

Yale SCHOOL OF FORESTRY &  
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

# CANOPY



SPRING 2015

News and notes for alumni and friends



Dear Alumni and Friends,

With Commencement now behind us, and with another busy and fulfilling academic year now completed, I would like to take a moment to express my deepest appreciation for all you do in support of F&ES. From mentoring students through the Environmental Leadership Mentoring (ELM) program, to your extraordinary investment in endowing new student scholarships, to supporting our efforts to recruit the next generation of talented students, our alumni and friends continuously demonstrate their dedication and commitment to F&ES. One of my goals is to continue to deepen those connections in the coming years.

As you will read in this issue of *CANOPY*, we are currently implementing several initiatives to better connect our alumni to each other, to students, and to F&ES. A particular focus is to expand the number of opportunities for alumni engagement, learning, and community-building here on campus and in the places our alumni live and work around the world.

This spring we experimented with offering two online courses to alumni. This exciting new initiative offered alumni the opportunity to learn from faculty and staff, develop new interests and skills, and become acquainted with F&ES colleagues working around the world. Most importantly, these courses provided a new way for alumni to stay connected with this special School. We are planning additional course offerings which we will share with alumni as they are launched.

We are also connecting with alumni through our new mentoring program, ELM. I would like to extend my most sincere thanks to the over 100 alumni who volunteered to mentor a student during the program's first year. I hope many more of you will consider becoming a mentor.

This past academic year, we held several alumni gatherings to help connect our alums to each other and to F&ES. You can view photos from some of the alumni events — including those in Peru, D.C., and Colorado — in this issue. On the horizon, we are planning events in Maine this summer and in Paris for the COP 21 negotiations. In October we are planning a special alumni event at the new Yale Center in Beijing.

A personal highlight of this past year was the opportunity to volunteer with Colorado alumni during Yale Day of Service in May. This was the second year that I have been able to participate in the Yale Day of Service and the date is already on my calendar for 2016! The Yale Day of Service is a wonderful way to join other Yale alumni in giving back to your community, wherever you live around the world, and I encourage you to get involved.

In this edition of *CANOPY*, please enjoy catching up on news from F&ES, including photos from an incredible Reunion Weekend 2014. I hope many of you will return for Reunion Weekend 2015 in October — we are eager to welcome you back to campus.

With best wishes,



Dean Peter Crane

*Cover photo and right:  
Dean Peter Crane with  
volunteers at Yale Day of  
Service in Denver, Colorado*  
(JASON HOUSTON PHOTOS)



*CANOPY* is published twice a year by the F&ES Office of Development and Alumni Services. *CANOPY* is designed to inform the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies community of alumni, friends, and supporters about the School's activities, goals, and achievements, and to celebrate the community at large.



## SAVE THE DATE!

### REUNION WEEKEND 2015 ~ OCTOBER 9-11

#### Make Plans Now to Join Your Classmates and Generations of F&ES Alums for Reunion Weekend!

F&ES alumni from all classes are invited. This year we will be celebrating the classes of 2010, 2005, 2000, 1995, 1990, 1985, 1980, 1975, 1970, 1965, 1960, 1955, 1950 ...

**Connect** with classmates and meet alumni from other classes, **attend** alumni/faculty presentations, **enjoy** delicious meals with friends old and new (including a Harvest Dinner in Bowers and an Alumni Awards Luncheon in Kroon), **explore** campus on a field trip or tour, **celebrate** at a school-wide TGIF, and more!

Visit [environment.yale.edu/alumni/reunion-weekend](http://environment.yale.edu/alumni/reunion-weekend) to view the complete Reunion Weekend 2015 schedule of events and to let us know if you plan to join us.



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## F&ES HAPPENINGS

### F&ES Presents Its Highest Honor to Philanthropist Teresa Heinz



Yale President Peter Salovey '86 Ph.D., Teresa Heinz, and F&ES Dean Peter Crane during the presentation of the Aldo Leopold Award.

Teresa Heinz, philanthropist and longtime advocate for environmental awareness and literacy, was named the recipient of the Aldo Leopold Award, the highest honor granted by F&ES. An active proponent for environmental issues in the U.S. and globally, Heinz is chair of the Heinz Endowments and the Heinz Family Philanthropies, which support various social and environmental causes. At F&ES, she has supported student scholarships and conferences, and she made a gift to establish the Teresa and H. John Heinz III Professorship in Chemistry for the Environment.

**Read more and view a video from the event:** [yalef.es/aldoleopoldaward](http://yalef.es/aldoleopoldaward)

*"We are delighted that Teresa Heinz will be the third recipient of this distinguished award, through which we recognize her inspiring record of advocacy, bringing attention to issues that affect us all. From climate change, to environmental health, to sustainable design, and more — she has been a passionate and effective voice, urging us to do the right thing."*  
— Dean Peter Crane

The Aldo Leopold Award, established in 2009 on the centennial of Leopold's graduation from F&ES, recognizes individuals whose exceptional contributions to the protection of the environment, stewardship of "the land" as Leopold envisioned it, or in scholarship or writing in environmental ethics, ecology, or a related field serve as a model to others and an inspiration to future generations. The award was presented during a ceremony at F&ES on November 10, 2015. Teresa Heinz is just the third person to receive the award. Previous recipients were the late F. Herbert Bormann, an F&ES professor whose research first called the world's attention to the threat of acid rain, and Frances Beinecke '71 B.A., '74 M.F.S., former president of the Natural Resources Defense Council.

### Three Members of F&ES Faculty Appointed to Endowed Professorships

The Yale Corporation approved the recommendation of Yale President Peter Salovey '86 Ph.D. and Dean Peter Crane to appoint three faculty members of the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies to prestigious endowed professorships at the School.

During the April 24, 2015, F&ES Leadership Council luncheon, President Salovey announced that James Saiers was appointed the Clifton R. Musser Professor of Hydrology, David Skelly was named the Frank R. Oastler Professor of Ecology, and Michelle Bell was named the Mary E. Pinchot Professor of Environmental Health.

James Saiers, Professor of Hydrology and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, studies natural processes and human activities that affect the quality and supply of freshwater. David Skelly, Professor of Ecology, studies the ecological mechanisms of animal distributions and how to develop the means to apply that understanding to conservation and management. He is also the Director of the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History. Michelle Bell, Professor of Environmental Health, studies the link between human health and atmospheric systems.

## F&ES Launches Dual Degree with Tsinghua University in Beijing



*Officials from Yale University and Tsinghua University sign the Memorandum of Understanding on October 27 in Beijing. Seated, from left, F&ES Dean Peter Crane and Tsinghua School of Environment Dean He Kebin; standing, from left, Yale President Peter Salovey '86 Ph.D. and Tsinghua President Chen Jining.*

In October 2015, F&ES announced a dual-degree program with Tsinghua University School of Environment, which is located in Beijing, China. School leaders say the dual degree, to be introduced during the 2015–2016 academic year, will allow students at Tsinghua to bolster their skills in environmental policy and management, and at the same time will

enable Yale students to enhance their expertise in key areas of environmental engineering. The program will also connect Yale and Tsinghua students to leading environmental researchers and practitioners in both the United States and China.

“Securing a healthy environment and developing more sustainable patterns of consumption will be among the defining global challenges of the twenty-first century,” said Dean Peter Crane. “Through this new partnership Yale and Tsinghua can play a key role in preparing leaders who can make a real difference in these critical areas.”

“This program gives our Yale students an unprecedented opportunity to study with some of the most cutting-edge and leading researchers in China on environmental engineering,” added Karen Seto, Professor of Geography and Urbanization and Associate Dean of Research at F&ES, who helped develop the program. “Especially for students who want to do research on China, this program will provide students with a first-hand opportunity to experience two very different academic and research cultures, which I believe will transform their problem-solving capabilities.”

**Learn more about the dual degree program with Tsinghua University:** [yalef.es/tsinghuadualdegree](http://yalef.es/tsinghuadualdegree)

## Celebrating 20 Years of URI's Community Greenspace Program



*Former URI intern Mohamad A. Chakaki '06 M.E.M. speaking with URI founder Professor Emeritus Bill Burch at the celebration.*

Nobody could have predicted the success of the Community Greenspace program of the Urban Resources Initiative (URI) when it started in 1995, with a few hundred volunteers spread over a handful of New Haven neighborhoods. But two decades later, more than 270 community groups have

participated in the program. Every summer, more than 1,000 volunteers join together, working across the city to convert unused lots into small parks and to maintain those that have already been renovated. “When we began in the mid-nineties, New Haven was plagued by trash-strewn vacant lots and neglected parks,” said URI Director Colleen Murphy-Dunning. “The visible change to the landscape is remarkable. The city has undergone a real transformation.”

Last fall, URI's Community Greenspace program celebrated its 20-year milestone with community leaders, volunteers, board members, donors, and former interns at the house of Yale President Peter Salovey '86 Ph.D. During the celebration, F&ES Dean Peter Crane described the essential role URI has forged at F&ES over the past two decades. He noted that at a time when the work of the School is increasingly global, URI maintains a deep local connection between the School and the community.

**Read more about URI's Community Greenspace program milestone:** [yalef.es/twodecadesuri](http://yalef.es/twodecadesuri)

## MENTOR AN F&ES STUDENT THROUGH THE ELM PROGRAM

This was the first year of the Environmental Leadership Mentoring (ELM) Program at F&ES. This ambitious new mentoring program, initiated by members of the Alumni Association Board who identified this as a priority need of the School, connected 102 students in their final year at F&ES with alumni mentors. The ELM Program aims to help F&ES students grow professionally through the guidance and advice of alumni, helping them to become environmental leaders and managers in today's world. Thank you to the alumni who participated in the program and who helped make this inaugural year a success!

"The Alumni Board felt it was an important priority to work with F&ES staff and students to create the ELM Program. Members of the Board are grateful for the connections that they established with alums during their time at the School as students, and were eager to formalize a process of matching students with alums whose backgrounds, career interests, and geographies are well aligned with their own," noted Alumni Association Board Member Gordon Clark '07 M.E.M., who helped develop the program. "The ELM Program will help the talented students of F&ES prepare for and launch into whatever noble endeavor they choose to pursue after graduation."



Tom Strumolo '74 B.A., '88 M.E.S., and his mentee Marley Urdanick '15 M.E.M. connecting in Kroon Hall.

*"I hope that more alumni will choose to join the ranks of ELM mentors. Not only is this an effective way to share your experience and continue to engage with the great people of F&ES, but it also offers alumni an opportunity to further develop their skills as mentors, making them better ambassadors for the environment in all contexts."*

– Sara Smiley Smith '07 M.E.Sc./M.P.H.  
Alumni Association Board Member

An ELM Committee, comprised of representatives of the Alumni Association Board, students and faculty, and staff from the Career Development, Student Services, and Alumni Services offices, designed the mentoring program. The ELM Committee is reviewing feedback received from the first year's mentors and mentees as it works to build on a very successful first year in year two.

Tara Meyer '15 M.E.Sc. had the opportunity to meet her mentor at the World Parks Congress in Sydney in November and also spoke with her a number of times by phone. "My ELM mentor is amazing," noted Tara on her mentor/mentee survey. "She is very responsive, well-connected, and inspiring."

On the mentor/mentee survey, Logan Yonavjak '16 M.F./M.B.A. mentioned that "it's been great to have someone to bounce ideas off of in a more regular way (instead of just one informational interview), and to be able to ask them to review cover letters/resumes and make a few career introductions."

Alumni Association Board Member Sara Smiley Smith '07 M.E.Sc./M.P.H., who helped develop the ELM program, noted: "One of the most rewarding aspects of working on this program has been seeing the group's shared commitment to excellence in action. When we were envisioning ELM, we knew we would learn a tremendous amount in the first year, and it has been exciting and inspiring to be part of a team of alums, faculty, staff, and students working to



embrace lessons and integrate them into our ELM strategy for year two. The program will have a greater impact as a result of the reflective approach the group has adopted, working hard to make this tool actively responsive to the needs of our community.”

In order to better match students with mentors, F&ES is aiming to increase the pool of alumni mentors to at least three times what we need to meet student needs in any one year. Although not every mentor will be able to be paired with a student each year, this will allow F&ES to make good matches between student interests and alumni experiences this year and in future years. The more alumni who express their willingness to be a mentor, the stronger the program will be!

It takes just a few minutes to fill out a profile and sign up to be a mentor. If you are matched with a student for this upcoming academic year, you will be notified in September. Resources have been developed to assist mentors in pro-

viding guidance to their mentees. If you are not paired up in the 2015–2016 academic year, there are still many other ways you can get more involved with the School — some of which are described in this edition of *CANOPY*. We will share additional opportunities to engage with F&ES and support current students with alumni who sign up to be part of the ELM program.

“This is an amazing opportunity to connect to current students and help them as they navigate their post-F&ES future,” notes Nicole Chevalier ’99 M.E.S., Vice President of the Alumni Association Board. “The board initiated this mentoring program to provide a resource to current students as they begin to transition out of graduate school and to provide a way for alumni to connect to and serve current students.”

**Sign up to be an ELM mentor:** [www.myinterfase.com/yale-fes/mentor](http://www.myinterfase.com/yale-fes/mentor)

## F&ES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD ANNOUNCES NEW ALUMNI AWARD

In 2015, the F&ES Alumni Association Board announced a new award for alumni — the *Prospect Street Award*. The award will recognize a graduate from the last decade who has made a significant contribution to the forestry or environmental field, exemplifying the spirit of F&ES through demonstrated leadership, innovation, and creativity.

In addition to the Distinguished Alumni Award and Alumni Service Award, which had previously been established, the Alumni Association Board wanted to develop a special award to recognize the significant accomplishments of recent graduates of the School. Each year, the *Prospect Street Award* will encourage alumni to think broadly about the impressive contributions of recent alumni, reflecting the diversity of environmental greatness that F&ES produces, when considering who to nominate for the award.

The Alumni Association Board reached out in May to all F&ES alumni to encourage nominations of alums from the Classes of 2004 through 2014 for this new award. One recipient will be chosen annually by the Alumni Association Board and recognized during Reunion Weekend.

*“Establishing the new Prospect Street Award has been a key priority of the F&ES Alumni Association Board, for increasing alumni engagement and alumni awareness of the inspiring and diverse contributions by our most recent alumni.”*

—Brian Goldberg ’03 M.E.M.  
Alumni Association Board President

## F&ES CELEBRATES 10 YEARS OF WYSS SCHOLARS

With major support from the Wyss Foundation, this year marked the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies' 10<sup>th</sup> year of training leaders who are pursuing land conservation careers in the West. Since 2006, F&ES has awarded scholarship funding and post-graduate fellowships to 24 master's students who have demonstrated exemplary leadership and commitment to western land issues.

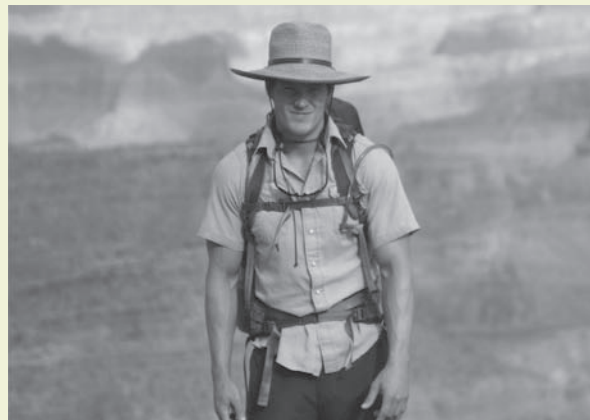
Wyss Scholars are engaged in a variety of issues including land conservation and stewardship, environmental policy, field ecology, watershed management, fire science and management, and forestry. They are working for nonprofit organizations like the Quivira Coalition and The Nature Conservancy, and for governmental organizations like the U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service, and National Park Service.

Wyss Scholars have proven to be instrumental in building new leadership capacity and vision in support of land conservation in the West, and they are bringing new skills, approaches, and solutions to tackling the environmental, social, and political challenges inherent in saving western landscapes and livelihoods.

Avery Anderson Sponholtz '08 M.E.M., Executive Director of the Quivira Coalition, credited the Wyss Scholars Program with "having a profound influence on my work as a professional in the western conservation movement. The program made it possible to find my way west and into an organization that was aligned with my interests."



Avery Anderson Sponholtz '08 M.E.M. on the North Rim of the Grand Canyon



*"The Wyss Scholars Program offers an excellent platform for harnessing student interest and setting career trajectories that can meet the students' and foundation's shared objectives. The program's commitment to conservation and the American West has always been a natural fit for me, so I've been thrilled to have had that alignment and network to support my endeavors."*

— Patrick Holmes '08 M.E.M.



*"Attracting young, motivated minds to dedicate their studies to western conservation issues is important. And by providing the added incentive of financial help, the Wyss Scholars Program does a lot to encourage the best and brightest in conservation to come out west where we need smart people driving experimentation and innovative change."*

— Peter Caligiuri '10 M.F.



## 2015 ANDREW SABIN INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL FELLOWS



2015 Andrew Sabin International Environmental Fellows (l to r): Luciana Maia Villalba '16 M.E.M. (Argentina), Hassaan Sipra '16 M.E.M. (Pakistan), Paloma Caro Torres '16 M.E.M. (Chile), Raymond Waweru '16 M.E.M. (Kenya), Tamara Thomas '16 M.E.M. (Trinidad and Tobago), Mariana Vedoveto '16 M.E.M. (Brazil), Lara Iwanicki '16 M.E.M. (Brazil), and Mohammad Aatish Khan '16 M.E.M. (India).

The Andrew Sabin Family Foundation created the Andrew Sabin International Environmental Fellowship program at Yale in 2011 to provide scholarship support for students from developing countries, and to provide additional post-graduate awards to those students returning to their home countries and regions to pursue environmental careers. Since 2011, the Foundation has supported 40 Sabin Fellows, all graduate students attending the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies.

"Now in its fifth year, the Sabin International Environmental Fellowship has established itself as a key program for our international students," said F&ES Dean Peter Crane. "We are incredibly thankful to the Andrew Sabin Family Foundation for supporting students from developing countries to study at F&ES, and for easing their path back home where they have the financial flexibility to pursue their dream environmental careers."

Eight graduate students have been selected as 2015 Andrew Sabin International Environmental Fellows. Each Fellow is eligible to receive tuition assistance of up to \$20,000 and another \$20,000 in post-graduation awards within 18 months of graduation.

*"I am excited to support these young environmental professionals from around the world through scholarships and by jumpstarting their environmental careers. My goal is to lower their debt burden while in school, and then offer an incentive for each of them to return to their home countries and regions as quickly as possible to work on pressing environmental issues. Over the past five years, I've been thrilled to start building a global network of committed young environmental leaders who are tackling tough issues like climate change, deforestation, and biodiversity loss."*

— Andrew Sabin

Learn more about the areas of interest of each of the 2015 Fellows: [yalef.es/2015sabinfellows](http://yalef.es/2015sabinfellows)

# HELPING STUDENTS DESIGN AND LEAD A MORE SUSTAINABLE WORLD

## Yale Center for Business and the Environment

When it comes to finding ways for the world to transition to a sustainable economy, the Yale Center for Business and the Environment (CBEY) is leading the search for solutions.

CBEY combines the disciplinary strengths of two professional schools — the School of Forestry & Environmental Studies and the

School of Management — with an international network of business and environmental leaders to provide advice and material support for student environmental entrepreneurialism. CBEY is home to the United States' oldest joint-degree program in business and the environment, a nationally preeminent curriculum that addresses the twofold need for environmental leadership in business and skilled managers in environmental organizations. Building on the success of this program, CBEY has established a vibrant network of public, private, and NGO partnerships working on a range of business-driven solutions to environmental challenges.

According to CBEY Program Director Stuart DeCew '11 M.E.M./M.B.A., "The Center seeks to close the gap between theory and practice for students who are inspired to address the world's toughest sustainability challenges through market solutions." This includes offering students opportunities to gain real-world experience through internships and consulting engagements. This past summer, F&ESers worked with Austin Resource Recovery and Greenovate Boston to analyze municipal recycling programs while their colleagues worked in Southeast Asia with the World Wildlife Fund to craft new approaches to developing corporate partner-



*Recipients of the Sabin Sustainable Venture Prize Kenny Cloft '15 M.E.M. and Yesenia Gallardo '15 M.E.M. with Andrew Sabin and CBEY Program Director Stuart DeCew '11 M.E.M./M.B.A.*

ships. CBEY also organized teams of F&ES students to conduct ground-breaking research on solar energy diffusion and marketing with the Connecticut Green Bank, while others analyzed electric vehicle infrastructure with the Coalition for Green Capital.

CBEY has been at the forefront of developing an ecosystem of support for environmental and

social entrepreneurs at Yale, from product innovation and design to finance and marketing. This past fall, CBEY hosted the inaugural National Low Carbon Case Competition where students presented strategies for sustainable investment practices in the face of global climate change. And for nearly a decade, CBEY has hosted the Sabin Sustainable Venture Prize, a competitive award that provides \$25,000 to a student environmental start-up. This year's winning team, Poda Foods, will use the funds to manufacture an organic, gluten-free cricket protein.

CBEY provides students with both the theoretical foundation and practical experience they need to help design and lead a more sustainable world, often through engagement with Yale alumni. "Our most direct and powerful connection to stay one step ahead of shifting dynamics at the interface of business and the environment are Yale alumni," Stuart said. "We have alumni mentoring environmental entrepreneurs, hosting regional networking events, providing ideas and advice for future articles and research, hosting student independent studies, and speaking on campus on careers in the field. If you have the will to engage, we will find a way to make it happen."

# ALUMNI PARTNER ACROSS YALE TO FACILITATE STUDENT CAREER EXPLORATIONS



*Dan Utech '97 M.E.S./M.P.P.M., Special Assistant to the President for Energy and Climate Change, delivers the keynote address in Burke Auditorium.*

This past year, the Association of Yale Alumni (AYA) hosted two first-of-a-kind alumni events to showcase the ways students can work across traditional boundaries in cultivating their career pathways. Distinct from other AYA professional workshops, these university-wide events brought together alumni, undergraduates, and students from the Graduate School as well as nearly every Yale professional school. “The goal was to pick an interdisciplinary theme that would resonate with all these entities,” noted co-chair Holly Welles ’88 M.F.S., an F&ES Alumni Association Board Member and member of the AYA Board of Governors.

Last September, AYA and the School of Forestry & Environmental Studies hosted the first of these events, “Green Careers for Yale Blues,” to provide students with a wide range of career perspectives and networking opportunities in the energy, environment, and sustainability sectors. “Twenty alumni returned to Yale to discuss and engage with students about their career choices,” Holly said. The daylong event, which attracted over 200 students from across the University, featured a keynote address by Dan Utech ’97 M.E.S./M.P.P.M., President Obama’s top climate and energy advisor. Following his talk on green jobs in the public sector, students attended one of four alumni panels: energy; ethics,

law, and policy; sustainability and innovation; and resource management. Each panel was repeated twice and featured both early careerists and established industry veterans from the public and private sectors.

Building on the success of the green careers workshop, AYA hosted a second workshop in April entitled “Healthy Career Choices” at the School of Public Health. Following a keynote address by former Médecins Sans Frontières - USA (Doctors Without Borders) director Matthew Spitzer ’90 B.A., nearly thirty alumni discussed their careers in the rapidly changing public health sector. Again, panels highlighted interdisciplinary themes such as health, law, and policy to get students thinking more critically about how to best integrate their myriad interests in the health care field.



*Students listen to panelists from the energy sector in Kroon Hall.*

These two events co-hosted by F&ES, AYA, and other Yale schools engaged and connected alumni and students from many disciplines through common themes. Building on the success of the first two University-wide alumni career events, plans are being made for a third similar workshop in 2015 focused on a new interdisciplinary theme. Thank you to the several F&ES alumni who participated in the workshops this year!



# GIFT LINKS STUDENT CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION AND F&ES

## A ‘Natural’ Pipeline for Future Leaders

Avana Andrade ’15 M.E.M. was an undergraduate history major several years ago when she learned about an internship in the Grand Canyon. Avana, who had also been interested in natural history growing up in Colorado, jumped at the position. Within a few months, she knew that history wasn’t going to be her life’s work.

*The job, which was with a group called the Student Conservation Association (SCA), changed her life.*

After six months, she finished the job with new skills in data collection, a contributing role in a report on desert ranching, and a new appreciation for the importance of conservation.

Avana is one of thousands of people who have been inspired to pursue environmental careers after spending time working for the SCA, a nonprofit organization that seeks to build the next generation of environmental leaders through hands-on work on the land.

“It was a completely transformative experience,” says Avana, a recent graduate of F&ES and recipient of the School’s Student Conservation Association Fellowship, which goes to alums of the program. “I would never have been able to get out to this amazing place without the Student Conservation Association. And it totally

changed what I wanted to do. I realized I didn’t want to do history anymore, but instead wanted to work in open space conservation.”

That’s precisely the point, says Ed Bartlett ’69 B.A., a Yale College graduate who went through SCA as a 17-year-old from Long Island in 1964 and later spent several years on the organization’s board of directors. While his eventual career was in finance, the time he spent making trails at Olympic National Park opened his eyes to the importance of protecting the nation’s open spaces — and how exposure to nature can change a young person’s life.

*In 2005, Ed established the Student Conservation Association Fellowship in honor of John R. Twiss ’60 B.A.*

“In an era when young people are going outdoors less and less, something like SCA is pretty important,” said Ed. “Something like 40 to 50 percent of the Park Service retires in the next five years. We represent a huge opportunity to promote more diversity. We believe we can help train people to become the next generation of conservation leaders.”

When it was established in 1957, the SCA was something like a summer camp that allowed teens to spend a few weeks working in the outdoors. The idea was that their efforts would be good for the parks and forests, which had seen a surge in public use, while at the same time introducing kids to nature.

The organization still serves that purpose for thousands of teenagers who complete conservation service in all 50 states every year. But over the years SCA has expanded to include, among other programs, training opportunities and internships for college-age students and post-graduates.

In short, Ed says, the program no longer offers just a gateway into the environmental realm; it helps cultivate training and networking opportunities so that young people can make it a career. “You can start at a community-based, weekend program in Washington, D.C., for instance,



*Avana Andrade ’15 M.E.M. during her SCA internship in the Grand Canyon.*



*Ed Bartlett '69 B.A. while with the SCA in 1964 and today.*

and then end up on a long-term project at Denali National Park in Alaska,” he notes.

It was in this spirit that he established the scholarship for F&ES students. Ninety-four percent of all SCA members say they intend to remain active in conservation.

Supporting the advancement of SCA alums at places like F&ES will help develop the next generation of environmental leaders.

Since 2006, the scholarship has helped seven students cover their costs at Yale. The first recipient was Maya Kane '07 M.E.Sc., who came to F&ES after completing an SCA internship with the U.S. Forest Service in California. She had already graduated with a degree in biology when she was hired for the SCA position. At the time she wanted to work in wildlife management, but had little experience. Her work regulating permits on Mount Whitney offered a valuable entrée into the field, Maya says, allowing her to make important contacts and advance professionally.

“Although the work wasn’t that glamorous — I was in the office four out of five days a week — I was able to do field work one day a week,” she says. “It showed me how an agency operated, what it takes to run a wilderness area, what that looks like on the ground. Probably the most important and most transformative thing for me was getting in with an agency and making contacts among the people who were doing the kind of wildlife research I wanted to do.”

SCA is hoping to identify other “alums” who went on to F&ES. If that’s you, please contact Kristin Floyd at [kristin.floyd@yale.edu](mailto:kristin.floyd@yale.edu) or 203-432-5189.

## The Road to Great Mountain



*Class of 2015 MODS in August 2013*

Inspired by Aldo Leopold’s entreaty to “think like a mountain” when considering the interconnectedness of living things, **F&ES’s new Great Mountain Society recognizes recent graduates who give consistently to the Annual Fund every year.**



The first step on the road to Great Mountain is a contribution to the Class Gift, followed by renewed support each year.

We are very proud that, even while completing final papers and searching for jobs, **86% of the Class of**

**2015 gave to the Annual Fund, creating 4 scholarships** for the incoming Class of 2017. They are the newest F&ES alumni and keenly aware of the tough choices created by student loan debt. Please join the Class of 2015 in helping to support the more than 80% of students who could not attend F&ES without financial aid. **Every gift matters!**

[environment.yale.edu/giving/donate](http://environment.yale.edu/giving/donate)

## F&ES ALUMNI VOLUNTEER AROUND THE WORLD ON YALE DAY OF SERVICE

On Yale Day of Service 2015, many F&ES alumni gave generously of their time to make a difference at community service projects from Connecticut to California and across the globe. They worked in schools and in rivers, in soup kitchens and in farms, in parks and in community gardens throughout the U.S. and beyond, including Canada, the Dominican Republic, Kenya, Singapore, and the U.K. F&ES alumni joined thousands of alumni from across Yale in volunteering on May 9.

### Yale Day of Service Project Spotlight: Denver, Colorado

The alumni planning team for Yale Day of Service in Denver (YDS Denver) originally organized a project at an elementary school farm. Alumni were going to help get the farm — which provides vegetables for student lunches — ready for the growing season.

In the days leading up to May 9, rain saturated the farm's soils, making a volunteer event impossible. In just a few days' time, Colorado alumni organized an entirely new project at The GrowHaus. With its year-round farm, marketplace, and educational center, The GrowHaus provides fresh, nutritious, and affordable food for people of all backgrounds, ages, and income levels. From planting in the gardens to helping in the greenhouse to packaging food for the market to working on an outdoor walking path, volunteers supported this nonprofit making a significant impact in Denver.

F&ES Dean Peter Crane joined nearly 50 Yale alumni, community volunteers, and nonprofit leaders for this service project organized by the F&ES Alumni Association, the Colorado Yale Association, the Yale Latino Alumni Association, and the Graduate School Alumni Association.

"We were thrilled to host a Yale Day of Service event and to be joined by Dean Crane and a great group of alums to work with the cutting edge Denver local food advocacy and production groups, The GrowHaus and Produce Denver," noted F&ES Alumni Association Board Member and YDS Denver planning team member Beth Conover '94 M.E.S./M.P.P.M.

This was Dean Crane's second year volunteering on YDS. Last year, when he volunteered at the Parklands of Floyds Fork in Kentucky, founded by Dan Jones '84 B.A., '06 M.F., he was the first Yale dean to lead a YDS project. He has already saved the date on his calendar for next year and looks forward to volunteering with alumni on May 7, 2016 (project location to be determined).

On May 30, Colorado alumni gathered for Yale Day of Service Part Two, volunteering as they had originally planned at the Schmitt Elementary School Farm. F&ES, the Yale Latino Alumni Association, and the Colorado Yale Association all co-sponsored the second event, working with community partners Produce Denver, Groundwork Denver, Denver Public Schools, and Dong Ngo's Cycling Pals, who fixed bikes for the local community during the event.

"So many things can happen on so many fronts when you engage in Yale Days of Service and when you bring together the Yale alumni community, including community transformation, personal relationships, deep networking, and professional development," reflected Jorge Figueroa '08 M.F. "And my experience (and the really cool thing) is that all of these things seem to bear fruit in their full potential when you offer your services selflessly."

Thanks to the YDS Denver planning team — Beth Conover '94 M.E.S./M.P.P.M., Jorge Figueroa '08 M.F., Cindy Chang '09 M.E.M./M.B.A., Jocelyn Hittle '05 M.E.M., and John Boak '70 B.A. (Colorado Yale Association President) — for making Yale Day of Service such a success.

*"The two Yale Day of Service events confirmed to me, without a doubt, the invaluable, unrivaled richness of giving. I really hope that those of you who participated and those who could not will register next year to support our friends and reconnect with our communities."*

—Jorge Figueroa '08 M.F.  
Yale Day of Service Denver planning team member



Mark May 7, 2016 on your calendar and join in — or lead — a project in your community, wherever you live around the world.



PHOTO: JASON HOUSTON



PHOTO: JASON HOUSTON



This page, clockwise from photo above: Jorge Figueroa '08 M.F. welcoming everyone to YDS Denver; Dean Peter Crane, alumni, and community members work in the greenhouse; F&ES alums and their children (potential future alums!) work in the garden; alumni volunteers introducing themselves; John Boak '70 B.A., President of the Colorado Yale Association, Ross Snyder, son of Beth Conover '94 M.E.S./M.P.P.M. and Ken Snyder '94 M.E.S., Dean Peter Crane, and Cindy Chang '09 M.E.M./M.B.A. volunteering; John Boak sporting a YDS t-shirt; the evening of YDS Denver, Colorado alumni braved what turned into a snowy evening to gather for dinner and drinks at Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado headquarters, with music generously provided by Daniel Steinberg '09 M.E.Sc. (right) and his band.



PHOTO: JASON HOUSTON



We would like to collect more stories of F&ES alumni volunteering at 2015 Yale Day of Service projects for the next edition of CANOPY. If you participated in YDS 2015 and have a short quote about your experiences and a photo to share, please send them to [alumni.fes@yale.edu](mailto:alumni.fes@yale.edu).

# HELP RECRUIT THE NEXT GENERATION OF F&ES ALUMS!

Our alumni are the best ambassadors for the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies. The Admissions Office is looking for alumni to assist with recruiting the next generation of talented F&ES students from around the world. Thank you to the many alumni who already support efforts to recruit top candidates!

Here are some of the ways you can get involved:

- Meet or speak with a prospective student to share your experiences and answer questions.
- Identify potential students through your networks and encourage them to consider F&ES.
- Attend a prospective student/alumni event.
- Help set up a recruiting event at an academic institution/organization you are affiliated with.
- Provide the names and contact information of anyone you think might be interested in F&ES to the Admissions Office; staff will follow up.

The Admissions Office has developed a half-hour online training course for alumni that provides an overview of the types of questions prospective students might ask and how to respond with updated and accurate information. Alumni can quickly get up to speed on key topics and current initiatives of F&ES for sharing with prospective students.

The Admissions Office has some specific needs as it strives to recruit a diverse and talented class each year from around the globe. Alumni who come from diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds can volunteer to meet in person with prospective students from similar backgrounds in order to encourage qualified candidates to apply and accepted students to matriculate. One example of this would be for alumni who live internationally to let F&ES know if they'd be willing to speak with prospective students who reside within their country. Alumni interested in supporting recruiting efforts aimed at diversity are encouraged to contact the Admissions Office.

"Having an alum reach out personally can have a huge impact for prospective students — especially if the alum is someone from a cultural or ethnic group with which they identify, and especially if that prospective student is feeling unsure about whether they would fit in at F&ES," notes Maclovía Quintana '11 B.A., '14 M.E.M., F&ES Diversity and Sustainability Fellow.

Thank you for considering supporting F&ES recruitment efforts!

**To volunteer, contact the Admissions Office: [fesinfo@yale.edu](mailto:fesinfo@yale.edu)**

## SAVE THE DATE • NOVEMBER 6–7, 2015

**Yale Environmental Sustainability Summit (YESS) — *Scaling up Solutions to Feed and Fuel our World***

By the mid-21<sup>st</sup> century, the global population is expected to be nine billion. Addressing our complex environmental challenges requires us not only to work across disciplinary boundaries, but also to scale up solutions to create a more sustainable world. This November, join hundreds of Yale alumni, students, faculty, and staff along with outside experts, practitioners, and scholars for the first Yale Environmental Sustainability Summit. This interdisciplinary summit will feature workshops, keynotes, and case studies on the theme *Scaling up Solutions to Feed and Fuel our World*. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about environmental innovations and entrepreneurship, sustainable investment, and Yale's role as a leading research university in the field of environmental sustainability.

YESS partners include: Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, Yale School of Management, Yale Center for Business and the Environment, Association of Yale Alumni, Yale Blue Green, Yale Office of Sustainability, Office of the President, and Yale Student Environmental Coalition.

**Come participate in this unprecedented opportunity to collaborate with your fellow alumni to tackle the world's most pressing environmental sustainability challenges. Learn more: [yess.yale.edu](http://yess.yale.edu)**

# CONNECTING ALUMNI THROUGH RECIPES AND STORIES



*Bonnie's Brilliant Cranberry Sauce-to-Chutney, a recipe submitted by Bonnie Frye Hemphill '13 M.E.M.*

It's no secret that F&ESers love to cook. From veggie dinners to impromptu potlucks, F&ES is a place that attracts cooks with unique and varied tastes. That culinary diversity is now collected in a new digital cookbook featuring contributions by F&ES alumni from around the world.

The F&ES Alumni Cookbook offers nearly 150 recipes for every type of eater. For the vegetarian, there is a recipe for Squash Enchiladas shared by Catherine Badgley '74 M.F.S., '82 Ph.D. Hunters will love Wild Duck/Sharp-tailed Grouse with Giant Croutons, contributed by Whitney Tilt '85 M.E.S. If you're in the mood for something sweet, try Kasutera Japanese Honey Sponge Cake from Naoko Maruyama '08 M.E.M.

In contrast to more traditional cookbooks, the digital format allows cooks to search by author, recipe, or ingredient. Feel like something spicy? Look under "Jalapenos." Hosting a dinner party? Search under "For a Crowd."

The site is more than simply a cookbook, however. It's a way for alums to reconnect over food. The cookbook features stories about each recipe and short bios of the alums.

Retired University of Maine professor Richard Hale '48 M.F. has the distinction of being the oldest alumni contributor to the cookbook. According to Hale, his recipe for Egerlaender Schnecken was a "big hit" with his grad students and lab techs at his annual Christmas party.\*

Many of the recipes challenge us to consider the impacts our diet has on the environment. Deane Wang '84 Ph.D. says her Climate Change Soup "suggests just some of the ways life could be different." Kim Wilkinson '06 M.E.M. credits her grandmother for teaching her about free feral foods. Describing her Dandelion Pesto, Wilkinson says: "The dandelion endures. So can our food sovereignty."

"F&ES alums love good food, so this project was a great way to connect alumni in a wholesome and creative way," noted Tim Northrop '03 M.E.M., Director of Development and Alumni Services. "It turned out beautifully, and *tastefully* too!"

*"As someone who loves food, cooking, and recipes, this project was a tremendous amount of fun for me. I really enjoyed all of the variety and flavors in the 30+ recipes I've made so far and am looking forward to trying more in the future!"*

*"One of the best parts of the project, for me, was interacting with alumni and hearing the diversity of stories about food, F&ES, the environment, and careers that were represented and told by the project. For instance, one alum was so kind to send me a small package of real wild rice, hand-harvested by canoe, while another shared an essay inspired by his story accompanying the recipe."*

*"I think the variety of recipes is representative of the diversity and spirit of F&ES and hope that many people have the occasion to read and utilize the stories and recipes that alumni provided."*

— Karin Bucht '15 M.F.  
Member of Cookbook Development Team

Detailed acknowledgements of the collaborative effort between students, alumni, and staff that made this cookbook possible are found within the online cookbook itself.

**Visit [sites.environment.yale.edu/cookbook](https://sites.environment.yale.edu/cookbook) to begin exploring the cookbook!**

\*F&ES notes with sadness the passing of Richard Hale '48 on May 17, as this edition of CANOPY was being finalized.



## “A DAY IN THE FIELD”

### Held in April to Remember and Celebrate Professor Tom Siccama

On Saturday, April 11, over 80 alumni, faculty past and present, friends, and family members of Professor Tom Siccama gathered in Marsh Botanical Garden to remember and celebrate his life and legacy at F&ES.

Organized by alumni, the gathering was one Professor Siccama would have appreciated. After a welcome by Ellen Denny '97 M.F.S. and Jane Sokolow '80 M.F.S., Dean Peter Crane reflected on Professor Siccama's legacy at F&ES. This was followed by many remembrances shared by those in attendance, including some alumni who read from field-worn TerrEco notebooks. Each told stories of how Professor Siccama had impacted their lives in positive and permanent ways. Amongst many other things, Tom was remembered as a respectful rule-breaker, as a feminist supportive of aspiring women scientists, as a creative teacher of field ecology, and for his favorite bird the turkey vulture.

Amanda Mahaffey '02 B.A., '04 M.F., noted: “My appreciation for the F&ES family grew even more at the memorial gathering to celebrate Tom. It was a perfect day and richly inspiring to interact with so many people whose lives he shaped through his teaching. I feel deeply grateful to be part of the generations of Tom disciples trying to understand and change the world with what he taught us.”

Following the stories, everyone gathered to plant a swamp white oak tree in Professor Siccama's memory. It was a touching ceremony that began with a soil horizon analysis of the hole in which the tree was to be planted and fertilization of the tree with a few of Tom's ashes. Then each participant added a shovelful of soil back into the hole while a guitar was played and alumni sang “Garden Song.” After planting the tree together, everyone raised a can of Tom's favorite drink, Pepsi, in a toast of remembrance and appreciation.

A field lunch outdoors was followed by a tour through the recently renovated Greeley. Then many alumni and family members set off on a TerrEco-style field trip.

Ellen Denny reflected that “several people told me after the gathering that they felt Tom was there looking on — leaning against the old oak tree as on the first day of MODS, smiling, laughing, or squirming at the personal stories that



*Tom's wife Judy Siccama (seated) and Ellen Denny '97 M.F.S. (standing) following her remarks.*



*Eun-Shik Kim '88 Ph.D. traveled all the way from South Korea to pay his respects to Professor Siccama, who was a committee member for his dissertation.*



*Everyone circled around the newly planted tree and made a Pepsi toast to Tom.*



Many joined in the afternoon field trip, led by TerrEco alums.

we shared. I was too wrapped up in the orchestration of the event to 'see' him there myself. But later on as we settled down at our field trip site in East Rock Park to practice our reading of the landscape, a big old turkey vulture alighted in a tree limb just above us. It let out a big squawk and lumbered off in slow flight with a tip of the wing. At that moment I knew in my heart it was Tom saying, 'Hi guys, have fun,' and wandering off with a wave. However you choose to remember him, Tom is always there over your shoulder cheering you on."

Special thanks to Ellen Denny '97 M.F.S., Jane Sokolow '80 M.F.S., Amanda Mahaffey '02 B.A., '04 M.F., and Mary Tyrrell '97 M.F.S. for their tremendous help in organizing the memorial gathering and ensuring that all the details were befitting of Tom. Thanks to Colleen Murphy-Dunning and Margaret Carmalt '08 M.F. of URI and Marsh Botanical Garden Manager Eric Larson for coordinating the memorial tree planting and to Professor Os Schmitz for leading a tour of Greeley. Thanks also to Steve Hamburg '77 M.F.S., '84 Ph.D., for assistance with the memorial program and to Laura Meyerson '95 M.F.S., '00 D.F.E.S., and Fred Meyerson '95 M.E.S., '00 Ph.D., who led the field trip along with Amanda, Ellen, and Mary. And finally, sincerest thanks to Tom's wife Judy Siccama, to their daughter Carolyn Siccama, her husband Chris Trapeni, and their daughter (and Tom's granddaughter) Carly, and to Judy's sister Sharon Roa for all their contributions to the memorial gathering — and for sharing Tom with the F&ES community for nearly four decades.

*Excerpted from remarks made at the memorial gathering by Jane Sokolow '80 M.F.S.*

Among the many things I learned from Tom are:

1. How to read the landscape.
2. How to read a soil profile from a hole in the ground.
3. How to tell the soil type by the vegetation growing in it.
4. How to ID plants and wildflowers from a vehicle moving at 65 mph on the highway.
5. How to think beyond what was visible in front of me.
6. Never to worry about getting caught trespassing because after all, the worst they could do to you was throw you out.
7. That there are no stupid questions — even if you had not been listening when one was answered.
8. How to operate the AA in Greeley Lab and how to "run" if it "blows."
9. How to recycle computer punch cards.
10. That he'd rather get a mediocre paper on time than an outstanding one late.
11. And, that soil may be soil, but it's just dirt.

Tom was one of a kind. He was a mighty red oak in my life and in many others. He encouraged all of us who came under his wing to trust our intuitions, think outside the box, question everything with new eyes, live life doing what we love and believe in, and not worry too much about what everyone else thinks. I miss him. But he leaves a mighty legacy in all of us who came within his orbit. We all have Siccama stories, Siccama memories, Siccama adventures, and "Siccamisms." I have many — all of which I cherish and will continue to, taking them out from time to time and remembering them and remembering Tom.



## REUNION WEEKEND 2014 OCTOBER 10-12

The day-long F&ES doctoral conference took place on the Friday of Reunion Weekend 2014, featuring doctoral student presentations and a keynote speaker. Following the awarding of the F. Herbert Bormann Prize, Reunion Weekend activities kicked off with a TGIF in Kroon Hall.



*Dana Graef '15 Ph.D., far right, received the F. Herbert Bormann Prize. Also shown (from left) are John Smitka, Amy Bormann, Dean Peter Crane, Chris Bormann, and Professor Michael Dove.*



*Sherburne B. Abbott '84 M.F.S., Vice President for Sustainability Initiatives and University Professor of Sustainability Science and Policy at Syracuse University, gave the doctoral conference keynote address.*

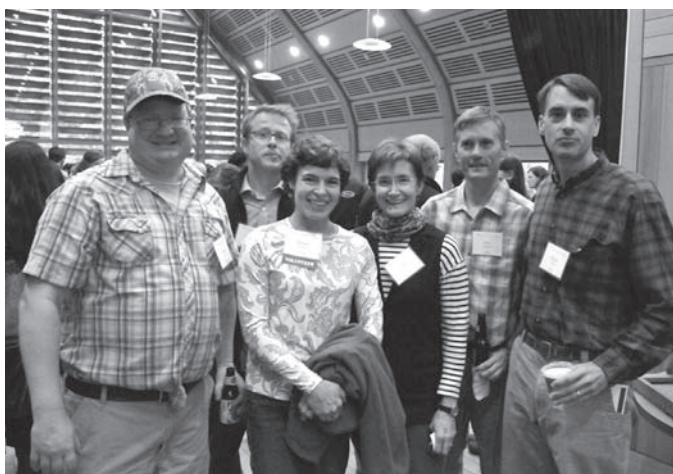


*Alumni, faculty past and present, students, and staff packed the third floor of Kroon Hall for TGIF on Friday evening to kick off Reunion Weekend.*





Reunion Weekend TGIF gives alumni a chance to reconnect with classmates, engage with faculty, meet current students and staff, and connect with alumni across generations. This annual event is not-to-be-missed.



Clockwise from top left: Hyacinthe Nare '15 M.E.M., Leah Hair '74 M.F.S., and R.A. Lautenschlager '74 M.F.S. at TGIF; Tim Northrop '03 M.E.M., Director of Development and Alumni Services, with Alumni Association Board Member Carlos Pineda '00 M.E.M./M.B.A. and his then-fiancée (and now wife — congratulations!) Alexandra Pineda; many alumni mingled with each other and students, faculty, and staff; Krysia Solheim '15 M.E.M. and Sarah Lupberger '15 M.E.Sc. won the contest to guess the weight of the pumpkin during the TGIF; Liza Cleveland '94 M.E.S. and Elizabeth McGraw '94 M.F.S. sporting new F&ES hats; B.J. Barrett '94 M.E.S., Thomas Brendler '94 M.F., Diana Wheeler '94 M.E.S., Lisa Fernandez '95 M.E.S./M.P.P.M., Don Redmond '94 M.F.S., and Felton Jenkins '95 M.F.S./M.B.A. reconnect.

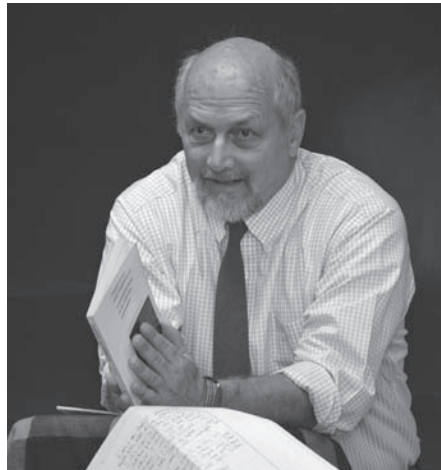


## REUNION WEEKEND 2014

The School honored three graduates during Reunion Weekend with Distinguished Alumnus Awards: Spencer Beebe '74 M.F.S., founder of Ecotrust and co-founder of Conservation International (CI); Gary Machlis '79 Ph.D., a professor of environmental sustainability at Clemson University and science advisor to the director of the National Park Service; and Louisa Willcox '84 M.F.S., a longtime champion of grizzlies for the Natural Resources Defense Council. The Saturday morning before the Awards Luncheon, the three recipients each shared their work with alumni, faculty, and staff during concurrent talks in Kroon Hall.



Spencer Beebe '74 M.F.S.



Gary Machlis '79 Ph.D.



Louisa Willcox '84 M.F.S.

**View profiles of the award recipients: [yalef.es/spencerbeebe](http://yalef.es/spencerbeebe); [yalef.es/garymachlis](http://yalef.es/garymachlis); [yalef.es/louisawillcox](http://yalef.es/louisawillcox)**

The keynote address was given by Peter Seligmann '74 M.F.S., co-founder of Conservation International. During the past three decades, Peter has transformed CI into one of the world's most important environmental organizations by building partnerships that cross sectors — and by convincing companies that doing the right thing can be good for business. He gave an engaging and thought-provoking keynote address which incorporated the *Nature is Speaking* videos developed by CI.



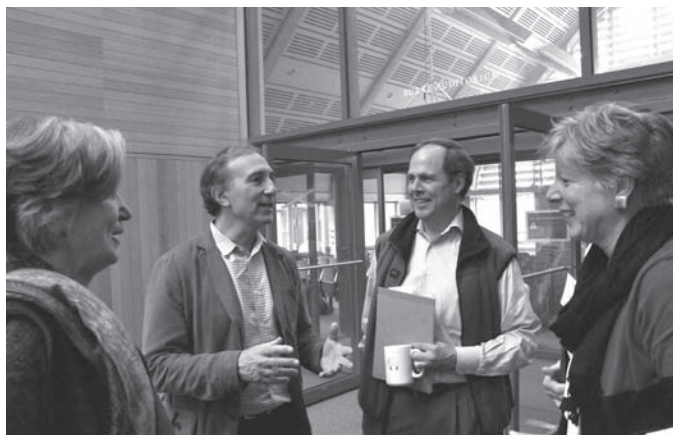
Peter Seligmann '74 M.F.S. giving the keynote address.



Sharing *Nature is Speaking* videos during the presentation.

**View a detailed profile of Peter Seligmann: [yalef.es/peterseligmann](http://yalef.es/peterseligmann)**





*Clockwise from top left: Stephen Hanover '64 M.F. (far right) celebrating his 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion with his wife Dr. Menglian Tan Hanover (center) and Professor Graeme Berlyn (left); Leah Hair '74 M.F.S., Peter Seligmann '74 M.F.S., Professor Brad Gentry, and Eugénie Gentry following the keynote address; alumni gather for a photo with Star Childs '76 B.S., '80 M.F.S.; Joanne DeBernardo, Assistant Dean, Student Services, enjoying reunion with alums; reconnecting at the Alumni Awards Luncheon (both bottom photos); and Jane Calvin '94 M.E.M., Graham Trelstad '94 M.E.S., and Anne Downey '95 M.E.M./M.B.A. smile for photographer Peter Otis.*





REUNION WEEKEND 2014

## ALUMNI AWARDS LUNCHEON



Dean Peter Crane welcoming everyone to the Alumni Awards Luncheon.

Dean Peter Crane welcomed alumni and friends to the Alumni Awards Luncheon, which took place in the Knobloch Environment Center following the keynote address, and thanked the Distinguished Alumni Award recipients for their morning presentations.

Dean Crane began by noting that Uma Bhandaram '15 M.E.Sc. was the recipient of the scholarship in memory of Jim Rogers '72 B.S., '74 M.F.S., funded by members of Jim's class. He also announced the creation of a new student award, the William R. Burch Prize, which is named in honor of the founder of the School's influential Tropical Resources Institute (TRI). The \$1,000 prize will be awarded annually to the best paper written by a TRI Fellow.



Professor Emeritus Bill Burch during the announcement of the new award named in his honor.

*TRI, which celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary last year, is an interdisciplinary center that promotes student research in the world's tropical environments. Since its inception in 1984, TRI has sponsored more than 600 TRI Fellows and their student research projects. William "Bill" Burch, the Frederick C. Hixon Professor Emeritus of Natural Resources Management at F&ES, conducted some of the earliest work on community and social forestry systems, which continues with work in Nepal, Thailand, China, and inner cities of the United States. He retired in 2008 after four decades on the F&ES faculty.*

Brian Goldberg '03 M.E.M., President of the Alumni Association Board, then described how the Distinguished Alumnus Award, Distinguished Service Award, and Honorary Alumnus Award were created by the F&ES Alumni Association to recognize graduates and leaders of the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies for outstanding contributions to the fields of forestry or environmental science, policy, or management. The three recipients of 2014 Distinguished Alumni Awards were brought forward one-by-one to receive their awards.



**Spencer Beebe '74 M.F.S.** was recognized for many accomplishments, including:

- Founder of Ecotrust and Board Chair
- Former president of The Nature Conservancy's international program
- Founding president of Conservation International
- Co-founder of the first environmental bank
- Author of an autobiographical account of his work titled *Cache: Creating Natural Economics*
- The third recipient of National Audubon Society's Dan W. Lufkin Prize for Environmental Leadership

Gordon Geballe '81 Ph.D., Associate Dean for Alumni and External Affairs and Lecturer in Urban Ecology, read the citation as the award was presented.



**Gary Machlis '79 Ph.D.** was recognized for many accomplishments, including:

- Professor of Environmental Sustainability at Clemson University
- Science Advisor to the Director of the U.S. National Park Service (NPS), the first scientist appointed to this position within the NPS
- Co-Leader of the U.S. Department of the Interior's Strategic Sciences Group
- His instrumental role in establishing and directing the National Parks Science Scholars program
- Author of the book *Warfare Ecology: A New Synthesis for Peace and Security*

Bill Burch, Frederick C. Hixon Professor Emeritus of Natural Resource Management and Senior Research Scientist, read the citation as the award was presented.



**Louisa Willcox '84 M.F.S.** was recognized for many accomplishments, including:

- President of Grizzly People, a grassroots organization devoted to preserving bears and their wilderness habitats in the American West
- Former head of the Center for Biological Diversity's northern Rockies office
- Former Senior Wildlife Advocate and Director of the Wild Bears Project for the Natural Resources Defense Council
- First Program Director for the Greater Yellowstone Coalition

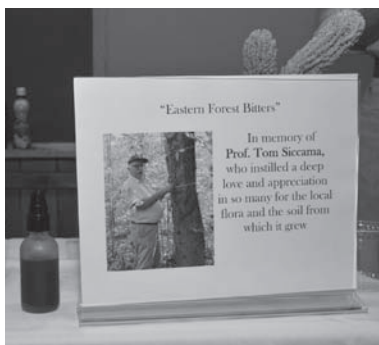
Brian Goldberg, President of the F&ES Alumni Association Board, read the citation as the award was presented.



## REUNION WEEKEND 2014

Alumni had a free afternoon to explore on Saturday. Some visited the Peabody Museum of Natural History, others attended an event at the Yale Farm, and still others toured sites and listened to sounds — at least one alum and their spouse attended a student musical performance — on campus.

On Saturday evening, the Environmental Leadership Mentoring (ELM) program sponsored a cocktail hour for all alumni, including ELM mentors and student mentees. Ashley Duval '10 M.E.Sc. of Shoots & Roots Bitters treated everyone to botanically derived drinks.



From left to right: Ashley Duval '10 M.E.Sc. sharing her botanical expertise with former F&ES Alumni Association Board Member and current F&ES AYA Delegate Heather Wright '04 M.E.Sc.; bitters in memory of Professor Tom Siccamo; and the Shoots & Roots Bitters team.

The botanical cocktail hour was followed by a Harvest Dinner in Bowers, where the F&ES community enjoyed a delicious meal together while live bluegrass music played in the background.



Clockwise from top left: At the Harvest Dinner in Bowers; dancing to live bluegrass music by Marsh Botanical Garden Manager Eric Larson and undergraduate Hannah Sassoon '16 B.A.; alums enjoying the delicious dinner; alumni and potential future alumni.



On a sunny Sunday morning, alumni and their families gathered at the Yale Farm for breakfast. They learned about the farm from undergraduate and graduate students who volunteer there, enjoyed a delicious brunch, and were treated to a spontaneous magic show by C.J. May '89 M.E.M.



Left to right: C.J. May '89 M.E.M. performs an environmental magic show for alumni and their families; Jenny Aley '89 M.E.S., C.J. May, Betsy Carlson '89 M.E.S., and Ann Camp '90 M.F.S.



The Class of 2009 went up to Great Mountain Forest for Saturday afternoon through Sunday, a tradition for those celebrating their 5-year reunion. Star Childs '76 B.S., '80 M.F.S., noted: "About thirty or so hearty members of the class spent a wonderful moonlit, starry, and cool night singing and huddling around the fire pit. Patty prepared a sumptuous chicken barbeque and fixins' [and] every-

one enjoyed the meal and big flapjack breakfast the following day... We had probably the most glorious fall day ever on Sunday and many of them stayed though lunch to hike to the firetower to take in the fantastic views of far off mountains in Mass. and N.Y. ... along with the display of peak fall colors.



"This particular group's visit was bittersweet, as they officially mark the last of the recent 5 year visiting classes that suffered through the staff compass surveying exercise and made their maps that I have so faithfully archived for more than 24 years now ... With the advent of digital power point presentations, audio visual story maps, and GPS geocoding exercise, the physical artwork of cartography has given way to the ephemeral and momentary flash drives of the present ... I attach a photo of the group, pouring over their maps ... this trip down memory lane is always full of laughter, delight, rediscovery, and reliving of the times and people they shared their MODS experience with ..."

# CLASS NOTES

*Thank you for submitting these updates for Class Notes and for sharing your stories of your professional accomplishments, friends and family, time here at F&ES, visits with other alums, adventures, and travels. You are collectively making such an important and impressive impact around the world. If you have an update to share for the next edition, please email it to [alumni.fes@yale.edu](mailto:alumni.fes@yale.edu).*

## 1950

### 65<sup>th</sup> Reunion Year

#### Class Secretary

Kenneth Carvell  
[kencarvell@aol.com](mailto:kencarvell@aol.com)

**John Watt** writes: "Old age is indeed not for sissies. My children are planning my 90<sup>th</sup> birthday party, and I should make it to July 19, at least. Time will tell what lies beyond. My memories of studies and TGIF with the Class of 1950 are pretty foggy, as are the field days."

## 1951

#### Class Secretary

Peter Arnold  
[arnoldp@sbbmail.com](mailto:arnoldp@sbbmail.com)

**Peter Arnold** writes: "I am starting into my 92<sup>nd</sup> year. I'm still hunting and fishing a little thanks to younger friends who have taken me in tow, but did get out on my own a couple of times last season. My threat to wildlife diminishes every year, and I am becoming far more of a noisy, gun-carrying bird watcher than a deadeye killer. I enjoy being out and being able to write about it. With California's drought I have been concentrating on getting water to all my gardening efforts by installing a new drip system throughout. My back tells me this is not something to keep doing — just get it done, sit back, and hope the well does not go dry. We picked our first ripe tomato on May 10, my birthday, a first ever, and it is not a hot-house plant. Global warming is here."

**Lester Bradford** writes: "I'll be 90 next January, and I gave up skiing a couple seasons ago. I get my exercise from jogging a slow 2K, but I expect to get back to a decent distance after I accumulate a pacemaker later this month. I still show up at the Habitat for Humanity building site once a week, though I'm generally forbidden to join the shingling crew anymore."

**Donald Page** writes: "Things are fundamentally A-OK, except for my COPD. Everything I tackle takes twice as long to accomplish and requires the constant interruption of sitting to recover. We have five granddaughters scattered from Portland, Ore., to Flagstaff, Ariz., to Minneapolis, Minn., to Bethlehem, Pa., to Brooklyn, N.Y. Three have graduated from college so far. Our four 'kids' also are living coast to coast — two married, one divorced, and one single (but always with a girl in the wings). We have not left the U.S. since 2008, so international travel has become a joy of the past."

## 1954

#### Class Secretary

Richard Chase  
[rachase@aya.yale.edu](mailto:rachase@aya.yale.edu)

**Gordon Hall** writes: "I'm in pretty good health and spend a lot of time in northern Maine at my camp on the Allagash River. I'm on the boards of the Conservation Law Foundation and the Forest Society of Maine with several foresters and ecologists on the University of Maine faculty. Nice to know there are a few of us still hanging in."

**Roy Whitney** writes: "Hello, Yale alumni. My wife Georgina and I (married 62 years, March 21, 2015), fondly recall our days at Yale, 1953–4, where Georgie provided food on the table by working at the Yale Center for Alcohol Studies as a secretary. But I equally fondly recall the \$1,000 bursary received from Yale that paid the tuition and rail fare to get to New Haven from Saskatoon. We also recall the one-day, whirlwind trip to New York City with Betty and **Bob Echols '57 Ph.D.** in the car with their two boys. Georgina now teaches English to new immigrants and a weekly Bible study in our home. As well as walking the dog daily, I am preparing a short note on Dieback of American Elm on Calgary streets and parks. As far as I

am aware, I still hold the world record in speed skating for men over 80 for 5,000 meters. In February of this year I entered and won for my age division (86–90 year olds) the 500, 1,000, 1,500, and 3,000 meters in the 24<sup>th</sup> Masters All Round Speed-Skating Games in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. About 200 Masters (30 years plus) competitors from 16 countries were entered. At 87, I was the only entrant 85 plus."

## 1961

#### Class Secretaries

Karl Spalt  
[kjspalt@yahoo.com](mailto:kjspalt@yahoo.com)  
Scott Wallinger  
[rswalli@bellsouth.net](mailto:rswalli@bellsouth.net)

**Paul Haack** writes: "My 89<sup>th</sup> birthday is in September, and if my total left knee replacement on June 9 and recovery are successful, my aim is to begin a wilderness canoe trip in Ontario on September 1, to add to the thousands of miles I've paddled on wilderness trips since 1946! I was blessed to have had wonderful experiences in research with the U.S. Forest Service and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and to have studied under Dr. George M. Furnival and Dr. Chester I. Bliss at Yale."

**Scott Wallinger** writes: "Life continues to be busy ... too busy. This fall, the Louisiana State University Press will publish an in-depth history of Southern Forestry that I coauthored with Dr. Mason Carter and Dr. Robert Kellison. It will be the single most comprehensive treatment of the subject with emphasis on the initiatives that took the region from an overcut forest at the end of WWII to a 'Wall of Wood' by the end of the century. In the forestry world, I continue to be a member of the Board of the College of Natural Resources Foundation at North Carolina State and a member of its forest management committee. Closer to home, I'm on the

Board of the Lowcountry Open Land Trust that to date has secured conservation easements on more than 100,000 acres of rural land in coastal South Carolina. At the Charleston Museum, I'm on the Board and a member of its Business Relations Committee. And I'm on the Johns Island Task Force that is working with various parties to implement strategies to minimize development and preserve the rural ambience of this part of the Charleston metropolitan area that's roughly the size of Manhattan Island. It's the largest remaining undeveloped area near Charleston with a long legacy of colonial plantations, farming, and forestry. In spite of that, I find time for family (wife, children, three granddaughters), boats, fishing, hunting, reading, a little golf ... life is good! As a class note, **Javier Moro** and I exchange emails during the year. For fun, he writes to me in Spanish (that I can read) and I write to him in Portuguese (that I speak and he can read). Keeps the little gray cells working for both of us. Tudo bem!"

## 1962

### Class Secretary

Larry Safford  
[lsafford@metrocast.net](mailto:lsafford@metrocast.net)

**Gordon Heisler** writes: "I have fond memories of my year at the School of Forestry while studying silviculture with David Smith — Professor Smith's field trips, each student's space with their pile of books in the library, the big round table in the lounge in Sage where the Sunday *New York Times* would be spread out, class pictures along the stairs. After Yale, I had two years on forest inventory with the U.S. Forest Service; two years in the U.S. Army; four years obtaining a Ph.D. at what was then the SUNY College of Forestry in Syracuse, N.Y.; and two years at a science resource center for public schools in Connecticut before starting research in environmental and urban forestry with the U.S. Forest Service. I enjoyed working with colleagues from a number of institutions including Rutgers, Princeton, Connecticut, Purdue, Penn State, Indiana, University of Maryland, and Cary Institute for Ecosystem Studies. I retired in January 2013. My wife and I reside near Syracuse, and I volunteer with local park and con-

servation groups and work on finishing up a few manuscripts."

## 1964

### Class Secretary Needed

**Frank Bock** writes: "My grandson, a high school junior, told me recently that he is seriously considering a career as a professional forester. He is a fine young man, and I am proud of him! I hope that works out for him."

**Stephen Hanover** writes: "Classmates, you missed it! I am talking about our 50<sup>th</sup> Class Reunion during the annual F&ES Reunion held last October. I was the only one who represented the Class of 1964. I was disappointed. I was so happy my wife Dr. Menglian Tan Hanover and I attended, as I was able to have great conversations with the Dean and so many fine faculty, other alumni, and present students. I give special attention to Drs. Weiner and Berlyn who were on the faculty when I attended 50 years ago. They looked great! Kroon Hall was fantastic. Classmates, if you have not seen this Hall, put this into your bucket list. Overall the Reunion was very well done, including the fine meals and lectures and especially the help from the F&ES alumni office. Thank you."

**Pete Passof** writes: "It's hard to believe, but I have been retired for more than 20 years. I have taken some great trips to Australia, New Zealand, and the Virgin Islands. I got involved in a restoration of a 1950 Ford woodie wagon that we drove all around the U.S. back in 2001. It is now owned by our son and daughter, so it's still part of the family. Flo and I celebrated our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2011. I have taken up a fantastic hobby ... segmented wood turning. There is so much gratification in producing tangible gifts for friends and family. I even sell a few items to keep the hobby sustainable."

## 1971

### Class Secretary

Tom Nygren  
[tnygren@juno.com](mailto:tnygren@juno.com)

**Tom Nygren** writes: "I am enjoying being busy with volunteer forestry activities with small woodland owners and with a small forestry consulting business that my forester son Ken and I have started.

A major challenge right now is to set up a pathway for our children to become the owners and joint managers (LLC) of the forestland we have acquired."

**Doug Sprugel '74 Ph.D.** retired from the University of Washington School of Environmental and Forest Sciences in June 2014 after 28 years on the faculty. He had both knees replaced the following fall and winter and is now back to hiking, biking, and skiing comfortably. His wife Katie will retire in July of this year, and they look forward to more travel and perhaps even looking up some far-flung former classmates.

## 1975

### 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion Year

#### Class Secretary

Hallie Metzger  
[hallie.metzger@rcn.com](mailto:hallie.metzger@rcn.com)

**Larry Burd** has retired from the U.S. Forest Service. He writes: "I spent most of my time in California on the Sequoia National Forest, working in silviculture and vegetation management. I'm not sure what the future will bring, but it probably will include a move back to the Midwest to be closer to family. Living in the San Joaquin Valley, I've seen the impact of the California drought. At least for this year, agriculture seems to be getting enough water from the reduced Sierra runoff. Towns and cities are not. Gov. Brown's calls for conservation are about the only realistic actions to take, but 25–35% cutbacks are meeting a lot of resistance. Nobody wants to watch their landscaping die."

**Evan Griswold** writes: "I would love to see the Class of 1975 step up to the plate for our 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion. A participation rate of 50% or better would be awesome! I am laboring in the vineyards for F&ES as the chairman of the Annual Fund and the Sand County Society. **Jean Black** and I represented our class at Tom Siccama's memorial in the Marsh Garden on a bright, windy April Saturday. Lots of great stories, tributes, laughs, and a few tears. What a legacy he left as he touched all of us in one way or another as our careers took us on different tracks, but always with a better ecological understanding of the world. A swamp white oak, *Quercus bicolor*, was planted next to Greeley, and



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everyone toasted the memory of a great teacher with a can of Pepsi.”

[Secretary’s note: In case you missed it, Evan contributed a recipe to the F&ES Alumni Cookbook. Be sure to don a hazmat suit before you try it! [sites.environment.yale.edu/cookbook](https://sites.environment.yale.edu/cookbook)]

**Jayne Levy** writes: “I retired in January. I spent thirteen years working in Africa, 27 years with the Department of Interior. If we know each other and if you are attending Reunion this year, let me know, as it would be fun to reunite!”

**Hallie Metzger** writes: “Our 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion is coming! Please send me your ideas and suggestions. Also, I’d welcome any photographs you have from back then. I’m looking forward to seeing you all there! In the meantime, try my recipe for Chestnut butter in the F&ES Alumni Cookbook. The hybrids on my Connecticut property continue to thrive — at least, most of them — but I don’t anticipate my generation will be around to harvest them.”

### 1980

#### 35<sup>th</sup> Reunion Year

##### Class Secretary

Sara Schreiner-Kendall  
[sarabskendall@gmail.com](mailto:sarabskendall@gmail.com)

**Tricia Johnson** writes: “As the school year begins to wind down, I am looking forward to a new chapter in my life, as I am retiring from teaching at Common Ground High School in New Haven. It has been a great time, lots of work, but very rewarding to see the growth in students who have come through our school. I’m looking forward to our class Reunion in October, to having more time with my husband Robert, and to having more time to enjoy sailing on *Spirit*, our Tartan 37 sailboat. See you at Reunion!”

### 1981

##### Class Secretaries

Fred Hadley  
[fhadley@sit-co.net](mailto:fhadley@sit-co.net)

Gail Reynolds  
[gail.kalison.reynolds@aya.yale.edu](mailto:gail.kalison.reynolds@aya.yale.edu)

**Mark Plotkin** gave a highly acclaimed talk at TED Global on protection of uncontacted tribes. He then participated in a

successful expedition in search of the lost “Ciudad Blanca.”

[ted.com/speakers/mark\\_plotkin](http://ted.com/speakers/mark_plotkin)

### 1983

##### Class Secretary

Stephen Broker  
[ls.broker@cox.net](mailto:ls.broker@cox.net)

**David Loeks** was recognized last year with the Gerry Couture Stewardship Award for his contributions to conservation as chairman of the Peel Watershed Planning Commission. Acclaimed by a large majority of Yukoners and Yukon First Nations, this plan provides sustainable management for an area larger than West Virginia. David’s company, Heartland Timber Homes, continues to manufacture an innovative building system from wood salvaged from B.C.’s massive pine beetle devastation.

### 1987

##### Class Secretaries

Christie Coon  
[christie.coon@mac.com](mailto:christie.coon@mac.com)

Melissa Paly  
[mpaly01@gmail.com](mailto:mpaly01@gmail.com)

**Christie Coon** writes: “A brief report on Tom Siccama’s April memorial service: About 80 people showed up. Many of us shared irreverent stories regarding our esteemed environmental guru. Graeme Berlyn and Bill Burch were there. A swamp white oak sapling was planted and dedicated to him at Marsh Hall. It was great to see **Annette Naegel** and **Elysa Hammond ’89 M.Phil.** from our class. As a Professional Soil Scientist with my own business (Wetland Resource LLC) for 14 years or so, I spent the last year diligently working toward getting certified as a Professional Wetland Scientist by the Society of Wetland Scientists (SWS) ... I still dig holes in wetlands, though.”

**Josh Royte** writes: “I am working with dozens of partners on river restoration, where we intend by 2025 to invite 10 million fish back to rivers that shut them down completely nearly two centuries ago. Last year was the first bump from zero to 400,000. This work extends from the Penobscot River in Maine to global partnerships encouraging people around

the world whose rivers are at risk or who are working to bring their fish runs back, through the World Fish Migration Foundation. I work for The Nature Conservancy on forest conservation too, and incredibly happily so.”

### 1989

##### Class Secretary Needed

**C.J. May** writes: “With a mixture of sadness and joy, friends, colleagues, family, and students of Tom Siccama gathered in April to remember him and pay respects. The ceremony was both reverential and, as fits Tom, also quite irreverent. Tom’s delightful quirks were recounted alongside stories of his devotion to students, teaching, and understanding the natural world. A swamp white oak was planted in tribute near the spot where we all first gathered: the hillside near Marsh and Greeley. Comments on the soil structure were offered along with a toast using cans of Tom’s beloved Pepsi. It was a great way to remember one of our mentors. Hearing from so many who went on to become greats in their own right in the fields of naturalism, soils, ecology, and the like reminded us all that Tom’s influence lives on in the lives he has helped shape. I was delighted that our own **Jenny Aley** made it up from New Jersey for the event. I hope that any and all of you will come back to New Haven for a visit with or without such noble events! I am pleased to report that I have begun work as refuse/recycling coordinator for the City of Waterbury. This job not only requires me to make use of the 22 years I had doing nuts and bolts recycling work for Yale, but also environmental magic shows in the Waterbury public schools as a part of our education campaign. It is a delight to be able to use both skill sets in such an effort!”

### 1991

##### Class Secretary

Gwen Thomas  
[gwmthomas29@fastmail.fm](mailto:gwmthomas29@fastmail.fm)

**Gwen Thomas** writes: “The Class of 1991 had some fun with Class Notes. Instead of writing about themselves, folks sent in the title and author of the book they are

currently reading. This generated some welcome reconnecting as emails about books shot back and forth among old friends in an easy, light-hearted way. We continue to be an interesting and engaged class, as revealed in our varied reading list. We are enjoying classics, historical novels, biographies, science and nature, poetry, travel, politics, term papers, and more. Here is a snapshot of what the Class of 1991 is reading 24 years after graduation."

**Susan Brodie** – *Brain on Fire: My Month of Madness* by Susannah Cahalan

**Margo Burnham** – *Sunday Morning, Shamwana: A Midwife's Letters from the Field* by Linda Orsi Robinson

**Betty Channon** – *Born to Run* by Christopher McDougall and *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr

**Peggy Cymerys** – *The Omnivore's Dilemma* by Michael Pollan, *What the Robin Knows* by Jon Young, and *The Handsome Man's De Luxe Café: No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* by Alexander McCall Smith

**Gillian Davies** – *Moby Dick*; or, *The Whale* by Herman Melville

**Yance De Fretes** – *American Sniper: The Autobiography of the Most Lethal Sniper in U.S. Military History* by Chris Kyle

**Tim Donnay** – *Aid on the Edge of Chaos* by Ben Ramalingam

**Sean Gordon** – *Forest Dream, Forest Nightmare: The Paradox of Old Growth in the Inland West* by Nancy Langston (serious reading) and *The Once and Future King* by T.H. White (fun reading with 7<sup>th</sup> grade son)

**Jennifer Greenfeld** – *Americanah* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

**Bram Gunther** – *The Path Between the Seas: The Creation of the Panama Canal, 1870–1914* by David McCullough

**Anne Harper** – *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness* by Michelle Alexander and *Blue Horses: Poems* by Mary Oliver

**Suzu Hodgson** – *All The Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr, *The Longshoreman: A Life at the Water's Edge* by Richard Shelton, and *The War That Ended Peace: The Road to 1914* by Margaret MacMillan

**Joan Kelsch** – *Lusitania* by Erik Larson, *Americanah* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, and *The Rosie Project* by Graeme Simsion

**Mark Lickus** – *The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics* by Daniel James Brown, *My Stroke of Insight: A Brain Scientist's Personal Journey* by Jill Bolte Taylor, and *Deep Down Dark: The Untold Stories of 33 Men Buried in a Chilean Mine, and the Miracle That Set Them Free* by Héctor Tobar

**Arnald Marcer-Battle** – *Thinking, Fast and Slow* by Daniel Kahneman

**Callie McConnell** – *Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End* by Atul Gawande and *The Eighth Day* by Thornton Wilder

**Barbara Milton** – *Zen Mind, Beginner's Mind* by Shunryu Suzuki and David Chadwick

**Kris Ramstad** – *Americanah* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie and *Revelation* by C.J. Sansom

**Nick Remple** – *Weapons of the Weak: Everyday Forms of Peasant Resistance* by James C. Scott

**Chris Rogers** – *A Guide to Japanese Hot Springs* by Anne Hotta and Yoko Ishiguro, in preparation for an October trip to Japan with his 80-year-old mother.

**Peter Schuyler** – *The Harder They Come* by T.C. Boyle, *The Triumph of Seeds* by Thor Hansen, and *Islandia* by Austin Tappan Wright

**Shivi Sivaramakrishnan '96 Ph.D.** – *What Animals Teach Us About Politics* by Brian Massumi, *The Devil's Breath* by Tessa Harris, and *Term Papers, Exams, & Dissertations* by Yalies.

**Gwen Thomas** – *Lasso the Wind: Away to the New West* by Timothy Egan

**Rich Wallace '00 Ph.D.** – *Tunnel in the Sky* by Robert Heinlein and *It All Turns On Affection: The Jefferson Lecture and Other Essays* by Wendell Berry

## 1992

### Class Secretary

Katherine Kearse Farhadian  
farhadianfamily@gmail.com

### Toral Patel-Weynand '01 D.F.E.S.,

Director, Forest Management Sciences for the U.S. Forest Service, was recently honored when *Climate Change and United States Forests*, a book she co-edited, was named as an Outstanding Academic Title for 2014 by *Choice* magazine, a publication of the American Library Association. In their review, *Choice* calls the book "highly recommended" and says it "synthesizes an impressive amount of research, and will serve well as a go-to resource ... for undergraduates through professionals/practitioners."

## 1994

### Class Secretaries

Jane Calvin  
jcalvin@prospeed.net

Cynthia Henshaw  
chenshaw@eqtl.org

Jane Whitehill  
janewhitehill@gmail.com

**Melissa Spear** writes: "Roger and I have two more kids graduating this May (one graduated last year) — one from Pomona in biology and one from University of Montana in natural resource management. All of that torture we put our kids through hiking, snow-shoeing, and camping seems to have had the appropriate effect. Our youngest son has two more years at the University of Chicago, and then we will be done! Our daughter Dakota was awarded a Gates scholarship to study at Cambridge next year. She will work with a professor there looking at spider biodiversity in Indonesian oil palm plantations. She has talked about possibly attending F&ES once she has a couple of years doing other stuff under her belt. We shall see! Roger and I just bought a barn converted to a house with about 200 acres of forestland on the West Branch of the Westfield River in the Berkshires — yes, I think we actually have gone over the edge. We have been spending weekends tramping through the woods assessing the property and figuring out how

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we plan to manage it. It will be quite a project, one that we probably should have taken on 20 years ago before our bodies started wearing out. But hopefully it will help to keep us young. Visitors welcome!”

**Diana Wheeler** writes: “**Don Redmond** and I enjoy living in Austin, Texas. In March we were lucky to have a visit from **Sean Murphy** who was in town for a conference. Our kids loved his quirky sense of humor. We also have been working on **Star Childs ’80** to come visit — and anyone else who might be coming to Austin, please let us know!”

**Jane Whitehill** works in drug development and volunteers for Bernie Sanders.

**Ted Wong** is enjoying cherry tree and pothole season in Philadelphia and contemplating a career change. If you need a data analytics or visualization web app for your conservation or climate adaptation project, get in touch with Ted at [tgwong@gmail.com](mailto:tgwong@gmail.com).

### 2001

#### Class Secretaries

Leigh Cash  
[cash@statsrule.com](mailto:cash@statsrule.com)

Adam Chambers  
[adam.chambers@por.usda.gov](mailto:adam.chambers@por.usda.gov)

Jennifer Grimm  
[jennywgrimm@gmail.com](mailto:jennywgrimm@gmail.com)

**Georgia Silvera Seamans** writes: “With funding via the F&ES alum-founded [ioby.org](http://ioby.org) and GIS and web development from **Casey Brown ’09**, the Washington Square Park Eco Projects + Map launched in March 2015.” [wspecoprojects.org](http://wspecoprojects.org)

### 2002

#### Class Secretaries

Catherine Bottrill  
[catherine.bottrill@gmail.com](mailto:catherine.bottrill@gmail.com)

Roberto J. Frau  
[rfrau@aya.yale.edu](mailto:rfrau@aya.yale.edu)

**Zhanna Funaro** has begun a new position as development associate at the Connecticut Audubon Society. **Michael Funaro** left ESRI and joined Latitude Geographics, working with its GeoCortex program as a regional account manager. Michael and Zhanna attended Tom Sicca’s memorial and helped plant a tree in his memory. Both are residing in Fairfield,

Conn., with their three kids. Come visit — it’s only 30 minutes from New Haven and an hour from New York City!

### 2003

#### Class Secretaries

Benjamin Hodgdon  
[benjamin.hodgdon@gmail.com](mailto:benjamin.hodgdon@gmail.com)

Peter Land  
[peter.c.land@gmail.com](mailto:peter.c.land@gmail.com)

**Ryan Bennett** writes: “Hello everyone! I hope you all are doing well. I live in Marin, Calif., with my wife Jessica and two little girls: Luciana (three years old) and Siena (one year old). I am still at SunEdison, leading project finance in North America, and have recently joined the advisory committee of EarthJustice.”

**Heather Coady** recently earned a promotion to the position of senior regulatory policy specialist working on plants for planting import policy for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. She currently lives in Greenbelt, Md., with her husband, Zach, and their two children, River and Rowen.

**Daniela Cusack** writes: “I am going up for tenure at UCLA this year in the Department of Geography. I will be spending part of the upcoming academic year living in Panama with my husband and toddler starting up a new project on carbon storage and cycling in tropical forests under different rainfall regimes. Let me know if you are coming to Panama!”

**Melanie Cutler** writes: “I’m excited to be teaching AP Environmental Science and my Environmental Sustainability Internship Course at Andover High School. Some of my students were lucky enough to work with **Pete Land** and **Bill Finnegan** on a video to promote a smart growth overlay zone warrant article in our community.”

**Margaret Francis** writes: “We currently live in Gainesville, Fla., as my husband, Williams Castro, is pursuing a Ph.D. at the University of Florida. We have a 16-month-old son named Marcos who is keeping us busy. I continue to work for The Nature Conservancy as assistant director of the Great Lakes Project, working remotely from an office at UFL.”

**Brian Goldberg** and fiancée Missy are well in Alexandria, Va. They’ve just joined

a CSA farm share, so they are on the hunt for bulk veggie recipes.

**Ilmi Granoff ’04** has been leading the green growth team at the London-based think tank the Overseas Development Institute, and is excited to be collaborating with alumni **Heather Coleman ’04**, **Avery Cohn ’04**, and **Monica Araya ’00, ’06 Ph.D.**, on different projects.

**Karen Hardigg** writes: “I recently took a new job with Wallowa Resources in north-eastern Oregon, both facilitating and coordinating collaborative forestry projects on western public lands that benefit rural communities. The new work has put me in touch with many F&ES alums, which is always exciting and inspiring. My husband Nick and I continue to enjoy the many benefits of living in Portland with our two kids.”

Last fall, **Betony Jones ’04** took a job as associate chair of the UC Berkeley Don Vial Center on Employment in the Green Economy. They do research and policy analysis to show how income inequality and climate change can be addressed in concert — tackling both California climate policy and the EPA Clean Power Plan. She gets to bike to work and garden year-round, and partake in a few mountain outings a year with other Bay Area F&ESers and their adventurous kids.

**Lydia (Dixon) Lawhon** writes: “**Jason Lawhon ’11** and I were married this spring. We met in Jackson, Wyo., several years ago, and now live in the mountains outside of Boulder, Colo. Jason is the fire program manager for The Nature Conservancy in Colorado, and I’m a Ph.D. candidate in environmental studies at CU-Boulder studying Wyoming’s wolf management policy.”

**Florence Miller** writes: “I’m still running the Environmental Funders Network here in the U.K., which is a terrific job — I get to connect all sorts of interesting people in the U.K. environmental movement and keep funders abreast of developments across issue areas. I’m very involved in the Divest-Invest movement, encouraging foundations to divest from fossil fuels and invest in the new energy economy. Since **Bill Finnegan** and I moved to the village of Long Crendon, we’ve had several great visits from F&ESers, including



**Jessie Barnes '04** and **David Kneas '05, '14 Ph.D.**, **Liz Roberts, Ilmi Granoff '04**, and **Catherine Bottrill '02**, and we're looking forward to visits from **Alison Forrestel, Kabir Peay**, and **Liz Shapiro** this summer. We love having visitors and hope others will come, too — we're only an hour from Heathrow! Plus the kids seem to be on U.S. time (and Singapore time and Australian time and ...), so that works well with guests."

**Alicia (Pascasio) San Gil** writes: "I am in Albuquerque, N.M., working for the Forest Service helping with State and Private Forestry programs in the Southwestern Region. My husband Inigo and I have two children ages nine and ten. This morning the kids were excited to tell their classmates about the huge rattlesnake we saw hiking yesterday."

**Pada (One) Vorakanon** writes: "Greetings from Bangkok. I am now a vice president of Fragrant Property Ltd., a high-quality condominium developer in Thailand. Let me know if anyone has a plan to visit Bangkok."

## 2004

### Class Secretaries

Jennifer Vogel Bass  
*jennifer\_vogel@yahoo.com*

Keith Bisson  
*keith\_bisson@yahoo.com*

Daniela Vizcaino  
*dana.vizcaino@gmail.com*

Laura Wooley  
*le.wooley@gmail.com*

**Philippe Amstislavski** writes: "Last fall I started a new job at the University of Alaska Anchorage. I teach environmental health and biostatistics courses online. Teaching online has been a great learning experience for me. The persistent need to keep the cold out and the heat in in the North led me to working with the local engineers to design and develop a green, local biomaterial alternative to plastic thermal insulation. We will soon begin bench-testing it. In November, we had a sweet and delightfully funny little girl, Noa, and now have a true Alaskan in the family! We also adopted a beagle named Bagel. We enjoy living in Alaska and look forward to seeing more F&ESers here."

**Jessica Barnes** writes: "**David Kneas '05, '14 Ph.D.**, and I are living in Columbia, S.C., with our two boys, Henry and Oliver. We both have positions at the University of South Carolina and are enjoying living in a place where the flip-flops come out in February."

**Robin Barr** writes: "I'm still enjoying the Pacific Northwest with my husband and two-and-a-half year old, Max. Last year I was promoted to director overseeing the Forest Trust's work in the Americas — mainly helping international companies to implement No Deforestation and No Exploitation commitments for their palm oil and pulp and paper supply chains. As one intern said to me this year, 'I've learned that mapping supply chains is very addictive!' I'm looking forward to camping season here."

**Lisa (Gomes-Casseres) Bechini** writes: "I got married in April 2013 to Merrick Bechini on Curacao with a colorful wedding with lots of dancing. We just welcomed our first child, Logan, in December 2014. He's already showing a fascination with trees, leaves, and squirrels. I'm still at Northbridge Environmental — going on 11 years! We work with EPA and states on water and wastewater infrastructure finance, primarily the \$140-billion State Revolving Fund programs and now the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program. Just when things quiet down, there is major legislation that shakes things up and adds new challenges, keeping the job interesting."

**Ona Ferguson** writes: "My husband Garth Goldstein and I are slowly getting our feet under us as parents of a toddler, Bjorn, who is truly delightful. We all had the pleasure of visiting **Abby Weinberg** at her forested land in New York State recently. I am enjoying teaching a course on collaboration and negotiation at F&ES every fall, which lets me stay somewhat connected to the School and its fantastic students and faculty. I'm working at the Consensus Building Institute doing facilitation and mediation of natural resource and public policy topics including climate preparedness planning and estuary and coastal health planning."

**Elizabeth (Liz) Kalies** and **Alex Finkral '97, '05 Ph.D.**, added baby Quinn to the family in August 2014, who is quite popular with siblings Pri (7) and Cale (5). Liz began a new job as director of science for The Nature Conservancy's North Carolina chapter, and Alex is chief forester of The Forestland Group in Chapel Hill.

**Mike Kisgen** writes: "Celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the University of California's Natural Reserve System — a network of 39 protected natural areas consisting of more than 756,000 acres throughout California — and doing my best via law and policy to ensure another 50 years (climate change and drought be damned)." *nrs.ucop.edu*

**Amanda Mahaffey** writes: "It was great seeing so many '04 F&ESers at Reunion last October. My appreciation for the F&ES family grew even more at the memorial gathering to celebrate Tom Siccama. It was a perfect day and richly inspiring to interact with so many people whose lives he shaped through his teaching. I feel deeply grateful to be part of the generations of Tom disciples trying to understand and change the world with what he taught us."

**Tambi Matambo** writes: "We are still in Washington, D.C., working for the World Bank on low carbon development. Muta is a junior in college, and Leia is about to finish second grade."

**Marty Walters** writes: "I was named Chief Environmental Risk Officer at CIT Bank, a large commercial lender based in New York. I evaluate investments in high-risk industries and monitor loans and leases across the bank for environmental, social, and governance risks. CIT Bank is such a great group of people, and it's a pleasure to work in an organization that is so dedicated to integrity and good governance. All three of my kids will be in college next year, and I'm embracing the challenge of adjusting to life with a lot more time to focus on my interests and hobbies. If you are ever in the Northern Sierra Nevada, please get in touch!"

**Abigail Weinberg** writes: "I am getting closer to fulfilling the original vision of my M.F. degree with the purchase of 20 magical acres adjacent to Minnewaska

## CLASS NOTES

State Park in the 'Gunks.' I'm dusting off my forestry operations notes and trying to sharpen my silviculture eye (and listen to the faint British accent in my ear reminding me to look up at the canopy). Meanwhile, I continue as director of research for the Open Space Institute focusing on climate change and water quality."

### 2006

#### Class Secretaries

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**Imelda Bacudo** writes: "After two years in Lao PDR working for a UNDP project on capacity assessments of the government to comply with three Rio Conventions, I find myself back closer to the shores of Indonesia, working for the German development cooperation agency, GIZ, as we support the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to respond to climate change for food security. It's great to be back living in Indonesia, where the nearby waves of Bali and elsewhere keep me very soulfully attached despite the constant travels."

**Joel Creswell** writes: "I was awarded a Science & Technology Policy Fellowship from the American Association for the Advancement of Science. I will be moving to Washington, D.C., in August to work with the EPA Office of Research and Development's Innovation Team. I'm looking forward to reconnecting with F&ES alumni in the D.C. area."

**Jose Gonzalo Griebenow** writes: "I am on my third year of Ph.D. research at Oxford University's Environmental Change Institute, and am very happy to live on the other side of the pond! I am currently working on my thesis mostly based in Ghana. I also just started a (home-based) consultancy job for the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington, D.C."

I attended COP 20 in Lima last December and had a great time meeting many F&ESers during the two-week event."

**Alissa Hamilton, Ph.D.**, writes: "Green leaves have finally arrived here in Toronto. I'm running on empty at the moment doing a radio tour for the April launch of my book *Got Milked? The Great Dairy Deception and Why You'll Thrive Without Milk*. For someone who continues to survive without a cell/smart phone and has no social media presence, the sudden round-the-clock conversation is both exciting and exhausting. I never really realized how mean the online world can be. I'm not really complaining. It's been fun, sort of. Lots of 'what does a 'Dr. of trees' (even though I leaned toward the environmental studies rather than forestry side of the degree) know about health?' New Haven seems so far away yet so close. I hope to visit sometime soon. I miss the cherry blossoms. Don't you?"

**Christina (Zarella) Milloy** continues to work for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program in Washington, D.C. (she lives in Connecticut), but now she has a new position as the national lead for the Wildlife Restoration Program, Hunter Education, and the Coastal Wetlands Grant Program. She also was recently elected as the northeast regional chair to the Jack Kent Cook Scholar Association Executive Board.

### 2007

#### Class Secretary

Kate Neville

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**Qian (Cathy) Fang** recently changed jobs to Shanghai Disney Resort. She is helping to build the first Disney Theme Park in Mainland China.

**Charlotte Kaiser** writes: "In April 2014, The Nature Conservancy launched NatureVest, a new unit focused on expanding the market for private investment in conservation. We source and structure investment opportunities that support private capital, source capital into those deals, and try to tell the world about it with research and publications. I lead our deal team, eight amazing folks working around the world to source

deals supporting sustainable timber, smallholder agriculture production, water rights trading, urban green infrastructure, and more. I led a transaction that closed this February, a \$3.5-million concessional loan into a brand new social enterprise in Kenya that provides access to cattle markets for pastoralist herders who practice holistic land management, improving grasslands for both cows and elephants. Nick and I are living in Brooklyn with our son, Linus, but we'll be spending the summer in Montana, and are looking forward to seeing some big mountains!"

**Mike Lichtenfeld** writes: "In 2012, former Philippine DOE secretary Vince Pérez (2005 Yale World Fellow) and I launched a company called Solar Pacific to develop clean energy projects throughout Southeast Asia. Today we have the first phase of our 25MWp solar farm under construction here in the Philippines, with another 75MWp of solar projects under development around the region. As part of the adventure, **Catherine Byun '06** and I split our time between San Francisco and Manila, with plenty of scuba diving, music, and illustration in between."

**Charlie Liu** writes: "I've just returned from a five-year stint working at an industrial biotech company making renewable chemicals in China. Now I'm with the same company working to launch its first U.S. operation to produce the world's first major renewable (bio-based) nylon. It should offer higher performance in addition to being more environmentally friendly in all sorts of ways. On the personal side, Patrice Murphy and I got married in 2013, and we had our first child, Georgia Marie Liu, in 2014."

**Amanda Moss-Cowan** is finishing her second year as a post-doc at the University of Oxford, where she completed her doctorate in Management in 2013. This fall she will start a new position as an assistant professor at the University of Rhode Island's College of Business Administration, where she will continue to focus on the intersection of business and the natural environment. She is excited to be moving back to the U.S., though she will miss the U.K. after spending most of the last eight years in Oxford.

## 2008

### Class Secretaries

Angelica Afanador  
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Kelsey Kidd Wharton  
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**Agha Ali Akram '14 Ph.D.** writes: "I finished my Ph.D. at F&ES last year and moved to D.C. for my postdoc with Evidence Action. My wife, Zahra, and our two-year old son, Zain, are enjoying what D.C. has to offer!"

**Georgia Basso** writes: "I work with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Coastal Program and am loving living in New Haven, Conn. I feel lucky to have seen so many F&ESers this past year, including cross-country skiing with **Angie Rutherford** in Yellowstone, ice skating with **Tara Moberg '09** in Vermont, and hopping onto a group trip out to Hama Hama to visit with **Kendra James '12** and **Tommy James '09, '16 Ph.D.**, forage for morels, and sip a famous Sloan family traditional morel soup recipe. Such wonderful respites from the working life! Hope everyone is doing well!"

**Josh Berman** writes: "While I am continuing to enjoy my work at the Sierra Club on energy issues in the Northeast, the big excitement this year has been the arrival of David Spina Berman (born September 14, 2014). We look forward to cultivating his love of the outdoors and of all things F&ES!"

**Innocent Liengola** writes: "Just after graduation, I was back in DR Congo working until now as project manager for the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) in Salonga National Park, in the heart of the Congo Basin forest, a site where the potential for conservation of bonobo is juxtaposed with major challenges and uncertainty. The bonobo is a chimp species found only in DRC on the southern side of the Congo River. The bonobo home range does not overlap with other great apes found in DRC. I am closely working with Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de Nature (ICCN), a governmental institution in charge of protected areas in DRC; international NGOs; local communities; and policymakers to reduce threats

to DRC forests and wildlife by promoting sustainable forest management for conservation and development. I'm also engaging local stakeholders including civil society, women's organizations, indigenous groups, and extractive industries, and building their capacity to implement more sustainable natural resource management practices. Engaging communities will provide a critical basis for any future potential pay for performance REDD+ mechanisms. I am based in Monkoto, headquarters of the park, to oversee the work in Salonga National Park, and spend 40% of my time in Kinshasa, the capital city of the DRC."

**Mira Manickam** writes: "I am living in Oakland, Calif., building a partnership between the City of Oakland Office of Parks and Recreation and Brown Girl Surf, creating programs to empower girls and women to connect to the ocean through coastal explorations and surfing. In my spare time, I make eco-feminist hip hop, rock climb, surf, and organize with Asians for Black Lives."

**Moe Myint** writes: "I joined the Institute for Environmental Sciences (ISE) of the University of Geneva as the senior scientist in 2015. I am working for the Climate Change and Climate Impact (C3i) Research Group of Switzerland. In 2013, I founded the consulting company MNR II — Mapping and Natural Resources Information Integration — based at Le Brassus in the Jura Mountains. I have recently contributed to *The HCS Approach Toolkit: No Deforestation in Practice*, especially for chapter 3 as the MNR II scientist." [mnrii.com](http://mnrii.com); [highcarbonstock.org](http://highcarbonstock.org)

**Paula Randler** writes: "In June 2014 I bought a house in Tucson, essentially just to try my hand at my own rainwater harvesting. In November, with the help of a local nonprofit called Watershed Management Group, I installed a 1,300-gallon cistern, laundry-to-landscape system, passive harvesting basins, and a bunch of native and citrus trees. I love watching my shade grow, and I 'enjoy' spending time trying to eradicate Bermuda grass. In work-related news, this year I recruited 60% more students to two of our scholarship categories for American Indian and

Alaska Native students. If you work with students studying for public service careers, please point them to [Udall.gov](http://Udall.gov)!"

**Kelsey Wharton** writes: "I'm working as a science writer for Arizona State University and write about research across the university for our online magazine *Research Matters*. I recently contributed a piece to our Sustainable Cities series. There's really great work being done in sustainability at ASU — I'd love to entice more F&ESers out this way! Have I mentioned it's 75° and sunny all winter long? In family news, we welcomed our second son, Cedric, in December, so we have a full house with a two-year-old and a baby. Sometimes it's crazy, but mostly it's awesome." [researchmatters.asu.edu](http://researchmatters.asu.edu)

**Yong Zhao** writes: "I'm leading a Yale start-up team creating a fast casual Chinese food brand called Junzi Kitchen. The first store will open in June 2015 on Broadway in New Haven." [junzi.kitchen](http://junzi.kitchen)

## 2009

### Class Secretaries

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Jude Wu  
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**Sean Dixon** writes: "My fish business, Village Fishmonger NYC, launched 'Sustainable Seafood Week' in 2013 — after two years in New York City, we've gone national! This year, 'Sustainable Seafood Week: National' will be in New York in June, Seattle in August, and San Francisco and D.C. in September." [villagefishmongernyc.com](http://villagefishmongernyc.com)

**Jeffrey Ross** writes: "In August 2014, I accepted a position with the Grand Council Treaty #3 as the Director of Territorial Planning. In this position I am responsible for facilitating greater participation of 28 First Nation communities in economic development and management opportunities in the natural resources sector. I also was recently appointed to the Province of Ontario's Forest Tenure Modernization Oversight



## CLASS NOTES

Group, asked to serve on the Scientific Advisory Committee for the Experimental Lake Area, and tapped to sit on a provincial-wide First Nations energy table.”

**Panah Stauffer** and her husband Eric moved to the San Francisco Bay Area from Washington, D.C., in November. Panah left EPA's Office of International and Tribal Affairs and is now an enforcement officer for the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) in EPA's Region 9 office. She is enjoying her new opportunities to conduct inspections in the field, work with state and county governments, and interact with the regulated community. Panah and Eric are out every weekend exploring the seemingly innumerable parks in the Bay Area and are having fun hanging out with F&ES alums like **Christa Anderson** and **Fran Moore '10**.

**2010****5<sup>th</sup> Reunion Year****Class Secretaries**

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Kristin Tracz  
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**Kathryn Au** writes: “After moving to San Francisco last fall, I started working at ICF International on projects with the Department of Housing and Urban Development.”

**Paul Beaton** writes: “Five years in, and New Haven South (aka Washington, D.C.) continues to be a wellspring of F&ES community and support. I love seeing, spending time with, and often working with F&ES alumni of all vintages. Professionally, I'm now directing an evaluation of the Advanced Research Projects Agency - Energy (ARPA-E) to assess how well the agency is doing at trying to revolutionize energy technologies. I'm also concluding a study on ways to accelerate deployment of clean energy technologies

(with **Frances Beinecke '74**). This spring I returned to New Haven to attend the Yale Alumni in Energy Conference (with **Diana Connett '12**). Outside of work, I'm starting a meditation group for my neighborhood with a few fellow F&ESers (and others), have a tremendous garden growing on my balcony, and just registered for Reunion Weekend 2015. I look forward to being in the Have' again this October with everyone else. I also have started a monthly column to explore the intersection of chemistry and the law.”  
*capitalchemist.org*

2015 is shaping up to be a big year for **Nasser Brahim**. He and Megan Cole just bought their first home — the day before a series of massive snowstorms hit New England (welcome to the joys of homeownership). Later this year they will be married in Rhode Island, a state they have grown to love in a very short time. His resolution for the year is to reconnect with Boston-area alums, so give him a call or email.

**David Burns** writes: “In late April I married my partner and best friend, Jessica, surrounded by family and friends outside of D.C. We couldn't be happier. Come visit!”

**Eric Desatnik** is a senior director at XPRIZE, which designs and operates multi-million-dollar global competitions to bring about breakthroughs in Life Sciences, Energy and the Environment, Exploration, Learning, and Global Development. XPRIZE's newest competition, sponsored by Elon Musk, offers \$15 million to teams who can develop tablet-based software that can bring children without access to schools or teachers to a basic level of literacy in just 18 months.

**Mary Fischer** writes: “My husband Matt and I welcomed a baby boy, Oliver Gray Rees, on March 16. We are all doing well, and Oliver is growing like a weed. We bought a house last year and are living in Lowell, Mass.”

**Lucy Magembe** writes: “This is my third year of being back in my native Tanzania, and work and life has been great. My presence in Dar es Salaam has helped raise the profile of my organization, and as such we have been invited to help find solutions to some of the major issues around our natural resources — includ-

ing poaching. I have participated in the review of national laws and policies such as the Fisheries Act and Environment Policy. And we provide top-notch science and innovative management tools to the government and other conservation partners in the country. Those at F&ES around 2008-2010 will remember my son George (G) and daughter Mica. Well G, now 12, will be graduating from primary school this May. I am very excited and hope for the best for him. Our house also encourages debates and essay writing, and I am glad that G received an honorary mention for the 2015 International Schools Essay Competition and will thus be going to the U.K. in July for the debate. The topic this year: ‘My Vision for Sustainability Education.’ I encourage those with children to give them an opportunity to compete because through the process they learn about sustainable living. F&ES reigns in my house.” *livingrainforest.org/explore/schools-debate*

**Frances Moore** writes: “I am finishing up my Ph.D. at Stanford on climate change impacts and adaptation in agriculture. I'll be staying in California for the near future. I'm headed to Berkeley next year for a postdoc and then on to UC Davis as an assistant professor in the Environmental Science and Policy department. I love catching up with F&ESers, so drop me a line if you're around the Bay Area!”

**Jack O'Wrill** writes: “I took a job as a state lands forester in St. Johnsbury, Vt., and my wife Heather and I just had our second child, Kelsey Burke O'Wrill. Our son Bradley is rough with about every other thing in this world, but very soft and gentle with his new sister.”

**Huijia Phua** (of BYO Cafe “fame”) continues to find herself terminally unemployed in Singapore, where she runs Project Skillseed, an experiential education company. Besides inventing dubious staff motivation schemes like “The Wall of Shame” and “Huijia's Favourite Person of the Month,” she occupies herself by remaining happily married to fellow F&ESer **Wilson Chan '12** and threatening to spawn whenever she feels stressed, threatened, frustrated, or bored. She writes: “Arguably the most hospitable F&ES couple in Singapore (by virtue of

being the only ones), we welcome good friends to visit if you are in SE Asia.”

**Tatjana (Tanya) Rosen** writes: “I am living in Central Asia, dividing my time between Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, directing the Panthera Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan Snow Leopard Programs. Life is rough and dangerous at times, but together with my fantastic Tajik/Kyrgyz team we are trying to conserve the snow leopards and their prey and help local people coexist with them. Some of our work was recently recognized with the Markhor Award at the 2014 meeting of the parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity. In a few weeks, we are starting the first snow leopard collaring project in Kyrgyzstan. You can read some of my blogs on National Geographic.”

[voices.nationalgeographic.com/author/trosen](http://voices.nationalgeographic.com/author/trosen)

**Berkley Rothmeier** writes: “After two horrifying winters in Chicago, Alex, Wenzel, and I are packing up and heading west! We’re planning to turn up in San Francisco by August, and would love to catch up with any and all of you who’ve already made the trek. We’ll also be in Europe for July, so drop me a line if you’re headed that way too.”

**Tien Shiao** writes: “It’s been an interesting 2015. After uprooting my life from Washington, D.C., I now live in Shanghai and work at H&M. Shanghai is bustling, exciting, and polluted. Corporate social responsibility is not as frustrating as I thought it would be, but it still takes a lot of internal stakeholder buy-in to get anything done. Please let me know if you’re close to Shanghai. I’d love to catch up!”

**Kyle Williams** writes: “Within a one-month span this December, Sarah and I welcomed our daughter Elsi into the world (December 14), we moved into a new place, and I started a new job at the Athens Land Trust. As new parents, we are busy, but very much enjoying Athens and the new addition to the family.”

In May 2015 **Rae Wynn-Grant** graduated from Columbia University with a Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and will begin her career at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City as a Conservation Research and

Teaching Postdoctoral Fellow.

**Lesley Yen** writes: “I recently embarked upon a new adventure as a district ranger with the U.S. Forest Service in Redding, Calif., where I manage the Shasta Lake Ranger District and National Recreation Area on the Shasta-Trinity National Forest. I have the pleasure of working with **Chris Losi ’01**, who is the environmental coordinator for the forest. My husband and I are enjoying the myriad of mountain biking and hiking opportunities in the area. We hope to get a cataraft or oar boat soon so we can explore the many wild rivers in northern California.”

## 2011

### Class Secretaries

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**Margaret Arbuthnot** is leading WWF’s global program to measure the environmental and social impacts of sustainable commodity standards and certifications. She lives in Washington, D.C., and is looking forward to visiting fellow panda **Selin Devranoglu** (WWF-Turkey) in Istanbul this spring.

Having started a Ph.D. program in the fall of 2013 at the University of British Columbia (after two years of working for the U.S. Forest Service and as a teaching adjunct in Utah), **Jason Brown** has passed his comprehensive exams and is starting his dissertation research on the spiritual ecology of monasteries in the United States. On a related note, he also recently converted to Catholicism. He is currently living in Bellingham, Wash., with his amazing partner Natalie Green. Come visit!

**Charlotta Chan** writes: “After moving back from a stint in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, I did some traveling and general shenanigans before settling into my new position as a research associate for Earth Innovation

Institute in San Francisco. My work focuses on Amazon fisheries management and low-emission rural development in tropical forest regions. Outside of office hours, I prance, dance, play rugby, learn Portuguese, and generally dream of the next time I get to wear rainbows and sparkles with **Katie Hawkes ’10**.”

**Erin Derrington** writes: “I have moved to Saipan in the middle of Micronesia and am leading the planning section for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands’ Bureau of Coastal Quality’s Department of Coastal Resource Management — basically living the dream here in an island chain that holds the world record for the most consistent temperatures (about 82° all year round). Lots on my plate these days — reviewing EISs, permits, enforcement actions, and working to enhance management of coastal resources from the ridge to the reef — but I’ve still found time to take up paddling, hike, and hop in the lovely tropical waters. If you end up out this way, come visit!”

**Efrie Friedlander** finished going to school (at least as a student), graduating from the University of Michigan with her Master of Architecture in the spring of 2014. She and David then adopted an awesome dog named Starbuck and moved to Philadelphia so Efrie could start her job at KieranTimberlake, working in the Research Group alongside **Steph Carlisle** and **Rod Bates ’07**.

**Stefania Panousi** lives in Athens, Greece, and works as a strategy consultant for Accenture. She is currently the curator of the World Economic Forum Global Shapers Athens Hub.

**Pragyajan (Yalamber) Rai** writes: “I moved back to Nepal in 2013 and joined the UNDP project on Ecosystem based Adaptation Project in Mountain Ecosystems in Nepal (EbA Nepal Project). At the moment, I am involved with the project in the capacity of interim project coordinator and based out in Kathmandu.”

**Mariana Sarmiento** writes: “Big news in this part the world. Baby girl coming soon! Should be around late July or early August.”

## CLASS NOTES

**Gina Schrader** is working at NextEnergy, an advanced energy technology incubator in the heart of Detroit's innovation district. She manages projects to accelerate energy efficiency technologies and economic development strategies.

**Mary Wykstra** writes: "As the executive director for the Kenya-based organization Carnivores, Livelihoods and Landscapes, I still manage the Action for Cheetahs in Kenya (ACK) program. In 2015, the project will launch the second national cheetah survey using genetics and occupancy modeling through GIS and remote sensing. We plan to establish range-wide cheetah conservation management in Kenya by evaluating cheetah population trends and genetic corridors. Since leaving F&ES, I have been able to assist a Kenyan student in completing her master's degree at the University of Nairobi and have hired two additional Kenyan women to improve their capacity in carnivore conservation. **Hasita Bhammar '15** conducted her internship with ACK in the summer of 2014. We accepted two interns (2011 and 2012) and supervised the master's degree research (2012) of one student from Antioch University New England (AUNE) to further aid in human-wildlife coexistence strategies. A second AUNE master's degree researcher will join our project in 2015, and our Kenyan student hopes to conduct her Ph.D. work with our national survey project."

### 2012

#### Class Secretaries

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**Paulo Barreiro Sanjines** writes: "I'm going for my third year living in Serra Grande, a small (population 4,500) town between Ilhéus and Itacaré, Southern Bahia, Brazil. Serra Grande is an essential area for the ecological corridor Esperança-Condurú. I love it here. A normal work day starts at

the greenhouse, then I work on content for the Forest School classes or write project proposals, and end the day with a capoeira class. Amongst helping coordinate other projects, I'm working with Floresta Viva as the pedagogical coordinator for the Forest School program. Our next course will gather key cacao and chocolate actors of the region to dialogue about sustainability in the cacao and chocolate value chain and the benefits of accounting for externalities. If anyone is eager to relax, be in touch with nature, eat delicious Bahian food, and surf a bit, come visit! It would be great to see you here."

**Matthew Browning** writes: "I'm finishing my Ph.D. at Virginia Tech (defending in June) and starting as an assistant professor in the Department of Recreation, Sport, and Tourism at the University of Illinois in the fall. My wife, Lara, will be a lecturer in the same department. We bought a large house in Urbana with which we hope to start a bed and breakfast, so F&ESers should think about stopping by if they are driving through Illinois. It has dedicated movie, yoga, and sauna rooms!"

**Simon De Stercke** writes: "I'm in the early stages of my Ph.D. on water-energy linkages in/for cities, and enjoying life in London with some other F&ES alumni."

**Naazia Ebrahim '13** writes: "I've hopped from Vancouver to Paris to London (where I spent two awesome weeks crashing on **Ainsley Lloyd's** couch) and will be somewhere around here for the near future. Come visit!"

**Yan He** writes: "I just moved back to Denver from Singapore and am working as a market analyst for Rio Tinto. Southeast Asia in general was very exciting and very energetic. I met with **Weixin Ng '11** and **John Good '11**, both of whom were working there."

**Andres Gonzalez** writes: "I am teaching economics at Universidad Central, environmental management at Universidad Diego Portales, and environmental economics at both the undergraduate level and at Universidad del Desarrollo in a master's degree program. This fall I am starting a Ph.D. in civil engineering at the University of Minnesota."

**Shumpei Iida** writes: "I'm in my second position since I finished F&ES, where I'm following negotiations at international conferences on the UNFCCC, particularly on forestry issues. I joined the COP 20 in Lima, Peru, last year and I met Professor Ben Cashore and **Shereen D'Souza** at the venue, though I could not make it for TGIF in Peru."

**Melissa Jenkins** writes: "I'm currently the Invasive Plants National Program Manager in Forest Health Protection at the U.S. Forest Service in Washington, D.C. The Invasive Plants Program provides essential matching funds and technical assistance to regional cooperative weed management organizations to combat economically significant weed threats on forest lands on state and private properties. This past winter I was able to get down to Argentina and Chile, where I connected with **Andres Gonzalez** in Santiago. I'm hoping to explore more of the western U.S. this summer."

**Soojin Kim** moved to Bangkok, Thailand, last October for a new position: partnership officer for the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific.

**Sameer Kwatra** writes: "Ajooni (Chia) is a spirited toddler, determined to decipher the world in a hurry, like it was a timed test. But then again, maybe it is. In between keeping up with her antics, I moonlight as an energy-efficiency researcher and Suparna as a Ph.D. student. Life couldn't be livelier!"

**Erica Pohnan** is finishing up her third year in Indonesia managing the conservation program of Alam Sehat Lestari, a local NGO working to stop illegal logging within protected areas in West Kalimantan.

**David Ross** writes: "I moved to Jerusalem in July 2014 in order to start an organic herbal tea business. Come visit, let's drink tea!" *shalvatea.com*

**Srinath Sabapathy** writes: "I moved to D.C. (finally), although I work in Baltimore. After four years of being a weekend resident, I am officially now a D.C. resident. At the risk of sounding like an ad, I just launched Prime Now in Baltimore."

**Jonathan Smith** writes: "After spending six months in D.C. and a year back home in Miami, I moved to New York City last fall for what will ostensibly be a period



of time longer than one year. I am working as an associate attorney at Earthjustice, primarily on cases concerning oil, gas, and environmental health issues, and am enjoying the new position a lot.”

**Shelly Thomsen** writes: “Life is filled with bikes, babies, and bratwurst. Mark and I moved to Madison, Wis., last December and love bike commuting in the state’s capitol. We welcomed a happy and healthy baby girl (Lily Jane) into our family in September and are enjoying the wild (and exhausting) ride of parenthood! I manage the statewide lakes and rivers team for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and just awarded \$6 million in grant funds to lake and river groups for restoration and protection projects. With more than 15,000 lakes in the state, it’s a fun and rewarding job. Hope all is well!”

**Andrew Zingale ’13** writes: “In January I returned to the California State Legislature, accepting the position of legislative director for Assembly Member Kevin Mullin (D-CA 22<sup>nd</sup>). I manage our policy team and focus on energy, environmental, and transportation policy. My primary residence is still in Oakland, but I work most of the time in the Capitol during the week.”

## 2013

### Class Secretaries

Judith Ament

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Adedana Ashebir

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Rebecca de Sa

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Laura Johnson

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Victoria Lockhart

*victoria.lockhart@aya.yale.edu*

**Judith Ament** writes: “I’m still in Cape Town, South Africa, wrapping up my research at UCT and getting ready for the migration back north to start my Ph.D. at University College London. I’m looking forward to joining the European F&ES congregation and being closer to friends and family in the Netherlands, but I will sorely miss South Africa, with all its troubles and beauty.”

**Ellen Arnstein** writes: “I’m back state-side and wrangling volunteers for the Emerald Necklace Conservancy in Boston to restore urban woodlands (the ever-glamorous invasive removal). In my spare time, I’m planning a trip to Bhutan with my hetero-lifemate **Nara Lee ’14** thanks to the heroic efforts of **Kunzang ’14** and her hubby. Theoretically, **Kathryn Wright** and I are also starting a Boston chapter of Yale Blue Green.”

**Adedana Ashebir** writes: “Jambo’ from Nairobi! It turns out there are A LOT of F&ESers around. I’ve been spending some quality time with **William Lyman ’11**, **Mary Wykstra ’11**, and **Elizabeth Babalola ’14**. I caught **Francis Eaton ’10**, **Tara Varghese ’12**, **Yiting Wang ’14**, and **Urs Dietrich ’15** while they were in town, and I had a great time recreating the Tilton Street magic when former roomie **Kathryn Wright** came to visit. I’ve been able to travel to Rwanda, South Africa, and Ethiopia since moving to East Africa and I’m excited to explore more of the continent. F&ES friends, come on by! Will host for granola.”

**Lauren Graham** writes: “I launched a social change strategy and communications agency called Velvet Frame. The consulting model is built on applying ecological principles to collective action problems. I’m mainly working with nonprofits, startups, and socially responsible for-profit companies to guide them in a deep dive into their core mission, organizational identity, and leadership and development strategy.” *velvetframe.org*

**Rui He** writes: “More and more exciting projects coming in as circular economy begins to catch fire.”

**Naomi Heindel** will marry Jordan Nobler at Ohana Family Camp in Fairlee, Vt., in June. She will start working as a field education faculty member at the Teton Science Schools in Jackson, Wyo., right after and would love to visit and adventure with any F&ES friends passing through the area.

As a current environmental economics advisor to Mexico’s National Commission for Protected Areas (CONANP), **Lucía Ruiz** is conducting the project “Valuation of Ecosystem Services in Natural Protected Areas in Mexico,” a joint initiative with

the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ). Other international initiatives she follows up on at CONANP include the North American Intergovernmental Committee on Cooperation for Wilderness and Protected Area Conservation (NAWPA) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Her responsibilities focus on advising innovative approaches and strategies that link biodiversity conservation with public policy, and economic instruments that help position CONANP in the national agenda and strengthen financial sustainability of Mexican federal protected areas.

**Charissa Rujanavech** is finishing up two years on Apple’s Environmental Technologies team developing recycling technologies and recycled material pathways for Apple products at end-of-life, and is transitioning to a new role in Commodity Procurement Environmental Initiatives. She will be working for Lisa Jackson on sustainable supply chain issues focusing on responsible sourcing, greener materials, and recycling in production. When not in Silicon Valley, Charissa can often be found in the other and more majestic valley of Yosemite.

## 2014

### Class Secretaries

Chetana Kallakuri

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William Georgia

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Lin Shi

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Cary Simmons

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Karen Tuddenham

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**Elizabeth Babalola** writes: “After I graduated in May 2014, I spent four weeks as an instructor for the Yale Young Global Scholars program in New Haven and Yale Young African Scholars program in Ghana and Ethiopia, working with young, amazing, and promising students from around the world and exploring two new countries. I also got to visit four U.S. states on the West Coast, fly fish, and drive through Yellowstone National Park ... finally! In July, I joined the African Wildlife Founda-

## CLASS NOTES

tion's Conservation Management Training Program, and I'm currently supporting our African Conservation Schools program, designing M&E systems and developing Conservation Education curriculum for our primary schools across the continent. Again, doing what I love — environmental education!"

**Robert Buchkowski** writes: "I am settling into the Ph.D. program at F&ES and enjoying all things New Haven! Since graduation, I have taken a few trips to California to visit some F&ES friends and another trip to the Yucatan. Back in New Haven, I have been working on summer research plans that delve deeper into the lives and times of woodlice. F&ES is not the same without you, Class of 2014!"

After graduating from Yale, **Yufang Gao** was appointed executive director of the Everest Snow Leopard Conservation Center, which is a partnership of Qomolangma (Mt. Everest) Nature Reserve and Vanke Co. Ltd., the largest real estate developer in China. In this

capacity, Gao assumes the overall strategic and operational responsibility for the Center's staff, programs, and execution of its mission. Today, he is leading a team to promote the coexistence between snow leopards and local residents in the Mt. Everest region through research, conservation, public engagement, and fostering future conservation leaders. At the same time, Gao continues to actively participate in the global efforts to save the African elephants from the illegal ivory trade. He initiated the first China-Africa collaborative effort to bridge the gap on different perspectives about the ivory trade, inviting Kenyan conservationists to visit China and facilitating a series of public events for them to engage the Chinese public. He also was invited by the CITES Secretariat, UNODC, UNEP, and Chinese government to present his research at a number of international and national conferences.

**Chetana Kallakuri** writes: "I traveled and lived in rural Virginia after graduating last year. I'm presently settled in Washington,

D.C., working as a research analyst at the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy (ACEEE)."

**William Miao** writes: "Since graduation, I spent eight months eating pizza in Chicago and trying to improve the energy performance of some of the tallest buildings in the city through the EDF Climate Corps program. When Chicago got too cold in November 2014, I moved back to sunny New Zealand to take up a job with Deloitte Consulting, doing operations and supply chain efficiency improvement works."

**Carina Roselli** passed the Virginia bar exam in February 2015 and was accepted to the Virginia State Bar on April 17, 2015.

**Yiting Wang** writes: "I am moving to Beijing at the end of May. I will start as the program development manager for WWF's China's Green Shift Initiative to green China's overseas investment and trade in soft commodities. I look forward to reconnecting with F&ESers in Beijing and beyond!"

## Connecting Alums Around the World

Here is just a glimpse of a few of the many places alumni connected with each other, students, and F&ES in recent months. We'll include more photos of alums gathering around the globe in the next edition of *CANOPY*.



*Clockwise from upper left: F&ES alumni gathered in Lima, Peru during the COP in December; F&ES students organized a gathering with Yale alums based in Costa Rica during the Global Network Advanced Management week at the INCAE Business School in March; students and alumni gathered at the Networking Reception following the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Duke-Yale Recruiting Fair in Washington, D.C. in February; and alumni connected with faculty, staff, and students at F&ES during the International Society of Tropical Foresters (ISTF) conference in January.*

# IN MEMORIAM

**Gerardo Budowski '56 For, '62 Ph.D.** (1925–2014) died October 8 in San Jose, Costa Rica. He is remembered as a highly respected scientist devoted to tropical ecology and natural resource management. Born in Berlin in 1925, he became a French citizen in 1938, then moved to Venezuela following the German occupation of France. He was a child prodigy in chess, and for several years, the chess champion of Venezuela. He graduated in 1948 as an agricultural engineer from the Universidad Central in Caracas, Venezuela, earned his master's degree at the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) in Costa Rica in 1954, then his Ph.D. from F&ES. He worked for UNESCO, IICA, and the Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE). He served as the first Director General of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) from 1970–1976. He produced more than 300 publications in Spanish, English, French, and German. A lover of photography and ecotourism, he was the recipient of many prestigious awards, including the Henri Pittier Medal from the Government of Venezuela, the Siempre Verd Medal of the Government of Nicaragua, and the Golden Arc from the Netherlands. He was an honorary member of the World Wildlife Fund. He was also designated the "Most Outstanding Graduate" of IICA-CATIE at the institution's 50th anniversary and an Emeritus Professor of both CATIE and the Univ. of Peace, which he helped to found. In 2011, he received a tribute from IUCN: "He was a helping hand, a teacher, someone who was always respectful in matters of gender, youth, new ideas." He is survived by his wife, Thelma Palma, and their two daughters.

**John Livermore Christie, Jr. '30 B.S., '51 For** (1926–2014) died peacefully at his beloved home in Astoria, Ore. on October 26. He was born in Fairfield, Conn., where he developed a lifelong love for the water,

and summers in the Adirondacks gave him a fondness for the out of doors. He served in the Navy aboard the USS Antietam during World War II, then earned a B.S. in botany at Yale. He traveled to Oregon to practice forestry in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and then in Klamath Falls. He earned a degree in forestry from Oregon State Univ. F&ES later recognized his contributions to the field of forestry with an honorary alumnus award in 2011. He worked in the Oregon Department of Forestry, and from 1971 to 1986 he taught forestry at Clatsop Community College. In 1968 he purchased land and renamed it the Big Wallooskee Tree Farm, his pride and joy, and he knew each tree on the property. He was an institution in his community, where he helped start the water association, was a Scout Master, and led 4-H forestry clubs. He was involved in the Clatsop Small Woodland Owner's Association, Fort Clatsop Memorial, Society of American Foresters, Salmon and Trout Enhancement Project, and Oregon Hardwood Commission. John enjoyed acting in community theater, and spent many summer days fishing for salmon and crab with friends from far and wide. He was proud of his family, believed in the importance of education and conservation, and was happiest on the water or in the woods. He was predeceased by Peg, his wife of 58 years, his son, daughter-in-law, and two grandsons. He is survived by two brothers, four children, five grandchildren, and a great-granddaughter.

**Donald F. Dennis '88 Ph.D.** (1949–2014) died peacefully at home on September 22. Don lived life to the fullest, unyielding to cancer for more than 14 years. He grew up in Manhattan, and graduated from Baruch College (CUNY) with an accounting degree. He moved to Montpelier, Vt., to work in accounting, but soon he pursued his love of nature to work as a forestry tech and supervi-

sor at Deerlodge, Mont., and Helena National Forests. Don earned an M.S. in forest resource management from the Univ. of New Hampshire and began his U.S. Forest Service career in Broomall, Pa. Don furthered his education with a Ph.D. from Yale in forest economics. He moved to the Northeastern Research Station in Burlington, Vt., in 1983, retiring after 30 years. He was the author of numerous publications, and as adjunct faculty, mentored many Ph.D. students at Univ. of Vermont. A traveler, explorer, and lover of nature, Don shared his loyalty, generosity of time, and wry humor with his friends. Don lived life on his own terms, not accepting obstacles or the mundane. He loved Vermont and designed and built his home of 20 years surrounded by nature. Don and Nancy Cloud married in 2005, beginning their adventures together by honeymooning on their Tartan sailboat. After retiring in 2008, they traveled in their Airstream trailer, blogging about the sites they encountered. Don is survived by his wife, stepdaughters, and granddaughter.

**Walter P. Gould '51 M.F.** (1925–2014) died peacefully at his home in Wakefield, R.I. surrounded by his loving family. He grew up in the Berkshire Hills and enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps, serving as a nose-gunner and navigator on B-24 bombers, achieving the rank of Sargent. Following World War II, he enrolled at the Univ. of Massachusetts where he received a B.S. in forestry. After earning his master's degree at F&ES, Walter worked as a forester for the Brown Co. in the western mountains of Maine, where he met Janet, his wife of 57 years. He taught forestry and wildlife for 32 years at the Univ. of Rhode Island, and earned his Ph.D. in forest biology from Syracuse. Upon retirement, he was a consulting forester. Walter was an avid outdoorsman, spending much of his free time hunting and fishing at his camp in Langtown, Maine. He spent sabbaticals



## IN MEMORIAM

at Huntington Forest in the Adirondacks researching the witch-hobble plant, a year in Newfoundland studying moose, and a summer in the Yukon Territory with the Arctic Institute. Walter was an active member of the Society of American Foresters. He was known for his dry sense of humor, generosity, mild-mannered and accommodating personality, and love of family, including dogs. He sincerely appreciated the loving care he received in his later years. He was preceded in death by his wife. He is survived by a daughter, a son, three granddaughters, and a brother.

**Otis F. Hall '48 M.F.** (1921–2015) passed away on January 23 in Blacksburg, Va. He grew up in Oberlin, Ohio, and studied botany and chemistry at Oberlin College, where he scored the winning two touchdowns in the final football game of his college career. Otis volunteered for the Army Air Corps, and was deployed to the Pacific Theater for the Admiralty Island and Philippine Campaigns, establishing long-distance radio stations at several airfields. He ended his military career with Occupation Duty in Japan and was discharged as a captain in September 1946. After the War, he earned a M.F. from F&ES in 1948 and a Ph.D. in 1954 from the Univ. of Minnesota. As a professor at Minnesota and later Purdue Univ., he was among the first to apply computer technology to forest inventory and management decisions. Otis was Head of the Department of Forestry at the Univ. of New Hampshire (1968-74) and at Virginia Tech (1974-1984), where he taught until his retirement in 1992. Otis was a member of the Society of American Foresters for 67 years, was elected a Fellow in 1979, and served on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Forestry* and as chairman of the Virginia Division. Among his greatest satisfactions was watching the career successes of his 28 graduate student advisees. Otis married Helen Pilcher in 1957, and they were happily married for 57 years. During retirement, he traveled around the world researching genealogy and observing local forests. Otis was preceded in death by his parents, his sister,

and his first wife, Carol. Otis is survived by his wife, his three children, five grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

**Richard Augustus "Dick" Hale '48 M.F.** (1921–2015) of Bethel, Maine, died peacefully on May 17 after a short period of declining health. He was born and raised in Lewiston, Maine. He entered the Univ. of Maine in Orono to study forestry, but was called to active duty in 1943, and in 1944 was sent to Germany to join the Army of Occupation. Upon honorable discharge, he completed his degree at the Univ. of Maine, and then continued his education at F&ES. He then returned to Lisbon Falls, Maine, to start his own logging and sawmill business. In 1956, he became an independent consultant on sawmill design and quality control. In 1966, he became an Assistant Professor in the Univ. of Maine School of Forest Resources. In 1967, he married Janine Dumont and a year later, they had a daughter. Over the next 24 years, Dick taught courses in wood processing, drying, and preservation. He wrote articles for over 30 publications and several forewords for prominent books about Maine logging. He held positions in numerous committees and organizations, including Advisor of Univ. of Maine Woodsmen's Team, Director of New England Kiln Drying Association (President in 1979), and Senior Reviewer, National Institute of Science and Technology. After retiring in 1990, Dick continued consulting and served on the board of the Maine Forest and Logging Museum, and in 2008 he was honored by the Univ. of Maine Alumni Association. He moved to Bethel in 2008 and served on the board of the Bethel Historical Society. Dick is survived by his wife of 48 years, Jan, a daughter, two grandchildren, two brothers, and many nephews and nieces.

**David C. Holmes '49 M.F.** (1925–2014) passed away in Burnaby, British Columbia, on March 6. He graduated from the Univ. of British Columbia at the top of his class in forest engineering in 1948, winning

scholarships that enabled him to attend F&ES. He returned to B.C. and worked for the H.R. MacMillan Export Co., later MacMillan Bloedel, until the early 1960s. He became a forestry instructor at the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) in 1964, rising to chief instructor, and published several editions of a text on roads and transportation. He retired from BCIT in 1989 and enjoyed time with family and friends. He married the love of his life, Iris Murray, in 1952. He was preceded in death by his wife, and is survived by a sister, three children, eight grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

**Edward G. King Jr. '59 D.For.** (1931–2015) passed away peacefully on March 24 with his family by his side. He grew up in Kinnelon, N.J. He earned a B.S. and M.S. from Purdue Univ. and his Ph.D. from F&ES. He married Phyllis Hall in 1958, his wife and best friend for over 56 years. Ed worked for the American Plywood Association in Tacoma, Wash., for 11 years. In 1970, he began working for the National Forest Products Association in Washington, D.C. In 1988 he started a consulting business where he worked until his retirement in 2013. His professional recognitions included the American Society for Testing and Materials Award of Merit and honorary title of Fellow for outstanding leadership in the wood products industry. Ed and Phyllis spent summers hosting family and friends at their lake cottage in Ontario, Canada. Ed was a role model and mentor for many. He served as the longtime Scoutmaster of McLean Boy Scout Troop 1130 and volunteered at Stanton School in Washington, D.C. He was preceded in death by his parents, his sister, and his son-in-law. He is survived by his wife, his three children, his four grandchildren, and two brothers.

**Clark W. Lantz '60 M.F.** (1933–2014) died at dawn on October 13 in Granbury, Tex. Clark was born in Leonia, N.J. He focused on obtaining an excellent education at Williams College, Gettysburg College, and Yale. He served two years

as a lieutenant in the U.S. Army, and later received a Ph.D. in forest genetics. In 1966 he married Barbara Lee Goodwin and they moved to Raleigh, N.C. and had a daughter. Clark taught forestry. In 1975, Clark took a position with the U.S. Forest Service where he was a specialist for 13 states and Puerto Rico. After retirement in 1998, he moved to Pecan Plantation, Tex. Clark was a true Renaissance man: impeccable manners and dress, integrity, and relentless pursuance of knowledge inlaid with compassion. He enjoyed rambling rides through the country, jazz, fishing, and hunting. He loved his family and friends who cherished his droll, dry, wickedly funny wit, and quickness to laugh. He always had a book in hand or within arm's reach, even through illness.

**Raymond E. Leonard '64 M.F.** (1928–2015) died February 2 at his home in Fort Myers, Fla. Ray graduated from Paul Smith's College and the Univ. of Vermont. He earned a master's degree at Helsinki Univ. on a Fulbright scholarship and graduate degrees from Yale and Syracuse. Ray loved the outdoors, and worked a forester for Vermont Forest and Parks, and as a research ecologist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Northeastern Forest Experiment Station. He formed a consulting firm, serving as interim director of the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests and interim president of Sterling College in Vermont. His retirement years were filled with travel and adventure. An avid seaman despite his never learning to swim, Ray lived on board his sailboat, *S.V. Satori*, from 1985 until 2000. Ray and the *Satori* both survived the notorious "Perfect Storm" of October 1991. Ray was predeceased by a son, and is survived by his former wife, Nancy, his son, and grandson.

**George S. Nagle '64 M.F., '70 Ph.D.** (1936–2014) passed away at home on May 17. He spent his childhood in Manitoba, and earned his B.S.F. from the Univ. of British Columbia in 1958. George wed his wife Mary in 1959, and their

young family lived in Bangladesh from 1961 to 1963. They lived in Connecticut while George attended F&ES, then in Rome from 1971 to 1974. George's work took him to over 40 countries, which he enjoyed immensely. He was a consultant in tropical forestry, working for World Bank USA, U.N. FAO in Rome, and CIDA in Ottawa. Upon his retirement in 2002, George and Mary spent winters in California and summers in Summerland, B.C. George led a very full life, was a proud Rotarian, and achieved many goals (including in hockey). His family and friends from around the world miss his subtle sense of humor. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, their two sons, and five grandchildren. He was predeceased by his only brother.

**David H. Scanlon III '60 M.F.** (1936–2014) passed away peacefully on October 24 in Knoxville, Tenn, surrounded by family. He received his B.S. in forestry from North Carolina State Univ. and his master's degree at F&ES. He was employed by Firestone Rubber Corp. in Liberia until 1965, then by Tennessee Valley Authority in Norris, Tenn., until retirement. David hiked all the trails in the Smokies and hiked to Mt. LeConte over 900 times. He was an officer in the Great Smoky Mountains Association and Discover Life In America. David was a master gardener and a volunteer at Beardsley Community Farm. He was a member of the Sons of the Revolution, East Tennessee Historical Society, and Great Smoky Mountains Hiking Club. David is survived by his loving partner, Jewel Tabor, two daughters, former wife Lucy, three grandsons, a sister, and nephews.

**Penelope C. Sharp '79 M.F.S.** (1938–2014) of Northford, Conn. and Fishers Island, N.Y., died peacefully at home on December 14. Raised in Greenwich, Conn., Penni graduated from Miss Porter's School and Sarah Lawrence College, and earned a mid-career master's degree at F&ES. An accomplished botanist and wetland biologist, she consulted

for municipal and private clients and held leadership positions in numerous environmental organizations to preserve Connecticut's endangered wetlands and native plants. She spent several weeks every summer at a family home on Fishers Island, where she led popular weekly nature hikes, helped create new paths, and preserved land from development. She was president of the island's Ferguson Museum and the land trust that oversees 15 percent of the island. "Penni was the most skilled botanist and most accomplished birder on the island," said museum director Pierce Rafferty. "She was that rare person who brought a quiet dignity to everything she did. She had a lady-like air, but it was a down-to-earth one with shoes in the soil." Donna Ellis of the Univ. of Connecticut Department of Plant Science wrote, "It was truly an honor and a privilege to have known Penni as both a colleague and a friend. She inspired so many of us with her passion for protecting the environment, and she will be dearly missed." She was a vice president of the Connecticut Botanical Society, co-chair of the Connecticut Task Force of the New England Plant Conservation Program, and sang with Cappella Cantorum. She was the principal author of *Trap Rock Ridges of Connecticut: Natural History and Land Use*. In 2009, she was given the Connecticut State Award by the New England Wildflower Society. Penni was an active volunteer on behalf of F&ES, and the School is grateful both for her decades of service as a Class Agent for the F&ES Annual Fund and her personal support. She is survived by her husband, Greg Sharp '69 M.F.S., her two children, four grandchildren, sister, two brothers, nieces, nephew, and her Labrador retriever.

**Theo A. "Ted" Thompson '50 B.S., '51 M.F.** (1928–2015) lived in Brookville, Penn., and passed away on May 10. Ted was born in Seattle and married Jean Rausch in 1952. Following his studies at F&ES, Ted worked in sales in the particle board and paper industry. He was a U.S. Army veteran and an active member of

## IN MEMORIAM

the community: Lions Club, Society of American Foresters, and Office of the Aging. He liked to travel and he was a dedicated husband and father. He is survived by his wife, four children, ten grandchildren, four great grandchildren, and two sisters.

with family, helping people, and eating calamari. He is survived by his wife, Susan, first wife Elizabeth, two sons and a stepson, a brother, niece and nephew, and beloved cousins, aunts, and uncles.

**Gordon G. Whitney '74 M.F.S., '78 Ph.D.** (1947–2014) of Meadville, Penn., died November 18. He graduated from Denison Univ., Ohio, in 1969 with a B.S. in biology. He was a Presidential Scholar and a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Sigma Xi. He taught at Grant Life Science Center near Kettering, Ohio, before earning a master's degree and Ph.D. from F&ES, followed by post-doctoral studies at the Harvard Forest in Petersham, Mass. Gordon taught botany and environmental science at the College of Wooster (Ohio) for 10 years, then at Yale for a year, and then for many years at Allegheny College. Gordon published articles in numerous scientific journals and a book, *From Coastal Wilderness to Fruited Plain: A History of Environmental Change in Temperate North America, 1500 to the Present*, which received a medal from the Forest History Association. He was working on a sequel until shortly before his death. He taught Sunday school, enjoyed taking his students on nature hikes, biking, playing chess, collecting coins, classical music, and gardening. He is survived by a sister.

**Nathan R. Williams '84 M.F.S.** (1955–2015) of Harwich, Mass., died January 30 after a year's illness. Nate was born in Aspen, Colo., and graduated from Bennington College in 1979 and F&ES in 1984. He worked for the Bennington (Vt.) County Regional Commission for over 20 years. In 2000, he became a physics teacher at the Long Trail School in Dorset, Vt. His dream job was at the May Center for Child Development, Chatham, Mass., where he taught until their closing in 2008. He later worked with his wife at Barnhill Pottery and was his mother's primary caregiver. His favorite things in life were sailing, spending time



## IN MEMORIAM

F. Thomas “Tom” Ledig  
(1938–2015)

*Former F&ES Professor and Renowned Forest Geneticist*

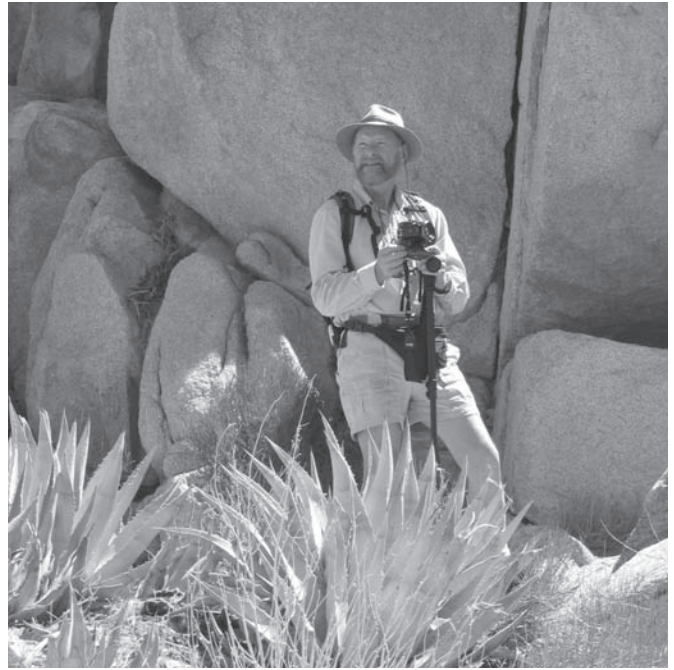
**Dr. F. Thomas Ledig**, a former professor at F&ES, died on May 20 in Vallejo, Calif., at the age of 76 from metastatic melanoma. He was a world-renowned research scientist in the fields of forest genetics and conservation biology, and he traveled the world consulting with government and scientific institutions.

Tom was born in Dover, N.J. He earned a B.S. from Rutgers Univ. and an M.S. and Ph.D. from North Carolina State Univ. He was a member of the faculty of F&ES from 1967–1981, working his way up to becoming a full professor and member of the F&ES Board of Permanent Officers.

In 1979, Tom joined the U.S. Forest Service's Pacific Southwest Research Station in California as Director of the Institute of Forest Genetics. Tom retired from the Forest Service in 2008 as senior scientist and continued as an adjunct professor at the Univ. of California, Davis. He remained an active researcher, and his most recent work involved genetic diversity in conifers, evaluating experiments he established in 1973–1974 on the effects of climate change on pitch pine, and working on a National Geographic Society grant to study Coulter pine in Baja California. He produced over 135 publications in genetics and physiology. To the end, he maintained his interests in hiking the mountains and the Southwest desert, photography, SCUBA diving, and collecting fine and folk art.

Major recognition of his life's work includes the Society of American Foresters Barrington Moore Memorial Award for outstanding achievement in biological research; Fellowship in the American Association for the Advancement of Science; a special award from the Universidad Autónoma Agraria Antonio Narro, Saltillo, Mexico; and two North American Forest Commission awards. His service as secretary of the U.N./FAO/North American Forest Commission's Forest Genetic Resources Working Group was one of the most rewarding experiences of his career.

Yet, his most treasured honor was a 1997 letter, signed by former colleagues at Yale that reads, in part, “We miss the joie de vivre that left when you left.”



“Tom was an important factor in the transition of the program from traditional forestry to a broader emphasis on ecosystems,” noted F&ES Professor Emeritus Bill Burch. “He played a significant part in our debates, where he was always sensitive to the need for keeping the old to bolster the new bold shift. It was not about dominance of a particular discipline, but rather about the need for continuity and a constructive base of traditional practices.”

F&ES Professor Graeme Berlyn remembered Tom as a “seminal faculty member here in forest genetics who rose through the ranks to full professor. Tom Ledig, Tom Siccama, and I shared an interest in pitch pine. Tom Ledig had long-term study sites in Connecticut and New Jersey.”

“It seems only yesterday (though it was this past February) he had called me for information about native pitch pine on Canaan Mountain to support his continuing research here,” remarked Star Childs ’76 B.S., ’80 M.F.S. “He had such a calm and soothing voice and wonderful sense of joyful curiosity in this world and everyone in it. I am glad he was my teacher and life-long friend, even though the meridians of longitude between us were many.”

Tom was beloved by his family and a host of friends from all over the world. He is survived by his wife, Linda Marie Lux; three children from a former marriage: Colleen Stanton Cassidy, Sean Cormac Ledig, and Brendan Owen Ledig; his grandson, Nicholas Vitaly Ledig; brother Alan Lloyd Ledig; and father-in-law Raymond Clyde Lux.

## FROM THE OFFICE OF: ADMISSIONS

Help cultivate the next group of F&ES Alumni! Many of our applicants learn about F&ES through a colleague or mentor. Our office is always happy to follow up with leads or other guidance as you speak and interact with future leaders in this field.

Please let us know if you are interested in getting involved in one of our recruitment events across the country — either participating, hosting, or serving as an alumni speaker. **View the calendar of events:** [apply.environment.yale.edu/register/?c=&country=](http://apply.environment.yale.edu/register/?c=&country=)

For more information about how to contribute as an alum to F&ES recruitment efforts, please see the article on page 16. If you would like to get involved, contact Danielle Dailey, Director of Enrollment Management, at [danielle.dailey@yale.edu](mailto:danielle.dailey@yale.edu). Thanks for your continued support!

[environment.yale.edu/admissions](http://environment.yale.edu/admissions)

## FROM THE OFFICE OF: CAREER DEVELOPMENT

### ***Making a Career Move?***

F&ES Next is an online tool that allows alumni to create a unique career profile, manage documents, and view and apply to jobs. CDO posts hundreds of jobs and internships each month geared specifically to F&ES alumni and current students. If you are on the job market, this is a great opportunity to track new postings and get your resume in front of employers.

**Set up a profile:** [environment.yale.edu/alumni/careers](http://environment.yale.edu/alumni/careers)

### ***Looking for F&ES Talent for Your Organization?***

Post jobs and internships to students and fellow alumni! Alumni are strongly encouraged to post job and internship opportunities through F&ES Next.

**Set up an account for your organization:**  
[environment.yale.edu/employers](http://environment.yale.edu/employers)

F&ES Resume Book: Share a pdf of current F&ES student resumes with colleagues and hiring managers. Contact Assistant Director Alyssa Student at [alyssa.student@yale.edu](mailto:alyssa.student@yale.edu).

[environment.yale.edu/careers](http://environment.yale.edu/careers)



F&ES students and alumni connected at the Networking Reception (TGIF!) at the Koshland Science Museum following the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Duke-Yale Recruiting Fair in Washington, D.C., in February. Jim Lyons '79 M.F., an Alumni Association Board Member, was Master of Ceremonies and Dean Peter Crane was a special guest at this event hosted by the F&ES Career Development Office and the F&ES Office of Development and Alumni Services.

## FROM THE OFFICE OF: DEVELOPMENT AND ALUMNI SERVICES

The Development and Alumni Services team connects our alumni to each other and F&ES through annual Reunion Weekends, regional events and receptions, student mentoring, alumni campus visits, an alumni speaker series, publications, networking opportunities, and student scholarships. Our office, located on the second floor of Sage Hall in Room 20, is here as a resource and a base for our alumni and friends of the School who come to campus for a visit. We hope that the next time you are here at F&ES, you will stop in to provide us with an update and share any ideas for strengthening alumni programs. If you are planning a visit to F&ES and are willing to speak with current students interested in the work you do, please contact us at [alumni.fes@yale.edu](mailto:alumni.fes@yale.edu) in advance so we can connect you when you are here.

[environment.yale.edu/alumni](http://environment.yale.edu/alumni)



Just before graduation, the Class of 2015 spent a few days at MODS 2.0 at Yale-Myers Forest. MODS 2.0 gives soon-to-be alumni a chance to spend time together engaging in fun activities, including 'reading the forested landscape' with ecologist Tom Wessels (above) and enjoying music around a bonfire (below). MODS 2.0 is organized each year by students with assistance from the Office of Development and Alumni Services. Photos from graduation will be included in the next edition of CANOPY. Congratulations to the Class of 2015!



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### Stay Connected to F&ES!

Every time you get a new email address, relocate, or change positions, please send us an update at [alumni.fes@yale.edu](mailto:alumni.fes@yale.edu). If you keep us updated, we'll keep you updated!

### Website Resources for Alumni

Visit the alumni section of the F&ES website for resources specifically focused on alums. You can view your F&ES class photo, find information about the ELM mentoring program, see a schedule of upcoming TGIFs and events, read alumni profiles, and more. We will be expanding this section of the website to include additional tools and resources to connect our alums to each other and F&ES.

[environment.yale.edu/alumni](http://environment.yale.edu/alumni)



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