



PDAD&C #68, 2009-10

Memorandum

To: Staff and Students of the Faculty of Forestry
Principals, Deans, Academic Directors and Chairs

From: Cheryl Misak, Vice-President and Provost

Date: March 10, 2010

Re: **Appointment of Professor Sandy M. Smith, Dean, Faculty of Forestry**

I am pleased to announce that the Academic Board has approved the appointment of Professor Sandy M. Smith as Dean, effective July 1, 2010 until June 30, 2011.

Professor Smith joined the Faculty of Forestry in 1988 and is currently cross-appointed to the Faculty of Arts and Science Centre for Environment and Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Toronto, and her MSc and BScAgr from the University of Guelph. Her research focuses on invasive species, biological control, insect biodiversity, and forest entomology. She is a dedicated teacher and supervisor, receiving numerous awards for teaching excellence and has been graduate coordinator in the Faculty of Forestry.

Professor Smith has served as President of both the Entomological Society of Ontario and the Entomological Society of Canada, and as an examiner for the Ontario Professional Foresters Association. She is recognized for her service as associate editor of the *Canadian Journal of Forest Research*, and as a director of NSERC's Canadian biocontrol network. She maintains close collaborations with research scientists across the globe, working directly with the Canadian Forest Service, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, and the City of Toronto on applied problems in forest conservation and the forest and pest management industries. Her laboratory has developed environmentally-friendly control options against several major forest pests as well as provided the forest industry and public communities with management guidelines to help assess biodiversity and long-term forest sustainability.

Throughout North America, post-secondary institutions are addressing serious challenges general to the discipline of forestry. Forests and their conservation continue to be of critical importance to Canada as a nation and to the global environment. Thus, finding a solution to the challenges that face our own Faculty of Forestry is a top priority of the University of Toronto.

I have appointed a working group of senior faculty members to consider future directions for the Faculty. This Faculty Working Group has been actively engaged in discussions with faculty members, staff, students, other university divisions, and external constituents in order to consider and evaluate options. The resulting plan is intended to build on already strong collaboration in teaching and research and to encourage integrated and excellent forestry programs.

I thank Professor Sandy M. Smith for stepping forward to lead the Faculty through this transition.