

# Forestry Matters

Where there is no vision, the people perish

Proverbs 29:18 from the King James Version of the Bible

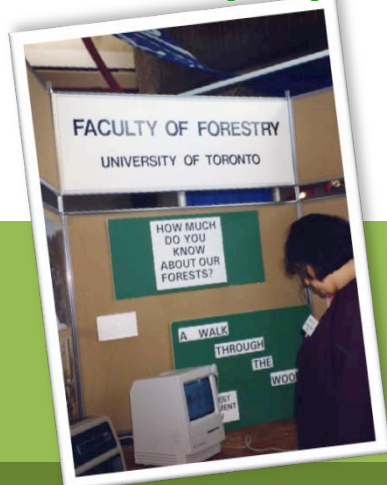


End of Summer 2010

## Dates to Remember

- Sept 4 -12 Undergraduate Field Course, Haliburton
- Sept 7 Welcome Back BBQ in the courtyard
- Sept 9-16 MFC Field Camp, Haliburton Forest
- Sept 9-12 Research Stream Field Camp, Haliburton Forest

Congratulations to Doug Creighton - Bronze Medalist, Pole Vault (incoming Masters Forest Conservation) Canadian Track & Field Championships



**censored**

I hung a word  
on an old pine tree

they cut down the tree

I strung my word  
on a pine sapling

they pushed down the sapling

I placed the word  
by a pine seedling

they plowed down the seedling

I traced my word  
on the sun-baked soil

it blew away

By Paul Aird, Professor Emeritus, Faculty of Forestry

## Remember When?

The Faculty of Forestry has participated in hundreds of displays and presentations over the years. This is one we wished the University of Toronto attended and paid more attention to!!! "How Much Do You Know About Our Forests".



## Just More Stuff

### NEWS FLASH!!!!

The Faculty of Forestry web site became just a little bit more modern recently. Check out Dean S. Smiths video message about our Faculty and the programs we offer. Special thanks to MFC student Marcin Lewandowski for his time and video skills. We are hoping that staff, student and alumni will join Sandy in giving video testimonials for our web site.

Check out:

[www.forestry.utoronto.ca/general/dean.html](http://www.forestry.utoronto.ca/general/dean.html)

Your will need Quicktime Loaded on your computer to view the video.

### NEW FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

#### Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships Program.

Canadian citizens, permanent residents of Canada and foreign citizens are eligible to apply to the Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships Program. The Government of Canada allocated \$45 million over five years in Budget 2010 to establish a high-profile, prestigious postdoctoral fellowships program. The fellowships will be known as the Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships, in memory of Sir Frederick Banting, the Canadian physician, researcher, Nobel laureate and war hero who, together with his assistant Dr. Charles Best, is credited with the discovery of insulin. The program is jointly administered by Canada's three federal granting agencies: the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC). More info on:

<http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/programmes-programmes/fellowships/banting-eng.aspx#a6>

### MFC Internship Update

I've been doing my internship at the Ontario Forest Industries Association. They sent me on a 2 week tour of Northern Ontario recently. A week with AbitibiBowater foresters in the Northwest and week with a silviculture contractor and Eacom in the Northeast. The internship will be the basis of my research paper when I'm back in the fall - the focus of which will be on Ontario's tenure reform.

Ian Dunn

## Dominica Field Trip



## Research Update from the Desk of Paul Cooper

In an earlier newsletter, we reported on the findings of Ph.D student Mojgan Nejad on the effect of penetrating stains to reduce leaching of wood preservatives. Mojgan recently had her paper on this subject published in *Environmental Science and Technology Journal* and the story was picked up by a European freelance writer and summarized for *Chemical & Engineering News* ISSN 0009-2347, July 26, 2010 Volume 88, Number 30p. 34DOI: 10.1021/CEN072010113039

The Item is reproduced below:

Deck Stains Seal In Contaminants by Sarah Everts

A semitransparent penetrating stain might prevent the metal and other inorganic preservatives from escaping from treated wood

When it was discovered that the chromated copper arsenate used to protect household decks from decay leached arsenic onto the wood surfaces and into the environment, a public outcry pushed industry to find alternatives, such as copper amine-based preservatives. But it is now thought that copper leaching from this wood might also hurt aquatic animals. Consequently, Mojgan Nejad and Paul Cooper of the University of Toronto decided to investigate whether adding a semitransparent penetrating stain might prevent the metal and other inorganic preservatives from escaping. The researchers applied 14 commercially available stains to deck wood and found that on average each coating prevented 60% of all inorganic preservative components from trickling out of the wood (*Environ. Sci. Technol.*, DOI: 10.1021/es101138v). Although most of the coatings seemed to physically degrade after about a year, the protective characteristics remained throughout Nejad and Cooper's three-year study; the wood likely retained the preservative components of the stains, or the stain somehow fixed the copper within the wood. The researchers also found that stains with high liquid viscosities and low glass transition temperatures did a better job of blocking leaching."

Paul Cooper and Ph.D. student Myung Jae Lee recently attended the International Research Group on Wood Protection conference in Biarritz, France (Basque country). Myung Jae was awarded the Gareth Williams Award for best Research paper by a student (there were more than 25 applicants from around the world), which carried a cash award and a lot of prestige for the Faculty and for Myung Jae. Congratulations Myung Jae!



**The Thomas Lab does the Faculty of Forestry proud at ESA 2010.**

The first week of August saw Sean Thomas and his merry band of lab members descend full force onto the 95<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of America (ESA). Arriving in Pittsburgh, PA with a burning itch to change the ecology world forever were Sean, PhD students Liz Nelson, Adam Martin, and Rajit Patankar (co-supervised by Sandy Smith), along with post-doctoral research associate Mike Fuller. Over the course of the massive conference, attended by well over 7,000 ecologists, the Thomas labbers were relentless, showcasing their remarkably broad, reviewer-proof brand of research. Actually, if nothing else, the lab would certainly be the top contender for the "Most Geographically Diverse Research Program" award. Liz and Mike led the charge presenting research on Boreal forest ecology and management, Rajit turned heads with a presentation on temperate forest entomology, Sean broke new ground in temperate forest ecology and tree biology, and Adam wrapped things up with a respectable study on tropical tree physiology. And as if that wasn't enough, to cap it off Sean had the attendees on their feet begging for an encore, following his show-stopping performance at the ESA Musician Showcase. Overall, the Faculty of Forestry was well-represented at this year's ESA meeting. Below are the official titles and co-authors for the Thomas Lab's presentations, and for additional information on the lab group, visit our homepage at:

[www.forestry.utoronto.ca/thomas/ThomasMain.htm](http://www.forestry.utoronto.ca/thomas/ThomasMain.htm).

**Mike M. Fuller**, F.H. Smith, and S.C. Thomas – *Post-harvest mortality in managed Boreal forests: A spatial analysis of edge effects.*

**Adam Martin**, S.C. Thomas, S.J. DeWalt, K.L. Ickes, and E.R. Stedman – *Comparative ecophysiology of Caribbean and mainland Neotropical trees.*

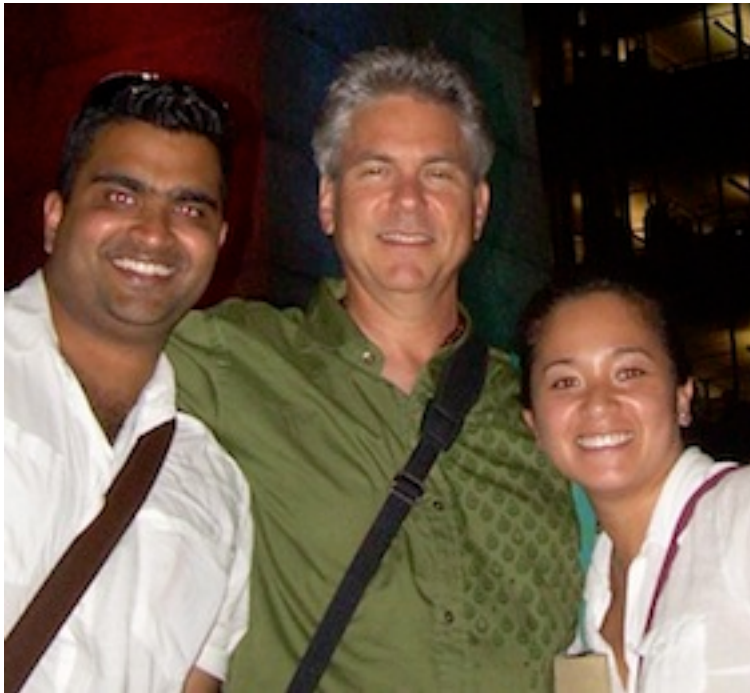
**Liz A. Nelson** and S.C. Thomas – *Yukon tree rings and winter warming: Effect of early freeze-thaw events on white spruce and lodgepole pine growth.*

**Rajit Patankar**, S.C. Thomas and S.M. Smith – *A gall forming mite drives drastic declines in canopy tree photosynthesis.*

**Sean C. Thomas** – *Temperate tree species show strong but varying size-dependent allometric patterns of canopy openness, crown depth, and leaf optics.*



ESA 2010 continued.....



## THANKS TAT

On Wednesday July 28, 2010 friends, family and co-workers got together at the Faculty Club to express their appreciation to Tat Smith for a job well done during his tenure as Dean of the Faculty. Thanks for your leadership and guidance Tat.



## Congratulations Are In Order For:

- John Caspersen recieved a Collaborative Research and Development (CRD) grant from NSERC titled "Intensifying forest biomass utilization for energy production" to fund a joint project with the Ministry of Natural Resources, Ontario Power Generation, and Haliburton Forest and Wildlife Reserve.
- John McCarron is now a very proud smiley "Grampa"



- Laura Timms is now Dr. Laura Timms
- Sandy Smith as she starts her term as Dean
- Seri Robinson (Post Doc with Paul Cooper) has a new Applied Mycology Lab located in the former soils prep room (rm 4002)—pop in a have a visit.



- To Shashi Kant for receiving the Queens Award for Forestry for "Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Forest Economics". Shashi received the award on July 28, 2010 in Edinburgh.



- To alumni Harold Doran and the birth of his daughter Astraia Lily Patricia Givens Doran
- To Alumni President Adrina Ambrosii for having her poem published online by "Antipode: A Radical Journal of Geography". See: <http://www.antipode-online.net/> Scroll to: "Creative Matters"

## Take a Hike Ehhhh!!!!

Everyone wants to pick on Forestry these days. Have I got news for you, good news, exciting news, actually FANTASTIC NEWS.

Listen to this:

- MFC student enrollement is up.
- Research Stream student enrollment is up.
- We have had to create more teaching space because we have more students.
- Yes you do need to take a hike and check out.
  - Room 4001
  - Room 4001a
  - Room 4001b
  - Room 4000
  - Room 1016m
- Prof's getting great research funding.

Johnny Canuck McCarron has scrounged up some amazing deals, I don't want to tell everyone the details—you need to take the hike.

For those who cannot take the hike—shhhhh--don't tell—**great new classroom furniture (FOR FREE!!!)**

Look for pictures in the next issue of Forestry Matters



### Koffler Scientific Reserve Nature Walks

Get up close and personal with the natural world at Koffler Scientific Reserve at Jokers Hill. Our informal Nature Walks ramble through forest and field, guided by top experts from the U of T. For a more intensive, hands-on learning experience, sign up for our day-long Natural History Workshops.

#### Mushrooms on the Moraine

Saturday, October 9

Learn to identify many of the fascinating mushrooms and other fungi found on the Oak Ridges Moraine. Suitable for all levels of experience.

9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

#### Finding the Forest for the Trees

Sunday, October 10

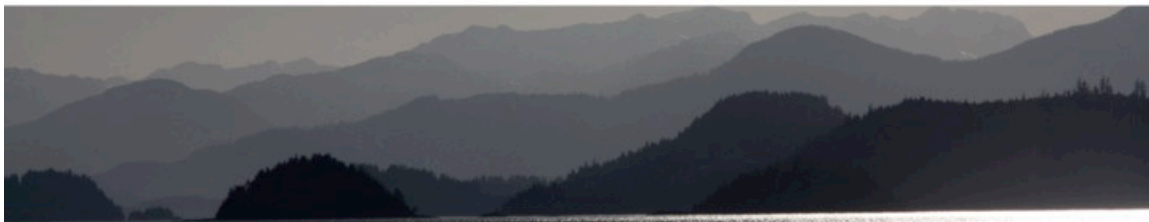
More than the sum of its parts, a forest is a complex community whose members struggle for light, water and minerals. Hear Dr. Sean Thomas, U of T professor of forest ecology, tell the story of how trees in the old growth get to be old.

11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

For more information call 905-727-3333 or [visit our website](#)

## TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS AMAZING OPPORTUNITY

### Haida Gwaii Semester in Natural Resource Studies



The Haida Gwaii Semester provides senior undergraduates an immersion opportunity in a unique resource-dependent community. Courses include *Rainforest Ecology and Management*, *First Nations and Forests*, *History and Politics of Resource Management*, *Diversifying Resource-Dependent Communities*, and *Directed Studies in Haida Gwaii*.

[WWW.HAIDAGWAIISEMESTER.COM](http://WWW.HAIDAGWAIISEMESTER.COM)

2011 Semester: January 10 – April 15

Registration now open!

