into an ecosystem, and the controversial nature of this topic. After being involved with this project, Michael soon realized that, “if we want to have any hope or seriousness about influencing policy, that the demands for deep and serious interdisciplinary thought and work are really enormous.” This project has brought together scientists from all disciplines to improve the status of wolves both on the island and within the American culture.

What Michael suggests for new students looking into the College of Forestry is to “sample broadly” and go out of your initial comfort zone. He urges students to “go to seminars, pay attention, ask questions, challenge thinking. You can learn so much and college is not just about classes. Take advantage of these opportunities, learn to be empathetic to the speakers in order to learn from them – what do they believe, what are they taking for granted, what are they arguing ought to be done? That is what college is about.”

To learn more visit the [H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest](https://hjanderssonlab.oregonstate.edu/).

Visit the [Wolves and Moose of Isle Website](https://wolves.iselman.org/).
Advisor Profile: OSU Feels Like Home

McKenzie Huber is the newest Natural Resources advisor, and she also serves as the new Forestry Ambassador Coordinator. She came to Oregon State as an undergraduate in 2006 and began exploring ways to work on a college campus. She stayed at OSU after a great undergraduate experience, and earned a master’s degree in College Student Services Administration. She landed her first job at Oregon State and has been here ever since. One of the things she loves most about Corvallis is that it has become home for her. She loves working here and supporting students.

As an academic advisor, McKenzie helps her advisees to succeed both personally and academically. She focuses on helping students to accomplish their goals and get the most out of their college experience. Advisors in the College of Forestry are the consistent person that students can go to for advice on classes and academic success. McKenzie enjoys working with a team of advisors that really care about students.

McKenzie says that her Natural Resources students are passionate about solving problems, and take a critical look at our environment and our impact on it. They are involved and engaged, often getting internships and investing a lot in their education. Like many of her students, McKenzie loves the outdoors, and frequently visits the Peavy Arboretum with her dog. She also likes to travel, read and watch Netflix, of course!

As the Forestry Ambassador Coordinator, McKenzie has been further developing the Ambassador program. She created a new Forestry Ambassador website, and this winter and spring McKenzie will recruit, hire and train the new Ambassadors. The Ambassador program focuses on leadership development and connecting students to college stakeholders. To learn more, visit the Ambassador Program website.

Ambassador Profile: The Forest Called Her Name

Alyssa Forest is a junior from Sacramento, CA majoring in Natural Resources, with an option in Natural Resource Policy and Management. Being in Northern Central California, she grew up near amazing landscapes including blue Lake Tahoe, Yosemite, and the monumental Redwood Forests. These landscapes inspired Alyssa’s deep-rooted love for nature.

“My family always loved outdoor recreation; and adventuring through the beautiful forests of California gave me a sense of responsibility to respect the environment,” she explains.

When it came to choosing a university, the beautiful state of Oregon was practically calling her name. When Alyssa visited Oregon State University, it truly felt like home.

“The town of Corvallis, combined with the welcoming campus, was the right choice for me instantly, and I knew there was nowhere else I’d rather attend college,” Alyssa recalls.

Initially, Alyssa declared a major in Graphic Design. At the beginning of her third year, she decided to change her major to Natural Resources because she wanted to apply her love of the outdoors and protecting the environment with her degree.

“Natural Resources gives me the chance to learn all of the science surrounding natural areas, along with the policies that have the ability to shape their future,” she says. “I hope to be a bridge between science and policy, so that the decisions of our leaders reflect the best possible future.”

As a Forestry Ambassador, Alyssa hopes to learn leadership skills that will help shape her future career. She also wants to encourage new and prospective students to realize their true potential through Oregon State University.

Meet the Forestry Ambassador Team on the Forestry Ambassador Website.
Transfer Student Profile
Josh Friend

A Friend of the Forest
Josh Friend is a senior studying Recreation Resource Management at Oregon State University. He began his college career at the Rock Creek Campus of Portland Community College (PCC). In high school, Josh had not decided what he wanted to study in college or pursue for a career. Once he started taking classes at PCC, Josh learned about the many different options and majors available to him. He decided to study forestry early on while at PCC, so it was natural for him to transfer to OSU to complete a bachelor’s degree since it is one of the world’s top forestry schools.

Because he knew he wanted to transfer to OSU, Josh was able to coordinate carefully with his PCC advisor and select courses to take so they would count towards his OSU degree. Josh said that it was very motivating to know that the courses he was taking at PCC would directly apply to his forestry degree at OSU. After spending a little over two years at PCC, he transferred to OSU and majored in Recreation Resource Management. It was a big transition as he moved away from home and adjusted to attending a university. By getting involved and spending time in the College of Forestry community, OSU became a “second home” for Josh.

Growing up, Josh spent a lot of time outside through Boy Scouts. He has always loved outdoor projects and management, and the combination of working with people and being outdoors. He continues to be very interested in pursuing both the social and ecological aspects of Recreation Resource Management, which made the major a good fit for him. He recommends that students pay attention as they go through their degree program for signs that a major is fitting their interests well.

While at OSU, Josh has had the opportunity to be the treasurer for OSU’s Society of American Foresters student chapter, and has also served as the fire marshal for his house. During the summers, he has worked in wildland firefighting and on a trail crew with the US Forest Service in Montana. These experiences gave him a unique perspective on different types of jobs for his future career. When he graduates, Josh may return to the Spotted Bear Ranger District in Montana’s Flathead National Forest, where he worked last summer. Josh is also considering working in the forests here in Oregon either with the Forest Service or the Bureau of Land Management. He hopes to find a job that will help him to continue to learn and gain experience. Eventually he would like to pursue a master’s degree in Public Administration.

Degree Partnership Program
The Degree Partnership Program (DPP) is a pathway to completing a university degree more quickly and more affordably. This program allows you to be jointly admitted and enrolled at Oregon State University and any community college partner. DPP students can take classes (online or on campus) at OSU and any of our 17 partner schools. To explore the many advantages of the Degree Partnership Program for transfer students visit the OSU Degree Partnership Website.

Forestry Transfer Guides
If you are currently attending or plan on attending an Oregon community college, please see the Forestry Transfer Guides to view transfer articulation guides for each of our seven undergraduate majors. Select the institution that you are interested in transferring from or dually enrolling with, and choose the major that you would like to pursue here at Oregon State for a list of equivalent classes that will meet the degree program requirements. Each course articulation should be treated as an unofficial guide of recommended classes to take for each of our degree programs. We recommend consulting with an advisor at the community college that you intend to take classes at in order to determine which classes to take before transferring to OSU. Visit the Undergraduate Studies Transfer Credit page to view the Forestry Transfer Guides.
Women in the Woods

Women in the Woods is a professional network of women in forestry for undergraduate and graduate students, faculty and professionals. This is an excellent organization for forestry students to be involved with, as it provides mentorship, networking opportunities, information and other helpful resources. The group holds a luncheon once a term and features a variety of topics and speakers. The last speaker was Valerie Johnson of the D.R. Johnson Lumber Co. in Riddle, OR. Valerie talked about her experience as the president of a wood products company. Women in the Woods has dealt with topics such as work/life balance and salary negotiation. Their networking and mentorship program recently began in 2015, and continues to develop new opportunities for students as more partnerships with industry are established. Plans for the next year include a forest tour with a landowner from the Women Owning Woodlands network (WOWNet), a college-wide symposium discussing women’s safety issues in natural resource fields, and a Women in the Woods camping trip!

For more information, visit the Women in the Woods homepage.

Scholarships for Females in STEM Fields

Did you know that the College of Forestry is one of five STEM colleges on the OSU campus? Each college offers majors with a focus in science, technology, engineering and/or mathematics (STEM). In the College of Forestry, you can choose from five STEM majors: Forest Engineering, Forest-Civil Engineering, Forestry, Natural Resources, and Renewable Materials.

There are many scholarships and resources available to females interested in pursuing a bachelor’s degree in a STEM-related field. Here are just a few examples:

- BHW Group’s Women in STEM Academic Scholarship
- Best Value Schools STEM Scholarship for Women
- ABC Humane Wildlife Control & Prevention, Inc. Academic Scholarship

Cultural Center Spotlight: The Women’s Center

The Women’s Center is one of seven cultural centers on campus. These centers serve as resources for students to build community and explore topics related to culture, heritage and self-expression.

The Women’s Center provides advocacy, support, programs, resources and opportunities related to women’s issues on campus, in the community-at-large, and globally. The center was established in 1973. In particular, the Women’s Center addresses issues of sex discrimination and violence against women. The Women’s Center values inclusivity, diversity, collaboration and accountability.

For more information visit the Diversity and Cultural Engagement Women’s Center homepage.
The cover photos featured in this newsletter are student photography from the Photo of the Week contest for College of Forestry undergraduate and graduate students, sponsored by the Student Services Office.

For more information on the Photo of the Week, visit blogs.oregonstate.edu/fernhopper/photo-of-the-week