

OSU College of Forestry International Programs Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

Friday 11 February 2011 9 – 10:30 am
RH 115

Prepared by Susan Morré

Advisory Committee members present: Jim Johnson, Badege Bishaw, Chris Knowles, Eric Hansen, Doug Maguire, Susan Morré, John Sessions, Ashlee Tibbets, David Zahler

Invited participant: Ed Jensen

Advisory Committee members absent: John Bliss

1. Ideas for operationalizing new MOU with ATREE (Ed Jensen)

The College of Forestry's most successful study abroad exchange programs have been Australian National University, Lincoln (New Zealand), Stellenbosch and South Africa (all English-language programs). Several others have fallen by the wayside. Challenges: cost, language, graduation credits, rigid degree programs, lost summer wages. Natural Resources students are the most flexible. Hal is keen to increase internationalization of the College, and is interested in operationalizing this MOU with ATREE.

Ideas:

- Let the International Degree folks know about it.
- Interdisciplinary tours/internships, etc. might be good (drawing participants from CAS, COF, COS, other natural resources programs). A graduate student internship might be a possibility.
- Invite Sally Duncan to speak to potential participants (she was at ATREE on a Fulbright Fellowship).
- Identify a committed faculty member who may be interested (fair number of Indian connections here, including Sujaya Rao and Sunil Khanna (new Associate Provost for International Programs, member of Dept. of Anthropology).
- Short-term study tours may be more doable.
- Chris is putting together a grant proposal that might be a good fit. (Susan will send him Gladwin Joseph's contact for the ATREE MOU).
- Would Indian government provide any funding? Recently the government of Taiwan paid all costs for an OSU student Claire Rogan to participate in a 3-week program at Taiwan University. (Invited students from around the world, had a formal selection process.)

2. Indo Global Summit (Jim)

The Indus Foundation (offices in the US and India) sponsored the Indo Global Summit as a gateway to recruit US institutions to set up shop in India, because India cannot satisfy the demand for higher education with its increasing population. Jim attended a 3-day conference to market OSU to hundreds of Indian universities and thousands of Indian students and their parents. India has about 500 legitimate colleges, many focused on business and management degrees. Many other "colleges" are run by a handful of people out of rented rooms. A recent law opened India to foreign universities to establish satellite campuses there, and Virginia Tech bought land and created a campus. However, the Indian institutions prefer to link their own institution with an American university, use our logo and name to market their degrees. IT, business,

engineering, pharmacy, and medicine are high-interest fields; forestry and agriculture are seen as last-century fields. (Chris noted that the new renewable materials program might appeal to them as a new field.) If we want to recruit Indian students here, we could create an MOU for a 2 + 2 program (two years there, two years here) and students would pay out-of-state tuition. The Indian middle class is growing, values education, and people with whom Jim spoke didn't balk at paying \$20-30,000/year for tuition at OSU. If Indian undergraduate students could have bacc core course requirements waived, they might move into a graduate program at OSU. Badege suggested we get input from Gladwin Joseph and Sunil Khanna. John noted there was an International Degree program meeting yesterday.

Action: Jim is meeting with Cary Green (CAS Assistant Dean, International Programs) and Sunil Khanna (new Associate Provost, International Programs) to see if there is interest in CAS and interest in any specific Indian agricultural institution.

3. UN Forum on Forests International Year of Forests 2011 – update on planned OSU activities: Starker Lecture Series, WFC, etc. and invited International speaker Hal is sponsoring (Susan and Jim)

Sandie Arbogast designed a banner for us (see slide) for International Year of Forests 2011. We will hang them outside the main north and east entrances and in the first floor knuckle by next week.

The Starker Lecturer next Thursday is Paul Owen of Vanport International.

Hal offered to pay for a high-profile international forestry speaker and asked for nominations.

Jim named the four candidates and we ranked them as follows:

- First choice: Frances Seymour (Director General for CIFOR in Indonesia)
- Second choice: Jan McAlpine (UNFF Director in New York)
- Third choice: Dennis Garrity (ICRAF Director General in Nairobi, Kenya)
- Fourth: Niels Elers Koch (IUFRO President, Denmark)

Niels and Frances are speaking at the Forestry World Leaders Summit at University of British Columbia (April 27 – 29). The Committee agreed that Frances is more known for speaking to the heart about the interconnections between people and forests and would be the best choice if she is available.

Action: Jim will clear it with Hal and send an invitation letter to Frances Seymour.

4. Peace Corps Masters International Program and Eric Goldman visit (David Z)

Currently there are three MI students (Ramona Arechiga in FERM, Shannon Zuschlag in FES, and Ben Shiek in Applied Economics). Ben may be leaving the MI program to be a resident master's student. There are 6 MI applicants (2 AE, 1 FES, 3 FERM). One MI has already been accepted to work with Paul Doescher.

Eric Goldman, Program Manager for the Peace Corps Master's International Program, Washington, DC office, visited here on January 26th. During the day he met with several members of the College, including Jim, Susan, Brenda, Badege, John Bailey and Steve Tesch. In the evening he attended an OSU Peace Corps/PCMI presentation with 12 students, six faculty, and a couple of returned PC volunteers.

During the visit Eric suggested that it may be possible for our MI program to establish a perennial relationship between OSU CoF and specific Peace Corps host countries (perhaps Ethiopia, Kenya, Bulgaria, Mexico, or India) or institutions (perhaps ICRAF or ATREE). This

would provide continuity for ongoing programs and would nurture relationships, especially useful for existing MOUs in countries that participate in Peace Corps programs.

We also discussed a SCEP-like program, currently known as "PCMI-Plus", which has been proposed to the Forest Service. PCMI-Plus is a collaborative relationship between PC, OSU CoF, and US Forest Service. A PCMI-Plus student, major professor and committee members would collaborate with a USFS colleague, and the collaborative "mentored work experience" for the PCMI-Plus student, during the academic year, would receive assistantship funding from the Forest Service for the student's MI program. In return, the student would commit to working at an assigned Forest Service job for a minimum of a couple of years at the end of their PCMI program (Master's degree+ Peace Corps service, around 4.5 years).

Action: David is working on this idea with Dean Salwasser, with Mary Wagner (Forest Service, Washington DC; formerly of the PNW Research Station, Portland).

5. Report on renewed MOU with World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF), institutional and research collaboration trip to Kenya and Ethiopia (Badege)

- Badege and student Kathleen Guillozet went to Kenya and Ethiopia at the invitation of the World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF). Our MOU with ICRAF has been recently renewed, and they will provide support for an undergraduate internship or graduate student research and short-term training there. They would like to have a female post-doc at ICRAF in Kenya, and Kaz is applying for it.
- In May/June, Dr. August Temu (ICRAF Director of International Partnerships) will attend a conference in Canada. He will visit OSU and discuss how to use our MOU to partner with Ethiopia's Hawassa University and the Forestry Research Center and others to implement a Green Revolution tree planting project there. Chris would like to meet with Dr. Temu while he is here to discuss WSE marketing links in Ethiopia and Kenya.
- The main ICRAF office is in Nairobi, Kenya, but there are ICRAF offices in Latin America and Asia, so ICRAF might be a potential PCMI partner. Perhaps undecided master's students could work on an ICRAF project. Historically ICRAF has not been well-connected with US students, and they are very interested in having more students use their agroforestry research center in Nairobi and elsewhere. They have invited students from OSU, Cornell, Michigan State, and another university to conduct a post-doc, internship, PCMI or other research at the center, and have funding to support their research in Nairobi on a competitive basis.

6. Feedback on recent OSU International Council Small Grants Program outcome (Jim)

The 2010/2011 grants have been awarded, and the selection priority was to fund proposals to foster existing research partnership programs. Eleven projects were funded, including one of three CoF proposals (Barb Lachenbruch's New Zealand SCION partnership project, which received 5/5 points). John Bailey and Klaus Puettmann/Adrian Ares also submitted unsuccessful proposals.

7. Report on SNR and MNR programs offered online through Ecampus (Badege and Susan)

The Sustainable Natural Resources Graduate Certificate Program has nine graduates and 20 current students enrolled in the program. There are 21 individuals currently enrolled in SNR courses, including international students from Switzerland and students working in Thailand, Mozambique and Honduras. There are three new applicants for spring term.

The Master of Natural Resources program was approved in September, and is offering its introductory MNR 511 course for the first time this winter. There are 8 students officially accepted into the MNR program for winter, 7 applicants for spring term and 3 applicants for summer term. Twelve students are taking MNR 511 this term, including one student currently in

the Fisheries Management Graduate Certificate, four SNR graduates, one Water Conflict Management and Transformation Graduate Certificate, and three non-degree-seeking students. The MNR program is interdisciplinary, and has a good working relationship with the natural resources graduate certificate programs at OSU (Fisheries Management, GIScience, SNR, and Water Conflict Management). Its Administrative Committee made up of directors/coordinators of these programs, and they also have representatives on the MNR Admissions Committee which reviews student applications to the program.

8. Upcoming study tours:

- **Scandinavia** (Eric and Chris): Tuesday Feb. 15 is the deadline for applications, and they currently have 8 applicants, 3 of whom are from University of Oregon. (Post-meeting update: now there are at least 11, so **it's a go.**) The UO Architecture Department wanted to spend two weeks on the ScanTour out of their proposed 10-week program in Helsinki, but UO didn't approve their program. UO will have a faculty member in Helsinki this summer. Both Eric and Chris will go if enough students sign up.
- **Spain – University of Valladolid, Palencia** (Doug): Doug is proposing to take 10 – 15 students on a 10-day “Forest Management in Spain: The Cultural, Political, and Biophysical Context” study tour with our colleagues at University of Valladolid, with whom we have recently renewed an MOU. UVa Professor Jose Reque, who spent several weeks at OSU last fall, prepared a syllabus for the 10-day tour, which includes many of the faculty and graduate students who have visited OSU. Lillian Read at the International Degree and Education Abroad office will prepare a program brochure to use in marketing. Action: This afternoon Susan will present the Spain Study Tour proposal to the Study Abroad Advisory Committee for their discussion and hopefully their approval. (Doug is giving a mid-term exam and cannot attend.) (Post-meeting update: the proposal was **approved** by the committee.)
- Additional discussion: Could professionals also participate in the study tour? There could be pros and cons. The half-time position of IDEA interim director needs to be a full-time position.

9. Proposed Bulgaria extension program development project and America for Bulgaria Foundation (Jim)

(Out of time – wait until next IPAC meeting to discuss the proposed late-April scoping visit to Bulgaria.)

10. IFSA recent and planned activities (Ashlee)

- IFSA will host another International Lunch on February 25th to raise money for the club and to contribute to Linn-Benton Food Share (50-50 split).
- There are 7 – 8 active members right now, who usually meet a couple of times a term. They have been parking cars for basketball games to raise money. Ashlee is the regional IFSA representative for North America and is working with the two other North American IFSA clubs (UBC and University of Washington) to get together for a week-long activity this summer.

11. New Associate Provost for International Programs Sunil Khanna (Jim)

12. Other items?

The FAO Global Forest Resource Assessment for 2010 has been released, and is available at the following website: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/fra/fra2010/en/>