

# CANOPY

WORLDWIDE IMPACT, LEADERSHIP, AND ENGAGEMENT



SPRING 2017

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Yale SCHOOL OF FORESTRY & ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

# IMPACT

The F&ES community is making a significant impact around the globe.

The newly redesigned *Canopy* strives to share some of the many examples of F&ES leadership in developing innovative and interdisciplinary approaches to a sustainable future.



This map depicts the geographic areas featured in the stories and photographs within this issue.

**NOTE** The locations of Class Notes are not marked with dots on the map. If you turn to pages 40-52, you can learn about many more of the initiatives being led by alumni around the world.

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**ON THE COVER:** Staff, participants, and partners of the F&ES-based Environmental Leadership & Training Initiative (ELTI) during a field visit in the Colombian Andes. ELTI makes the latest tools and research in forest restoration and sustainable management accessible to the people who manage tropical landscapes. To learn more, see page 5.

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

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).  
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## F&ES LAUNCHES NEW STRATEGIC PLAN

Last December, in recognition of the increasing and diverse array of environmental challenges – requiring ever greater levels of innovative scholarship and leadership – Dean Indy Burke initiated a comprehensive strategic planning process that engaged the entire F&ES community. The plan was completed in May 2017.

The overall goals of the strategic planning process were to refocus the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies on a shared vision and mission and to set priorities for the next five years.

Inspired by the belief that there were tremendous opportunities to further the reputation and impact of F&ES as the best interdisciplinary environment school in the world, the strategic planning process presented an opportunity to sharpen the School's focus, to be ambitious in articulating its aspirations, and to develop strategies to achieve them.

Faculty leaders were assigned to lead planning teams and gather input within six major areas: vision, niche, and identity; curriculum; diversity; reputation and external relations; internal community; and external advisory boards.

Over the course of six months, more than 1,000 faculty, staff, students, alumni, and Leadership Council members participated in the planning process through committees, forums, retreats, and surveys.

Two aspirational outcomes are articulated in the new strategic plan: that the School will have a broader and deeper impact on a sustainable future through scholarship, practice, training, and engagement; and that the School's community will grow even stronger.

To broaden and deepen the School's impact, six major goals have been established: diversifying the faculty, students, staff, and our partnerships more broadly; investing in new environmental scholarship, problem-solving, and leadership initiatives; defining and providing the skills and knowledge for the world's environmental leaders in the 21<sup>st</sup> century; raising the effectiveness and recognition of the School's unique leadership and contributions to global and local sustainability challenges; engaging and leveraging Yale's network, particularly alumni and partners; and ensuring that the School's available resources match current and future needs.

Dean Burke extends her thanks to alumni who participated in the strategic planning survey, to the alumni and friends who might choose to help the School implement and achieve its goals, and to all of you who will be part of our future success.

Copies of the plan are available here: [environment.yale.edu/strategic-plan](http://environment.yale.edu/strategic-plan)

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS FUND

Concurrent with the strategic planning process, Dean Burke created the new Environmental Progress Fund ("Fund"), a \$1 million spendable fund to provide support for new projects and programs that advance the School's long-term strategic interests, including environmental communication, diversity, and interdisciplinary and collaborative science and research.

The Fund will primarily be used to:

- Provide students with advanced training in effective communication, collaboration, and negotiation;
- Increase diversity through more strategic recruitment and deeper scholarship support, changes to the curriculum, engaging diverse voices on campus, and fostering a national network of diverse environmental leaders; and
- Provide seed support for faculty and student research on critical environmental issues ranging from environmental health, to natural resource economics, to climate change and energy.

Leadership Council member Mary Moran made the first gift to the Fund, leading the charge with a generous, multi-year commitment, and has since been joined by two other donors.

For more information, or to make a gift in support of the Fund, please contact Tim Northrop ([tim.northrop@yale.edu](mailto:tim.northrop@yale.edu)) or Kristin Floyd ([kristin.floyd@yale.edu](mailto:kristin.floyd@yale.edu)) in the Office of Development and Alumni Services.



Mary and Garrett Moran on Easter Island.

**"With the environment under increasing threat, I am committed to supporting institutions that train the leaders and produce the research we need to meet these challenges head on. I was thrilled to make the first gift to the Environmental Progress Fund at F&ES – despite the obstacles, our progress must continue!"**

Mary Moran | F&ES Leadership Council Member



## F&ES FACULTY RECOGNITION

**Ann Camp** '90 M.F.S., Senior Lecturer and Research Scientist and Assistant Director of the Yale School Forests, recently retired from F&ES after more than 15 years of service. An internationally renowned expert in fire ecology, Dr. Camp was a beloved mentor to cohorts of forestry students. She taught silviculture courses, ranging from forest health and stand dynamics, to fire science and invasive species ecology. Dr. Camp emphasized to her students the application of scientific research, and her own research on sustainable patterns of late-successional and old forest habitats in fire-regulated landscapes has informed forest management practices worldwide.

As F&ES lecturer Mike Ferrucci '81 M.F. said: "What I've learned from my friend and colleague can't all fit into this note. But I'll try to summarize: listen, observe, take pictures, think critically, and show your enthusiasm for learning and exploring, and your students and colleagues will prize their time with you." Indeed, Dr. Camp will be greatly missed at F&ES.

**William Lauenroth**, a Professor in the Practice at F&ES and pioneer in the field of drylands ecology, has been named a 2017 Fellow of the Ecological Society of America (ESA) for his contributions to research and discovery. Professor Lauenroth, who joined the F&ES faculty last year, has conducted research in the U.S., South America, and Asia. He has also explored the impacts that climate change will have on drylands in the western U.S. Before coming to F&ES he was a professor in the Department of Botany at the University of Wyoming. ESA Fellows are members who have made outstanding contributions to a wide range of fields served by the organization, including, but not restricted to, those that advance or apply ecological knowledge in academics, government, nonprofit organizations, and the broader society.

**Peter Raymond**, Professor of Ecosystem Ecology at F&ES, has been elected to the Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering. Professor Raymond, who came to F&ES in 2002 and was promoted to full professor in 2010, studies the biogeochemistry of natural systems, particularly the carbon and nitrogen cycles within aquatic systems. This year he was awarded a \$1 million Carbon Cycle Science grant from NASA to study the exchange of greenhouse gases between inland water bodies and the atmosphere, which has implications for global climate change. Professor Raymond was one of 24 leading experts in science, engineering, and technology elected to the academy this year. Other members of the academy include F&ES Professors Paul Anastas, Thomas Graedel, Robert Mendelsohn, and Julie Zimmerman.

**Karen Seto**, a Professor of Geography and Urbanization Science and Associate Dean for Research at F&ES, has been elected as a member of the National Academy of Sciences in recognition of her distinguished and continuing achievements in original research. A geographer by training, Professor Seto studies the human transformation of land and the links between urbanization, global change, and sustainability. Using remote sensing, field interviews, and modeling methods, she studies urbanization and land change, forecasts urban growth, and examines the environmental consequences of urban expansion. Professor Seto also recently received the inaugural Research Excellence Award in Human Dimensions of Global Change from the American Association of Geographers, and the Ecological Society of America's 2017 Sustainability Science Award for a paper she co-authored in the journal *Science*.

## PROGRAM EMPOWERING LEADERS IN TROPICS RECEIVES \$4.9 MILLION GRANT

The Environmental Leadership & Training Initiative (ELTI), an F&ES-based program that makes the latest tools and research in forest restoration and sustainable management accessible to the people who manage tropical landscapes, has received a \$4.9 million grant from Arcadia, a charitable fund of Peter Baldwin '78 B.A. and Lisbet Rausing, to continue its work. The new grant, which has a required matching component in its final three years, represents Arcadia's third gift in support of ELTI, with support now reaching \$15.3 million since the program's inception in 2006.

"ELTI has become a leader in on-site training and in the creation of a field-based and online educational curriculum," said F&ES Professor Mark Ashton '85 M.F., '90 Ph.D., ELTI's Principal Investigator from 2006 to 2017. "It provides learning-by-doing opportunities for professionals, landholders, and others to engage in tropical forest restoration, conservation, and community development."

Through field-based training, leadership support, innovative online instruction, and open access information, ELTI has reached more than 5,000 individuals since 2006 across tropical Latin America and Southeast Asia.

Learn more about ELTI: [environment.yale.edu/news/article/yale-program-that-empowers-leaders-in-tropics-receives-grant-from-arcadia/](http://environment.yale.edu/news/article/yale-program-that-empowers-leaders-in-tropics-receives-grant-from-arcadia/)

**"The results have been inspiring and demonstrate the value of empowering cross-cultural exchanges of knowledge and experience."**

Eva Garen | '97 M.E.S., '05 Ph.D.  
ELTI Program Director and  
Principal Investigator



ELTI staff members (David Neidel '06 Ph.D. (third from right), Hazel Consunji (left), Jacob Slusser (back, sixth from left), Saskia Santamaria (front, fourth from right)) and Leadership Program participants with members of a People's Organization working to restore a local watershed with native tree species in the Philippines.

## MARK BRADFORD, SOIL AND ECOSYSTEM SCIENCE EXPERT, PROMOTED TO FULL PROFESSOR

Mark Bradford, an expert in soil and ecosystem science at F&ES, was promoted to full professor with tenure in January 2017.

Professor Bradford continues the School's strong tradition of expertise in terrestrial ecosystem science. He studies how land management and climate change are affecting plants, animals, and microorganisms in agricultural, grassland, and forest systems – and how, in turn, these effects influence the climate system and ecosystem health.

He has built an international reputation, publishing more than 130 papers, including in the world's top scientific journals, while also mentoring numerous doctoral students, master's degree students, and postdoctoral fellows.

Through field and laboratory analyses, Professor Bradford and his team have advanced the scientific understanding of the response of soil carbon stores to climate change. "Changes in the amount of carbon stored belowground will serve to slow or accelerate climate change, and at the local level the amount of soil carbon is expected to be the determinant of soil health and hence food security," said Professor Bradford. "We want to build the knowledge that will enable us to manage soils effectively to address these global and local issues of environment and food production."



*Professor Mark Bradford (kneeling), his lab group, and collaborators after sampling 1,300 trees as part of a project assessing the efficacy of urban afforestation practices intended to build New York City's urban canopy and natural areas.*



Last August, Professor Bradford was the faculty lead training the incoming Class of 2018 at Yale-Myers Forest during MODS, the traditional orientation for new F&ES students. He considered the experience valuable because it afforded him the opportunity to engage with all the new students, regardless of their field of study, and it connected him with the founding ethos of the School.

"In a very real way, the summer MODS program reflects the original intent of the School," he said. "That's still there, and it's about building our community and translating the concept of what an ecosystem is into measurement and management of the environment – both to understand it and to develop natural resource solutions."

*Revealing the living side of dead wood – a red-backed salamander living amongst the fungi, ants, and other organisms typically found under a log and on which much of forest biodiversity depends.*

Learn more about Professor Bradford's research: [bradfordlab.com](http://bradfordlab.com)

Read an article and watch a video from MODS: [environment.yale.edu/news/article/mark-bradford-expert-in-soil-and-ecosystems-promoted-to-full-tenure/](http://environment.yale.edu/news/article/mark-bradford-expert-in-soil-and-ecosystems-promoted-to-full-tenure/)



## INDIGENOUS PEOPLE ESSENTIAL PARTNERS IN CONSERVATION, SAYS MCCLUSKEY FELLOW

You probably wouldn't expect for the name Gucci to come up in a conversation about landscape conservation in South America. But during a recent interview, Lilian Painter, Bolivia Program Director at the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and the Dorothy S. McCluskey Visiting Fellow in Conservation at F&ES, mentioned the luxury fashion designer while describing efforts to improve livelihoods for the Tacana, an indigenous group living in northwestern Bolivia.

For nearly two decades, Painter and her husband, Robert Wallace, Director of the Greater Madidi-Tambopata Landscape Conservation Program at WCS and Bass Fellow at F&ES, have worked to strengthen the territorial rights of the Tacana and other indigenous communities in the landscape. Thanks to their efforts and Gucci's commitment to product sustainability and traceability, Tacana hunters now earn five times more for their caiman skins, which has reduced poaching and illegal trade.

The Madidi-Tambopata landscape encompasses both Amazonian rainforest and Andean mountains. It's a wild place, filled with some 12,000 species of plants, 1,100 species of birds, and 300 species of mammals. At the heart of the landscape is Madidi National Park. Established in 1995 by the Bolivian government with support from WCS, Painter and Wallace were hired to develop conservation programs in the new park.

The landscape is also home to 300,000 people and nine indigenous territories. For Painter and Wallace, conservation means attending not only to the recovery of endangered wildlife like white-lipped peccaries, tapirs, and jaguars, but also to the needs of people who live in this varied landscape. From the beginning, they have had an approach wherein each WCS technician works in tandem with an indigenous counterpart.



*Dorothy McCluskey's husband, Don, and daughter, Martha, at a talk by 2017 McCluskey Fellow, Lilian Painter (center), at F&ES in April.*



*A view from within Madidi National Park.*

"I think usually when these conflicts arise between [so-called] 'fortress conservation' and local people, they frequently are associated with land use planning that doesn't consider sustainable land use in areas that are appropriate for agricultural development, which leads to a cycle of degradation and greater poverty," Painter said. "Strict protection areas are necessary, but should not come at the cost of some of the most vulnerable groups like indigenous people."

This spring, Painter and Wallace co-taught a course at F&ES called "A Practitioner's Guide to Landscape Conservation," where they shared lessons learned in the field with a focus on interdisciplinary collaboration. Painter says they're also exploring the possibility of developing a student exchange program between F&ES and Bolivia.

**"It's a long-term commitment that the WCS has made to that place, and that we have made, and we wanted to share some of the lessons we've learned along the way."**

*Robert Wallace | Bass Fellow*

*The McCluskey Fellowship allows conservation practitioners to spend a semester at F&ES to pursue independent research, to enhance collaborations between F&ES and environmental organizations, and to expand professional training opportunities for students. Dorothy S. McCluskey '73 M.F.S., whose career spanned conservation and environmental planning in Connecticut and Block Island, R.I., and included four terms in the Connecticut legislature, endowed the fellowship in 1997. Painter is the 20<sup>th</sup> McCluskey Fellow.*

*The Edward P. Bass Distinguished Visiting Environmental Scholars Program, sponsored by the Yale Institute for Biospheric Studies, each year hosts premier environmental scholars who present seminars, interact with faculty, students, and research groups, and participate in the academic life of the University.*



## AN INTERVIEW WITH GORDON CLARK | '07 M.E.M., Alumni Association Board President



**When did you first get involved with the F&ES Alumni Association Board (AAB) and why?**

I joined the Board in 2011. I had moved to San Francisco after graduating in 2007, and found that my fondness and affinity for F&ES had only grown in the four years since. Although I was enjoying life in California, I missed being around the School and its students, faculty, and staff, and I wanted to find a way to give back and stay connected.

**What makes you excited about volunteering your time and giving back to F&ES?**

Knowing that the mission of the School is so aligned with my core beliefs – cultivating current and future generations of leaders tackling pressing environmental challenges all over the world.

**What is one AAB initiative you've been involved in, and why do you feel it's important?**

I have been involved in supporting the development and launch of the Environmental Leadership Mentoring (ELM) program, which is now wrapping up its third year. I remember vividly being a student trying to

map out what my path would be after I graduated. The School has a tremendous network of alumni doing great work all over the world who feel a strong allegiance to F&ES. Creating a program to formalize those alumni-student connections was a great way to strengthen what the School offers by helping students navigate an increasingly complex environmental job landscape after graduating.

**What are some current initiatives of the AAB that you feel are important for continuing to strengthen the F&ES alumni community?**

There are a lot to choose from – here are three: One is to create more opportunities for alumni engagement and education. Another is to advance F&ES's efforts to further engage international alumni. A third is to support and facilitate the advancement of multi-ethnic diversity among students, faculty, and F&ES staff.

**Why are efforts to connect and engage the F&ES alumni community around the world so important?**

There are so many environmental leaders around the world who are graduates of F&ES. The more we can stay connected, work together, and learn from one another, the better chance we have at achieving our goals. Strengthening the ties among an alumni community like that of F&ES can help achieve a great deal of good in the world.

Gordon works for Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST), a nonprofit land conservation organization that focuses on protecting and caring for open space, farms, and parkland in and around Silicon Valley. His role as Senior Director of Development is to oversee POST's fundraising and to support efforts to engage new audiences in POST's work.



YESS 2017 Co-Chair Sara Smiley Smith '07 M.E.M./M.P.H., '16 Ph.D. described the planning effort as a jolt of positivity and forward motion in our complicated modern world. "Alumni from across the University are engaging in planning content and convening conversations that we think will inspire action on a variety of levels, deeply exploring the challenges of sustainability and pathways forward," said Sara. "We are excited to unite Yale's change makers in November!"

Learn more about YESS 2017: [yess.yale.edu](http://yess.yale.edu)

## SAVE THE DATE

### NOVEMBER 3-4, 2017

**2017 Yale Environmental Sustainability Summit (YESS)**  
*Change Makers: Catalyze, Cultivate, Connect*

**TO CATALYZE** sustainability efforts, change makers need to understand the benefits and challenges of existing models, as well as develop new ones, for bringing sustainability to scale.

**TO CULTIVATE** these sustainability efforts, change makers must be both leaders and collaborators.

**TO CONNECT**, change makers must be able to:

- Communicate clearly, empathize, tell compelling stories, and understand and integrate context.
- Inspire others with a clear vision that impacts critical challenges in a meaningful way.
- Translate big ideas into real world solutions.

## F&ES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD | *Connecting Alumni to Each Other and F&ES*

Each year the F&ES Alumni Association Board (AAB) holds two on-campus meetings, in addition to monthly video conference meetings and committee sessions. The meetings provide an opportunity to connect in-person about priority AAB initiatives, share alumni perspectives on timely issues with the Dean and faculty, and identify new ways to engage and connect alumni to alumni, students, and the School.

On October 7, 2016, the AAB traveled to Yale-Myers Forest before Reunion Weekend for a mini-retreat focused on AAB priority initiatives. They then joined in the pre-Reunion Weekend alumni tour of Yale-Myers Forest (see p 24).

In February 2017, the AAB kicked off their on-campus session by co-hosting a TGIF with the Forestry Club. This AAB-Student Mixer was a great opportunity for students to get to know this dedicated and committed group of alumni.

On Saturday, February 25, the Alumni Association Board convened a full-day meeting in Marsh Hall, beginning with interactive sessions focused on the F&ES Strategic Plan with Dean Indy Burke and faculty leaders.

Dean Burke first provided a strategic planning process overview and status update. The sessions then focused on three of the plan's themes: Reputation and External Relations, facilitated by Professor Julie Zimmerman; Diversity, facilitated by Professor Mark Bradford; and Vision, Niche, and Identity, facilitated by Professor Dan Esty '86 J.D.

Alumni on the AAB had the opportunity to contribute their insights to the strategic planning process in their roles representing the broader alumni community. The collective input from hundreds of F&ES alumni through the strategic planning survey that was distributed to the entire alumni community was also recognized and referenced during the sessions.

The afternoon portion of the AAB meeting included discussions on alumni education/engagement, professional skills development, and field-based learning initiatives. The AAB had the opportunity to interact with special guests Professor Brad Gentry, Minna Brown '15 M.E.M., Case Studies Integration Manager, and Marlyse Duguid '10 M.F., '16 Ph.D. (see page 16) during these sessions. The day wrapped up with working sessions focused on the International Alumni Liaisons program being developed by the AAB, and planning for the second Yale Environmental Sustainability Summit.



**1** (Left to right): Harikrishnan Venugopalan Nair Radhamoni, Ph.D. candidate, Adrien Salazar '17 M.E.M., Niko Alexandre '18 M.E.Sc./M.B.A., AAB Member Emily Enderle '07 M.E.M., and Latha Swamy '16 M.E.M.



**2** (Left to right): Ross Donihue '18 M.E.M. and AAB Member Whitney Tilt '85 M.E.S.

It is with a heavy heart that we let the F&ES community know that Carlos Pineda '00 M.E.M./M.B.A. passed away on March 24, 2017. Carlos was an inspiration to all who knew him. In addition to all his many impressive personal and professional achievements (see page 57), he was a dedicated and enthusiastic member of the F&ES Alumni Association Board, and through this role he engaged in a wide range of initiatives for the benefit of the entire F&ES community. And it was his vision that inspired the 2015 Yale Environmental Sustainability Summit (YESS), a first-of-its-kind event organized entirely by alumni that engaged hundreds of Yale leaders in sustainability (faculty, alumni, and students) to enhance their collaboration and impact. Carlos will be greatly missed.

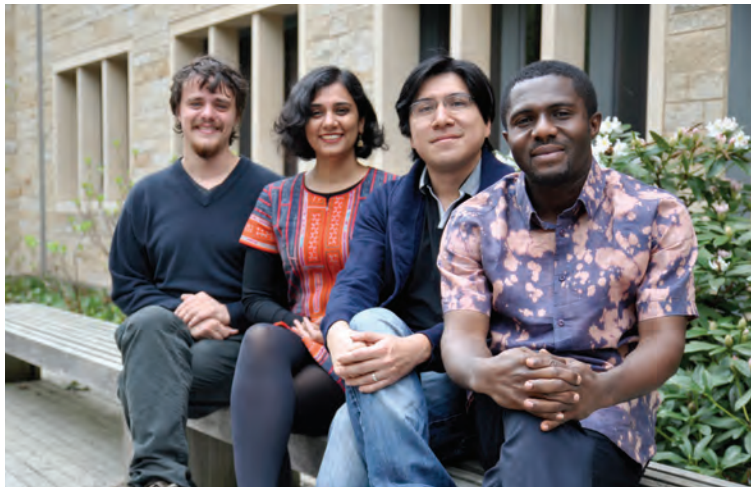
**"One of the many things Carlos and I had in common was the importance we place on community ... that it is the single most important thing you build in life. Yesterday I was honored to sit among Carlos' community and listen to story after vivid story ...**

**"I had the pleasure to be one of the co-chairs with Carlos of the inaugural Yale Environmental Sustainability Summit (YESS) in 2015, attracting nearly 500 alumni to campus to discuss scaling solutions to food, energy, and water sustainability. I was just along on the ride as he constantly questioned 'what if' ... what if this wasn't just another boring conference with panels, what if we didn't worry about inviting too many rock stars to be in the same place, what if we nodded our heads at naysayers but then just defied them ... making YESS the new approach to connecting people creating similar impacts in the world. Carlos thought big. Nothing was too big. He knew no boundaries or roadblocks ... because if you pull together the right communities, anything is possible ...**

**"I am incredibly sad to lose this inspiring man from my life but I also realize there are little miracles like Carlos that pop into our lives and ask us, 'What would you attempt if you could not fail?' These individuals we've lost remind us that life can change in a second and that we should live every day focused on creating the impact we want to create right now. There isn't time to wait."**

Jaime Carlson | '09 M.E.M./M.B.A. | F&ES Alumni Association Board Member

## STUDENTS SELECTED AS 2017 ANDREW SABIN INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL FELLOWS



F&ES has selected four graduate students as 2017 Andrew Sabin International Environmental Fellows (left to right): Camilo Huneeus-Guzman '18 M.E.M. (Chile); Elham Shabahat '18 M.E.M. (India); Diego Manya Gutierrez '18 M.E.M. (Peru); and Kelechi Eleanya '18 M.E.M. (Nigeria).

Started in 2011 by the Andrew Sabin Family Foundation, the fellowship provides scholarship support for students from developing countries, and postgraduate awards to those students returning to their home countries and regions to pursue environmental careers. Each Andrew Sabin International Environmental 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. Since its inception, 50 F&ES students have received this fellowship.

"The Sabin Fellowship provides such a valuable opportunity for our international students, offering not just financial support but encouraging them to tackle critical environmental challenges in their home countries," said F&ES Dean Indy Burke. "We are so grateful to the Andrew Sabin Family Foundation for its support of these future global environmental leaders."

Learn more: [environment.yale.edu/news/article/four-students-selected-as-2017-sabin-fellows/](http://environment.yale.edu/news/article/four-students-selected-as-2017-sabin-fellows/)

## SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED FOR LEADERSHIP IN CONSERVATION SCIENCE

### WYSS SCHOLARS COMMITTED TO CONSERVATION IN THE WEST

Katherine Panek '18 M.E.M. (left) and Austin Rempel '18 M.E.M. have been selected as the 2017 Wyss Scholars. The students were chosen for their extraordinary leadership potential and strong interest in and devotion to land conservation in the western U.S. Since 2006, the Wyss Foundation has provided tuition, internship, and post-graduate support to 28 F&ES master's degree students who work on a variety of western issues, including land conservation and stewardship, environmental policy, field ecology, fire science and management, and forestry.



Katherine, a Colorado native, spent five years in southern Chile as a cartographer, conservation planner, and marketing consultant before coming to F&ES. She has also conducted research on watershed issues in the Chesapeake Bay and Mississippi River watersheds, examined wastewater management in Costa Rica, and researched the impacts of land use on soil quality in Oregon. Austin has performed restoration work for the cities of Boulder, Colo., and Gresham, Ore., and served as an economist for ECONorthwest. In that role, he worked on Pew's Western Values Project and estimated the potential economics of removing California's Hetch Hetchy Dam.

Last fall, Samantha Garvin '17 M.E.Sc. (left) and Pooja Choksi '17 M.E.M. were awarded the 2016 MK McCarthy-RW Worth Scholarship for Leadership in Conservation Science. The scholarship, established in 2015, provides \$2,500 to master's degree students who have completed a minimum of two semesters and have demonstrated leadership in the field of conservation biology and wildlife conservation.



Before coming to F&ES, Pooja worked as a program manager at the Pench Tiger Reserve in central India where she oversaw environmental education and the reserve's sensitization program. She also developed and taught a three-year curriculum in the local schools. "The vision I have for wildlife conservation is one that is tied closely to sustainable development," she said. "Adopting a landscape level approach to conservation would serve not only the ecosystem but also the people that live in these ecosystems."

Samantha has worked on salmon conservation in Puget Sound and wildlife rehabilitation on Vancouver Island. In addition, she spent a semester during college studying wildlife management in Kenya and Tanzania, which gave her an opportunity to view wildlife ecology and management in the context of development. "The focus of my research looks at how various participants orient to the problems of human-elephant interactions in northern Botswana where elephants and humans interact regularly, sometimes with deadly outcomes," she said.



## GRUBER FELLOWS TACKLE ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES, HUMAN RIGHTS

Gruber Fellowships in Global Justice and Women's Rights, administered by the Yale Law School, provide a limited number of recent graduate and professional school alumni with the opportunity to spend a year working on an independent project. For the past four years, at least one fellow has been an F&ES alum. "I think that by being very clear and enthusiastic about how these endeavors advance common goals beyond narrow 'environmental' interests has really helped F&ES students set themselves apart," said Josh Galperin '09 M.E.M., who directs Yale's Environmental Protection Clinic and serves as a liaison for the Gruber Program.

In the upcoming year, 2017-2018 Gruber Fellow Edwin Garcia '17 M.E.M., a native of Ecuador, will collaborate with Fundación Cordillera Tropical and the Ministry of Environment in Ecuador to develop a management plan for a 'green' highway for the Huangras, an indigenous community living in Ecuador's Sangay National Park. Below are updates on F&ES alumni who received 2016-2017 Gruber Fellowships.

### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

The Kahuzi-Itombwe Corridor in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo is home to six indigenous communities, who, until recently, had no legal rights to own or manage their forests. But under the 2014 Community Forest Law, indigenous groups can now apply for land tenure, which ensures them access to their traditional lands. Sarah Tolbert '16 M.E.M./M.B.A. is developing a pilot project with Strong Roots, a Congolese organization founded in 2009 by F&ES alum Dominique Bikaba '16 M.E.M., to assist indigenous groups with land tenure issues. Her work involves collecting social and biological data on the forests, developing community conservation committees, assisting with conservation planning, and forging new partnerships as a liaison between indigenous communities and the government.

Recently, Grauer gorillas, a highly endangered subspecies of eastern gorilla – the world's largest ape – were discovered in the community forest, which lies between two nature reserves. "There's a lot of concern amongst the community and traditional chiefs that the government is going to come in and expand one of the neighboring protected areas into the community forest," Sarah said. "Our goal is to not displace people but to create the plans so that people can continue to use the forest in a sustainable way, while protecting Grauer gorillas."



**"We have a great relationship with the local people, who were the ones who approached Strong Roots for help. Communities are driving the process."**

Sarah Tolbert  
'16 M.E.M./M.B.A.

*Sarah Tolbert '16 M.E.M./M.B.A. interviews a young miner about his views on the Burhyini Community Forest in the eastern DRC.*

### PANAMA

Panama's Azuero Peninsula is one of Central America's most drought-prone and climatically vulnerable regions. Despite pledges by the international community to provide climate adaptation funding to small-scale farmers such as those living in Azuero, Ruth Metzel '16 M.F./M.B.A. says those funds rarely reach the most vulnerable people. "Looking at it from the grassroots level, there are a lot of stakeholders who are being left out," she said. "My research suggests that we have to work with coalitions in order to mobilize funding for these areas."

Prior to attending F&ES, Ruth co-founded and directed the Azuero Earth Project, an environmental nonprofit devoted to sustainable land use, reforestation, organic agriculture, and conservation. Today she's back in Panama working with the Azuero Earth Project, researching new climate finance mechanisms for small-scale farmers and other stakeholders. In addition to her research, she has helped raise over \$30,000 for reforestation projects on the Azuero peninsula.

"I did a lot of work with The Forest Dialogue while I was [at F&ES]," she said, "and I'm exploring that concept of me not necessarily writing a strategy for the region, but bringing stakeholders together and information sharing to see how we together can develop a strategy for the region."

### PAKISTAN

In Lahore, Pakistan, informal waste pickers sift through trash, looking for discarded items to sell. These people have no legal protection, suffer many health hazards, and typically earn only \$3 a day. But Hassaan Sipra '16 M.E.M. says they're actually performing a critical economic and environmental service – recycling – and helping to reduce the amount of waste that ends up in Lahore's landfill.

Hassaan is working with the Lahore Waste Management Company [LWMC] to formalize Lahore's waste pickers sector and streamline the waste management processes of the city. His project centers on a cooperative model that will raise the living standards of the waste pickers and increase LWMC's operational efficiency.

"Although my master's degree focused on environmental management, this fellowship has opened my career potential to more holistic development issues, including poverty alleviation, systems thinking, and health impacts," he said.

## F&ES LEADERSHIP COUNCIL 2017

At their 18<sup>th</sup> annual meeting on April 27-28, more than forty members of the F&ES Leadership Council gathered to welcome Dean Indy Burke and to help chart a new strategic course for the School.

On Thursday afternoon, Leadership Council Chair Thomas (Tom) McHenry '77 B.A., '80 M.F.S. took the stage in Kroon Hall's Burke Auditorium to introduce Dean Burke to a gathering of members, guests, faculty, and staff. Her keynote address, "The Role of Higher Education in the Interface between Environmental Scholarship and Society," focused on the unique role that universities play in solving complex environmental problems.

She outlined the characteristics of environmental problems, which can be complex, contentious, and have unintended consequences, and spoke to the leadership role the School can play in solving them, invoking our history of scholarship, our ability to bring science to society, and the excellence of our alumni and students. She concluded that F&ES can continue to lead by maximizing our outreach and impact, advocating for science, and increasing our engagement with diverse constituencies.

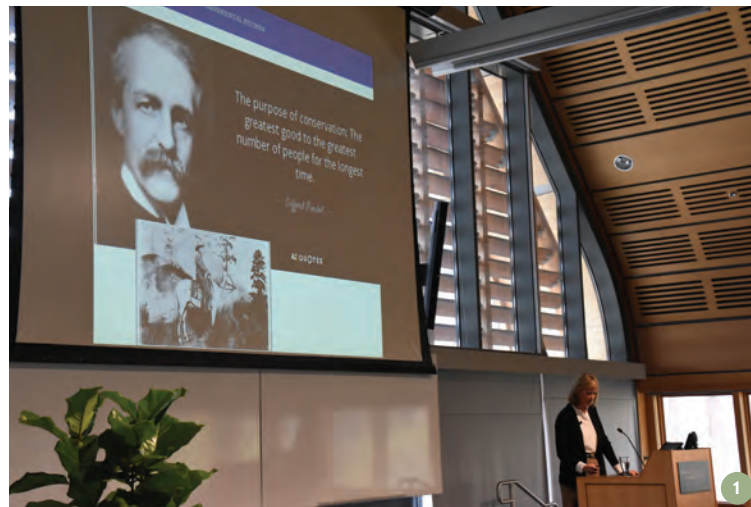
Friday morning began with Dean Burke's "State of the School" talk which provided a summary review of the School's current leadership team; faculty profiles, distribution, and scholarship productivity; and an overview of the curriculum and enrollment. Additionally, she provided an analysis of the School's diversity data and challenges, marketing and branding needs, and physical space needs. She concluded with a School budget summary and highlighted the need for additional resources in support of students and key initiatives emerging out of the strategic plan.

Tom McHenry next provided a short Leadership Council report that included introductions of two new members, Don Chen '98 B.A., '99 M.E.M. and Evan Griswold '74 M.F.S., and sadly noted the passing of Carl W. Knobloch, Jr. '51 B.A. (See page 55.)

The rest of the morning was devoted to discussing the development of the School's new strategic plan (see *related article on page 4*). Following an overview and timeline of the planning process by Dean Burke, faculty leaders Mark Bradford, Dan Esty, Matt Kotchen, Oswald Schmitz, Karen Seto, and Julie Zimmerman led individual breakout sessions with Leadership Council members to ask for their feedback on key elements of the draft plan. These highly interactive sessions resulted in both fine-tuning and new suggestions that would prove to be useful in finalizing the plan.

Finally, over lunch, Senior Research Scientist Dr. Anthony Leiserowitz, Director of the Yale Program on Climate Change Communication (see *related article on page 14*), gave a presentation on "Climate Change and the American Mind," a timely and provocative report on recent trends in Americans' climate change knowledge, attitudes, policy support, and behavior, and strategies to build public and political will for climate action.

**The Leadership Council is an 80-member Dean's advisory council that meets annually in April to learn about the School's newest research, programming, and initiatives, and to help raise financial resources to support them.**



- 1 Dean Indy Burke delivers the meeting's keynote address in Burke Auditorium.
- 2 Marne Obernauer '65 B.A. asks Dean Burke a question following her presentation.
- 3 Left to right: Dean Burke, Leadership Council Co-Chair Thomas McHenry '77 B.A., '80 M.F.S., and Coley Burke '63 B.A. share a laugh.





**4** Ted Armbrecht '54 B.A. greets Professor Mark Ashton '85 M.F., '90 Ph.D. during the cocktail reception.

**5** Roger Mellem '80 M.S.L. chatting with Senior Research Scientist Tony Leiserowitz, who delivered Friday's lunchtime talk, "Climate Change and the American Mind," and Professor Paul Anastas.

**6** Dean Burke, Ed Bass '67 B.S., and Leah Hair '74 M.F.S. catching up at the Leadership Council dinner.

**7** Pam Kohlberg '75 B.A., '77 M.F.S. speaking with Marlyse Duguid '10 M.F., '16 Ph.D., the inaugural Thomas G. Siccama Lecturer.

**8** The Knobloch Environment Center was once again the site for a lovely dinner on Thursday.

**9** Wade Staniar '64 M.F. and Sherry Huber during the strategic planning session focused on "Vision, Mission, and Niche."

**10** Associate Dean Karen Seto answers a question about the doctoral program during the "Curriculum" strategic planning session.



## YPCCC ADVANCES CLIMATE CHANGE COMMUNICATION

For nearly a decade, the F&ES-based Yale Program on Climate Change Communication (YPCCC) has built a reputation as one of the world's leading authorities on the psychological, cultural, and political factors that shape public opinion and behaviors about climate change. But YPCCC is more than just a research organization; they are changing the conversation about climate by engaging diverse constituencies, from policymakers and business leaders, to the media and faith communities.

"In past decades, climate change was all about science, polar bears, and developing countries. But that's not what most Americans are concerned about," said Anthony Leiserowitz, a Senior Research Scientist at F&ES and Director of YPCCC. "It's important to connect climate change to peoples' values – to health, the economy, national security, and their faith."

YPCCC conducts scientific research, including nationwide surveys and experiments that assess the public's climate change knowledge, attitudes, and behavior, and publishes reports and scientific articles.

They have also created interactive, online Climate Opinion Maps (see below) that allow users to search survey responses at many scales and in all 50 states, 435 Congressional districts, 3000 counties, and 916 metro areas. "Lots of decisions about climate change, including adaptation and preparedness, get made at the state and local levels," said Dr. Leiserowitz. "The maps show what people actually think."

Their research has been cited by former Secretary of State John Kerry and Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-R.I.), who has twice given speeches on the Senate floor using YPCCC data. And public interest NGOs, such

as the Citizens Climate Lobby, have used YPCCC data to craft policy recommendations and for training ordinary citizens in how to talk to elected officials about climate change.

YPCCC is also engaged in what Dr. Leiserowitz calls evidence-based advocacy. "From the get-go, we realized that we didn't just want to be doing good science," said Associate Director Lisa Fernandez '95 M.E.M./M.P.P.M. "That is fundamental, but it's also important to get the word out."

Three years ago, YPCCC launched their online multimedia platform, Yale Climate Connections, a nonpartisan website featuring original climate reporting, commentary, and a 90-second podcast which airs daily on more than 300 stations nationwide. The podcast presents stories about how everyday people are experiencing and addressing climate change.

"Sometimes people feel doomish and gloomish about climate change," said Eric Fine '16 M.E.Sc., YPCCC Program Manager. "Yale Climate Connections specifically addresses some solutions out there that are being implemented right around them." For example, recent stories highlight Mothers Out Front, a nonprofit organization advocating for the transition to clean energy, and how waste-to-energy plants are helping to reduce methane emissions.

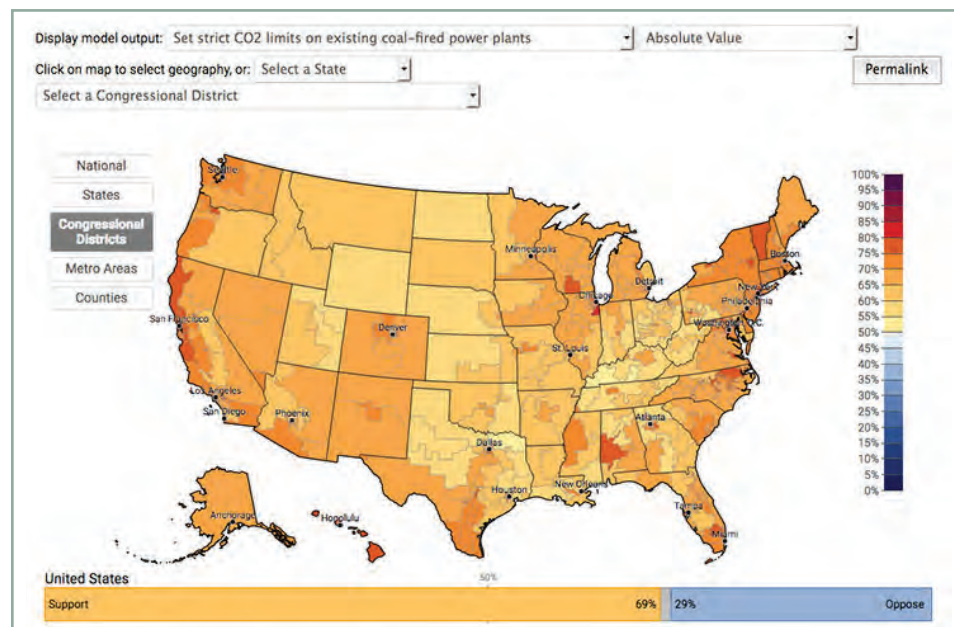
In addition, YPCCC, which earlier this year received a Friend of the Planet award from the National Center for Science Education, recently partnered with the Pulitzer Center for Crisis Reporting to offer climate journalism workshops at F&ES. These workshops provided students with training in reporting, podcasting, and storytelling.

This summer, they are piloting the YPCCC-Pulitzer Center Fellowship for International Reporting on Climate Change. Elham Shabahat '18 M.E.M., the inaugural fellow, will use the funds to report on how mountain gorillas in Rwanda are being affected by climate change. (See page 22 to learn more about the Rwanda Study Tour she will be participating in.)

Lisa encourages alumni to visit the YPCCC website and to get in touch to learn more about how they can use YPCCC data in both their professional and personal lives. "It's imperative to get science off the shelf and get it into the hands of people who can elevate the discourse and help seek solutions," she said.

Below is an example of the updated interactive Yale Climate Opinion Maps. Viewers can explore the data by clicking and zooming into any state, congressional district, metro area, or county.

View the maps: [climatecommunication.yale.edu/visualizations-data/ycom-us-2016](http://climatecommunication.yale.edu/visualizations-data/ycom-us-2016)



Listen to the Yale Climate Connections podcasts: [yaleclimateconnections.org](http://yaleclimateconnections.org)

Learn more about the work of YPCCC: [climatecommunication.yale.edu](http://climatecommunication.yale.edu)

## ALUMNI FACILITATE HANDS-ON LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

In September 2016, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Forester Monte Kawahara '13 M.F. visited campus to meet with Professor Mark Ashton '85 M.F., '90 Ph.D. and a group of F&ES students to discuss his forestry and conservation work with the BLM in the western slope of the Sierra Nevada mountains in California. During his visit, Monte proposed a research and demonstration collaboration for a select group of students to further hone their skills through a field-based project. The F&ES Western Forest Crew was the result.

The first F&ES Western Forest Crew, in cooperation with the BLM's Mother Lode Field Office in California, provided four F&ES students (*left to right*: Leonora Pepper '17 M.F., Leana Weissberg '17 M.E.Sc., Emily Dolhansky '18 M.F.S., and Benjamin Rifkin '18 M.F.S.) with government trainings, fieldwork experience, and professional development opportunities in the American West during winter break this year.

The crew focused on the impacts of, and responses to, the current bark beetle epidemic, borne of the compounding effects of extended drought, overstocked forests, and climate change in the foothills of the Sierra Nevadas. In order to assist the BLM in reducing falling hazards and fuel loading, the crew performed rapid site assessments of bark beetle damage within the Foresthill area.



**"This experience was truly a unique one, and one I feel very fortunate to have had. Spending weeks immersed in the many facets of a complex environmental issue, both in the field and in contact with local experts, was such an important complement to my coursework at F&ES. I hope that future students enjoy this opportunity for experiential and place-based learning."**

Leana Weissberg | '17 M.E.Sc.



This spring, a team of F&ES master's degree students traveled to Chile with Yale's Environmental Protection Clinic (EPC) to evaluate the impacts of Chile's farmed salmon industry on marine ecosystems and biodiversity, public health, food security, and indigenous peoples. The project was co-designed and the trip was organized by Jorge de Vicente '16 M.E.Sc., EPC Research Fellow.

The students, working in collaboration with Centro Ecoceanos, a leading Chilean marine conservation and environmental justice NGO, met with a variety of stakeholders during the 12-day trip, including senior government officials, NGOs, academics, civil society leaders, labor rights advocates, and indigenous communities. At the end of their tour, they convened a joint press conference. The students then worked on drafting a white paper with recommendations for submission to both Chilean and U.S.-based stakeholders.

*The Environmental Protection Clinic is a joint F&ES and Law School course, where students work in interdisciplinary teams on client projects focused on an array of environmental issues. In addition to the client work, the course provides consulting and environmental law training to students through a weekly seminar. Several of the projects have been in collaboration with F&ES alumni. If you are interested in submitting a project proposal for EPC consideration, contact Josh Galperin '09 M.E.M., EPC Director, at [joshua.galperin@yale.edu](mailto:joshua.galperin@yale.edu).*



## FIRST SICCAMA LECTURER AIMS TO GET STUDENTS INTO THE FIELD

Marlyse Duguid '10 M.F., '16 Ph.D. has been appointed the first Thomas G. Siccama Lecturer in Environmental Field Studies, a new position at F&ES that emphasizes the teaching of field studies and ecology. In addition to teaching field-based courses, she will develop and lead a summer field ecology program for undergraduate and master's degree students and oversee a research fellowship program intended to support student research at the Yale School Forests.

Marlyse, who completed her Ph.D. in forest ecology last year, is a former Research Coordinator for the Yale School Forests. "An important legacy of the School is that it always sent students outside to learn about the natural world," she said. "The School has grown so much and there are students in all these other fields now, but it's really important for students to have a strong basis in field ecology, especially if they're going to go out and do policy or conservation work after they graduate."

"All of us at the School are thrilled to have Marlyse on board both teaching and engaged with the Yale School Forests," said Mark Ashton '85 M.F., '90 Ph.D., the Morris K. Jesup Professor of Silviculture and Forest Ecology and Director of the Yale School Forests, who chaired the search committee. "We are so lucky to get her."

The endowed position is named in honor of Thomas Siccama, a revered Professor of Forest Ecology who spent more than 40 years at F&ES. Funded by more than \$1.5 million in private contributions from F&ES alumni and friends, the endowed position will ensure that future students benefit from hands-on instruction in environmental and field studies, natural history, soils, and local flora and fauna.



Marlyse Duguid '10 M.F., '16 Ph.D. leads a field tour at Yale-Myers Forest.

"At our first meeting, my advisor Professor Bill Burch said to me: 'You should take Tom Siccama's Patterns & Processes course.' And I did," said David Miller '59 B.A., '72 M.F.S. "In September 1970 on a class field trip, there was a Gypsy Moth infestation in the woods so noisy we could hear the chewing of the leaves as well as the sound of their 'frass' dropping down on us. The caterpillars were clustered like mats on the tree trunks." David had never seen a professor get as excited as Tom in the forest that day, and it made a lasting impression on him. He shared this memory when he learned the School would be establishing the endowed Thomas G. Siccama Fund.

## SAVE THE DATE FOR FALL 2017 EVENTS AT YALE-MYERS FOREST



We wanted to share a few spring photos of the construction that's underway at Yale-Myers Forest. Camp is being rebuilt after the fire that caused extensive damage last May and a new research building is being constructed to support expanded programs. Yale-Myers Forest is entering a new era of innovative teaching, research, and outreach – see the Fall 2016 edition of Canopy for details – or, better yet, join us at one or more of these opportunities to tour Yale-Myers Forest and learn about the many exciting initiatives underway!

### Friday, September 29

Yale-Myers Forest Harvest Festival  
and Camp Reopening

### Saturday, September 30

F&ES Alumni Volunteer Workday at  
Yale-Myers Forest

### Friday, October 6

Pre-Reunion Field Trip to  
Yale-Myers Forest

Detailed information will be sent out to alumni and friends of the School this summer.



## CLASS OF 2017 BREAKS CLASS GIFT RECORD

When the Class of 2019 arrives on campus this fall, they'll receive a generous gift from their predecessors. The Class of 2017 raised an astounding \$6,715 in financial aid for incoming students. Having surpassed \$6,000 for the first time in the history of the Class Gift, they were able to create six scholarships – the most awarded by an outgoing class. With over 87% of the class contributing, the 2017 Class Gift also has one of the highest participation rates!

## RECENT GRADUATES COMPETE IN MARSH MADNESS



The eight most recent F&ES classes participated in a new giving effort: the first-ever Marsh Madness F&ES Annual Fund Tournament. Over three rounds, the classes paired off in a friendly competition to make the most gifts to the Annual Fund, with the winners advancing each week. It was a close tournament, with the Class of 2010 claiming victory and the Classes of 2012 and 2013 tied for second place. Sageboy even got in on the action and helped rally the classes each week. Congratulations to the Class of 2010!



### ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

**Guy Steucek '65 M.F. on his time at F&ES and why he gives back:**

For me there is nothing so exciting as a fresh insight or idea. Being a forestry student embedded in a robust university enabled me to take courses such as biogeochemistry with G. Evelyn Hutchinson and geochemistry with Karl Turekian. This exposure broadened my perspectives and has served me well throughout life. I learned that efforts in forestry are often realized over considerable time.

As a student, I had meager resources: sparse funds, a slide rule, dictionary, radio, and a free bicycle from the New Haven Police Department. But I did have a fellowship (thank you, thank you!). I decided to contribute to F&ES as a way of saying thanks for the wonderful experience. A monetary contribution is simple. It isn't as if you are donating a valued member of the family or a prized member of the herd!

I have served as a Class Agent since the late 1960s. There were several years where I was a single parent of two little kids, so I didn't do as much as I could have for F&ES. Today, I am the agent for the entire Class of 1965, as a way to bridge the gaps in my efforts. Consequently, I think increasing participation is important, and I am trying to reach every person in the class. People have different levels of financial resources and demands. Whether you give one dollar or one million, what matters is that you give.

## DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN DIRECT YOUR ANNUAL FUND GIFT TO YOUR FAVORITE AREA AT F&ES?



**Dean's  
Priorities**



**Financial  
Aid**



**Internships**



**School  
Forests**



**Unrestricted**

## BECOME A CONSISTENT DONOR

Alumni who make a gift before June 30, 2017, will be welcomed to the Great Mountain Society, our consistent giving society. To maintain your membership, be sure to renew or increase your gift each year.

## INTERDISCIPLINARY F&ES CASE STUDIES LINK KNOWLEDGE TO PRACTICE

An innovative F&ES Case Studies Integration Initiative aims to help faculty and students integrate different disciplinary perspectives through the use of online case studies – on water rights, palm oil, urban climate adaptation, and other critical environmental themes – that promote a more nuanced exploration of these complex issues. The cases tackle forward-looking dilemmas that lack clear solutions.

In developing the case studies and the overall initiative, the goal was to provide multiple faculty members with flexible resources that would fit well into their syllabi and support interdisciplinary connections.

**“I think the case study approach – multiple courses all looking at an important case from different perspectives – is a great way to help students make connections among different courses and see the real-world applications of what they are learning. It is a valuable addition to our curriculum.”**

Shimon Anisfeld | *Senior Lecturer and Research Scientist,  
Water Resources and Environmental Chemistry*

“Most faculty already use real-world examples in their courses, which often take the form of case studies,” said Brad Gentry, a Professor in the Practice at F&ES and Associate Dean for Professional Practice. “What’s different here is that we are building out cases that a number of faculty can choose to use across their multiple classes and from a variety of academic disciplines.”

As one example, the palm oil case has been used to explore questions of governance and certification in policy courses, soil biology in soil science courses, and plantation agriculture in food systems courses.

Some of the key benefits to students of the case studies include engagement with dynamic content, a deeper understanding of the disciplinary and stakeholder perspectives at play, and experience with thinking through how to approach complex issues.

The case studies are designed to bring stories to life through an online platform that showcases a wide variety of multimedia resources, as well as through interdisciplinary workshops, webinars, team-taught class sessions, and panel discussions.

The initiative also provides templates, workshops, and technical support to students to process their own internship, clinical partnership, and master’s degree project experiences into case studies.

Targeted groups of F&ES alumni are engaged in the development of specific case studies in their areas of expertise in an advisory capacity. The Case Studies Integration Initiative is also considering engaging with alumni in the field who are working on case study-related topics. For example, the case study on water rights in the American West, centered on the Klamath Basin in Oregon, could be a great starting point for conversations about the challenges facing alumni whose work focuses on water scarcity issues.

Learn more: [environment.yale.edu/academics/case-studies/](http://environment.yale.edu/academics/case-studies/)

The Case Studies Integration Initiative has also worked collaboratively on a few courses that have done semester-long deep-dives into cases: a course on urban climate adaptation and another on the water crisis in Flint, Michigan (see *article at right*). Those courses will then yield case study materials that can be used across the rest of the curriculum.



A Spring 2016 panel discussion on the implications of palm oil production in Indonesia brought together faculty and students to share their perspectives on the issue and suggest ways forward.

Left to right: Wan Ping Chua '17 Yale-NUS, Sarah Sax '17 M.E.Sc., Kristin Lambert '16 M.E.M., Professor Liza Comita, Professor Michael Dove, and Minna Brown '15 M.E.M., Case Study Integration Manager.

## COURSE EXAMINES FLINT'S WATER CRISIS

When it comes to environmental policy and regulation, science can be a toolkit and a roadmap for effective decision-making. But too often science is taught in a vacuum, isolated and disconnected from other social, political, and economic realities. That is changing thanks to courses like “Science to Solutions,” where F&ES students spent this past fall studying the complex case of Flint, Mich.

Julie Zimmerman, F&ES Professor of Green Engineering, created and for years has co-taught the “Science to Solutions” course, which challenges students to apply scientific principles to real-world situations using a drinking water supply case study. In previous years, the course has dealt with “closed” cases, giving students the benefit of hindsight as they define what they see as the problem and offer possible solutions. This year’s



“As a student, I loved how many F&ES faculty brought together theory and practice – how they were able to convey frameworks for understanding the world, while also applying those frameworks to real-world challenges.

Classes like ‘Science to Solutions’ helped me develop a better sense of the types of questions you have to know to ask if you’re going to be an effective environmental leader. That course coupled an interdisciplinary team-teaching approach with in-depth discussions of global water challenges case studies. Exposure to relevant academic perspectives grounded students’ thinking, but we were always challenged to think about how all of the pieces would work together on the ground.

As I’ve reflected on my own experience, and talked with students, alumni, and faculty, I’ve realized just how important those kinds of applied problem-solving exercises are. They give added meaning and context to the concepts we study here at F&ES.

When I had the opportunity to take on this new role at F&ES, I was thrilled. It meant that I’d be able to serve as a resource for faculty by helping them develop resources around central issues that many of them work on, and it meant that at the same time, I could help support the student experience.”

Minna Brown | '15 M.E.M. | F&ES Case Studies Integration Manager

course was unique because the Flint case is still open and ongoing. And Professor Zimmerman says there are many more uncertainties about how to solve what was commonly described in the class as ‘wicked problems’ – those that have no easy, or obvious, solutions.

The class is rooted in systems thinking, an approach to problem-solving that explicitly examines interactions between various components of a system. A systems approach includes not only scientific, but also technological, regulatory, political, economic, and environmental aspects. And critically, it often leads to very different conclusions from those generated through more traditional methods.

“Students started out this semester expressing how difficult systems thinking is, because we’ve all been taught reductionist thinking,” said Paul Anastas, the Teresa and H. John Heinz III Professor in the Practice of Chemistry of the Environment and Director of the Center for Green Chemistry and Green Engineering at Yale, who co-taught the course. “They ended up saying we need to do more systems thinking.”

Throughout the semester, students had the opportunity to hear from nearly a dozen experts – as well as Flint residents, including Mayor Karen Weaver – whose perspectives illustrated the complexity of addressing such a multi-layered challenge.

“Flint is visceral, tragic, complex, iconic, and it’s a vehicle for teaching,” Professor Zimmerman said. “But this is not just about Flint – it’s about every wicked problem that we have in sustainability.”

Learn more: [environment.yale.edu/news/article/Yale-students-apply-systems-thinking-to-Flint-water-contamination-case/](http://environment.yale.edu/news/article/Yale-students-apply-systems-thinking-to-Flint-water-contamination-case/)



1 Students listen as community members from Flint, Mich., describe how they were personally affected by the city’s lead water crisis.

2 Students from the “Science to Solutions” course were invited to present at the Flint Water Infrastructure Summit in March. Pictured (left to right): Isabelle Riu '18 M.E.M., Rebecca Lehman '18 M.E.M., Meredith Brown '18 M.E.M., Gregory Haber '18 M.E.M., Flint Mayor Karen Weaver, Santiago Zindel Mundet Cruz '18 M.E.M., Matthew Moroney '18 M.E.M., Alexandra Vecchio '18 M.E.M., and Sanna O'Connor-Morberg '18 M.E.M.



## FORESTRY FIELD DAY IN THE SOUTHERN APPALACHIANS

On October 22, 2016, 40 F&ES alumni from the southeastern U.S., faculty, staff, and students gathered in the Swanannoa Valley of North Carolina for a Forestry Field Day organized by F&ES Alumni Association Board Members Dave Ellum '01 M.F., '07 Ph.D. and Alex Finkral '97 M.F., '05 Ph.D.

Dave hosted the Forestry Field Day at Warren Wilson College (WWC), where he is a Professor of Ecological Forestry and College Forest Director. Alex, Chief Forester of The Forestland Group, based in N.C., worked with Dave to plan an educational and interactive field-based program.

Dave led an educational hike focused on forest management within the 650-acre Warren Wilson College Forest and regional experts gave presentations on western North Carolina forest history and conservation efforts.

Participants visited one of WWC's non-timber forest product sites – a shiitake mushroom operation. They also had a chance to view tree felling and horse logging demonstrations by WWC students and to tour the WWC sawmill, kiln, and lumber barn.

Eleven WWC Ecological Forestry undergraduate students and members of the Timbersports Team participated in the Forestry Field Day, showcasing examples of their forest management techniques.

"It was incredible to see three generations of students interacting through an applied learning experience focused on forest management," said Dave.

"Bringing together WWC undergrads, current F&ES graduate students, and F&ES alumni was a great demonstration of the F&ES Alumni Association Board's commitment to keeping folks connected through shared professional and personal engagement."

The Forestry Field Day ended in true WWC fashion with a southern BBQ and entertainment provided by WWC's student bluegrass band. During dinner, Dave and Mark Ashton '85 M.F., '90 Ph.D., F&ES Morris K. Jesup Professor of Silviculture and Forest Ecology and Director of Yale School Forests, shared stories from the Yale and WWC School Forests. "I loved reconnecting with former students in a field setting," said Professor Ashton.

The F&ES Alumni Association Board is currently working on developing additional field-based learning programs for alumni. Alex noted how regional, topic-focused events satisfy both personal and professional interests. Planning is underway for programs at the Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest and Yale-Myers Forest. (See page 21 for details.)

"These field-based programs are important because they take us back to the roots of our education and remind us of some of the broader implications that we can sometimes lose touch with in our evermore specialized careers," said Dave. "By conducting them in different regions of the country we have the added benefit of experiencing a variety of perspectives and applications."

**"I'm proud of the work that the WWC Ecological Forestry Program is doing and it was an honor to put it on display. My career as an educator and my research on non-timber forest products and applied forest management can be traced directly back to my time at F&ES and the opportunities provided to me by F&ES and its faculty."**

Dave Ellum | '01 M.F., '07 Ph.D



**1** Dave Ellum '01 M.F., '07 Ph.D., F&ES alum and current WWC Professor of Ecological Forestry and College Forest Director, speaks on Southern Appalachian physiography and forest composition.

**2** Alumni and students gathered for introductions at the start of the Forestry Field Day.





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- 3 Attendees listening to WWC student Dylan Edmonds describe the College's shiitake mushroom operation. Presentations and demonstrations throughout the day included Megan Sutton '05 M.E.M., Southern Blue Ridge Program Director of the N.C. Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, presenting on forest conservation in the region, and Forest History Society Historian James Lewis presenting on regional forest history.
- 4 WWC student and Timbersports Team member Melina Lozano demonstrates the axe throw.
- 5 Shawn Swartz, WWC Forest Manager, explains the process of lumber drying with a solar kiln.
- 6 WWC alum and current F&ES student Nick Biemiller '18 M.F. (center) trying his hand at the crosscut saw.
- 7 A member of the WWC Horse Crew skidding logs with a Belgian draft horse.
- 8 Participants in the Forestry Field Day in the Southern Appalachians.

## SAVE THE DATE

### Fall 2017 Field-Based Learning Opportunities for F&ES Alumni

#### September 22-23

##### *Field Trip to Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest*

Join alumni, students, and researchers at Hubbard Brook to learn about current research projects and the long-term significance of the nation's preeminent ecosystem science experimental watershed.

#### October 6

##### *Pre-Reunion Weekend Field Trip to Yale-Myers Forest*

Tour the new facilities with fellow alumni, visit research and project sites, and learn about current initiatives at Yale-Myers Forest from F&ES faculty, staff, and students.

These field-based learning programs are being planned by the F&ES Alumni Association Board in partnership with the F&ES Office of Development and Alumni Services. Additional program details and registration information will be shared with alumni soon.



## F&ES LECTURERS PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH TRANSFORMATIVE EXPERIENCES ON ANNUAL RWANDA STUDY TOUR

F&ES lecturers Amy Vedder and Bill Weber have worked on dozens of conservation projects across the globe, from Patagonia's coastal plain to the Adirondack Park in upstate New York, but they are best known for their pioneering efforts to conserve mountain gorillas in Rwanda. These days the former McCluskey and Bass fellows are cultivating the next generation of conservation practitioners at F&ES, sharing advice and lessons learned over nearly four decades in the field. And for three weeks each May they take a select group of master's degree students to Rwanda where they see gorillas in their natural habitat, and witness the challenges of doing conservation in Africa's most densely populated nation and one of the poorest in the world.

The tour is structured to expose students to a range of perspectives. They meet with NGOs, government officials, and community members, visit local cooperatives and museums, and trek and camp in three national parks. "There's an iconic notion of the conservationist out there alone, wandering the wilds, climbing the mountain or canoeing up the remote river; this lone hero," Vedder said. "The truth is, you've got to have people with different interests, different backgrounds, be open and collaborative, and co-generate ideas and solutions. And when that co-generation happens, you really have the opportunity to make a difference."

Zoraya Hightower '15 M.E.M., who currently serves as an international development professional with SSG Advisors, says the tour helped her understand her personal role in international development and conservation. "I began to see that as a woman, as a minority, and as someone who has experienced relative poverty, I already had a lot to offer the international development community," she said.

Vedder and Weber's first glimpse of wild mountain gorillas came in 1978 as graduate students working at Dian Fossey's Karisoke Research Station in Rwanda's Volcanoes National Park. At the time, relatively little was known about mountain gorillas, a highly endangered subspecies of eastern gorilla that lives in the cold, dense rainforests of the Virunga massif, a collection of eight volcanoes that runs the spine between Rwanda, Uganda, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

The husband and wife team, who had served as Peace Corps volunteers in Zaire (now the DRC) in the early 1970s, understood the challenges of doing conservation in a developing country like Rwanda. They knew that without an economic incentive to protect mountain gorillas, they remained vulnerable to poaching and habitat loss. And they firmly believed that local people and national institutions were essential to ensuring the long-term viability of the species.

"We work for wildlife conservation; that's where we've spent most of our careers," Weber said. "But people have always been part of that for us."

In 1979, faced with a European-funded proposal to take one-third of Volcanoes National Park for a cattle-raising project, the two had a novel idea: charge tourists to see mountain gorillas in their natural habitat. Today, thanks to their Mountain Gorilla Project (succeeded by the International Gorilla Conservation Programme), gorillas are the economic engine of the country. Gorilla-based tourism annually earns more than \$14 million in direct revenue, while contributing more than 10 times that amount to Rwanda's national economy.



*Their own interdisciplinary team: Weber and Vedder on holiday in Ngorongoro Crater, Tanzania, in 1974 during their Peace Corps days (left); more recently, in Nyungwe National Park during the 2015 F&ES Rwanda Study Tour (right).*



**"The Rwanda Study Tour was one of the most transformative experiences of my time in graduate school."**

Zoraya Hightower | '15 M.E.M.

**1** Zoraya Hightower '15 M.E.M. poses in front of a group of mountain gorillas in Rwanda's Volcanoes National Park.

**2** The 2015 Rwanda Study Tour group in Akagera National Park, a privately-managed park in the northeastern corner of Rwanda.

Front row (left-right): Raphael Roca '16 M.E.M./M.B.A., Jazmine de Costa '17 M.E.M./M.B.A., Amy Vedder, and Ray Waweru '16 M.E.M.

Back row (left-right): Yasin (a local tour guide), Zoraya Hightower '15 M.E.M., and Bill Weber.

"The trip was an incredible wake-up call," said Jazmine de Costa '17 M.F./M.B.A. "The biggest takeaway I had from the Rwanda tour is how necessary it is to include economic development along with conservation."

In a country haunted by poverty and violence, gorillas have also become a source of renewed Rwandan identity and pride. Mountain gorilla numbers have more than doubled in the past 40 years, and there's a national festival organized to name every new baby gorilla. And, critically, Rwandans direct and manage their own national parks, tourism companies, and local conservation organizations. For students, it's the perfect case study for how to do effective conservation in the developing world.

"Conservation efforts are aided by generous international donations," Jazmine said, "but they are made sustainable by empowering local communities to preserve the natural wealth that surrounds them."

"Rwanda has beaten all odds by bouncing back with tremendous resilience after the 1994 genocide," said Raymond Waweru '16 M.E.M., currently a researcher with the World Wildlife Fund (WWF). "As a conservationist interested in learning ways in which economic development in emerging countries fits in with environmental conservation, the Rwanda Study Tour was a great example of seeing this firsthand."

Fox International Fellow Nick McClure '16 M.E.M. says he first heard about F&ES during a chance encounter with the 2013 Rwanda Study Tour. At the time, he was a Peace Corps volunteer, teaching at the Kitabi College of Conservation and Environmental Management in southwestern Rwanda.

"The Rwanda Study Tour stayed at our school for a couple of nights, and we had a chance to discuss the experience and share our views of conservation in Rwanda," Nick said. "I had never heard of F&ES before, but I had been considering grad school, and I was impressed by the thoughtfulness of our conversations. Honestly, if it wasn't for the Rwanda Study Tour, I never would have applied to F&ES, or returned to Rwanda for an internship at the Wildlife Conservation Society between my first and second years."

"The Rwanda Study Tour was one of the most transformative experiences of my time in graduate school," said Zoraya. "Not only did it help me gain a practical understanding of and experience in international development and conservation so that I could pursue a career in this field, it also gave me the ethical framework I needed to do my job well."

Learn more: [environment.yale.edu/news/article/return-to-rwanda/](http://environment.yale.edu/news/article/return-to-rwanda/)

**"The Rwanda Study Tour showed me the importance of being on the ground to fully understand the local context; the whys, whats, and hows of a conservation project."**

Raymond Waweru | '16 M.E.M.



## REUNION WEEKEND 2016

More than 200 alumni returned to F&ES for Reunion Weekend from October 7-9, 2016 – the largest alumni participation ever! F&ES faculty, students, and staff joined alumni and their families at events and programs throughout the weekend. From an F&ES community TGIF to Distinguished Alumni Seminars to a family-friendly Harvest Dinner, alumni had opportunities to connect, learn, and celebrate.

We hope you will save the date and plan to return to F&ES for Reunion Weekend 2017 (October 6-8)!

View the preliminary Reunion Weekend 2017 schedule of events: [environment.yale.edu/alumni/reunion-weekend/](http://environment.yale.edu/alumni/reunion-weekend/)



**1** A group of alumni and Dean Burke, shown here in the Class of 1980 Auditorium, participated in a pre-Reunion Weekend field trip to Yale-Myers Forest.

**2** Professor Mark Ashton '85 M.F., '90 Ph.D. (center left, pointing), Director of Yale School Forests, describing forest management and research activities at Yale-Myers Forest.

**3** Alumni enjoying time together at Yale-Myers Forest.

**4** Current F&ES students sharing their projects and research with alumni during the field trip.

**5** Alumni learning about the many teaching, research, and outreach initiatives underway and planned at Yale-Myers Forest.

**6** Dean Burke (center) and alumni on the Yale-Myers Forest field trip.





**10** Keynote speaker Majora Carter giving the keynote address titled "Environmental Equality Economics" in Burke Auditorium.

Majora Carter is an urban revitalization strategy consultant, real estate developer, and Peabody Award-winning broadcaster. She is responsible for the creation and successful implementation of numerous green infrastructure projects, policies, and job training and placement systems. During her presentation, she shared her latest efforts to connect the environment to the economic and social health of communities.



**7** Alumni from the Class of 2011 gathered in front of Kroon Hall before departing for the 5-year reunion trip to Great Mountain Forest.

**8** Dean Burke giving Reunion Weekend welcoming remarks to alumni who packed into Burke Auditorium to greet the new dean.

**9** Guillermo Castilleja '83 M.F.S., '91 Ph.D. giving a talk titled "Conservation Paths, from Nature Sanctuaries to Commodities Markets" in Bowers Auditorium.

**11** Dean Burke, Professor Lauenroth, and alumni from the western U.S. connecting with each other and students in the Westies SIG.

**12** Alumni enjoying a festive fall evening together at the traditional F&ES Reunion Weekend Harvest Dinner.

**13** Left to right: Jennifer Greenfeld '91 M.F.S., Fiona Watt '89 B.A., '95 M.E.M., and Bram Gunther '91 M.E.M. participating in a panel discussion titled "Reflecting on Two Decades of Urban Natural Resource Management: Lessons from NYC" moderated by Colleen Murphy-Dunning, Director of the F&ES-based Hixon Center for Urban Ecology and the Urban Resources Initiative.





Learn more about the accomplishments of the Prospect Street Award and the Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients:

[environment.yale.edu/news/article/a-systems-thinker-uses-market-forces-to-strengthen-environmental-conservation/](http://environment.yale.edu/news/article/a-systems-thinker-uses-market-forces-to-strengthen-environmental-conservation/)

[environment.yale.edu/news/article/embracing-nature-in-new-yorks-urban-jungle/](http://environment.yale.edu/news/article/embracing-nature-in-new-yorks-urban-jungle/)

[environment.yale.edu/news/article/prospect-street-awardee-targets-conservation-through-impact-investing/](http://environment.yale.edu/news/article/prospect-street-awardee-targets-conservation-through-impact-investing/)

**14** Dean Burke (center) receiving a warm welcome to F&ES by alumni during the Alumni Awards Luncheon. This annual event provides an opportunity to recognize the impressive accomplishments of F&ES alumni and celebrate the F&ES community.

**15** Gordon Clark '07 M.E.M. (right), President of the Alumni Association Board, led the presentation of the Distinguished Alumni Awards and the Prospect Street Award. Here he is shown calling Fiona Watt '89 B.A., '95 M.E.M. (center right) to the podium. Fiona, a long-term colleague of Jennifer Greenfeld '91 M.F.S. (left) and Bram Gunther '91 M.E.M. (center left) at the New York City Park Department, gave personal remarks and read the citations for their Distinguished Alumni Awards.

**16** Distinguished Alumni Award recipients Jennifer Greenfeld '91 M.F.S. (left) and Bram Gunther '91 M.E.M. (right) with Dean Burke.

**17** Distinguished Alumnus Award recipient Guillermo Castilleja '83 M.F.S., '91 Ph.D. listening to his award citation being read by Gordon Geballe '75 M.S., '81 Ph.D., Associate Dean for Alumni and Student Affairs.

**18** Left to right: Dean Burke; 2016 Prospect Street Award Recipient Charlotte Kaiser '07 M.E.Sc./ M.B.A.; Brad Gentry, Associate Dean for Professional Practice and Faculty Director of CBEY; and Gordon Clark '07 M.E.M. The Prospect Street Award was created by the Alumni Association Board in 2015 to 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.





A number of alumni tours were offered during Reunion Weekend 2016, including a behind-the-scenes tour of the Peabody Museum's collections and a tour of Kroon Hall focused on the Carbon Charge Pilot Program. The photos above were taken during a special alumni visit to the Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library. Alumni are shown here viewing a curated selection of items from the Beinecke's collections on the theme of land conservation in the American West. George Miles (center photo), the William Robertson Coe Curator of the Yale Collection of Western Americana, very generously developed the curated selection for F&ES alumni to view and shared his extensive knowledge during the visit.



Juan Pablo Ruiz Soto '91 M.E.S. shared a presentation titled "Everest, Learning on the Way to the Summit" with his classmates during Reunion Weekend.



Alumni had the option to join an informal networking breakfast table on a specific topic on Saturday morning. Topics included: forestry, land conservation, and ecosystem management (left); business and the environment (middle); and tropical forestry (right).



CONNECTING AT REUNION WEEKEND 2016









CONNECTING AT REUNION WEEKEND 2016



**SAVE THE DATE**

OCTOBER 6-8, 2017

Yale SCHOOL OF FORESTRY & ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

**REUNION WEEKEND**

View the Reunion Weekend 2017 Schedule:  
[environment.yale.edu/alumni/reunion-weekend/](http://environment.yale.edu/alumni/reunion-weekend/)



## ALUMNI HELP RECRUIT THE NEXT GENERATION OF F&ES STUDENTS

A collaboration between the F&ES Office of Admissions and Financial Aid and the Office of Development and Alumni Services, in partnership with the Alumni Association Board, is expanding opportunities for alumni to serve as key ambassadors of the School in worldwide recruiting efforts. This past year, alumni connected with prospective students at several recruitment events. This spring, alumni also volunteered to call recently admitted students to share their F&ES experiences, answer questions, and encourage them to enroll.

"Our office has been working with a few of our students to pilot some F&ES recruitment efforts abroad while our students are traveling," said Becky DeSalvo, F&ES Director of Enrollment Management and Diversity Initiatives. "We provide them with presentation materials and train them, and then they work with us to establish the location. It allows us to help offset the cost of their travel and expand our reach as an office." Becky emphasized the value of partnering with alumni in these recruitment efforts.

### ACCRA, GHANA

Two students, Jessica Leung '17 M.E.M. and Allyza Lustig '17 M.E.M., facilitated a recruitment event in Ghana, with training from the F&ES Office of Admissions and Financial Aid. They were in Ghana for spring break for Global Network Week, as part of the Global Network for Advanced Management program administered by the Yale School of Management.

Alumni in Ghana were invited to participate in the session and assist with outreach to their networks beforehand. After attending the prospective student event, Ada Ndeso-Atanga '82 M.F. congratulated Allyza and Jessica for conducting such a well-received information session. "It was as good as it can get – the contents, their style, the manner they handled questions, etc.," said Ada. "I can go on and on ... the IES official that was in attendance corroborated my opinion. Actually I was there as an alumna to shore up our young talented students but they were on top of their game!"

"It was a particular joy to meet Ada," said Allyza. "It's very special to chat with an F&ES alum while traveling. We really are a global community."

### OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA



In April 2017, Vrinda Manglik '14 M.E.M. co-hosted a Bay Area reception for newly admitted students and alumni at the Sierra Club headquarters in Oakland, Calif., where Vrinda works as a Campaign Representative on the International Climate and Energy team. Over 35 alumni attended the event, sharing personal experiences of the School and helping recruit exceptional newly admitted students to F&ES.

### MEXICO CITY, MEXICO

While on a recruiting trip to Mexico City with F&ES Office of Admissions and Financial Aid staff in February 2017, the F&ES Office of Development and Alumni Services co-hosted a dinner for alumni residing in Mexico. Alumni re-engaged with the School, networked, and brainstormed collaborative efforts to recruit talented Mexican students to F&ES.



*Clockwise from bottom left: Claudia Octaviano '06 M.E.Sc., Lucia Ruiz '13 M.E.M., Lisa Bassani '06 M.E.Sc. (F&ES Office of Development and Alumni Services), Citlali Cortes-Montaña '02 M.F., Ramon Olivas '09 M.E.M./M.B.A., Dhyana Quintanar '06 M.E.M., Roberto Frau '02 M.E.M., Fernando Herrera Sin '14 M.E.M., Rebecca Melnick (F&ES Office of Admissions and Financial Aid), Rodrigo Flores '16 M.E.M., Mar Gutierrez '16 M.E.M., and Haley Gilbert '09 M.E.M.*

### Help Recruit the Next Generation of F&ES Alums!

The Admissions Office is looking for alumni to assist with recruiting talented F&ES students from around the world.

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, host, or serve as a speaker at a prospective student-alumni event.
- Help set up a recruiting event at an academic institution/organization you are affiliated with.

Volunteer for F&ES: [myinterfase.com/yale-fes/mentor](http://myinterfase.com/yale-fes/mentor)

Questions: [fesinfo@yale.edu](mailto:fesinfo@yale.edu)

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



## ALUMNI SHARE CAREER INSIGHTS WITH STUDENTS IN D.C.

In late-February, F&ES students on the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual career trip to D.C., organized by the Career Development Office (CDO), participated in employer visits, individual meetings, interviews, and alumni dinners.

They wrapped up their trip at the traditional D.C. Alumni-Student Networking Reception co-hosted by the F&ES Office of Development and Alumni Services and the CDO. The networking reception was the biggest ever, with more than 160 alumni and students participating. This event held particular significance as it was the first introduction of Dean Indy Burke to the extensive F&ES alumni community in D.C.

The United Nations Foundation (UN Foundation) generously provided their expansive 12<sup>th</sup> floor event space overlooking the D.C. skyline for the reception. Thomas Lovejoy '64 B.S., '71 Ph.D., F&ES Leadership Council member and Senior Fellow at the UN Foundation, and Reid Detchon '70 B.A., former Vice President for Energy and Climate Strategy and now Senior Fellow at the UN Foundation, hosted the event and shared their knowledge and experiences with students and alumni.

Emily Enderle '07 M.E.M., F&ES Alumni Association Board member, welcomed participants and facilitated alumni introductions. The event allowed current students to gain valuable insights into working for a wide range of organizations and businesses in D.C. and to learn about job and internship opportunities directly from alumni.

Thank you to the UN Foundation staff who provided generous assistance with event planning, and to Thomas Lovejoy and Reid Detchon for serving as hosts. And thanks to all the alumni who hosted students at their workplaces and homes, joined students at mentoring dinners, and shared experiences and opportunities at the networking reception.



1 Dean Burke (second from right), alumni, and students enjoying the view of the D.C. skyline from the terrace of the UN Foundation event space.

## ALUMNI CAREER RESOURCES

Alumni can access job and internship opportunities, post jobs and internships for viewing by students and fellow alumni, and request a resume book of current students for their organization through the F&ES Career Development Office.

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

**"I was absolutely blown away by my visit – the quality of time and warm reception that greeted us at each of my informational meetings; the impressive professional success achieved by F&ES alumni; the friendly, funny, welcoming, and collaborative spirit of the alumni who took the time to answer emails, meet for coffee or dinner, open their homes, and tell us about the job openings in their respective organizations ... I have never experienced such a community of passionate, high achieving individuals like this before."**

Katherine (Kata) Young | '17 M.F.S.



- 2 Dean Burke (right) addressing D.C.-area alumni and current F&ES students.
- 3 Alumni introductions at the networking event.
- 4 Reid Detchon '70 B.A. (left), UN Foundation Senior Fellow, shared his professional experiences with students and alumni.
- 5 An ELM success story! Mentor Margaret Arbuthnot '11 M.E.M. and mentee Ray Waweru '16 M.E.M., both representing World Wildlife Fund, at the D.C. networking reception.

## F&ES COMMUNITY SUPPORTS ROCK TO ROCK EARTH DAY RIDE FOR LOCAL NONPROFITS

More than 1,100 people biked in support of 30 local nonprofits on April 22<sup>nd</sup> as part of the Ninth Annual Rock to Rock Earth Day Ride. The goals for Rock to Rock are to build community, increase awareness, and raise support for environmental causes in New Haven.

“My favorite part of Rock to Rock is working closely with the leaders from all the different partner organizations to pull off this huge event that brings us all together for a common cause,” said Anna Ruth Pickett ’10 M.E.Sc., the lead organizer of Rock to Rock for the past four years.

One of the teams rode in support of the F&ES-based Urban Resources Initiative (URI), whose mission is to foster community-based land stewardship, promote environmental education, and advance the practice of urban forestry. The 104 members of the URI team, including Dean Indy Burke and F&ES faculty, alumni, students, staff, and their families, raised the second-most funds among all Rock to Rock teams.

A number of F&ES students are involved with URI projects each year and several alumni currently work for URI, including Anna, who is their Development and Outreach Manager. From working with 50 New Haven community groups to replant, restore, and reclaim the urban environment to employing high school students and ex-offenders in planting trees for New Haven residents, URI is making a significant impact throughout the city.

“I was proud to be part of the URI team,” said F&ES Professor Mark Bradford. “Everything about URI says community. *Community* from the perspective of improving the urban environment to build the knowledge and quality of life for New Haven residents. And *community* from how they connect the staff, students, and faculty within our School.”

Participants followed one of five routes from West Rock to East Rock, ranging from 8 to 62 miles. All of the routes featured great views, rest breaks in local parks, and a lot of community spirit.

Sara Smiley Smith ’07 M.E.Sc./M.P.H., ’16 Ph.D. and her family were excited to participate in the ride for the first time this year. “It was a great way to organize our support for Earth Day around getting outside and doing something healthy for our bodies as well as our community,” she said.

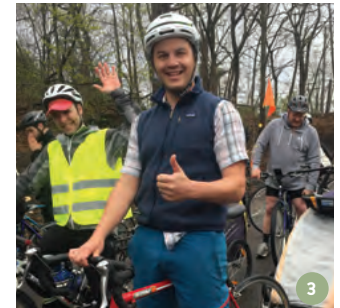
Anna says she hopes that each year even more alumni will see this event as an opportunity to come back to New Haven and engage in the community, noting: “Riding with hundreds of people along the way and meeting together at the Green Fair in East Rock Park is a memorable way to spend Earth Day each year.”

**“I rode to support URI and the many environmental groups that are working in so many ways and on so many topics to make New Haven a more livable city. Together all these groups are making a difference on behalf of the health and well-being of so many.”**

Gordon Geballe | ’75 M.S., ’81 Ph.D. | F&ES Associate Dean for Alumni and External Affairs and Lecturer in Urban Ecology

**“Perhaps most inspiring to me is the cooperative spirit of the many partners who collectively organize the event. It is an amazing collaboration that demonstrates how working together for a united purpose can achieve wonderful outcomes.”**

Colleen Murphy-Dunning | Director of URI and the Hixon Center for Urban Ecology



**1** Left to right: Team URI members Ray McKeon, F&ES Technical Support Analyst; Dean Indy Burke; Colleen Murphy-Dunning, URI Director; Gary Dunning ’96 M.E.Sc., The Forests Dialogue Director; and Kristen Clothier ’98 B.S., ’01 M.F., F&ES Assistant Director of Development and Alumni Services.

**2** Team URI member Sara Smiley Smith ’07 M.E.Sc./M.P.H., ’16 Ph.D. with her children (and teammates!) Finnleigh and Brecken.

**3** Eric Fine ’16 M.E.Sc. (with Emma, age 2, in tow) and Charlie Bettigole (with Margot, 20 months, in tow) setting out on their Rock to Rock ride.

**4** Lisa Fernandez ’95 M.E.S./M.P.P.M. (left), Associate Director of the F&ES-based Yale Program on Climate Change Communication and President of the Farmington Canal Rail-to-Trail Association (FCRTA), and her daughter Talia (right) biked the 12-mile route with friends in support of the FCRTA.



## INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION OF YALE LEADERS IN SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND URBAN RESILIENCE

In celebration of a decade of work at the nexus of business and the environment – and to plan for the next 10 years – the Yale Center for Business and the Environment (CBEY) held a number of engaging events around the country this year.

An event held at Google in San Francisco brought together over 90 Yale alumni, along with Dean Indy Burke and CBEY faculty and staff leaders, to engage on the topics of Social Entrepreneurship and Urban Resilience.

Peter Yolles '97 M.E.S./M.B.A., Founder of WaterSmart Software, introduced Dean Burke, who gave welcoming remarks. Stuart DeCew '11 M.E.M./M.B.A., CBEY Director, then gave an overview of CBEY's mission and activities before the panel discussions.

One session, moderated by Professor Brad Gentry, Associate Dean for Professional Practice and CBEY Faculty Co-Director, engaged panelists and participants in an interactive discussion focused on urban resilience, the challenges and opportunities facing global cities, and the ways in which individuals, communities, businesses, institutions, and systems can survive and thrive.

**“It is incredibly inspiring to be surrounded by so many people doing such great things and drawn together by their affection for the F&ES/ Yale community.”**

Professor Brad Gentry | Associate Dean for Professional Practice and CBEY Faculty Co-Director



*Pictured above (left to right): Panelists Laura Tam '03 M.E.M., Sustainable Development Policy Director at SPUR; Caren Perlmutter '13 M.B.A., Education Manager at OpTerra Energy Services; Andrew Dempsey, Innovations for the Built Environment at Google; and moderator Professor Brad Gentry, Associate Dean for Professional Practice and CBEY Faculty Co-Director.*

The second interactive session, moderated by Yale's Associate Director of Social Entrepreneurship, Cass Walker, considered the role of social entrepreneurship in addressing critical social and environmental challenges, and the ways in which Yale can support and inspire the next generation of leaders. The panelists were: Marisa de Belloy '94 B.A., COO at Cool Effect; Zach Parisa '09 M.F.S., Co-Founder at SilviaTerra; and Claire Schlemme '11 M.E.M., CEO at Renewal Mill.

After alumni, partners, and leaders convened to advance the conversation on social entrepreneurship and urban resilience through the interactive panel discussions, they connected with each other and Dean Burke (center, in photo at left) at a networking reception overlooking San Francisco Bay.

Learn more: [cbey.yale.edu](http://cbey.yale.edu)



## STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP

The Seminar in Environmental Leadership is a capstone course Professor Chad Oliver '70 M.F.S., '75 Ph.D. has been teaching for over a decade. In addition to covering a wide range of leadership topics in class, from conceptual issues in leadership to specific skill-building topics, the class takes a one-day trip to New York City and a three-day trip to Washington, D.C. On these trips, students meet individually and in groups with over 30 leaders spanning business, investment, NGOs, government agencies, and policymakers. Leaders are asked to share their insights into effective leadership. "What really makes the trips exciting is how gracious and eager the leaders are to share their thoughts with the students," said Professor Oliver.



Professor Chad Oliver '70 M.F.S., '75 Ph.D. (left) with F&ES students on their D.C. class trip. One of the leaders they met with was Bruce Westerman '01 M.F., U.S. Representative for Arkansas's 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District (fourth from left).

## ALUMNI SHARE INSIGHTS ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP AT AYA EVENT

Lauren Graham '13 M.E.M., an environmental entrepreneur and member of the Association of Yale Alumni (AYA) Board of Governors, recently helped to organize an AYA event: Entrepreneurship: Starting, Surviving, Sustaining, Succeeding. The purpose of the event, held April 7-8, was to provide Yale undergraduate and graduate students with an introduction to diverse career paths in entrepreneurship and advice on the skillsets they need to become successful in the field. The event featured four panels with 28 Yale alumni and student panelists, including Zoe Lloyd '17 M.E.M./M.B.A., co-founder of Kitchen Table; Krysia Solheim '15 M.E.M., founder of Viosimo; and Sam Teicher '12 B.A., '15 M.E.M., co-founder of Coral Vita.

Said Lauren: "It's important for students to take advantage of all the resources on-campus and through the alumni network. Entrepreneurship extends far beyond tech, and we were able to show examples of social and environmental ventures and business models. One thing I learned was how generous and enthusiastic alums are. Everyone I reached out to was so grateful for the invitation to give back to the Yale community."



Event co-organizers Lauren Graham '13 M.E.M. and Rahul Prasad '87 Ph.D., both members of the AYA Board of Governors.

## STUDENTS SHARE RESEARCH ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AT YALE CENTER BEIJING

F&ES students in the course "China's Energy and Environmental Sustainability Challenge" spent spring break in China where they joined colleagues from Yale-NUS and Tsinghua University for a special exchange event. On March 25, students presented their course research projects at Yale Center Beijing. F&ES alumni were invited to attend. The program also included a discussion with special guest Dr. Li Junfeng, former Director General, National Center for Climate Change Strategy and International Cooperation. The event was organized and moderated by Angel Hsu '13 Ph.D., Assistant Professor at Yale-NUS and Adjunct at F&ES, who directs the Yale Data-Driven Environmental Solutions Group. "Our students said they particularly enjoyed connecting with the alumni present as well as the Tsinghua students," she said.



Students presenting their research at Yale Center Beijing.



## F&ES COMMENCEMENT CELEBRATES SCHOLARSHIP AND COMMUNITY

On Monday, May 22, the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies held its 116<sup>th</sup> Commencement ceremony, conferring 144 master's degrees and 10 Ph.D.s to graduates who are poised to confront the many environmental challenges facing the U.S. and the world. Seven Master of Forestry, four Master of Forest Science, 107 Master of Environmental Management, and 26 Master of Environmental Science degrees were awarded.

In her first commencement address as F&ES Dean, Indy Burke said that she has found optimism in working with F&ES students who are channeling their intelligence, passion, and energy to make a difference. "The sheer enormity of the capital you represent in intellect, knowledge, creativity, passion, energy, resourcefulness, and support for one another is immeasurable," she said.

The two class speakers, Nikola Alexandre '18 M.E.Sc./M.B.A. and Jessica Leung '17 M.E.M., encouraged their classmates to make the most of their F&ES education.

"Our time here is wasted if it is only used to make ourselves more comfortable and to not take on this call to action," Niko said. "As we go into this world and look for direction, I challenge you to use this immense privilege – the privilege of your education, of the ability to see what is happening around you – to keep fighting the hard fight."

In her speech, Jessica cited life lessons she has learned from improvisational theater. In improv, she said, there is no script; a performer has to be able to adjust quickly to find "the game," the essence of the scene that is funny or unique. In life, she said, finding the game is like finding one's purpose and meaning.

"You're in the environmental field, it's supposed to be hard. Your future, our future, has daunting challenges ahead," she said. "There is no promise of the outcome, but I can guarantee you this: when you have lost your game, and you feel anxious about what is ahead, you will always have this F&ES community to help you find your game again."



**1** Graduates proceed to the Yale Commencement exercises on Lower Campus, led by flag bearer Ethan Addicott '17 M.E.Sc.



**2** F&ES Dean Indy Burke addresses the graduates at the School's 116<sup>th</sup> Commencement ceremony.



**3, 4** Class speakers Nikola Alexandre '18 M.E.Sc./M.B.A. and Jessica Leung '17 M.E.M.





5 Strachan Donnelley Award recipient Emily Farr '14 B.S., '17 M.E.M. (left) with Dean Burke and Matt Kotchen, F&ES Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

## STRACHAN DONNELLEY AWARD

Emily Farr '14 B.S., '17 M.E.M. received the 2017 Strachan Donnelley Award, which honors the master's degree student who, through a combination of coursework, research, and leadership, best achieves Strachan Donnelley's ('64 B.A.) ideal to blend the humanities with ecology and evolutionary biology in order to develop relationships between humans and nature that promote long-term health, social justice, and sustainability. Emily was recognized for her outstanding work blending the human dimensions of ecological change with policymaking in the area of fisheries management.

## WILLIAM R. BURCH PRIZE

Abdul-Majeed Ibrahim '17 M.E.M. was awarded the William R. Burch Prize. Named for the founder of the School's Tropical Resources Institute (TRI), the award honors the best international research published in the TRI Bulletin focusing on the complex challenges confronting the conservation and management of tropical environments and natural resources. His paper, "Dissemination of Innovative Practices in Post-Harvest Handling of Groundnuts within Women's Social Networks in Rural Northern Ghana," investigates women farmers' local knowledge and practices of handling post-harvest aflatoxin contamination.

## 2017 PH.D. RECIPIENTS

This year, F&ES conferred 10 students with a Doctor of Philosophy. Their dissertation research topics, ranging from ecological studies and agrobiodiversity, to environmental economics, carbon finance, and addressing China's urban waste challenges, reflect the diversity of interests of F&ES students.



6 Marlyse Duguid '10 M.F., '16 Ph.D., the newly appointed Thomas G. Siccama Lecturer in Environmental Field Studies (see page 16), listens as Associate Dean for Alumni and External Affairs, Gordon Geballe '75 M.S., '81 Ph.D., describes her dissertation research.



7 2017 Ph.D. recipients (left to right): Marlyse Duguid (combined degree with the New York Botanical Garden), Daniel Maynard, Natalie Schultz, Ranran Wang, Martin Bonda, and Alder Keleman Saxena (combined degree with the Anthropology Department and the New York Botanical Garden). Not pictured: Jesse Burkhardt, Meredith Holgerson, and Amy Zhang (combined degree with the Anthropology Department).



## FACULTY AND STAFF AWARDS

During commencement, the Class of 2017 recognized the dedicated faculty and staff who helped make their time at F&ES “truly remarkable,” and presented awards to five individuals for their outstanding commitment to the student body.

- Amity Doolittle '94 M.E.S., '99 Ph.D., Senior Lecturer and Research Scientist, was recognized for her dedication to the School's mission and commitment to mentoring the next generation of leading environmental researchers and thinkers.
- Josh Galperin '09 M.E.M., F&ES Environmental Law and Policy Program Director and a Research Scholar and Lecturer at Yale Law School, was recognized for excellence in research and teaching, and for making sure students have the experience and appropriate tools to engage with environmental policy problems in an interdisciplinary setting.
- Alex Muro, F&ES Director of Financial Aid, was honored for going above and beyond his job description to greatly enhance the students' experience at F&ES, and for helping to make F&ES “a place for everyone.”
- Melanie Quigley, Director of Strategic Initiatives, was recognized for helping student voices and interests to flourish at F&ES, and for contributing to diversity and inclusion initiatives through her position in the Dean's Office.
- Alyssa Student, Assistant Director of the Career Development Office, was recognized for helping students arrange events with visiting speakers, coordinating job fairs, hosting on-campus career chats, and running the FESNext platform, in addition to always having a positive attitude.



Senior Lecturer and Research Scholar Amity Doolittle '94 M.E.S., '99 Ph.D. received a faculty and staff award from the graduating class.



At Commencement, each graduate was given a pin of the F&ES shield following receipt of their diploma. The traditional pinning ceremony, shown here, welcomed new graduates as members of the F&ES Alumni Association and the global network of alumni. Georgia Silvera Seamans '01 M.E.M., F&ES Alumni Association Board Member, presided over the pinning ceremony on behalf of the Alumni Association Board.





CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2017! WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST ALUMS!





# CLASS NOTES

## F&ES ALUMNI ACCOMPLISHMENTS, PURSUITS, AND ADVENTURES

F&ES alumni are collectively making an incredible impact around the world. Thank you to all of you, from the Class of 1949 through the Class of 2016, who shared updates for this edition!

We would like to hear from even more of you – send updates to your Class Secretary or [alumni.fes@yale.edu](mailto:alumni.fes@yale.edu).

### 1949



In November, **Herb Winer**, a graduate of Yale College (1942) who received a Master of Forestry degree from the Yale School of Forestry in 1949 and a Ph.D. in 1956, came to campus to meet Dean Indy Burke (see photo above). Herb has met every Dean of the School since the time he was a student. Herb is an Honorary Lifetime Member of the F&ES Alumni Association Board. He enjoyed sharing his experiences and some of the School's history with Dean Burke during the meeting.

### 1955

**Pete Loucks** writes: "While working toward my M.F. degree, I was introduced to the game of squash in the Payne Whitney Gym. Except for breathing, eating, and sleeping, it's been the one activity I've continued to do, and benefit from, in just about every place I've lived or worked

Please note that in some cases Class Notes are excerpted versions of the original submissions. Also, unless necessary for providing context, all Yale degrees other than F&ES degrees are not listed in this section.

since. I can't say that for much else I've learned. My thanks to all my Yale classmates and professors who contributed to that valuable educational experience!"

### 1956

Class Secretary: Jack Rose  
[jackarose@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jackarose@sbcglobal.net)

**Patrick Duffy** writes: "Inspired by Yale e360's accounts of wildfires and climate change, I researched, wrote, and presented a paper, 'Mitigating wildfire risks on the urban/forest interface'. My objective was to alert the forested towns in western Canada on how long it takes to 'fire proof' in the face of the drier conditions we are experiencing. Yale e360 has been informative and a go-to source for so many current topics on resource management and other current themes."

### 1958

Class Secretary: Ernest Kurmes  
[ernest.kurmes@nau.edu](mailto:ernest.kurmes@nau.edu)

**Herster Barres** writes: "I continue to be active with our 20-year old foundation, Reforest The Tropics, developing new models for the permanent reforestation of tropical farm pastures to mitigate climate change. We now have 63 projects funded by U.S. sponsors/emitters, and 450 acres of farm forests, all with 25-year contracts with farmers. This year we'll establish five new projects. All of our forests to sequester CO<sub>2</sub> are sponsored by U.S. emitters."

**Ernie Kurmes** ('61 Ph.D.) writes: "I retired from teaching silviculture at Northern Arizona University in 1996. I remain active in SAF, the NAU Retirees Association, and a local woodturners group. I get most of my exercise walking the dogs in the ponderosa pine forest behind my home, with a little swimming thrown in. I hope to join other Yale alumni at the national SAF meeting in Albuquerque in November."

### 1960

Class Secretary: John Hamner  
[jhamner1@bellsouth.net](mailto:jhamner1@bellsouth.net)

**Thomas Fearnley** writes: "I am in good condition, playing golf with my wife at Sperone on the island of Corsica. We sold our house here this spring and will be back in Norway at the end of April. I will work as a farmhand for my son who has taken over the family business of forestry, golf course, and restaurants."

### 1961

Class Secretaries: Karl Spalt and Scott Wallinger  
[kjspalt@yahoo.com](mailto:kjspalt@yahoo.com) | [scott@scottwallinger.com](mailto:scott@scottwallinger.com)

**Karl Spalt** just spent a week in southeast Arizona, hiking at Chiricahua National Monument, and visiting The Nature Conservancy's Slaughter Ranch, Gadsden Hotel in Douglas, Bisbee old mining city, and Saguaro National Park – a land of unique beauty and desolation. He has enjoyed living with Judy in Arizona since 1979, with breaks in 1986-98 in Dubuque, Iowa, and Klamath Falls, Ore. Every one of the eight states they have lived in has some wonderful outdoor activities and historical features worthy of visits. He is about to publish a book based on 55 pen pal letters from an Austrian Nazi to an American girl from 1929-1947 which entwines the letters among historical events of the 1920s-1940s.

**Scott Wallinger** writes: "We're never too old to enjoy and learn about nature! A year ago, a group of us who moved to the Bishop Gadsden retirement community were intrigued with a large area of undeveloped woodlands on the property. Much of it was intermittent wetlands. Retirees created three loop nature trails through the woods between the wet areas. Trails were brushed and leveled and weeds in the trail were removed. Illustrated signs were installed to describe features of key tree species and many trees along the trails had markers

added to Bishop Gadsden's registered Arboretum. Group walks are conducted several times a year and residents can walk the trails on their own. So, lots of 70-80 year-oldsters – and older – enjoy walking the trails, observing the changing seasons, hearing and seeing the birds ... all within walking distance of where they live."

## 1964

**Stephen J. Hanover** writes: "I was so saddened to learn that our dendrology class had been canceled. Reason: There were no substantial tree species to be found and identified. What? Why? Well, we were in the Antarctic this past January, which was their summertime. The scenery was so pristine in its own way, even without the natural beauty of vegetation. Classmates – where are you? Come back again to attend (dendrology) class soon – surely new leaves this spring on campus will help in identification!"

## 1965

**Class Secretary:** James Howard  
[howard.caroljim@att.net](mailto:howard.caroljim@att.net)

**Stephen Ollerenshaw** shared this reflection and update:

"One of the smarter things I did while at the Yale School of Forestry was to team up with Robert (Bob) Kreidler on our class's trip to Crossett, Ark. Bob had taken me home to his family at Christmas, which was very kind. We were to work in pairs on a project at the Crossett Lumber Company and I could see that I was not going to handle the mathematical and forecasting part of the project (and probably much else). What was offered in return I do not know, but we did team up. Bob did most of the work while I went into Crossett with Professor Sundberg from Scandinavia to play tennis at least once a week. (I say 'one of' for later I married the Dean's daughter and that was quite smart. Indeed, upon return to my employer in Australia, I found that my colleagues at the company had put it about that by marrying the Dean's daughter I had got my degree ... )

"Well the point of this is to say that Bob and I had a reunion in October last year. Bob is a very keen walker and by one means and another had arranged a walk in New Zealand's South Island. Realizing that New Zealand is not far from

Australia, over Bob came and stayed with us for four nights here in Buderim, Queensland. We had a good time. Nana and I were sad to see him go. One thing we noticed was that the seriousness of our conversations went up several notches with Bob here, without doing away with chuckles and laughter. We have a gift from Bob, a lightweight Yale rug as a memento. My best wishes to all of our Class of 1965!"

## 1968

**Class Secretary:** Gerald Gagne  
[gerald.gagne@sympatico.ca](mailto:gerald.gagne@sympatico.ca)

**Don Schall** writes: "Rare plant conservation field work continues to keep me busy and helps me avoid permanent retirement."

## 1970

**Class Secretary:** Whitney Beals  
[whitney.beals@gmail.com](mailto:whitney.beals@gmail.com)

**William Parker** writes: "I will officially retire from the faculty of Natural Resources Management at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Ontario, after 42 years of teaching forestry students. While I was only able to complete one year at F&ES (1968-1969), that experience helped set my path."

## 1972

**Class Secretary:** Matthew Rosen  
[m.rosen@mchsi.com](mailto:m.rosen@mchsi.com)

**David P. Miller** writes: "I have the same wife, Trudy B. Miller, as I did during the first summer of NOLS. We have three daughters, Jeanette, Sarah, and Laura, who are wonderful human beings. My first career after college (YC '59) was with the U.S. Army (Airborne) in Georgia, Maryland, and North Carolina from 1959-1961. Then I earned an M.A. in History at Columbia University, and taught history and Latin, first at the Taft School in Watertown, Conn., and then in Sedona, Ariz., with the Verde Valley School, each of which included a great deal of field trips, hiking, climbing, and camping. Then I went to F&ES for an M.F.S. and worked for the Smithsonian Institution's Chesapeake Bay Environmental Research Center near Annapolis, Md., and then became Executive Director of the Maryland Environmental Trust. I then became Director of the Natural Lands Trust's branch in Maryland and then the Harford Land Trust in Harford County, Md., helping large landowners officially preserve the natural, historic, and

agricultural qualities of their lands. I retired permanently in 2005, and have been living happily in Baltimore City ever since. I still wear the NOLS cap of 1965 given to me by the NOLS reps at their meeting in Washington, D.C."

## 1973

**Class Secretary:** Roy Deitchman  
[rdeitchman@verizon.net](mailto:rdeitchman@verizon.net)

**Mark Bagdon** writes: "This year I merged Novus Engineering and Bagdon Environmental with Labella Associates of Rochester, N.Y. LaBella is a great firm with offices in five states and has similar practices in Energy, Environmental, and MEP. We are all excited about the new opportunities that this will create for us."

**Lloyd Irland** ('73 Ph.D.) writes: "Last fall we welcomed our fifth consecutive grandson to the family. I then travelled to the Society of American Foresters (SAF) Convention in Madison, and enjoyed the trip to Aldo Leopold's 'Shack'. This inspired me to read the Curt Meine biography and try to foment some Aldo Leopold Week events in Maine. These included book displays at the University of Maine library and the Maine State Library in Augusta. I'm still doing some financial work for various parties, working informally with a group interested in the potential of exotic larches in the U.S., and serving on a committee evaluating the future of SAF's headquarters building, the former Grosvenor Estate, in Bethesda. Finally, I'm working on a book about Maine's wildland rivers – their history of logging, hydropower, pollution, and emerging efforts at restoration. Reviving an old interest – I taught water policy and economics at F&ES from 1973-1976."

**Dick Porterfield** ('73 Ph.D.) writes: "I've been retired for some time now. Always busy it seems. I live in Williamsburg, Va., and remember Sage Hall and classmates fondly. Best to all."



## CLASS NOTES

## 1974

Class Secretary: R. Lautenschlager  
rlautenschlager@mta.ca

**Liz Mikols** writes: "I continue to be active in local theater and local history research in New Mexico, and combine the two by giving Chautauquas of local women, from Belle Eckles, New Mexico's first elected state official, to Madam Millie, Silver City's own entrepreneur and confidante to powers of the day. On a sadder note, I report that my dear husband, Joe Schindler, departed to hike yet another mountain in February. Odd to say, but it was a welcome passing after several years with dementia. My heart goes out to anyone who has a loved one with this awful disease. So, as Joe would have wanted, I'm headed off to another adventure in May and June, this time to Bulgaria and Romania. Thanks to Ron and **Audrey Hoffer** ('75) who have given me several tips on traveling that corner of the world. The offer of guidance or a meet up still stands for any of you who find yourselves in this marvelous part of the world. Maybe you'll attend one of my classes – Tai Chi, Zumba or Aqua Aerobics – when you're here."

## 1975

Class Secretary: Hallie Metzger  
hallie.metzger@rcn.com

**Evan Griswold** writes: "I am trying to retire from my real estate practice, but finding it harder than anticipated. I am hoping to transition back into land conservation with a couple of local land trusts in the lower Connecticut River Valley and spending some time with children and grandchildren. Last fall, I handed the Annual Fund baton to **Star Childs** of the 'great' Class of 1980. Thanks to all in the 'greater' Class of '75 for your support of the School over the years."

## 1976

Class Secretary: John Lundquist  
jlundquist@fs.fed.us

**Rich Guldin** ('79 Ph.D.) writes: "Since departing from the U.S. Forest Service in January 2015, I've developed a consulting business focused on resource analyses, assessments, and special studies of national, regional, and global scope.

I've completed projects for the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Food & Agriculture Organization. I have projects underway with the International Union of Forest Research Organizations, the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities, and the Society of American Foresters. Currently, I'm hanging my hard-hat at SAF headquarters as their Senior Research Fellow."

## 1977

Class Secretary: Jim Guldin  
jguldin@prodigy.net

**Chuck Hewett** ('82 Ph.D.) writes: "My wife, **Jackie Kennedy Hewett** ('82), is now spending winters in Key West where, in addition to maintaining a consulting practice in land use and economic development, she spends time bird watching and volunteering both in a bird rehab center and a botanical garden. I join her there when business allows. In some ways, she is more true to her F&ES heritage than I am, as my work involves leading a large organization dedicated to improving human health through genetics and genomics research, and the provision of mouse models of human development and disease to the global biomedical community. Together we enjoy boating in the Keys and making lots of interesting friends. Summers find us both in our year-round home on a lake in Maine. After decades of heating with wood, we are both relieved to be relying on heat pumps backed up by propane."

**Angus Laird** writes: "I am fully retired from management consulting and enjoying a life of Scott and Helen Nearing-type living in the Sierra Nevada foothills of northern California. My days are taken up with stewardship responsibilities on a 40-acre, totally off-grid farm I developed over the last eight years. Part of my workload involves ongoing clean-up from the Butte Fire, a 70,000-acre wildland fire in September 2015 that grazed my property and consumed about a third of the oak/pine transition forest. I've been observing how the forest recovers from this devastation (using wisdom from my F&ES classes and field work), while continuing to learn how to live the good life and leave a small carbon footprint. Life is good."

**Kate Troll**'s new book, *The Great Unconformity: Reflections on Hope in an Imperiled World*, was published in March. Kate draws on her 40 years

of Alaskan adventures and her conservation career to propose hopeful approaches to tackling sustainability and climate change. She continues her engagement as a conservation activist and speaker, and writes op-ed columns for the Alaska Dispatch News. She was also a featured speaker at the Anchorage March for Science and the Anchorage Earth Day Celebration. She and **Bill Hanson** live and play in Douglas, Alaska. Bill retired in 2015 after a career in fish, wildlife, and forestry with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game, and Alaska Division of Forestry. He also spent seven years in upstart fish businesses that developed diversified raw products and improved quality control within the industry, and created new retail products (Kosher salmon ham) from underutilized salmon. Bill is pursuing his passion for writing fiction and exploring his 375 million acre backyard with Kate. They are fortunate that both of their children live in Juneau: Erin works for Trout Unlimited and Rion is a helicopter pilot.

## 1978

Class Secretaries: Susan Curnan, Marie Magleby, and Regina Rochefort  
curnan@aya.yale.edu | Immagleby@att.net  
gibbons.rochefort@gmail.com



**John Hoffnagle** left his job as Executive Director of the Oregon State Parks Foundation last March and took his two adult children on a 1,650-mile hike along the Pacific Crest Trail. He has served on the PCTA board for seven years, so it seemed like a natural. He made it from Campo, Mexico, to Seiad Valley at the Oregon border, and will finish the trail this summer. John Hoffnagle and John Muir are pictured above.

**Regina Rochefort** is still working at North Cascades National Park Service Complex, but her husband, Steve Gibbons, retired in January from his position as the Superintendent of Lassen

Volcanic National Park. Their older son, Shane, is an architectural designer in Boston, and their younger son, Taylor, just finished his Ph.D. at the University of British Columbia working on the physiology and evolution of sticklebacks.

**Tom Rumpf** writes: "After more than 21 years protecting nearly one million acres of important conservation lands in Maine for The Nature Conservancy, I retired at the end of December and will be joining several members of the Class of '78 for a mini reunion on May 5-9, organized by **John Hoffnagle**. We will be staying in Hood River, Ore., and traveling throughout the Columbia River Gorge. Additional Class of '78 attendees include **Andy Schwarz, Loring La Barbera Schwarz, Bob Gipe, Ed Becker, Michael Rees, Jim Sempere, and Cathy Hopper.**"

## 1980

**Class Secretary:** Sara Schreiner Kendall  
[sarabskendall@gmail.com](mailto:sarabskendall@gmail.com)

**Dave Kittredge** ('86 Ph.D.) moves on professionally from the University of Massachusetts after 30 years in May 2017, and will remain actively involved in forestry through ongoing research and consulting.

**Ellie Lathrop** writes: "One of the best aspects of being a member of the Class of 1980 is to get to read each year a new collection of amazing project proposals, enabling me to stay current with the pulse of the School and its students. It also helps me stay current on new words. This year I learned new words rooted in 'idea', specifically ideate and ideation. I've always been intrigued by the evolution of language. Of course, some may scoff thinking I'm just so out-of-it, sheltered and uninformed living in little Longview, Wash., but I love it here. After living here for 28 years, raising two children and being able to go anywhere in town and know someone, this is my place and my community. It often takes being in place for a time and having a continuity of generations that creates 'place'. Some travel the world over seeking the perfect place, when perhaps they should return home."

**Al Sample** ('89 D.For.) is now President Emeritus and Senior Fellow at the Pinchot Institute, and Adjunct Professor, Environmental Science & Policy, George Mason University. He splits his time between research on forest management adaptation to climate change, teaching natural resource policy, and amusing his granddaughter, Meredith.

**Sara Schreiner Kendall** writes: "I am enjoying retirement and the cottage on Lake Chelan. My goal in 2017: ride a bike from my home in University Place to Yellowstone National Park this summer."

**Keith Stewart** is off to Botswana in March.

**Steve Strauss** continues to do biotech and genetic engineering research as he turns 60, recently fueled by a \$4 million grant from the National Science Foundation to use advanced imaging and machine vision methods to map the genes that control the genetic engineering process in cottonwood trees. He believes he might be the only F&ES grad, and certainly the only Class of '80 guy, to be doing tree biotech/GMO work.

**Carol Zimmerman** ('81 Ph.D.) continues to volunteer with the Havre de Grace (Maryland) Green Team, now in their sixth year, as the leader of four community gardens. She is also helping to establish a food forest of edible plants that is open to the public. She and her husband, John, recently hiked in New York state with classmate **Fran Rundlett** and her husband, Stuart, and plan to kayak with them soon in Florida.

## 1981

**Class Secretaries:** Fred Hadley and Gail Reynolds  
[fhadley@sit-co.net](mailto:fhadley@sit-co.net)  
[gail.kalison.reynolds@aya.yale.edu](mailto:gail.kalison.reynolds@aya.yale.edu)

**Bruce Kernan** writes: "I'm still living most of the year in Quito, Ecuador, getting consulting assignments from time to time. I spend the summer months in South Worcester, N.Y., doing silvicultural work in our Charlotte Forest. An article about the 70 years my family has managed the forest appeared in the April 2017 issue of the New York State Conservationist Magazine."

**Thea Weiss Hayes** says howdy from the great Pacific Northwest. She truly retired from teaching in Portland after the loss of her Mom, and is now immersed in bee-keeping, pollinator stewardship, and gardening. Her daughter, Rachel, is back from her Study Abroad in Jordan; daughter, Hanna, is preparing to get married; and husband, Angel, is a Production Manager for a company in Vancouver, Wash.

## 1982

**Class Secretaries:** Barbara Hansen and Ken Osborn  
[bjhansen@fs.fed.us](mailto:bjhansen@fs.fed.us)  
[kennethdosborn@gmail.com](mailto:kennethdosborn@gmail.com)

**Junaid Choudhury** writes: "After graduating from F&ES in 1982, I worked for the Bangladesh Forest Department, Government of Bangladesh. I retired from government service in 2000. Since then I have worked as a consultant on forestry and natural resource issues. I worked as an international consultant in the Maldives and Indonesia. At home in Bangladesh, I work as a consultant for several environmental organizations, including FAO, UNDP, WB, EU, IUCN, etc. I also prepared two big projects for the Bangladesh Forest Department. I have two daughters, Junna (a university teacher in Australia) and Juhaina (an Environmental Specialist for the British Government), and four grandchildren. My wife, Juliana, lives with me here in Dhaka, Bangladesh. I am recovering slowly from a broken left femur. Though I have a strong desire to travel to the U.S. and visit the campus, it is almost impossible due to the non-availability of U.S. visas. I wish all the best for the Reunion Weekend at F&ES. Thanks and best of regards to all."

## 1983

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

**Mary Ann Fajvan** writes: "I am still a public servant, working for the U.S. Forest Service as a Research Forester since 2004. Most of my professional efforts are directed towards silvicultural options for mitigating the effects of hemlock woolly adelgid in eastern forests. Some of my studies have approached the 10-year mark with publications forthcoming. On a personal note, my husband and I are still farming in West Virginia on our 200-acre homestead where I grow organic vegetables for our local farmers market. We are also planning a timber sale in 2018. Our son is a junior majoring in Geological Engineering at the University of Nevada and loves the West Coast."



## CLASS NOTES

**David Loeks** writes: "This year we are accomplishing the next step in our quest to achieve practical, sustainable, rural development. The HTH building system is an economic way to salvage the havoc created by the mountain pine beetle. By providing beautiful house packages, we are improving the forest and providing rural employment. Now we have simplified our production machinery so that Native communities can manufacture their own housing from local timber while creating local jobs. Our first equipment and training package starts this April. We are manufacturing and shipping a production unit to the Toosey First Nation in British Columbia."

## 1984

Class Secretaries: Therese Feng and Roberta Tabell Jordan  
[therese\\_feng@yahoo.com](mailto:therese_feng@yahoo.com)  
[jordanr5@comcast.net](mailto:jordanr5@comcast.net)

**Dusti (Gardner) Becker** writes: "I returned from being Dean of the School of Natural Resources at Solomon Islands National University (a challenging work experience and great snorkeling) and now am directing a non-profit, Life Net Nature, with conservation projects in Kenya, Ecuador, and Chile."

**Nora Devoe** ('90 Ph.D.) writes: "I am Manager, Environment and Planning, at VicForests, the state-owned forestry enterprise in Victoria, Australia. VicForests manages natural eucalyptus and mixed hardwood forests for sawtimber and pulpwood."

## 1985

Class Secretary: Alexander Brash  
[alexanderrbrash@gmail.com](mailto:alexanderrbrash@gmail.com)

**Jeff Diehl** writes: "I'm pleased to announce that Albion Environmental, the environmental consulting firm that I co-founded 20 years ago, became a women-owned business this year on International Women's Day. My two co-founding partners are transitioning into retirement and our next generation of senior managers (all women) have pooled their resources to acquire majority ownership of the firm. I'll remain as a minority owner to provide continuity for our clients."

Albion provides biological and archaeological consulting services throughout central California and has offices in Santa Cruz and San Luis Obispo. Also, as a personal note, Rob and I moved to Arroyo Grande, Calif., in 2015 and have settled on a three-acre property with solar power and 10,000+ gallons of rainwater catchment for our 4,000 square foot garden. Rob is serving as rector of St. Barnabas Episcopal Church in Arroyo Grande."



**Mark Damian Duda**, Executive Director of Responsive Management (RM), participated in his fifth gorilla trek and shared a photo from the trip (see above). RM specializes in survey research on natural resource and outdoor recreation issues. On one of the trips Mark was able to trek with the Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations, Amina Mohammed. Mark is helping organize a tribute to **Professor Steve Kellert** ('71 Ph.D.) at the Colorado State University "Pathways" conference in September along with **Bob Powell** ('01, '05 Ph.D.) and **Nicole Ardoin** ('09 Ph.D.).

## 1987

Class Secretaries: Christie Coon and Melissa Paly  
[christie.coon@gmail.com](mailto:christie.coon@gmail.com) | [mpaly01@gmail.com](mailto:mpaly01@gmail.com)

**Melissa Paly** has joined the Conservation Law Foundation as the new Great Bay-Piscataqua Waterkeeper where she'll work to advocate, engage, and inspire people to protect and restore the rivers, bays, and coast that make the Seacoast region of Maine and New Hampshire such a spectacular place to live, work, and play.

## 1989

Class Secretary: Betsy Carlson  
[bcinpt@gmail.com](mailto:bcinpt@gmail.com)

**Betsy Carlson** writes: "I still enjoy coordinating citizen science projects for the Port Townsend Marine Science Center where I am constantly in awe of the weird and wild creatures found here, from plankton to whales. I had a chance to visit former housemate, **Kirk Johnson** ('89 Ph.D.), at a celebration for the Western Flyer (think Steinbeck) being repaired in the local boatyard. Loving life in this small town. Visitors always welcome!"

**CJ May** writes: "Performing environmental magic as part of my work as recycling coordinator for the City of Waterbury got even more fun when I was asked to staff a table at the Crosby High School STEM Fair. Sharing recycling messages through magic with high school students was, despite their reputation for being jaded and disrespectful, more fun and powerful than formal shows at grade schools and other venues. As David Blaine demonstrates on his TV specials, personal interaction combined with magic cuts through social barriers, allowing for some real contact. Telling them about policies which burn trash is one thing... making smoke mysteriously issue forth from one's mouth is another."

**Judith Moore** writes: "As one F&ES friend put it, I've gone over to the 'banksters'. I joined a start-up, Affirmative Investment Management, based out of London. We focus solely on fixed income environmental and social impact investments, and I set the sustainable investment guidelines. Our clients are institutional investors – pension funds, large private banks, etc. – and the interest has been astounding. Maybe there is still hope we can shift how the money flows."

## 1990

Class Secretary: Judy Olson Hicks  
[hicksjudyo@yahoo.com](mailto:hicksjudyo@yahoo.com)

**Seema Bhatt** is an independent consultant working on issues related to biodiversity, climate change, and ecotourism in Asia. Her focus is on strengthening the links between biodiversity conservation and livelihoods of local communities. Her involvement in climate change issues began in 2007 when she coordinated a gap analysis of climate change adaptation across the Asia region on behalf of the Institute for Social and Environment Transition. She has also been involved in a similar exercise for USAID.

**Jen Lamb** writes: “For 16 years, I’ve been settled on the eastern edge of Wyoming’s Wind River Mountains, working for The Nature Conservancy on energy mitigation, sage grouse, ungulate migration, and water issues. This summer, we’re excited to have two F&ES interns joining us. My husband, Jim, 10-year old son, Bennett, and I spend a lot of time in the desert and mountains. We’re a couple hours from the southern end of Yellowstone – come visit!”

**Mark Van Steeter** writes: “I visited F&ES last summer and felt a lot of positive melancholy as I viewed the class photos along the stairway – magical, transformative times for me. I am in my 18<sup>th</sup> year as a professor at Western Oregon University. I love the teaching and my students; I survive the committees and politics. All in all, I think I am at the best of all institutions for me. We value teaching and inspiration above all else. My lovely muse, **Carla Wise**, has blossomed once again. (See *Carla’s update below*.) Our daughter, Lia, is going to college next year. She’s magical and insightful and smarter than we are. I wish all of you well.”

**Carla Wise** writes: “Mark Van Steeter and I have been settled in Corvallis, Ore., since 1999, where we’ve raised a daughter who is about to go to college. After earning a Ph.D., I worked as a plant conservation biologist for five years before becoming an environmental writer. That work led me to become increasingly immersed in climate change, both as a writer and an activist. Since 2013, I’ve been volunteering with Citizens’ Climate Lobby, and in 2016 I published a book about finding life-affirming responses to climate change, ‘Awake on Earth: Facing Climate Change with Sanity and Grace’. We’d love to hear from F&ES classmates!”

## 1991

**Class Secretary:** **Gwen Thomas**  
[gonthomas29@fastmail.fm](mailto:gonthomas29@fastmail.fm)

**Class Secretary Gwen Thomas** writes: “In honor of Earth Day, I asked folks to send me a quick note describing what they would be doing to celebrate the day.”

**Margo Burnham** writes: “We’ll spend Earth Day marching for science in D.C. with our 8-year-old and his 7-year-old friend.”



**Betty Charnon** writes: “April 22nd is also my birthday! I will be spending the day with friends at the March for Science in Anchorage. Afterwards I’ll go out to dinner with **Tim (Charnon)**. Here’s a photo of the family from spring break this year. I know it looks a lot like our family photo from last year, but we do spend a lot of time in the mountains.”

**Gwen Thomas** writes: “I have just wrapped up managing a conference, 20 months in the planning, focusing on the huge growth in population and development in North Texas and what it means for managing our local resources. Great speakers, engaged participants, and fabulous outdoor events made it an informative and fun weekend. I’m now turning to focus on getting the Texas Society for Ecological Restoration organized to participate in multiple Earth Day celebrations, particularly Earth Day Texas, one of the biggest, if not the biggest, Earth Day celebrations in the country. I am looking forward to seeing the F&ES reps who will be in Dallas for the event! (See *photo on page 51*.) I will also be taking a brief time out to participate in the Dallas March for Science.”

**Chris Rogers** writes: “This Earth Day, I will be giving a talk on the Bullitt Center and sustainable design and construction at the Building Voices conference at the University of Hawai’i in Honolulu, while nursing a healing back that I broke while skiing six weeks ago.”

**Rich Wallace** (’00 Ph.D.) writes: “This spring I had the pleasure of spending nearly a month in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE) working on several projects, including co-chairing the 2017 Jackson Hole Wildlife Symposium with F&ES Professor Susan Clark and alum **Peyton Curlee Griffin** (’92). The day-long symposium fostered discussion of human-wildlife coexistence in the GYE and beyond. Among the symposium participants were F&ES Dean Indy Burke, F&ES Lecturer and former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Interior **James Lyons** (’79), **Katie Holsinger**

(’16), and current F&ES doctoral students **Tim Terway** (Ph.D. candidate) and **Yufang Gao** (’14 and Ph.D. candidate). Among the 150 attendees were several current F&ES students and alumni, including **Josh Morse** (’17), **Ana Elisa Lambert Grossi** (’17), **Avana Andrade** (’15), and **Tim Northrop** (’03), Director of the F&ES Office of Development & Alumni Services. I’ll be marching in the Philadelphia March for Science on Earth Day.”

## 1992

**Class Secretary:** **Katherine Farhadian**  
[farhadianfamily@gmail.com](mailto:farhadianfamily@gmail.com)

**Peter Palmiotto** (’98 Ph.D.) is now Director of the Master’s Degree Program at Antioch University New England (AUNE) as well as a Professor in the Environmental Studies Department. AUNE is a graduate school which offers master’s degrees and Ph.D. degrees in environmental studies.

**Gary Tabor** writes: “Since graduating from F&ES, I have been working to advance large-scale conservation practice. First, I helped establish the Yellowstone to Yukon (Y2Y) effort in 1994. Now I’m taking those lessons to emerging large-scale conservation efforts around the world with the Center for Large Landscape Conservation, an organization I founded ten years ago in Bozeman, Mont., with board members **Tom McHenry** (YC ’77, ’80), **Victoria Mars** (YC ’78), and **Rick Weyerhauser** (YC ’77, ’83). One of our initiatives brings together 300 large scale conservation efforts in North America known as the Network for Landscape Conservation which is staffed by **Emily Bateson** (YC ’80) and **Jonathan Peterson** (’12).”

## 1993

**Class Secretaries:** **Dean Gibson**, **Molly!**  
**Goodyear**, and **Heather Merbs**  
[dgibson@sandiegozoo.org](mailto:dgibson@sandiegozoo.org) | [bvidogs@cox.net](mailto:bvidogs@cox.net)  
[h.merbs@comcast.net](mailto:h.merbs@comcast.net)

**Andre Eid** writes: “Since 1993, I’ve been employed by Norway’s Ministry of Climate and Environment in Oslo, where I work on the implementation of national environmental goals at the regional level (counties).”

**Eulogio Flores-Ayala** writes: “Currently I work on projects in the field of hydrology of natural forests. In particular, I study rainfall interception in high mountain forests in the Central Region of Mexico.”



## CLASS NOTES

**Manuel Guariguata** (D.F.E.S. '93) writes:

"Since 2006, I have worked at the Center for International Forestry Research, and currently lead its Latin American office in Peru, where I moved from Indonesia in 2013. I have been heavily involved in promoting multiple use systems incorporating valuable non-timber forest products and coexisting timber species in the Peruvian Amazon. I also generate analytical work on forest landscape restoration primarily to influence decision-making and facilitate practice. I welcome F&ES graduates who are interested in Amazonian forest management for potential collaborations or joint activities."

**Eleanor Sterling** ('93 Ph.D.) was the recipient of the Women in Science at Yale (WISAY) Distinguished Woman in Science Award in 2017. The award brings women scientists to Yale to give a talk about their career and research. Eleanor gave a lecture titled "Research-Action Arenas: The Role of Scientists in Addressing Societal Issues" on campus in April. She is the Chief Conservation Scientist at the Center for Biodiversity and Conservation at the American Museum of Natural History and an Affiliated Professor at the Richard Gilder Graduate School.

### 1995

*Class Secretaries: Marie Gunning and Ciara O'Connell*

*Mjgunning@aol.com | cmoconnell@comcast.net*

**Lindsey Brace Martinez** writes: "My husband, Peter, and I have two sons, Rhodes (13) and McQuillen (15) who have exceeded both of us in height this year. They are a blast and, thankfully, enjoy getting into the outdoors. Professionally, I decided to go out on my own after working in Boston for 15 years. I started StarPoint Advisors two years ago and partner with boards and senior management at nonprofits and private firms on a wide range of projects that span business strategy, marketing and client outreach, and impact investing. I've learned a lot about being an entrepreneur. I'm on the investment committee at The National Geographic Society, and am also involved with the Yale Center for Business and the Environment, so I have a chance to get back to campus at least twice a year. The students are impressive and inspiring as always."

**Tori Derr** ('01 Ph.D.) writes: "We moved from Boulder, Colo., to the Central Coast of California, where I am an Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies at California State University Monterey Bay. It is great being in a position where I can once again do a little bit of everything that I love. The students are great, and the coast is beautiful. Go Otters!"

**Greg Dicum** writes: "**Nina Luttinger** and I live in San Francisco, where we are both part of the burgeoning legal cannabis industry. Nina is the founder and CEO of Calyx & Bract, which makes products from Cannabidiol (CBD), the nonpsychoactive component of cannabis responsible for many of its medicinal qualities. I head the cannabis practice at 360Three, a consulting firm and angel investment fund. Even with all this activity and the chaos of having an eight-year-old at home, we would love to see any classmates who happen through the Bay Area and invite you to get in touch!"

**Sharon Hausam** is still happily living in New Mexico where she has been working for the Pueblo of Laguna as their Planning Program Manager for the past nine years. She is affiliate faculty at the University of New Mexico, with the Community and Regional Planning Program and Indigenous Design and Planning Institute. In the fall 2016 semester, she taught her dream class, "Indigenous Environmental Planning". She was recently a finalist for a Nathan Cummings Foundation fellowship for a project to engage tribes in climate adaptation planning through culturally-appropriate approaches.

**Harry Scott** writes: "At the end of 2014, I retired from the U.S. Forest Service. We relocated from Eureka, Calif., to Asheville, N.C. It was great to see **Mark Ashton** ('85, '90 Ph.D.) in Asheville at a weekend alumni event last year."

### 1996

*Class Secretaries: Kathryn Pipkin and Julie Rothrock*

*kpipkin9999@gmail.com  
jrothrock@maine.rr.com*

**David Ganz** writes: "I have recently departed from the role as the Chief of Party of USAID/ NASA's SERVIR-Mekong initiative to become the Executive Director of the Center for People and Forests (formerly known as the Regional Community Forestry Training Center for Asia

and the Pacific). I worked here in the late '90s and now return to lead the organization. We will be working with the F&ES Career Development Office to set up internships for people who want experience in the region and with community forestry."

**Ryan Valdez** serves as the Senior Manager for Conservation Science & Policy for the National Parks Conservation Association where he facilitates the application of multidisciplinary science toward air/climate, energy, landscapes, water, and wildlife conservation to help protect U.S. national parks. Additionally, he founded and continues to teach a field ecology course in Kenya during the winter break – in the same place he conducted his dissertation research. Due in part to the popularity of the course over time, he recently won the 2016 Distinguished Alumni Award from George Mason University's College of Science. On a more personal note, Ryan and his partner, Rob, are celebrating 13 years together and keep checking off that list of national parks to explore. And Ryan really wants a dog, but that hasn't happened yet.

### 1997

*Class Secretary: Paul Calzada*  
*pcalzada@clf.org*

**Kelly Keefe** writes: "I'm enjoying working for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the ecosystem restoration mission as a leading planner and scientist in Everglades restoration. I hope to see you all at reunion in October!"

**Madeline June Kass** writes: "In a year of career transitions, I am now Professor Emeritus of Thomas Jefferson School of Law and a Visiting Professor and Scholar at Seattle University School of Law. And, my twin baby boys are going to be seniors in high school in the fall. How time flies!"

**Jose Juan Terrasa-Soler** has been named Director at Marvel Architects (New York and San Juan). His practice as a landscape architect and ecologist focuses on green infrastructure and resiliency in urban design. His daughter, Sara Lauren, is now 12!

## 1998

Class Secretary: Volunteer Needed

**Katherine Lieberknecht** writes: “I am wrapping up my first year as an Assistant Professor in Urban Ecology at the University of Texas at Austin School of Architecture. My husband, kids, and I are all looking forward to getting out of the heat and into the northern woods for the summer.”



**Dirk Ludwig** writes: “I climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro, the highest freestanding mountain in the world, in July 2016, with an international team of leaders under the guidance of Arizona-based K2 Adventures and Blair Singer. This was a life-lifting experience for me and I felt very close to the nature all around and very close to the sky. I plan on repeating this. Anyone interested joining next time?”

## 1999

Class Secretaries: Jocelyn Forbush, Jennifer Garrison Ross, and Christiana Jones  
[jforbush@ttor.org](mailto:jforbush@ttor.org)  
[jennifergarrisonross@yahoo.com](mailto:jennifergarrisonross@yahoo.com)  
[christiana@jonesfamilyfarms.com](mailto:christiana@jonesfamilyfarms.com)

**Eli Sagor** ('00) writes: “I live in the Twin Cities. As an Extension Specialist, I manage the University of Minnesota’s Sustainable Forests Education Cooperative based at the Cloquet Forestry Center. I spend most of my free time chasing my two daughters around hockey rinks.”

## 2000

Class Secretaries: Erika Schaub and Zikun Yu  
[easffe@hotmail.com](mailto:easffe@hotmail.com) | [info@ayuglobal.com](mailto:info@ayuglobal.com)

**Christie Pollet-Young**, Gregory, and very adoring and affectionate big brother, Miles, were very excited to welcome Charlotte Marlee Pollet-Young on October 25, 2016. The future forester came in at a very sturdy 9 pounds, 3 ounces and is growing like a champ. When not changing diapers and reading stories about dinosaurs, Christie is the Director of Verification for carbon offset projects and REDD+ Programs at SCS Global Services. She’s fortunate to cross paths with many F&ES alums when evaluating forestry projects in California, Africa, and beyond.

**Zikun Yu** has established Zhuhai Flying Dragon Environmental Protection Technologies, a new Chinese startup that uses low-temperature pyrolysis (chemical change) technology to convert discarded tires, medical waste, and plastic scraps into petroleum fuel. With its 11 production lines, Flying Dragon will produce 110,000 tons of fuel oil from recycled tires and plastics by the end of this year.

**Harry White** writes: “I continue my endeavors as a conservation ecologist in New England, working in Northwestern Connecticut as well as in the Adirondacks, Green Mountains, White Mountains, and the Great North Woods of Maine. Among other projects, I recently completed the baseline ecological study of a 600-acre forever-wild Long Term Ecological Study site in the Northern Greens. I have also integrated unmanned aerial vehicles into my cartographic and imagery work. In March, I was given the 2017 Katchen Coley Award for Excellence in Land Conservation from the Connecticut Land Conservation Council.”

## 2001

Class Secretaries: Leigh Cash, Adam Chambers, and Jenny Grimm  
[cash@statsrule.com](mailto:cash@statsrule.com)  
[adam.chambers@por.usda.gov](mailto:adam.chambers@por.usda.gov)  
[jennywgrimm@gmail.com](mailto:jennywgrimm@gmail.com)

**Aya Hirata Kimura** writes: “My book on the Fukushima nuclear accident, *Radiation Brain Moms and Citizen Scientists*, came out in December 2016. My edited volume, *Food and Power in Hawai`i: Visions for Food Democracy* also came out in the fall.”

**Uromi Manage Goodale** ('09 Ph.D.) and **Noriko Oshima**, who have not seen each other since graduation 16 years ago, got to see each other in March in Tokyo! “It was really a wonderful feeling to start talking as if we never parted, as if we were casually meeting again in Sage,” said Uromi. Noriko is still engaged in conservation through her activities with the “Everlasting Nature of Asia” organization and Uromi is now an Associate Professor at Guangxi University where she conducts research on plant ecophysiology and forest regeneration dynamics.

In March, Uromi also got to visit with **Chisato Tomimura Mishiba** ('08), **Shuichi Ozawa** ('06), and **Tatsuhiko Ohkubo** (Visiting Associate Professor '05) in Kyoto at the Ecological Society of Japan meetings.

**Lisbet Kugler** is still with IFC’s environmental and social development department and is spending the year in Johannesburg. She very much enjoys exploring all that South Africa has to offer including what appears to be year-round comfortably warm temperatures for being outside and not having to wear socks!

**Chris Nyce** writes: “We’re about to make our fifth move as a family in the Foreign Service! This time the move will be from Santiago, Chile, to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. My wife, Rukmini, just graduated from the University of Maryland with a bachelor’s degree in Communications, and our three daughters, Rasa (11), Priya (10), and Jaya (7) are thriving and growing up way too fast. Our three years in Chile – where I have covered the environment, science, energy, and natural disaster sectors – have been excellent but we are ready for the next adventure and return to Africa where the work on environmental challenges brings with it a sense of greater impact. Starting in August, I will lead the Department of State’s Regional Environment Hub Office for East Africa covering the following countries: Burundi, Comoros,



## CLASS NOTES

Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda. Please send me a note if you work in the region or come and visit us in Addis between 2017-2019.”

### 2002

**Class Secretaries:** Catherine Bottrill and Roberto Frau  
[catherine.bottrill@gmail.com](mailto:catherine.bottrill@gmail.com)  
[rfrau@cocoaservices.com.mx](mailto:rfrau@cocoaservices.com.mx)

**Heather Richards** writes: “I’m excited to have moved from running a regional land conservation program at the Piedmont Environmental Council in Virginia to a broader position with The Conservation Fund. Happily, I’m still working in Virginia, albeit with a statewide scope of work. I’m also lucky to have a national portfolio of work as the Senior Representative for Mitigation Solutions with the Fund. In both roles, I get to play a part in shaping policy at the state and national level while still implementing on-the-ground conservation, all based out of my small farm.”

### 2003

**Class Secretaries:** Ben Hodgdon and Pete Land  
[benjamin.hodgdon@gmail.com](mailto:benjamin.hodgdon@gmail.com)  
[peter.c.land@gmail.com](mailto:peter.c.land@gmail.com)

**Ian Cheney** writes: “I’m living in midcoast Maine with my wife, Amanda, and our son, Kepler. I’m still making documentaries, doing a bit of teaching, and wondering when **James Lucas** is going to come visit.”

**Ilmi Granoff** ('04) is still living by Ocean Beach, San Francisco, near **Kabir Peay**, **Alison Forrestel**, **Oliver Grantham**, and, temporarily, **Avery Cohn** ('04), and leading the sustainable finance program at ClimateWorks Foundation, where he regularly sees **Ramsay Ravenel** ('02), **Heather Wright** ('04), **Angela Whitney** ('13), and a host of other alumni.

**Abdalla Said Shah** writes: “No upheavals – all is largely business as usual. I did get a political bug and sought nominations to become a member of the East African Legislative Assembly, but did not win.”

### 2004

**Class Secretaries:** Jennifer Vogel Bass, Keith Bisson, Daniela Vizcaino, and Laura Wooley  
[jennifer\\_vogel@yahoo.com](mailto:jennifer_vogel@yahoo.com)  
[keith\\_bisson@yahoo.com](mailto:keith_bisson@yahoo.com)  
[dana.vizcaino@gmail.com](mailto:dana.vizcaino@gmail.com)  
[le.wooley@gmail.com](mailto:le.wooley@gmail.com)

**Amanda Mahaffey** shared an article from the North Atlantic Fire Science Exchange about **Ann Camp** ('90) to help honor her in her retirement from F&ES. Amanda wrote the article with significant contributions from alums **Marlyse Duguid** ('10, '16 Ph.D.), **Jim Cronan** ('06), and **Mike Ferrucci** ('81), as well as Erin Lane.

[firesciencenorthatlantic.org/blog/2017/2/1/ann-camp-afire-for-teaching?rq=Ann%20Camp](http://firesciencenorthatlantic.org/blog/2017/2/1/ann-camp-afire-for-teaching?rq=Ann%20Camp)

**Emily (Shelton) Waytoti** writes: “I have been managing environment programs with USAID for the last eight years as a Foreign Service Officer. I have been assigned to India, Ecuador, Peru, and now Colombia, where I am Deputy Director of the Environment Office. I am loving Colombia and currently manage a program on responsible mining with degraded land rehabilitation and alternative livelihoods. My daughter, Maiya, just turned 5.”

### 2005

**Class Secretaries:** David Cherney, Dora Cudjoe, Virginia Lacy, and Benjamin Urquhart  
[david.cherney@colorado.edu](mailto:david.cherney@colorado.edu)  
[dcudjoe@worldbank.org](mailto:dcudjoe@worldbank.org) | [virg.lacy@gmail.com](mailto:virg.lacy@gmail.com)  
[bnurquhart@gmail.com](mailto:bnurquhart@gmail.com)

**Sarah (Matheson) Mihalecz** writes: “My big announcement is that I got married in February to Michael Mihalecz. We had a great ceremony and reception in Arlington, Va., and were blessed to have several F&ESers join us to celebrate. I was also honored to have Professor **Marian Chertow** ('00 Ph.D.) deliver a training on Corporate Sustainability to a group within my company last fall at our coffee roasting plant, Eight O’Clock Coffee. We were all energized by her talk, plus the coffee.”

**Songlin Wang** writes: “I have been pursuing a career as a conservation professional since our great time at F&ES. I started by working for The Nature Conservancy, and then served WWF China and WWF International for over eight years where I initiated and led the marine and sustainable seafood program. More recently,

I worked with The Paulson Institute where I led the coastal wetland conservation program. In 2015, I joined the newly-founded Ocean Outcomes to start its China branch. The primary goal is improving sustainability and responsibility of my country’s fisheries and aquaculture sectors, as well as the healthy aquatic habitats critical to fisheries and fish farms. I also serve as advisor to the Aquaculture Stewardship Council and Birdlife International.”

### 2006

**Class Secretaries:** Ying Chi, Reilly Renshaw Dibner, Sue Ely, Krista Mostoller, and Jill Savery  
[flora.chi@gmail.com](mailto:flora.chi@gmail.com) | [reillydibner@gmail.com](mailto:reillydibner@gmail.com)  
[suzie.ely@gmail.com](mailto:suzie.ely@gmail.com)  
[anderson\\_kb@yahoo.com](mailto:anderson_kb@yahoo.com)  
[jillsavery@yahoo.com](mailto:jillsavery@yahoo.com)

**Jessica Albietz** writes: “I switched roles about a year ago at PG&E. I’m now managing electrification of Caltrain (the San Francisco Peninsula commuter railroad).”

**Patricia Bachmann** writes: “My family welcomed our second child, Wyatt William Bachmann, on November 23<sup>rd</sup>. Emma is very excited to be a big sister! I am still working as the Executive Director of Hunterdon Land Trust, a regional conservancy in central New Jersey.”

**Gonzalo Griebenow** writes: “After more than 10 years since graduating from F&ES, I am moving back home for good! I will soon assume a new position as the U.N. International Fund for Agricultural Development Regional Officer for Climate Change and Environment for Latin America and the Caribbean. I am very excited for this new opportunity and hope I can see many of you in Lima. In the meantime I am travelling to Ghana and will meet with **Hugh Brown** ('10), **Patricia Buah** ('06), and **Godfred Ohene-Gyan**.”

**Jayoung Koo** writes: “I am an Assistant Extension Professor in the Department of Landscape Architecture and Community and Economic Development Initiative of Kentucky (CEDIK) at the University of Kentucky. Apart from work, Daniel (10) and Caroline (3) are keeping us busy as can be.”

**Chris Meaney** writes: “This April I was honored to serve as co-bestman at **Kevin Ogorzalek**’s ('07) wedding in Chicago. A great time was had by all including a handful of F&ESers that dominated the dance floor. Last September, Kristin and I,

along with our three-year-old daughter, Hallie, welcomed Evan Patrick Meaney to the family, which was super exciting. Things are going well at work in Silver Spring, Md., where I am the Deputy Chief of the Habitat Protection Division in the NOAA Fisheries Office of Habitat Conservation. I'm looking forward to the summer, spending time outdoors with family and friends. Hope you all are well!"

## 2007

*Class Secretary: Volunteer Needed*

**Anamaria Aristizabal** writes: "I am a fan of reinventing one's life. In this time of massive change and disruption, we are called to ask: Who am I becoming? What is my work? It is those questions that have led me to create a workshop called 'Life Re-Mapped' to guide people in reconnecting with their purpose and have their change-making efforts come from a deep, authentic, and connected place. I am also a fan of being a host of conversations that matter, in all contexts. Wherever we are, we can create safe and generative containers for the new to emerge. Coaching and facilitation are my calling to make a better world. Contact me if you want to know more."



**Gordon Clark** and his wife Nichole welcomed their daughter, Cecily Rose Clark, into the world on March 11, 2017. "Ceci" is enjoying life in Pescadero, a small town an hour south of San Francisco where her parents have lived for five years, and is excited to attend her first reunion in October!

**Rhead Enion** writes: "My wife, Risa Weaver-Enion, and I have moved to Sacramento, Calif., from Washington, D.C. I am now working as an attorney in the Executive Office of the California Air Resources Board. Risa has transitioned her wedding/event planning business to Sacramento, and will also be looking for event planning work with a nonprofit."

## 2008

*Class Secretaries: Angelica Afanador Ardila and Kelsey Kidd Wharton*  
[angelica.afanador@aya.yale.edu](mailto:angelica.afanador@aya.yale.edu)  
[kelseyk.wharton@gmail.com](mailto:kelseyk.wharton@gmail.com)

**Georgia Basso** writes: "I'm buckling down for summer in Washington, D.C. Thanks to **Kellie Stokes** (Ph.D. candidate), I know some good swimming holes near the city. I'm enjoying my work with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service headquarters office and catching up with the F&ES South folks. Give a shout if you find yourself in the nation's capital. I'm also hoping the Class of 2008 and others pull together a low-key weekend reunion at some point. Drop me a line if you're interested in plotting a plan!"

**Paula Randler** writes: "In March, I moved to Atlanta for a new job with the U.S. Forest Service as Urban and Community Forestry Program Manager for Region 8. I'm excited to start a new chapter back home in the South, and return to urban forestry."

**Yong Zhao** writes: "I'm currently deferring my Ph.D. to work as the CEO of Junzi Kitchen in NYC. Junzi Kitchen is a Chinese fast food casual concept founded by a group of Yale graduate students."

## 2009

*Class Secretaries: Rajesh Koirala, Neelesh Shrestha, Simon Tudiwer, and Judith Wu*  
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[tudiwer@gmail.com](mailto:tudiwer@gmail.com) | [jude.wu@aya.yale.edu](mailto:jude.wu@aya.yale.edu)



**Cindy Chang** and **Jordan Macknick** put together their best efforts to produce a brand new all-F&ES sapling, Evelyn Wicka Chang Macknick.

Evelyn has benefited from and has been indoctrinated by the strong F&ES crew in Colorado (**Trisha Shrum**, **Dan Steinberg**, **Jack Yeh** ('10), **Kim Yuan-Farrell**, **Chris Yuan-Farrell**, and **Greg Zimmerman** ('12)), and through lovely visits from out of town F&ESers (**Georgia Basso** ('08) and **Sean Dixon**).

**Sarah Charlop-Powers** writes: "In February, my wife, **Dani Simons** ('04), and I welcomed our son, Myles. We are loving the adventure of parenthood. In June, I look forward to celebrating the five-year anniversary of the Natural Areas Conservancy (with F&ES alum board member **Max Joel**)."

**MJ Coren** writes: "I'm now a journalist at Quartz, part of The Atlantic. I'm writing about technology and economics, and covering as much science and environment as I can. **Lauren Richie** ('11) and I are in San Francisco where we own a 22' sailboat called the Sea Goat. Come visit!"

**Mark Richard Evidente** writes: "I've been working in the Philippines, running my tourism development consulting firm, TwoEco, Inc. We've been privileged to work with a number of local governments, enterprises, and organizations in the Philippines, planning for a more sustainable path for tourism development. I've also been honored to have been elected the President of the Philippine Heritage Conservation Society, a nonprofit organization that advocates for the protection of built heritage. I also passed the Philippines' urban planning professional licensure exam. I hope you can all come to visit soon!"

**Joe Orefice** writes: "I've taken a new position after eight years of being a faculty member at Paul Smith's College. I've joined the Department of Natural Resources at Cornell University as Director of the Uihlein Forest in Lake Placid, N.Y., and as the Northern New York Maple Specialist. My directive is to conduct maple and agroforestry-related research, and serve the needs of maple producers. Part of this is to manage the Uihlein Forest which includes a 6,000 tap sugarbush. It's mid-sugaring season as I write this, and there's syrup on everything, including my dog Allis (who does not like syrup). I'm still running North Branch Farm which now includes two high tunnels, a few too many cattle, many fig trees, and plenty of agroforestry. Be in touch if you find yourself in northern New York."

**Mary Rogalski** ('15 Ph.D.) writes: "After finishing up my Ph.D., my husband and I moved to Ann Arbor, Mich., where I am now a postdoc in the Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Department at the University of Michigan. My research involves how variation in light, temperature, and oxygen availability affects disease dynamics in lake plankton communities. We welcomed our first child, Griffin, just before Thanksgiving in 2015."



## CLASS NOTES

**Lauren (Goers) Williams** writes: “This past fall my husband, son, and I packed our life into a few suitcases and made the move from Washington, D.C., to Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). I’m working for the World Resources Institute as Chief of Party for our country programs in DRC and neighboring Republic of the Congo. We’re working at the intersection of forest protection, biodiversity conservation, and natural resource governance, and I have the pleasure of running into fellow F&ES grads **Omari Ilambu** ('01) and **Innocent Liengola** ('08) quite frequently! Look us up if you ever find yourself anywhere in Central Africa – we have a guest room.”

## 2010

**Class Secretaries:** Daniella Aburto Valle, Luke Bassett, Paul Beaton, Clara Changxin Fang, William Lynam, and Kristin Tracz  
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[william.lynam@aya.yale.edu](mailto:william.lynam@aya.yale.edu)  
[kristintracz@gmail.com](mailto:kristintracz@gmail.com)

**Katie Hawkes** writes: “I just moved to Philadelphia! Although I have a deep and unshakeable desire to only live in warm places, my girlfriend is finishing med school in New Jersey, so I decided to come hang out here. If you’re in the area, let’s be friends! Also, I have a just-pays-the-bills job that I do 3/4 time, so if you have any projects you need help on, I’m looking for cool stuff to get involved with – let me know!”

**Chris Starkey** writes: “It’s been so long since I saw most of you. In that time Vanessa and I moved to New York City, were married, and had our son, Thomas. He is such a rascal – I’ve assigned a portion of my brain to the full-time calculation of injury risk. Recently, I have been working on the master plan for a campus for adults with autism during the week, and restoring an old farm house near Hudson, N.Y., on the weekends. Stop by friends, I miss my F&ESers!”

## 2011

**Class Secretaries:** Margaret Arbuthnot, Lucien Bouffard, Efrie Friedlander, Gabriel Mejias, and Randal Strobo  
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[gabrielmejias@gmail.com](mailto:gabrielmejias@gmail.com)  
[rastrobo@gmail.com](mailto:rastrobo@gmail.com)

**Matt Jokajty** writes: “2016 was a big year for me and the family, and I’m looking forward to the rest of 2017. In 2016, I moved in-house after several years of practicing environmental law at a New York City boutique law firm, and I’m now an Environmental Counsel at the New Jersey-based utility and energy company, PSEG. It certainly is an interesting time to be an environmental lawyer!”

**Christopher Kieran** marked his two-year anniversary at the William Penn Foundation by closing on a \$3.5 million loan to develop Philadelphia’s future Rail Park on the old Reading Railroad Viaduct.

## 2012

**Class Secretaries:** Simon De Stercke, Naazia Ebrahim, Alison Schaffer, and Leigh Whelpton  
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[schaffer.alison@gmail.com](mailto:schaffer.alison@gmail.com)  
[leigh.whelpton@gmail.com](mailto:leigh.whelpton@gmail.com)

**Emily Schosid** finally returned to her homeland in Denver, Colo., last summer. She’s back in grad school at the University of Denver (DU), having a lot less fun than she did at F&ES, and working towards an M.S. in Marketing. She’s also working at the DU Center for Sustainability, teaching undergraduates about energy efficiency and how to be an awesome environmental professional. In her couple of spare moments, she is wandering around the new, hip neighborhoods of Denver, still riding her turquoise bike, writing poetry, and cuddling with her dog Banjo.

**Pablo Torres** writes: “Gabi and I are expecting our first child this September! We are still in the D.C. metro area.”

**Kayanna Warren** began a new position as a Forest Health Monitoring Ecologist with the Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region Office in Vallejo, Calif., where she will assist with monitoring forest health problems and impacts in the states of California, Hawaii, and the U.S.-affiliated Pacific Islands.

## 2013

**Class Secretaries:** Judith Ament, Adedana Ashebir, Rebecca de Sa, Laura Johnson, and Victoria Lockhart  
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[laura.a.johnson@aya.yale.edu](mailto:laura.a.johnson@aya.yale.edu)  
[victoria.lockhart@aya.yale.edu](mailto:victoria.lockhart@aya.yale.edu)

**Patrick Hook** writes: “After three-and-a-half great years with Conservation Forestry, I recently joined Harvard Management Company’s Natural Resources Team. Come visit me in Portsmouth, N.H., before I move to Boston!”

**Vanessa Lamers** writes: “I’m a Project Manager at the Public Health Foundation in D.C. We work largely with governmental public health and I’m managing our environmental health project. I’d love to connect with anyone interested in working with public health departments on innovative ways to combat environmental issues.”

**Justin Lindenmayer** writes: “After a two-and-a-half year gig as employee number two at a natural food start-up based in Newburyport, Mass., I took a job in April 2016 as Product Manager for Verde Farms, one of country’s largest organic grass-fed beef companies. We’re excited to bring on a Yale School of Management student for an internship this summer. My family and I have become obsessed with the North Shore of Massachusetts since moving here in 2014, so anyone who is thinking about relocating to the Boston area please reach out and I’ll convince you to settle down here.”

## 2014

Class Secretaries: William Georgia, Chetana Kallakuri, Lin Shi, Cary Simmons, and Karen Tuddenham  
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[cary.simmons@tpl.org](mailto:cary.simmons@tpl.org)  
[karen.tuddenham.yale@gmail.com](mailto:karen.tuddenham.yale@gmail.com)

**Lin Shi** writes: "I'm excited to go back to school and start my Ph.D. in Environment and Resources at Stanford University this fall. I will leverage my industry experience to work on research related to sustainable supply chains in the electronics industry. The other fun thing to share is I've been playing with a local jazz band called Unbound at various places in San Francisco. If you are in the area, check out our performance schedule!"

## 2015

Class Secretaries: Akiva Fishman, David Gonzalez, Philip Kunhardt, Frances Sawyer, and Eric Vermeiren  
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[ericvermeiren@gmail.com](mailto:ericvermeiren@gmail.com)



**Ross Bernet** is enjoying working in the world of Open Source GeoSpatial with Azavea in Philadelphia. In March, Ross helped to organize an informal F&ES happy hour in Philly with local alumni and current F&ES students who were on a trip to tour urban greening sites in the city. Pictured above (left to right) are Ross, **Will Klein** ('17), **Max Webster** ('17), **Mary Ann Boyer** ('90), her son, Jim (possible future F&ES student), and **Rupal Patel** ('16).

**Shane Feyers** writes: "Since graduating, I completed a situation analysis for Nairobi National Park, conducted site assessments for bioswale installations in New Haven, and helped Audubon Connecticut expand urban bird habitat and presence in the city. I also completed an ecotourism development assessment for the Western Caucasus World Heritage area for a U.S. Department of State project, and, as a research fellow of F&ES, I attended IUCN's 2016 World Conservation Congress where I proposed a motion for improving standards in ecotourism, which passed with nearly unanimous support. I have been working on global outreach and research to mobilize the resolution ever since."

**Rebecca (Bex) Gilbert** ('16) writes: "I moved to Boston this spring after finishing a year-long Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship working in the U.S. Senate alongside **Kathy Tsantiris**."

Around the world, coral reefs are threatened by climate change, pollution, and overfishing. But three years ago, classmates **Gator Halperin** and **Sam Teicher** had a novel idea: create a scalable model for reef restoration. Ultimately, their company, Coral Vita, hopes to operate large land-based coral farms around the world, selling restoration services to customers and helping counter global reef degradation. Coral Vita is already winning awards and accolades for social entrepreneurs and innovators, including Fast Company's 2017 World Changing Ideas and WeWork's Creator Awards. Gator and Sam have successfully completed their seed funding round, and now have the funds needed to build their pilot coral farm and run operations for two years. They're also busy finalizing the farm's Caribbean location and preparing to hire a Chief Science Officer. They say there have been some unexpected bumps and turns along the way, but that's what comes when you set out to build a company to help repair the world.

**Danielle Lehle** writes: "I have been serving as a Presidential Management Fellow with the National Park Service since September 2016. I work as a Natural Resource Specialist in Lakewood, Colo., and my division works with parks all over the country to help them with planning projects, such as visitor use management, trails management, wilderness stewardship, or strategic planning. Hopefully

when my fellowship ends in 2018 they will decide they want to keep me around longer. When not working, I play percussion with the Lakewood Symphony Orchestra and try to spend as much time in the mountains as possible."

## 2016

Class Secretaries: Paloma Caro, Mohammad Aatish Khan, Nicholas McClure, Mariana Vedoveto, and Lisa Veliz  
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[lisaveliz@gmail.com](mailto:lisaveliz@gmail.com)



**Sabrina Szeto**, **Gwen Thomas** ('91), **Sara Harari** ('18), and **Nicholas Olson** (pictured above, left to right) were exhibitors at Earth Day Texas, the largest Earth Day gathering in the world. Sabrina and Nicholas represented the Ucross High Plains Stewardship Initiative, Gwen represented the Texas Society for Ecological Restoration, and Sara, a current student, was representing the F&ES Office of Admissions and Financial Aid.



# CLASS NOTES

2016 Class Secretary **Lisa Veliz** ('17) shared three Class of 2016 photo updates for this edition:



F&ES alumni in Tofo, Mozambique. **Celine Lim** ('15) (*right*) works with the World Bank to administer sustainable forestry programs in Mozambique. **Nick McClure** (*left*) is conducting research as a Fox Fellow on resource governance and edible caterpillars in Limpopo Province, South Africa. **Lisa Veliz** (*center*) was studying on exchange at the Graduate School of Business at University of Cape Town in South Africa.



**Mohammad Aatish Khan** and **Lisa Veliz** met in Delhi for the evening. Aatish is working with YES Bank to pioneer India's first-ever green bond. Lisa was traveling through India over winter break.



*Left to right:* **Lisa Veliz**, **Nick McClure**, and **Robert Mwehe Mwaniki** traveling by tuk tuk through the streets of Maputo, Mozambique. Robert is working with the World Bank to engage with landscape-level institutions for community-based rural development programs in Mozambique. Lisa and Nick were visiting Robert in Maputo.

*Thank you, F&ES Class Secretaries, for your dedication to keeping your classmates connected to each other and F&ES!*

Welcome to our newest Class Secretaries for the Class of 2017:  
**Niko Alexandre, David McCarthy, Becca Shively, Emily Wier, and Farrukh Zaman.**



*The Class of 2017 returned to Great Mountain Forest just before Commencement for MODS 2.0 – a time for graduating classes to enjoy a few days together before launching into their new adventures.*

## LOOKING BACK



*Photo courtesy of Cathy McConnell '85 M.F.S., Nora Devoe '84 M.F.S., '90 D.For., and Mark Ashton '85 M.F., '90 Ph.D.*

**“A photo of the first TRI summer interns in 1984 all working in Puerto Rico with then TRI Director John Hoffnagle '78 M.F.S., former Dean John Gordon, and former Professor David Smith '46 M.F., '50 Ph.D. Almost all are working around the globe on tropical forestry and international development.”**

Professor Mark Ashton | '85 M.F., '90 Ph.D.

**Do you have a photo to share from when you were a student at F&ES?**

Send photos to: [alumni.fes@yale.edu](mailto:alumni.fes@yale.edu)



## REMEMBERING PROFESSOR STEPHEN KELLERT, WHO EXPLORED LINKS BETWEEN PEOPLE AND NATURE



Stephen R. Kellert '71 Ph.D., a revered F&ES Professor of Social Ecology whose research and writing advanced the understanding of the connection between humans and the natural world, died on November 27 after a long illness.

Professor Kellert, the Tweedy Ordway Professor Emeritus of Social Ecology, who continued to teach following his retirement in 2010, also mentored generations of doctoral degree, master's degree, and undergraduate students at Yale.

After completing a Ph.D. in sociology at Yale, Kellert joined F&ES in 1977 as a Senior Research Associate and Lecturer. Three years later he became an Associate Professor, and in 1988 he was promoted to Professor. During his tenure at the School he also served as Director of Admissions, Chairman of the Budget Committee, and Associate Dean.

He authored more than 150 publications (including his forthcoming book, "Nature by Design: The Practice of Biophilic Design," to be published in 2018), and received numerous awards and honors. Some of his most noted early research examined the important role of nature and the outdoors in the health and development of young children. Children's need for contact with the outdoors, he once said, reflects our species' inherent need to be

part of the natural world. It provides a necessary foundation for our fitness and productivity.

During the 1980s he helped develop an emerging theory known as "biophilia," a term coined by biologist Edward O. Wilson, which describes humanity's innate connection with the natural world. Together they elucidated the ideas and concepts of biophilia in a series of articles and books, including the seminal "The Biophilia Hypothesis."

As Professor Kellert described it, the theory of biophilia asserts that human dependence on nature goes far beyond our reliance upon material and physical sustenance. This dependence, he wrote in 1993, includes "a human craving for aesthetic, intellectual, cognitive, and even spiritual meaning and satisfaction." This intrinsic connection, forged during our evolutionary development, plays a central role in our capacities to think, feel, communicate, create, and find meaning in life.

Professor Kellert's work on understanding these connections led to his pioneering work on biophilic design, an innovative approach to building places in a manner that bridges the growing divide between people and nature, an "architecture of life" that promotes healthy and productive habits. Green design principles were integrated, at Professor Kellert's urging, in the design of Kroon Hall, the LEED platinum-certified home of F&ES that opened in 2009.

"From the beginning Steve was one of the strongest advocates for that building," said Alan Brewster, a former F&ES Deputy Dean who worked with Professor Kellert on the Kroon process and who is now a research scholar at the School. "And he was integral to the whole process, from conceptualization to design to construction. He was such a terrific partner in making Kroon what it is today."

The School and family of Stephen Kellert hosted a memorial gathering to honor him on January 8. More than 200 friends, colleagues, and alumni gathered to remember Professor Kellert in Kroon Hall.

"What I learned from Steve is that you can take questions or areas of curiosity and put them together in many different ways," said Nicole Ardoyn '09 Ph.D., a former student who is now an Associate Professor at Stanford University's Graduate School of Education and Woods Institute for the Environment. "He didn't confine himself by saying, 'I study human dimensions of resource management,' or, 'I study wildlife and values.' Instead, he said, 'I'm curious about values' or 'I'm curious about the natural world.' Then he might look at those areas through a certain lens for a while, which might send him on a new trajectory. And then that trajectory might send him in a whole different direction. His curiosity was truly an inspiration."

**"What a life well lived having contributed so enormously to our understanding of the power of nature to human well-being."**

Jamie Williams | '86 B.A., '89 M.E.S. | *Former Student*



**"Steve just continued to grow and grow, taking on bigger and deeper issues. He was a marvelous scholar, a marvelous teacher, and a marvelous person."**

Gus Speth | '64 B.A., '69 LL.B. | *Former F&ES Dean*

## STUDY REVEALS DEEP NATURE APPRECIATION IN THE U.S., BUT ALSO BARRIERS TO CONNECTION

A national study that was co-led by the late Professor Stephen R. Kellert found an alarming disconnect between people and nature in the United States – but also widespread opportunities for reconnecting.

In a study of nearly 12,000 American adults and children, the researchers found that more than half of adults report spending five hours or less in nature each week. And parents reported that their 8- to 12-year-old children spend three times as many hours with computers and televisions each week as they do playing outside.

In the study, “The Nature of Americans National Report: Disconnection and Recommendations for Reconnection,” a team of researchers offers 22 recommendations built around the premise that a connection to nature is not “a dispensable amenity” but essential for the quality of life, health, social well-being, prosperity, and productivity of all Americans.

“Connecting Americans and nature must be a vibrant, ongoing effort supported by all members of the public,” they write. “The state of the natural world and our place within it cannot afford for us to act slowly. We must act now to ensure that present and future generations are connected with nature.”

Despite the challenges, the study suggests that there are opportunities. More than three-quarters of adults rated contact with nature as very or extremely important for their physical health and emotional outlook. And one-quarter of parents said contact with nature improved their child’s weight, attention span, energy, anxiety, asthma, or other adverse health outcomes.

The study was grounded in Professor Kellert’s 1970s-era research of Americans’ perceptions of nature – research that is widely recognized as the wellspring for the study of the social dimensions of conservation. He remained passionate about this project until his death in November, providing guidance and direction on reports just two weeks before his passing.

“Our research team is deeply saddened by his loss,” the researchers write in a tribute to Kellert. “Dr. Kellert was joyous and enthusiastic in his work – as anyone who came in contact with him would agree – and hopeful that the study’s findings would provide important guidance to improving human health and well-being. It is with highest esteem that we continue this initiative as a tribute to his immeasurable contributions as scholar, colleague, and friend.”

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*The principal investigators were the late Professor Kellert and David J. Case, the founder and president of DJ Case & Associates and a practitioner in the field of human dimensions of wildlife and natural resource management. This public-private collaborative was sponsored by the Fish & Wildlife Foundation of Florida, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, the Disney Conservation Fund, the Morrison Family Foundation, the Wildlife Management Institute, and Yale University.*

### Learn more:

[environment.yale.edu/news/article/remembering-stephen-kellert-longtime-professor-of-social-ecology/](https://environment.yale.edu/news/article/remembering-stephen-kellert-longtime-professor-of-social-ecology/)

[environment.yale.edu/news/article/study-reveals-deep-nature-appreciation-in-the-us-but-also-barriers-to-connection/](https://environment.yale.edu/news/article/study-reveals-deep-nature-appreciation-in-the-us-but-also-barriers-to-connection/)

## REMEMBERING CARL W. KNOBLOCH JR., CONSERVATIONIST AND F&ES BENEFACTOR

Carl W. Knobloch Jr. '51 B.A., 86, a businessman and philanthropist whose generosity helped fund the construction of Kroon Hall, the administrative home of the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, passed away on November 22, 2016.

A member of the Yale Class of 1951, Knobloch’s love of the outdoors, first developed during a childhood spent on his family’s farm in Stamford, Conn., and further cultivated in his adopted home in Wyoming, inspired a decades-long commitment to conservation.

He founded the Knobloch Family Foundation, which is dedicated to preserving land and wild spaces for animals and to valuing natural resources. In 2005, he donated \$4 million toward the construction of Kroon Hall, the greenest building on the Yale campus. Two years later he endowed the F&ES deanship. At the time, he said that preservation of natural ecosystems is critical to the continued economic strength of the country, as well as the health of all Americans. His foundation also supports a faculty position at F&ES, currently held by Assistant Professor Eli Fenichel,

and research into the value of natural capital assets, such as groundwater, forests, and fish populations. “There is an impending crisis in the degradation of the world’s environment, which we must prevent for the sake of our children and their children,” Knobloch said. “F&ES is the finest training ground for those who will forge the way.”

Indy Burke, who was named Carl W. Knobloch Jr., Dean at F&ES last summer, became friends with Knobloch while she was Dean of the University of Wyoming’s Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources. During his memorial service in Atlanta, Burke remembered the many spirited conversations they shared about conservation and public lands management. “Mostly, Carl did not just want to think and talk about conservation, he wanted to conserve. Now,” she said. “He wanted to conserve as much as he possibly could, and as fast as he could. Carl’s legacy will live into perpetuity – from conserving the wildlife migration corridors in the Red Desert of Wyoming to his contributions at Yale.”



## IN MEMORIAM

### George Bengtson '61 Ph.D.

(1930-2017) of Auburn, Ala., passed away on February 19. A native of Sealy, Texas, he spent most of his childhood in southern Louisiana. He attended Louisiana State University where he studied forestry and soil sciences, and earned his master's degree from Duke in 1955 and a Ph.D. from Yale in 1961. He also served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean conflict. He began his career in forestry as a research forester and plant physiologist with the U.S. Forest Service in Olustee, Fla., before working with the Tennessee Valley Authority in Muscle Shoals, Ala. Later he served as Associate Dean of the Oregon State University College of Forestry, Director of the Forest Service's Center for Forested Wetlands Research in Charleston, S.C., and as Associate Dean of the Auburn University School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences. During his retirement, George served two terms as a member of the Auburn Tree Commission, and led the establishment of the Auburn Historic Tree Trail. In 2012, Auburn Mayor Bill Ham designated November 27 as "George Bengtson Day" in honor of "his dedication to helping preserve Auburn's beautification and urban forestry." George was a Fellow of the Society of American Foresters, was awarded a USDA Certificate of Merit in 1990 and the John A. Beale Memorial Award in 1991, and was elected to the Alabama Foresters Hall of Fame in 2000. In his spare time, he enjoyed traveling, landscaping, and serving as a youth basketball coach and Boy Scout leader. He is survived by his wife, Patricia, three children, and four grandchildren.

### John Berbee '50 M.F.

(1925-2016) passed away on December 14 at Agrace Hospice Care in Fitchburg, Wis. A native of Ontario, he served in the Royal Canadian Air Force during World War II before earning his bachelor's degree in forestry from the University of Toronto in 1949. He then completed his master's degree in forestry at the Yale School of Forestry, where he met his wife, Flora Kubush, a research assistant. John went on to complete his Ph.D. in plant pathology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1954 and was appointed as an assistant professor at UW-Madison in 1957. During his professorship, he worked with USAID for three years in Nigeria helping to establish a new university. He became a U.S. citizen in 1982. He retired in 1989 and enjoyed traveling across the country with Flora in their VW camper van. In his spare time, John was an active member of the West Madison Rotary Club and an avid gardener. He is survived by his wife, three children, and one grandson.

### John F. Cole '62 M.F.

(1933-2016) of Hattiesburg, Miss., passed away on July 11. A graduate of Louisiana State University, he earned his Master of Forestry at the Yale School of Forestry in 1962. He then served as a U.S. Forest Service Ranger in Colorado's Arapahoe National Forest for two years before attending the University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy from 1963-1966. He also served in the U.S. Air Force in atomic energy from 1953-1957. John worked with various pharmacies before owning Cole's Walgreen Agency Drugs and Cole Drugs, Inc. In the 1980s, John, an active Baptist, created a charitable organization, Medicines for Christ, Inc., that delivered medicines and medical supplies to developing countries. He is survived by his wife, Katherine, four children, and five grandchildren.

### Robert Guillard '54 Ph.D.

(1921-2016) passed away peacefully on September 25 at St. Andrew's Village, Booth Bay Harbor, Maine. He attended The City College of New York where he was co-captain of the fencing team and graduated with a bachelor's of science degree in physics in 1941. After college, he worked as an engineer at the Brooklyn Navy Yard before attending graduate school at Yale to become an oceanographer. Bob was an expert in phytoplankton and worked for many years at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. In 1981 he accepted a position at the Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences where he developed a national collection of algae and other marine organisms. In his spare time, he enjoyed English country dancing and target shooting. He is survived by his wife, Ruth, three stepsons, and five step-grandchildren.

### André Jagendorf '51 Ph.D.

(1928-2017) passed away in Ithaca, N.Y., on March 13. A native of Manhattan, he earned his bachelor's of science degree in plant physiology from Cornell in 1948 and a Ph.D. in biophysics from Yale in 1951. He then spent two years at UCLA as a Merck postdoctoral fellow before being offered a professorship at Johns Hopkins University where he made full professor in 1966. He then returned to Cornell as a professor of plant physiology, and was named the Liberty Hyde Professor in 1981. He was known for his groundbreaking research on photosynthesis, and discovered the gene for the enzyme responsible for DNA repair and recombination in chloroplasts. André became President of the American Society of Plant Physiologists in 1967, received the Society's Charles F. Kettering Award in 1978, and was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1980. In 2012, he received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Rebeiz Foundation for Basic Research. In addition to his research, he was known for his sense of humor and famous for his jokes. He is survived by his wife, Jean, two daughters, eight grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

### John F. Miller '53 M.F.

(1926-2017) of San Diego passed away on February 28. A native of Watervliet, N.Y., he graduated in 1944 from Catholic Central High School in Troy, and then enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps as a radio operator using Morse Code. In 1947 he married Jean Mary Grober. Following his military service, he attended Syracuse University where he earned a bachelor's of science degree in forestry science before earning his master's degree from the Yale School of Forestry. During his forestry career, he worked in Jacksonville, Fla., and Alberta, Canada. In 1960, he achieved a high score on an aptitude test in the *New York Times*, which led to his training and career as one of the first computer programmers for IBM. John moved his family to Vermont in 1970 where they resided until 2007. He retired to San Diego, where he volunteered for the Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol of the San Diego Police and served as an usher at St. Patrick's Catholic Church. He was predeceased by his wife of 63 years, Jean, and is survived by his daughter, Eva.

**Robert James “Bob” Miller ’62 M.F., ’67 Ph.D.**

(1933-2016) passed away on October 26 in Raleigh, N.C., following complications from a fall. A native of North Carolina, he graduated from N.C. State in 1956 with a degree in forestry and worked for timber companies in West Virginia and North Carolina before earning his Master of Forestry and Ph.D. in biology from Yale. He then spent many years in academia, first as a biology professor at Radford University and later as Dean of the College at St. Mary’s College in Raleigh where he also taught courses in environmental biology, statistics, and business law. In 1985 he earned his J.D. and joined the law firm Patton, Boggs, and Blow before starting his own firm where he concentrated on immigration law, arbitration, and mediation. After retiring, he devoted his time to his family and his two dogs. He is survived by his wife, Patricia, three daughters, and three grandchildren.

**Thomas Wendell Norton ’52 B.S., ’53 M.F.**

(1930-2016) passed away peacefully at the Loving Home on the Bluff in Rexford, N.Y., on October 16. A lifelong resident of the Schenectady area, he earned his bachelor’s degree from Yale in 1953, a master’s degree from the Yale School of Forestry, and a master’s degree from Union College. Tom taught science at Linton High School and was a finalist for New York State in NASA’s Teacher in Space Program. He was also a pilot and Coast Guard Auxiliary officer. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, a daughter, two sons, and four grandchildren.

**Carlos Vicente Pineda ’00 M.E.M./M.B.A.**

(1971-2017) passed away on March 24 in the arms of his wife, Sasha, after a long battle with pancreatic cancer. Carlos was a natural leader; a triathlete; a thoughtful and effective pioneer in clean energy and conservation; and a lot of fun. He put 110% of himself into everything he did. Carlos had a clarity of purpose and a generosity of spirit that drew people to him. He was a force of nature. At the time of his death, Carlos served as Senior Director for Conservation Areas Financing for World Wildlife Fund. He previously founded and served as CEO of Foresight Renewable Solutions, and there and with other companies he led the development and financing of over 900 megawatts of operating power projects valued at over \$1.7 billion. His finance background was shaped by work at the World Bank and BNP Paribas, and his commitment to conservation was evident in his time at Conservation International and the Stanford Center for Conservation Biology. He was a fluent speaker of Spanish and Portuguese, and started his career as a bilingual biology teacher with Teach for America in Oakland, Calif. Carlos was born in Los Angeles and raised in Redding, Calif. He graduated from Stanford with a degree in Human Biology with honors, with a concentration in Latin American Studies. In addition to being a triathlete, Carlos was a force on the Ultimate Frisbee field, and a devotee of mountain biking, yoga, and long distance open water swimming. His relentless energy and passion inspired his travels around the globe. His kindness, compassion, and infectious sense of humor lifted up countless friends and colleagues. In addition to Sasha, he leaves behind his mother, his father, his sister, four godchildren, many other family members, and legions of friends around the world.

**William Rice ’49 M.F.**

(1922-2016) passed away on September 22. He grew up in Montclair, N.J., and studied forestry at the University of Maine before enlisting in the U.S. Army Air Corps as a navigator during World War II. In 1943, he married his kindergarten sweetheart, Katherine Gray. After the war, he completed his bachelor’s degree and in 1949 he graduated with a Masters of Wood Technology from the Yale School of Forestry. In 1954, Bill established and taught a two-year industrial wood technology program at Southern Illinois University. During his 13-year tenure at S.I.U., he earned his Doctorate of Forestry from Duke. He and his wife were also founding members of the Unitarian Fellowship of Carbondale. In 1967, Bill joined the faculty at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst where he taught production courses in kiln drying, lumber grading, and sawmilling for 21 years. He was an active member of the New England Kiln Drying Association and Forest Products Research Society, and in 1988 was awarded the Outstanding Educator Award by the Northeastern Loggers Association. He was predeceased by his wife of 62 years, Katherine, and is survived by his wife of eight years, Priscilla Clement, his four children, eight grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, three step-children, and one step-grandchild.

**Richard Smith ’51 For.**

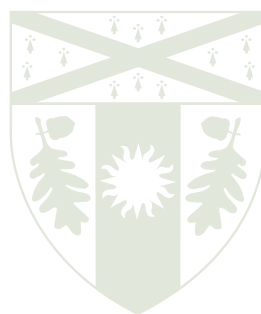
(1921-2016) passed away peacefully in his sleep just before sunrise on November 18. Born in Philadelphia and raised in New Jersey, Dick was drafted to the U.S. Army Air Corps during his second year of college and served as a bombsight mechanic during World War II. After being discharged, he attended the University of Massachusetts-Amherst where he earned a bachelor’s of science degree in forestry before attending graduate school at the Yale School of Forestry. In 1951, he married Betty Murnan, an English professor. The two spent a decade moving throughout the upper Midwest as Dick pursued various U.S. Forest Service positions before finally settling in Waukesha, Wis., where he worked as a Safety Supervisor for the USFS Eastern Region. In addition to his work, Dick volunteered with over two-dozen organizations, was an active singer with various choirs, and worked behind-the-scenes with several theatrical groups. In 1975, he and his family sponsored a Vietnamese refugee who lived with them for a year and a half. He was predeceased by his wife, Betty, and is survived by four children, six grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

**Robert Solow ’49 M.F.**

(1922-2017) of Charlotte, N.C., passed away on February 5. He was born in Everett, Mass., was a graduate of North Carolina State, and earned his master’s degree at the Yale School of Forestry. During World War II, he was stationed in Italy as a navigator on a B-17. His career in forest products took him to New Hampshire, West Virginia, and finally to North Carolina, where he settled in Matthews. He was a long-time member of Temple Israel, attending weekly Shabbat services, and served as president of the social club for many years. Bob also loved family trips to Sunset Beach and the family lake house in West Virginia. In his retirement, he became a world traveler, ballroom dancer, tennis and pickleball player, and devotee of water aerobics. He was predeceased by his wife of 34 years, Helen, and long-time companions Renee Sutker and Adele Prosono. He is survived by his three children, six grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.



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# PATHWAYS



Learn more about their experiences  
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[environment.yale.edu/news/article/back-to-the-garden-sri-lanka-project-yields-lessons-in-villagebased-conservation/](https://environment.yale.edu/news/article/back-to-the-garden-sri-lanka-project-yields-lessons-in-villagebased-conservation/)

The Sri Lanka Program for Forest Conservation (SLPFC), a Yale-based project headed by F&ES Professor Mark Ashton '85 M.F., '90 Ph.D., launched a postgraduate fellowship program this year that provides practical and professional development experience in tropical forest conservation. Working with villagers and the SLPFC, the first three fellows – Blair Rynearson '15 M.F. (top photo, second from left), Logan Sander '15 M.F. (top photo, right), and Laura Luttrell – have learned tropical taxonomy and nursery propagation, and have helped develop a traditional tree garden to provide food, timber, medicine, and spices. The garden is being designed to serve as a living demonstration for university curricula and practitioner extension.

*SLPFC is devoted to research, education, and extension of tropical forest conservation in southwestern Sri Lanka. It has several endowed programs that enable faculty, graduate, and undergraduate students from Yale and three universities in Sri Lanka to study tropical forest conservation at a field station located in the village of Pitekele and the adjacent Sinharaja MAB World Heritage Forest.*



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