

# COLLEGE OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## ANNUAL REPORT 2005-2006

### 1. Changes in Service Environment

- As reported last year, significant demographic changes as well as changes in the forest industry continue to unfold that require the College to think strategically about our teaching, research, and extension/outreach programs. Currently, the College is undergoing a series of roundtables and departmental discussions to evaluate and adapt our programs. Extension/engagement programming, international activities, new biomaterials/biomass research thrusts, and industrial research cooperatives are all under discussion. Further, new recruiting plans are being developed for each undergraduate and graduate program. Initiatives such as the American Home, the Sloan Center for Housing Industry Studies, the Forest Biomaterials Center, and a Sustainable Tourism Center continue to show progress.

### 2. Compact Plan: Major Initiatives

- During the year, the College continued to make significant progress on completion of Compact Plan initiatives.

#### Initiative 1. Green Infrastructure for Sustainable Communities

- a. Hired three outreach associates to develop service initiatives in green infrastructure, wood products manufacturing, and rural-sustainable tourism with USDA special grant support.
- b. Led University effort to assess, revise and collaboratively manage existing environmental science degrees and potential environmental studies degrees.
- c. Established undergraduate concentration in urban forestry.

- d. Initiated planning/development of a distance education, non-thesis master's degree program in Environmental Assessment with the Department of Environmental and Molecular Toxicology.

Initiative 2. Geo-Spatial Sciences

- a. A strategic plan for a GIS Research Program and a proposal for multidisciplinary GIS degree program to be submitted summer 2006.

Initiative 3. Forest Biomaterials and Biotechnology

- a. Steve Kelley appointed Interim Director of Forest Biomaterials and Biotechnology Center.
- b. A mini-grant program in Forest Biomaterial and Biotechnology was established and the first awards made to faculty.
- c. Established an open access, peer-reviewed, electronic journal in biomass and biomaterials – “BioResources.”

Initiative 4. International Programming in Natural Resources

- a. Established a MOU with the University of Concepcion, Chile, which includes a study abroad component, and with the Universidad Catolica Andes Bello, developing links with International Agroforestry Research Center in Kenya, and considering a South Africa initiative.
- b. Established a formal relationship between the NCSU Forest Biotechnology Industrial Research Consortium and the newly developed Chilean Forest Biotechnology Consortium.
- c. Conducted study abroad courses to Namibia, Costa Rica and China. Summer of 2006 will see study abroad tours to Ghana, Namibia, and Australia.

Initiative 5. Enhancing Forest Productivity

- a. Planning grant obtained to develop a NSF Industry/University Cooperative Research Center with NCSU as lead institution and including Virginia Tech, Purdue and Oregon State.

Initiative 6. Community for Diversity in Natural Resources

- a. See Section 3.

Initiative 7. Remaking the American Home

- a. Approval obtained from BOT to do feasibility study for American Home summer 2006 and approval obtained for the site at Springhill.
- b. Continued discussions with COM, COD, CHASS and Kenan Institute to develop a planning grant proposal to the Sloan Foundation for a Housing Industry Studies Center at NCSU.

Initiative 8. Sports Management Major and Curricular Reform in Parks, Recreation and Tourism

- a. PRTM concentration eliminated in Sports Mgt. and obtained approval of Sports Mgt. degree. Four new courses in Sports Mgt. now being taught. Two of three new faculty positions are now filled.

Initiative 9. Sustainable Tourism Studies

- a. University approval received to plan a Sustainable Tourism Center.
- b. Two research assistants hired using support from the NC Dept. of Commerce.

Initiative 10. Natural LITRE-ship

- a. New Information Technology Director hired.
- b. Completed development of a collaborative space (“flyspace”) for student use.
- c. Developed an experimental classroom in Jordan Hall outfitted with the highest technology and a movable landscape to foster innovation in teaching with technology.

Initiative 11. Restore and Enhance Performance in Application, Instruction, and Research (REPAIR)

- a. CNR-CALS Distinguished Lecture planned for fall 2006. Dr. Pedro Sanchez will be the distinguished lecturer.
- b. Endorsed joint CNR-CALS Distinguished Lecturer and Awards program development.
- c. A student led “Great Place to Learn” program is being developed with a student survey instrument to be circulated fall 2006.

**3. Diversity: Initiatives and Progress**

- Black History month celebrated with numerous events and a presentation by Dr. James Johnson, Professor, Kenan Flagler Business School.
- CNR Administrative team participated in NCBI workshop.
- Hosted first national Diversity Summit Sept. 2005 and planning is underway for a second Summit Sept. 2006.
- Agreed to host and maintain diversity website for the National Association of University Forest Resource Programs on the CNR website.
- NSF grant was received to conduct summer (2006) workshop for high school teachers to prepare career and educational opportunities for underrepresented groups.
- A scholarship was created by the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians for a Cherokee student seeking a degree in either civil engineering, electrical engineering, building engineering, or a natural resource related discipline.

**4. Instructional Program Advances**

- Hire faculty in ecology/conservation, forest hydrology, sports mgt., wood science.

- Final approval of Sports Management degree received from GA.
- Approval of new Ph.D. in Fisheries and Wildlife expected Fall 2006 from GA.
- Efforts continue to secure CNR student access to needed business management courses.
- Accreditation reviews of the Forestry program, Wood Products program, Paper Science and Engineering program, as well as Graduate School reviews of the Fisheries and Wildlife, the Natural Resources and the Wood and paper Science programs were completed.
- The Professional Golf Association conducted a positive four-year evaluation of the Professional Golf Management program. A new recruiting plan for the PGM program was completed and implemented.
- The Environmental Science minor was transferred from CHASS to CNR and the minor is being revised.
- Two new courses in Biomaterials were taught this year for the first time.
- Continued upgrades of classroom technology infrastructure with 2 additional wireless access points and new audio/visual equipment in all classrooms.

## **5. Research**

- Active research funding is currently \$31 million with 218 active projects.
- Awards this FY total \$7.7 million.

## **6. Extension**

- With funding from a special federal appropriation, CNR added three outreach specialists.
- Three state-wide forestry summits held with 334 total attendees.
- A total of seven teleconferences delivered with 820 participants.
- Strategic review of Extension and engagement programs underway.

## **7. Faculty Honors and Recognition**

- Elisabeth Wheeler, 2005 NCSU Libraries Faculty Award
- Phil Rea, Society of Park and Recreation Educators (SPRE) Distinguished Colleague Award
- Jennifer MacDougall, 2005 CNR Outstanding Extension Service Award
- Susan Moore, 2005 CNR Outstanding Extension Service Award
- Susan Moore, Inducted into Academy of Outstanding Faculty Engaged in Extension (AOFEE)
- Martin Hubbe, 2006 Paper and Board Division Leadership and Service Award
- Mike Kocurek, The Paper Industry International Hall of Fame
- Gary Blank, Fulbright Scholar Grant
- Hasan Jameel, CNR Outstanding Teaching Award for 2005-2006
- Hasan Jameel, CNR Outstanding Advisor Award
- Richard Lancia, Board of Governor's College Award
- Richard Lancia, CNR Outstanding Advisor Award
- Vincent Chiang, Alumni Association Outstanding Researcher Award
- Yu-Fai Leung, PRTM Undergraduate Teaching Award
- Karla Henderson, PRTM Graduate Teaching Award
- Phil Rea, Lifetime Achievement Award (departmental)
- John Casper, CNR Outstanding Advisor Award
- NC Forest Extension & Outreach – 2005 Family Farm Association Award (by NAUFRP & National Woodland Owners Assoc.)
- Jimmy Dodson, elected to serve on the National Board of North American Bluebird Society (NABS)
- Awatif Hassan, Profiled in Changing Our World – True Stories of Women Engineers (American Society of Civil Engineers)

- Annette Moore, Fred Fletcher Volunteer Award (Raleigh Parks and Recreation)

## **8. Student Honors and Recognition**

- 23 Xi Sigma Pi Inductees
- 6 Phi Kappa Phi Inductees
- 9 Rho Phi Lambda Inductees
- Phi Beta Kappa—Gabriel Karns
- 19 Undergraduate Research Symposium Participants
- Caldwell Fellows graduating—Jared Milrad; Sara Welter
- 6 Gamma Sigma Delta Outstanding Freshmen recognitions
- University Student Commencement Speaker – Jared Milrad
- U.S. Forest Service Award—Jared Milrad
- University Honors Program graduates—Patrick Cleary; Sara Welter
- CNR Honors Program graduates—Caroline Reddy; Rachel Wellman; Philip Beach; Jarad Milrad
- University Scholars Program graduates—Patrick Cleary; Meredith Fulp; Claire Moseley; Caroline Reddy; Jared Milrad
- ACAAGS Academic Achievement Award—Timia Thompson
- Preparing the Professoriate Fellowship—Thomas Colson; April Grecho
- Hofmann Forest Graduate Fellowship—Jennifer Emerson; Jose Zerpa; David Hester; Jason Riddle; Leslie Hester; Benjamin Smith; Caitlin Burke; Ben Hickerson; Holly Bosley; Rajpreet Butalia; Jason Swanson; Kristen Koenig; Herman Van Dyk; Xiaoquiang Xue
- N. C. State Alumni Association Fellowship—Benjamin Smith
- Collier Scholarship—Georgia Davis

- Fulbright Fellowship—Lucia Morales Ramirez
- Outstanding Teaching Assistant – Keith Nesbitt
- Academic Dean’s List – 202 (Fall), 194 (Spring)

## **9. Fund Raising**

- Currently at \$6.4 million or 152% of this year’s goal.
- Now at 80% of CNR \$35 million Achieve Campaign goal.
- Newly initiated Christmas Tree Research Endowment now at \$105,000.
- Major asks are being prepared for a chaired faculty position, golf course on Centennial Campus, a club house for the golf course, and American Home initiative.
- Launched a new program – the Hemlock Trust.

## **10. Administration**

- Steve Kelley appointed as head of the Wood and Paper Science Department
- Bob Brown chosen to serve as new Dean of CNR.
- J.B. Jett, currently Interim Dean, will return to position of Associate Dean for Research and Extension.