

# Forestry Matters

Suburbia is where the developer bulldozes out the trees, then names the streets after them. ~Bill Vaughn



October 2009

## Dates to Remember

- October 31 Halloween. Get ready for monsters, witches and goblins and Ian
- November 4 Final Day to drop September session full or half time courses without penalty
- November 11 Remembrance Day Service at Soldiers Tower—meet outside 1016 at 10:45am
- December 9 MFC Ring Ceremony and Holiday Party. Faculty Club, Noon until 2pm

## Undergrads Enjoy Field Camp at Haliburton Forest

FOR301 under the leadership of Prof. John Caspersen attended a field camp from August 28 to Sept 7. Highlights included awesome field study of silvicultural methods, tree marking and stand inventory and prescription development. Also, the free time wasn't too bad either. Bone Lake is a beautiful place with amazing views and friendly people.

Haliburton forest and Peter Schleifenbaum were very interesting and insightful. We got a tour of the forest and different types of forest cover within the forest and the applicable management methods. An amazing visit to the wolf centre to see the wolves being fed was a pretty big highlight too! Also, a visit to the sled dogs (approx. 140 of them) was pretty cool. Fur was flying and we honed our howling skills!!!

Laura Storozinski



## Remember When?

The Faculty of Forestry held a spring camp at the Petawawa National Forestry Institute in Petawawa Ontario for the first year class. This picture was the last B.Sc.F class to attend the camp. Camp bosses were John McCarron, Ian Kennedy and Ed Bevilacqua.



# Sports and Stuff

## Woodsports Team

The woodsports team is gearing up for a competition on Nov. 7th in Lindsay at Sir Sanford Fleming College. We will probably be submitting three six-person teams, and are looking to place better in our fourth year of competition. The team is a mix of M.Sc.F., Ph.D, MFC, and undergrads. There will probably be one women's, one men's, and a mix team.

Our hockey team is starting out again this year. We haven't played any games this year, but here is a list of key returning & new players:

### Returning:

- Adam 'Golden Hands' Martin
- Jay 'the Panther' Malcolm
- Dave 'the Anvil' Martell
- Adam 'benchboss' Kuprevicius

### New Player:

- Lucas 'the Legend' Roscoe

## Hockey Update.....

Forestry destroys Medicine in their first game. 9-1



## Basketball

Alex Karney and Derek Wolf are playing on the div 2 SGS basketball team and are doing quite well. They are aiming for a playoff birth. Good Luck



## Forestry Designer Clothing

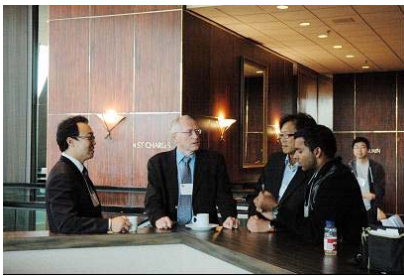
**T-Shirts!** Price: \$20 \*Must be paid in full at the time of ordering

**Hoodies!** Price: \$35 \* Must be paid in full at the time of ordering

**Order From:** Martha Kornobis in Office 2026  
**Every day (Mon-Fri) 1-2pm until FRIDAY October 30**

## Woodies Visit Quebec

Paul Cooper and most of his research group (Tony Ung, Zeen Huang, Amelie Janin, Mojgan Nejad, Sedric Pankras, Gao Zhou and Myung Jae Lee) attended the 30<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Canadian Wood Preservation Association in Montreal Oct 6-7. Paul presented two invited papers: "Current issues and research on wood preservation in Canada" and "Current research on wood protection at U of T" and Sedric presented a paper "Investigating the distribution of copper ethanalamine



complexes in ACQ solutions" for which he was awarded the CWPA R.W. Stephen's student award.

Mojgan Nejad received a service award for her support of the Association as she served as CWPA secretariat during the past 3 years (Photo). Paul also received a service award, stepping down from the CWPA Board of Directors, after 28 years service (including positions of Treasurer, Vice-President and President).



## AMAZING OPPORTUNITY

The Haida Gwaii Higher



Education Society has been working with the Association of University Forestry Schools in Canada (AUFSC) to bring a new learning opportunity to undergraduate students: the **Haida Gwaii Semester in**

**Natural Resource Studies.** This field study program, based in Haida Gwaii, BC, will run every winter (January-April) semester beginning in 2010. The program consists of 5 senior-level undergraduate courses focussing on political, economic, First Nations, and ecological aspects of natural resource management, with a particular focus on forests. The theme of the program is Sk'aadGaa Gud ad is: Learning Balance.

Classes will be based in the Haida community of Skidegate and will combine lectures, field tours, and perspectives from local knowledge holders. Students will live in Queen Charlotte, where they will learn and live with other students from across Canada and become part of a resource-dependent community. The registration deadline for the 2010 semester is November 30th. Details can be found at

[www.haidagwaiisemester.com](http://www.haidagwaiisemester.com), or contact Hilary Thorpe ([hilary.thorpe@ubc.ca](mailto:hilary.thorpe@ubc.ca)).



## October Events

### Changing Times in Ontario's Forests: A Public Forum

"Ontario is considering the future of who manages public forests."

October 20, 7-9pm

This event was a great success with standing room only.

#### Welcomes and opening remarks:

David Lindsay, Deputy Minister of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry

#### Panelists:

- Lorne Morrow, CEO, Centre for Research and Innovation in the Bio-Economy, Thunder Bay
- Jeremy Williams, Forest Economist, Arbortivae Environmental Services
- Alan Thorne, Chief Forester for Ontario, Tembec Inc. & General Manager, Forestry Research Partnership
- Trevor Hesselink, Director, Forest Program, CPAWS Wildlands League
- John Kapel, Little John Enterprises Timmins

Presented by:

Ivey Foundation  
CPAWS-Wildlands League  
Canadian Institute of Forestry  
Faculty of Forestry, UofT

Dr. Justina Ray (Exec Director and Senior Scientist, Wildlife Conservation Society) and Adjunct Professor with the Faculty spoke about the issues and research surrounding development in Ontario's north.

Jeff Biggs from Natural Resources Canada hosted an information session about its fall recruitment campaign.

John McNeil (former faculty grad & currently Chief Forester with the City of Oakville) outlined his city's municipal forest management planning and natural capital perspectives

Gord Miller (Provincial Environmental Commissioner & Faculty PhD student) spoke about recent changes in the forestry portfolio (OMNR-ONAD) and status of the provincial inventory

Dr. Peggy Smith from Lakehead University "Skyped" into room 4001 for an interactive video/slide presentation to the MFC2009 class.

The Forestry Undergrad Society (FUS) held a fresh apple, apple cider and apple baked goods sale. Buyers are excited about their soon to arrive apples.

The Master of Forest Conservation students from both years went horseback riding on a beautiful fall day. They all came back with their limbs intact.

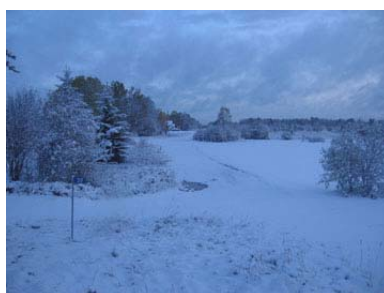
Dean Tat Smith and Dr. Andy Kenney attended the World Forestry Congress in Argentina

Ian Kennedy went to Kinko's

## Missing---DWD in Kapuskasing—Fingers Point to Jay Malcolm

Jay Malcolm and his crew disappear every summer and head up north to Kapuskasing to pull every piece of DWD or Downed Woody Debris that they can find and then return in the fall to skid the DWD out into a pile. Because their sites are in the claybelt they are often saturated, which was the case when they collected all the wood in 6 sites for removal.

They were expecting pretty dismal conditions during Oct for their skidding work. It turns out, the weather cleared up (amazing, considering they had a record amount of rainfall in the summer...something like 28 days of rain in June), it was sunny most of the week and it was about 8 degrees. The day they ended working, it started snowing and they woke up to about 4 inches in the morning. They definitely dodged a bullet there.





## The Thomas Lab Goes Tropical

Sean Thomas and Adam Martin represented the Faculty of Forestry's tropical forest ecology contingent this past August, at the annual meeting of the Association of Tropical Biology and Conservation. Held in the picturesque, albeit not-so-tropical location of Marburg, Germany, both Sean and Adam presented their current research in a session on "Tropical Dendroecology".

Sean's research examining sexual dimorphism in growth rates of tropical tree species was based on a 20-year data set from the Pasoh Forest Reserve in Peninsular Malaysia. Sean's talk, complete with photos of him as a young, tree-climbing (and possibly starving) graduate student, addressed a long-standing question in tropical forest ecology; because of the need to invest resources into reproduction, do female trees grow slower than conspecific males? The evidence for this expected pattern was mixed. But interestingly, the research suggests that additional, sex-specific biotic interactions are likely influential in determining sexual dimorphism in tropical tree growth.

Adam's research examining wood carbon content in Panamanian rainforest tree species challenged a long-standing, widely cited assumption that 50% of a tree's weight is comprised of carbon. In his analysis of over 30 common species, his research showed that tropical trees contain on average 46% carbon in their sapwood; significantly lower than the 50% value assumed in virtually all current

forest carbon accounting models. The research is expected to contribute substantially to global change science, particularly in terms of refining terrestrial carbon pool and flux models.

Also in tropical news, Deenie Quinn, a new Master of Science student in Sean's lab, is throwing her hat into the tropical forest ecology ring. In her upcoming master's research located in the rainforests of central Panama, Deenie will examine the phenomena of age-related crown-thinning in tropical trees. The work will provide important insights needed to understand the influence large canopy trees have on understory light environments. Additionally, her work will address important questions about how removal of large canopy trees can be expected to affect tree species diversity. Deenie's work gives her the unique opportunity to collaborate with top scientists from the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, and will build on her already extensive tropical expertise.

## A Call to Aspiring Tropical Ecologists!

In May 2010, Sean Thomas and Sandy Smith will be leading a field course in the astonishingly beautiful country of Dominica; an island nation otherwise known as "The Nature Island of the Caribbean". Undergrad and grad students will have the opportunity to learn about tropical forest ecology, conservation, and management, in some of the most pristine tropical forest environments in the world. More info to come, but in the meantime please contact Sean Thomas ([sc.thomas@utoronto.ca](mailto:sc.thomas@utoronto.ca)) for preliminary information.

## SEASONAL PATTERNS IN SOCIALITY: ENTOMOLOGISTS GATHER IN MUCH LARGER GROUPS IN THE FALL THAN AT ANY OTHER TIME OF YEAR

Typically found only in small groups in the forest or around a microscope, the entomologist is often considered a semi-social organism. However, entomologists display a notable change in both their dispersal and social behaviour once the temperatures start to drop and the day lengths are reduced. The activities of the U of Toronto Forest Entomology lab provide a good example of this phenotypic plasticity. In the first week of October Lucas Roscoe and Laura Timms traveled to Dorset, Ontario for the annual meeting of the Entomological Society of Ontario. Two weeks later, Lucas was off to Pittsburgh for the Emerald Ash Borer Research and Technology Development workshop while Laura went to Winnipeg for the meeting of the Entomological Society of Canada (it is interesting to note that a wildlife biologist also made this trip – Jay Malcolm was spotted speaking to entomologists in Winnipeg as part of a forest insect diversity symposium). Laura was selected to participate in the graduate student symposium at the ESC meeting, and had the opportunity to present an overview of her PhD work there. Kathleen Ryan and Nurul Islam joined Lucas and Laura on October 28<sup>th</sup> for a group trip to Orillia for the annual Ontario Forest Health Review. On the very same day, Dorothy Maguire presented at the Ontario Invasive Plant Council annual meeting in Cobourg. It is likely that the seasonal behaviour of the group has been influenced by that of the dominant member; Sandy Smith will disperse furthest of all when she travels to Fujian Province, China for the International Congress on Biological Invasions in early November. Sandy, Kathleen, and Laura also have plans to travel to Indianapolis for the annual meeting of the Entomological Society of America in December. Previous observations indicate that this behaviour will return to normal in January; once lower winter temperatures and deep snow cover set in, entomologists will return to their labs and offices to overwinter with their specimens and data.

### Fall Campus Day -- Sat Oct 24, 2009

Yet another year has gone by with our Faculty participating in the University of Toronto Fall Campus Day. Forestry once again had two displays; Humanities and Social Science programs were located in University College and the Science programs were in the Medical Sciences Building. Our two new large, colourful and eye catching posters were a big hit with the parents and the high school students, as were our ever popular fresh Ontario apples. We had items on display to initiate discussion: insects from Sandy Smith's lab, biocomposite materials from Mohini Sain's and Sally Krigstin's labs, some real wood products from Paul Cooper's lab, and finally some moose and deer antlers from the "Lodge". Sandy's insects seemed to be the biggest attractant of them all.

This year's attendance seemed to be the largest in recent memory but what was even more significant to us (the Faculty of Forestry) was the larger number of students and parents interested in Forestry and Forest Conservation and our programs. It was a good feeling to have one of the busier booths on Saturday. Hopefully the dialogue and materials presented to the potential students result in an increased enrollment within the next few years.

The volunteers for the Faculty were Amalia Veneziano, Ian Kennedy, Kathy Giesbrecht and Liz Comber.

*Please submit your research, your stories, your activities, your fav photos, your editorial comments and well just about anything to Ian Kennedy ([ian.kennedy@utoronto.ca](mailto:ian.kennedy@utoronto.ca)) for the November issue of Forestry Matters. See ya in November.*