NC State Forestry Faculty with International Interests

Lee Allen
Silviculture, Forest Productivity

Fred Cubbage
Forest Policy, Forest Economics, Timber Production

Charles Davey
Agroforestry, Forest Nursery, Seed Orchard Soils

Bill Dvorak
Tropical Pine Gene Conservation, Population Genetics

Gary Hodge
Quantitative Genetics, Tree Breeding, Tropical Forestry

Bailian Li
Forest Genetics, Tree Improvement

Tim Mullin
Tree Improvement, Genetic Modeling

Dan Robison
Hardwood Silviculture, Forest Pest Management

Ted Shear
Restoration Ecology, OTS Representative

Erin Sills
Natural Resource Economics, Non-Timber Forest Benefits

Jacek Siry
Timber Supply, Developing Markets

Todd Steelman
Community & Public Involvement in Natural Resource Management

Bruce Zobel
Forest Genetics, Wood Variation, Tropical Plantations

Career Opportunities

Graduates of the masters programs in the Department of Forestry work with a wide range of non-profit organizations, private corporations, and government agencies in the US and abroad. In the past, students completing one of these programs have found employment with conservation organizations such as WWF and Trees for the Future, as well as with governmental and industrial groups like the US Forest Service and Cartón de Colombia.
Degree Programs

Master of Natural Resources (MNR)
The MNR curriculum consists of core and technical option courses. Core courses encompass issues in management, policy and research methods. The technical options provide in-depth courses in hydrology, forest policy and administration, forest economics and management, spatial information systems, and international resources. The Peace Corps experience is the basis of the master's project (paper and seminar). Students take three to four semesters to complete 36 credit hours: 10 in core courses, 20 in a technical option, and 6 of MI independent studies.

Master of Forestry (MF)
Students in the MF curriculum complete 36 credit hours comprised of courses selected in consultation with their advisory committee and 6 credits of MI independent studies. Students who enter the program with a previous forestry degree are able to complete coursework in three semesters on campus. Students who do not have a forestry degree, but who do have adequate technical background, take 6 credits of “mini-courses” to learn the basics of forestry in their first year. These students need two semesters before and two semesters after Peace Corps to complete their degree. The MF degree requirements for an internship and a significant professional project culminating in a paper and departmental seminar are fulfilled by Peace Corps service.

Master of Science (MS)
Although most students in the MI Program receive MNR or MF degrees, a MS is an option within the NC State MI Program. The MS in Natural Resources and in Forestry both require a research-based thesis and a departmental seminar. In addition to the thesis and 6 credits of MI independent studies, students take 24 credits of relevant coursework, approved by their advisory committee. Depending on the compatibility of the student's Peace Corps assignment and thesis research, MS degrees may be earned in three to five semesters.

Funding
There are a number of funding sources for master's degree programs. Many MS students receive research assistantships funded through grants and contracts awarded to individual professors to carry out specific research projects. The Department funds a few full assistantships for MS students as well as smaller assistantships for MNR and MF students. In addition, many students work as teaching assistants. Funding is highly competitive, and prospective students are advised to seek outside sources of funding and to submit their applications early (by January 15 for fall admission).

What Is MI?
The Department of Forestry, College of Natural Resources, North Carolina State University offers the Master's International (MI) option in its Master of Science and professional master's degree programs in Natural Resources and Forestry. Students can choose from a variety of specialties, including tree improvement, spatial analysis, and forest management, economics, policy, hydrology and ecology and restoration.

MI students follow the same rigorous curriculum as other master's degree students, with the added benefits of international field experience and a professional paper or thesis based on that experience. In addition, there are two independent study courses associated with preparing for and analyzing the Peace Corps experience.

At NC State, students normally begin their degree program in the fall semester, completing two semesters before entering Peace Corps. The Peace Corps assignment is most likely to be in a forestry program, especially agroforestry, or in natural resource management with an emphasis on environmental education. After completing a two-year assignment with Peace Corps, students return to the Department of Forestry for one to two semesters.

Who Can Apply?
To enter the MI Program, applicants must qualify for admission to NC State University and for volunteer service in Peace Corps. Admission to the Department of Forestry at NC State University depends on previous education and experience. A statement of purpose, letters of recommendation, undergraduate academic record, and GRE scores are all considered.

For information on applying to Peace Corps, please visit the Peace Corps Web site <www.peacecorps.gov>, call (800-424-8580), or visit the on-campus recruiter (222 Daniels Hall, tel. 919-515-5340). For information on applying to NC State, please contact Peggie Arnold (919-515-7560) to request an application package or use the online application: www.acs.ncsu.edu/scripts/gsadmiss/gsaplfrm.pl

Still the toughest job you'll ever love!