Dear Alumni and Friends,

It seems only a moment ago that I first arrived at Kroon Hall. Time goes too fast. And as I reflect on many amazing experiences over the past seven years, nothing has given me more pleasure than to see the individual and cumulative impact of our alumni as they strive to make the world a better place.

In the classroom and in the field, our dedicated faculty and staff focus on providing F&ES students with the very best opportunities to build the skills they need to fulfill their potential. We emphasize depth and breadth, as well as theory and practice. The personal growth of our students, in just a year or two, is inspiring to witness. But the real reward comes later, as students transform into alumni, gain traction in their professional lives beyond Yale, and begin to make a difference. Every day F&ES alumni are hard at work right here in New Haven, across the nation, and all over the world.

It has been a highlight of my career, and a supreme honor, to serve as Dean of this wonderful School. The opportunities that I have had to meet so many of our alumni in the course of my travels will be some of my fondest memories – from Lima to London, Singapore to San Francisco, and Delhi to D.C. F&ES has an extraordinary network. I look back with particular fondness on being first welcomed at the Washington, D.C. TGIF, volunteering at our Yale Day of Service events in Denver and Louisville, attending alumni gatherings at SAF and LTA conferences, participating in two extraordinary events at Yale Center Beijing, and hosting a very special coming together of alumni, students, and friends at COP21 in Paris last December. The F&ES family is warm, welcoming, and active everywhere.

In this final message for CANOPY, I particularly want to pay a special tribute to our wonderfully committed and active Alumni Association Board. They have supported alumni, students, and the School in countless ways, from initiating the Environmental Leadership Mentoring (ELM) program to creating an endowed scholarship for F&ES students who are active volunteer leaders in the School and in the community. I am also deeply grateful to all of our alumni who generously support current F&ES students, including those who mentor students through the ELM program, or who come back to campus to share their experiences and insights with our students. To all I am truly grateful.

On behalf of myself, and all of us at the School, thank you for your devotion to F&ES, your passion and commitment to creating a healthy and prosperous environment for everyone, and also your willingness to give back. I am deeply thankful for all you have done, and continue to do, to enrich our collective F&ES community. You are an inspiration to us all.

With warmest good wishes,

Dean Peter Crane

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

COVER PHOTO The Class of 2016 completing a stream sampling exercise at Yale-Myers Forest during MODS in Fall 2014. For more on new teaching, research, and outreach initiatives at Yale-Myers Forest, see pages 8-11. Photographer: Brian Gillis
F&ES Happenings

Alumni Association Board Updates

Yale-Myers Forest Initiatives – Teaching, Research, and Outreach

Yale Environmental Sustainability Summit (YESS)

Alumni Drive Ambitious Conservation Initiative in Mexico

Environmental Leadership Mentoring (ELM) Program

D.C. Alumni–Student Networking Event

Environmental Protection Clinic’s Alumni–Student Collaborations

Making History at COP21 in Paris

Yale Carbon Charge Project Learning Opportunities

CT as a Laboratory for Sustainability Innovation

Reunion Weekend 2015

Alumni Reflections

Class Notes

Alumni Connections

In Memoriam

F&ES Resources

Celebrating Dean Crane

Visit environment.yale.edu/alumni/reunion-weekend to view the Reunion Weekend schedule and to let us know if you plan to join us.
New F&ES Research Center Launched With $10-Million EPA Grant

Michelle Bell, the Mary E. Pinchot Professor of Environmental Health at F&ES, was awarded a five-year, $10-million EPA grant to study the relationships between air quality, energy policy, climate change, and public health. The grant will be used to establish a new multidisciplinary research center at F&ES, with major participation from Johns Hopkins University and other institutions. The EPA funded only three such centers nationwide.

The SEARCH (Solutions for Energy, Air, Climate, and Health) Center, directed by Professor Bell, will host four research projects and involve more than two-dozen researchers at nine institutions.

“Our goal is to not have just a one-way interaction where the scientists generate results and we provide them to policy makers, but to have two-way communication,” Professor Bell said. Researchers will meet with staff from local, state, and federal air agencies throughout the project to help convey what the science means, to learn what types of scientific questions are most relevant, and to develop more effective methods of presenting scientific research to policymakers and the public.

The project also includes funding for student research projects – not just at F&ES, but throughout Yale – at any part of the Center. Professor Bell also said the Center will host seminars open to the public.

“We really want the research and the work to get out beyond what we give to policymakers and scientists, to spur more interdisciplinary research and understanding of these issues,” Professor Bell said.

Read more: environment.yale.edu/news/article/new-fes-research-center-launched-with-10-million-epa-grant

2016 Andrew Sabin International Environmental Fellows

In April, six F&ES students were selected as Andrew Sabin International Environmental Fellows. The fellowship was started in 2011 by the Andrew Sabin Family Foundation to provide 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 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 inception, 48 F&ES students have received this prestigious fellowship, many of whom have since returned to their home countries to work on conservation, forestry, climate change, biodiversity, wildlife, and agricultural issues.

2016 Andrew Sabin International Fellows (left to right): Edwin Garcia Valdez ’17 M.E.M. (Ecuador), Pooja Choksi ’17 M.E.M. (India), Tideng ’17 M.E.M. (Tibet), Martin Becker Toro ’17 M.E.M. (Chile), Dickson Njunge ’17 M.E.M. (Kenya), and Kristin Qui ’17 M.E.M. (Trinidad & Tobago).
Diversity and Environmental Leadership

The movement to solve climate change and achieve a more sustainable economy in the 21st century will require the work of a broad range of people working across many different fronts. In a course led by Frances Beinecke ’71 B.A., ’74 M.F.S., the 2015–2016 Dorothy S. McCluskey Fellow in Conservation, students were asked to reflect on the widening range of voices engaged in these challenges across the U.S. and how the environmental movement can better reflect all segments of American society.

The course, “Diverse Voices: Environmental Leaders on Climate Change and the Environment,” offered lectures throughout the fall semester from a group of diverse leaders tackling environmental challenges through advocacy, policymaking, academic research, and business. The course was co-taught by F&ES Dean Peter Crane.

Speakers included Dorceta Taylor ’85 M.F.S., ’91 Ph.D., Professor and Environmental Justice Field of Studies Coordinator, University of Michigan; Adrianna Quintero, Director of Partner Engagement for the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) and Executive Director of Voces Verdes; David Sandalow ’78 B.A., Inaugural Fellow at Columbia University’s Center on Global Energy Policy; and Aaron Mair, President of the Sierra Club.

“I think it is exciting that people are active on many different fronts. They use their voices very differently, but it’s the breadth of voices that is going to make the difference in the long run,” noted Frances. “The environmental community as defined in the 1970s, 80s, and 90s is not the environmental community today or the community of the future. So what I wanted to do was to bring in people from a broad range of backgrounds and kinds of engagement that really reflect that diversity.”

Learn more:
environment.yale.edu/news/article/diverse-voices-mccluskey-fellow-beinecke-leads-yale-seminar-course

Three F&ES Students Receive Gruber Fellowships


The program, which is administered by Yale Law School, helps foster international understanding and dialogue in the fields of global justice and women’s rights. The fellowships enable recent graduates of Yale graduate and professional schools to spend a year working abroad on these challenges. Five fellowships were awarded this year; it is the first time that the majority of the Gruber Fellowship recipients are from F&ES.

During her Fellowship, Ruth will work with the Azuero Earth Project in Panama, which connects smallholder farmers and landowners to the global climate finance landscape. Ruth will develop a strategy advocating for the rights of smallholder farmers at the international level, enhancing understanding of current climate and reforestation finance policies and creating a vehicle through which these farmers can secure funding to help them mitigate and adapt to climate change.

Hassaan will work with the Lahore Waste Management Company (LWMC) in Pakistan to formalize the city’s informal waste pickers sector and streamline the waste management processes of the city through the development of a cooperative model. A well-structured cooperative model that involves all relevant stakeholders will raise the living standards of Lahore’s informal waste pickers while increasing LWMC’s operational efficiency. With the government of Punjab giving the LWMC a mandate to expand their operations to six other major cities in the province, lessons learned in Lahore may be applied to that expansion process.

Sarah will return to the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo where she conducted research last summer as a Fellow with the F&ES-based Forests Dialogue. She’ll work with Strong Roots, a Congolese organization, on a pilot project to help indigenous communities apply for land tenure for their community forests. The work will involve collecting baseline data on the current state of the community forest and socio-economic data in order to set up conservation committees. Strong Roots plans to apply the lessons learned from this pilot project to a broader landscape to help expand the land area under conservation while protecting indigenous rights.
F&ES Students Honored for Leadership in Conservation Science

Two F&ES students have been awarded the new MK McCarthy-RW Worth Scholarship for Leadership in Conservation Science. Meredith VanAcker ’16 M.E.Sc. and Nicole Wooten ’16 M.E.M. each received $2,500 in scholarship grants toward their second year of study at F&ES. They are being recognized for their demonstrated leadership in the fields of conservation biology and wildlife science, both at F&ES and in their prior work experiences.

The idea for a new scholarship was proposed by former co-chairs of the Yale Student Chapter of the Society for Conservation Biology, known to F&ES students as the ConBio SIG, Tara Meyer ’15 M.E.Sc. and Danielle Lehle ’15 M.E.M. They sought to raise the profile of conservation and wildlife science among F&ES students, and they believed that a scholarship would incentivize and support students who work to bring conservation and wildlife science opportunities to their peers.

“Although the conservation community at F&ES is small compared to other specific interest areas, it is a strong and dedicated group of students who work together to create unique career and networking opportunities,” said Tara.

Margaret McCarthy ’82 B.A. and her husband Robert Worth, who also provide scholarship support to F&ES students from Africa, shared this passion for conservation and wildlife issues and agreed to fund the new scholarship for a minimum of five years.

“Bob and I have been lucky to meet amazing people working in the field of conservation – all who are preserving our natural world for future generations,” said McCarthy. “We are delighted to support these remarkable F&ES students following that path.”

New Wyss Scholars Looking West

In February, two F&ES students were selected as Wyss Scholars in recognition of their extraordinary leadership potential and strong interest in and devotion to land conservation in the American West. Katherine Fiedler ’17 M.E.M. and Rebecca Shively ’17 M.E.M. will receive tuition, internship, and post-graduate support as part of the program.

Kat is a joint-degree student with Pace Law School and has completed her first two years of law school. Becca comes to F&ES from the U.S. Department of Agriculture where she served as a policy advisor to the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment. Both have plans to return to the west after graduating from F&ES to work on land conservation issues that address community and natural resource concerns.

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

Since 2006, the Wyss Foundation has provided scholarship funding and post-graduate fellowships to 26 master’s degree students who have demonstrated exemplary leadership and commitment to western land issues.
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD INITIATIVES

At the F&ES Alumni Association Board Meeting in February 2016, Board Members reported on the many ambitious projects and initiatives that were completed this past year and that are currently underway.

Board Members are actively engaged in supporting many aspects of the F&ES community, including:

- Helping to coordinate the Environmental Leadership Mentoring (ELM) program;
- Implementing an Alumni Association Speaker Series;
- Supporting alumni–student diversity-focused initiatives;
- Overseeing the Alumni Association Board student scholarship program;
- Guiding the Distinguished Alumni and Service Award process;
- Establishing and facilitating the new Prospect Street Award for recent alums;
- Leading the planning and implementation of the Yale Environmental Sustainability Summit (YESS);
- Strengthening international alumni connections;
- Developing regional alumni events and continuing education opportunities;
- Organizing Yale Day of Service projects; and
- Implementing a number of additional projects for the benefit of alumni, students, and F&ES.

A number of these initiatives are described in more detail in this edition of CANOPY.

Board Members also serve in key leadership roles at the University level through the Association of Yale Alumni (AYA). You can read more about the engagement of one current Board Member in the article below.

These initiatives depend on the dedication and commitment of an incredible group of alums serving on the Alumni Association Board. We are grateful to each of them for their commitment to F&ES and its alumni community.

View the list of current Alumni Association Board Members: environment.yale.edu/alumni/board-directory

F&ES Alum Receives Two AYA Awards for Volunteer Service

Each year, the Association of Yale Alumni (AYA) celebrates the outstanding dedication and accomplishments of Yale's many volunteers – and recognizes volunteers whose service stands out – at an awards ceremony during the AYA Assembly in November. This year, F&ES alum Holly Welles ’88 M.F.S., who serves on the AYA Board of Governors and is an Alumni Association Board Member, was the recipient of two awards.

An AYA Leadership Award for Volunteer Innovation and Service was awarded to Holly and Rahul Prasad ’84 M.S., ’87 Ph.D. They were recognized for planning two on-campus career events that connected alumni and students from Yale College, the Graduate School, and Yale’s professional schools. “Green Careers for Yale Blues” was held in September 2014 and “Healthy Career Choices” was held in April 2015. These two events engaged and connected alumni and students from many disciplines through common themes. (Editor’s note: An article about these events was included in the Spring 2015 Edition of CANOPY.)

“These events were so successful that they inspired the creation of a new strategic initiative of the AYA, ‘Careers, Life, and Yale,’ which will organize similar events going forward – building on the leadership of these two dedicated alumni volunteers,” noted the AYA.

In addition, the Graduate & Professional Schools Committee of the AYA Board of Governors, which Holly chaired last year, was the recipient of an AYA Board of Governors Outstanding G&P School Event Award for the alumni–student programs described above.
Yale-Myers Forest Entering a New Era of Innovative Teaching, Research, and Outreach

Well-known to F&ES alumni from across the decades, Yale-Myers Forest comprises 7,840 acres of forestland in northeastern Connecticut, one of the least-developed regions in the congested stretch between Washington, D.C., and Boston. It’s also the largest single piece of property owned by Yale. Once the home of Nipmuck tribes, it was later settled and cultivated by Scotch-Irish settlers, and then, after agriculture was abandoned, the area was later logged for the New England market.

Under F&ES’s management, the Forest has undergone further changes, evolving from a central training ground for foresters, once the School’s only students; to a hurricane-decimated hinterland viewed by faculty as too far from New Haven; to the home of a revitalized forestry program under the renowned Professor David M. Smith ’46 M.F., ’50 Ph.D., a program that has continued at a steadily growing pace for the last several decades under the accomplished leadership of Professor Mark Ashton ’85 M.F., ’90 Ph.D., Director of School Forests and Morris K. Jesup Professor of Forestry & Environmental Studies.

With exciting new investments in facilities, teaching staff, and programs, Yale-Myers is poised for yet another leap ahead. F&ES’s vision for increased access to and use of Yale-Myers, as well as the camp at Great Mountain Forest, builds on the School’s storied past and the legacies of Professor David M. Smith, Professor Thomas G. Siccama, and others, and points the School toward a new era of innovative teaching, research, and outreach to communities ranging from New Haven to the Quiet Corner.
From white elephant to jewel

The foundation of the Forest was a series of tracts donated by George H. Myers, a member of the School’s first graduating class, who started making purchases in 1908. Over the next two decades, Myers continued to buy nearby pieces of land, about 100 former farm holdings. In 1930, he bequeathed these contiguous parcels to the School, later to become known as Yale-Myers.

Yale-Myers is the largest of seven School-owned forests. Others include Yale-Toumey, the School’s first forest, in Keene, N.H.; the Bowen Forest, in Windsor County, Vermont; and the camp at Great Mountain Forest in northwestern Connecticut. When Yale acquired Yale-Myers, most of the land had been recently logged, or was used for agriculture so recently that pines weren’t large enough to sell.

A devastating hurricane in 1938 knocked down much of the forest’s white pine, and the effects of the storm would affect timber production for years. During the years following World War II, research was significantly curtailed. By mid-century, the forest was seen as a white elephant for Yale, and University officials debated its future.

But by the mid-1960s, under the guidance of Professor David M. Smith, the forest recovered enough for forest timber to be sold profitably. And it has continued to be self-sustaining ever since, allowing the School to retain the land for its important research and educational purposes. During Professor Smith’s tenure, which ended in the early 1990s, Yale-Myers re-emerged as a jewel. Over the past 20 years, faculty like Professor Ashton helped drive this trend, expanding forest skills training with the Forest Crew, incorporating projects with the surrounding neighbors, and opening the Forest up to the annual training modules for all F&ES students (MODS), where they learn the basics of forestry science and get to know one another – a legacy of the old field camp.

Now, donors from both F&ES and Yale College are joining together to fund an expanded set of facilities and programs in Yale-Myers Forest, endow a new field ecology program, and endow a teaching fund named for Professor Siccama, a beloved lecturer and field ecologist at F&ES for more than 40 years.
A new campus for field studies

To expand the Yale community’s access to this incomparable resource, several alumni have contributed to the construction of a new Campus for Field Studies in Yale-Myers Forest, including a leadership gift by Betty and Whitney MacMillan ’51 B.A. Their gift will provide for new outreach programs and augment the existing facilities with a three-season “wet” laboratory with lab, classroom, and storage space, and new field research plots.

In honor of their 35th Reunion, the F&ES Class of 1980 raised the money to build a new, timber-frame auditorium at Yale-Myers that will double the available classroom space and expand capacity for events, meetings, and outreach activities involving the surrounding community.

“Thanks to the MacMillans and the Class of 1980, F&ES students and faculty, as well as Yale College undergraduates, will be able to use and enjoy Yale-Myers to its fullest extent,” said Professor Ashton.

Valuable hands-on experiences

Additional donors have stepped forward to fund new field ecology programs, research fellowships, and community outreach programs based at Yale-Myers. Led by an anonymous challenge gift of $100,000, given to inspire others in the F&ES and Yale communities, the new programs will bring master’s and Yale College students to the Forests for research and mentorship in field ecology, natural history, and forest management and stewardship. A current-use fund will provide support for the Quiet Corner Initiative, promoting outreach and engagement with landowners adjacent to Yale-Myers and providing practical training for students, building environmental stewardship and conservation in the region.
A permanent fund focused on the teaching of field ecology and field studies

That same anonymous donor, a graduate of both Yale College and F&ES, has given a challenge gift of $1 million, two-thirds of the total needed to endow a new fund, named for Professor Siccama, to support teaching, research, and related activities associated with field studies and/or ecology. Endowing a permanent teaching fund focused on field studies ensures that this subject will attract the best teachers in the field and help recruit students interested in environmental and field studies, natural history, soils, and local flora and fauna.

Professor Siccama, who retired in 2006 and passed away in 2014, taught at Yale for forty-two years, starting as a postdoctoral student and retiring as a professor of forest ecology and director of field studies. He received the highest teaching award at F&ES four times and authored or co-authored more than 120 papers. Professor Siccama was known and revered by his students for his scholarly acumen, scientific rigor, and encyclopedic knowledge of forests, gleaned over decades of fieldwork and research.

To honor and celebrate this gifted teacher who touched many lives, the new field ecologist position will be known as the Thomas G. Siccama Lecturer in Field Studies and Ecology. “Tom helped generations of F&ES students in countless ways,” Professor Ashton said. “One of those students was so inspired that he has given generously to hire a new field naturalist, challenging others to follow his lead.”

“My highest priority before I leave F&ES at the end of this year is to ensure that the School Forests not only survive, but thrive in the coming years. They are incomparable pedagogical assets that should be used more widely for the benefit of all Yale students.”

– Dean Crane

The F&ES Office of Development and Alumni Services, led by Director Tim Northrop ’03 M.E.M., is working hard to raise the remaining $250,000 necessary to meet the matching challenge and endow the Siccama Fund. “This is an especially meaningful project to me,” said Tim, “because I was one of the students who learned to see the natural world in new ways after taking Tom’s TerrEco class. I hope that F&ES and Yale College alumni will join me in ensuring that Tom’s legacy of hands-on, field-based teaching will be re-established on a permanent basis.”

“Students examining a seed tree at Yale-Myers Forest.

The Summer Forest Crew at Yale-Myers today.

Please contact Tim Northrop ’03 M.E.M. at tim.northrop@yale.edu or 203-432-9361 if you are interested in learning more about and supporting these efforts.
ALUMNI-ORGANIZED SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT TACKLED CRITICAL ISSUES AND EXPLORED INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

The Yale Environmental Sustainability Summit (YESS), held in November 2015, tackled critical questions at the nexus of the world’s food, energy, and water systems. YESS drew together more than 400 attendees from across five decades at Yale, including alumni, faculty, and students, as well as outside experts and scholars. This highly interactive event was designed to engage a multi-disciplinary network of Yale leaders in sustainability, enhancing their collaboration and impact.

YESS was a first-of-its-kind event, initiated and organized entirely by Yale alumni. The concept for YESS was initially proposed at an F&ES Alumni Association Board Meeting by Board Member Carlos Pineda ’00 M.E.M./M.B.A. “It became clear to us that our colleagues and friends from F&ES, SOM, and other parts of Yale were already some of the most committed and influential thought leaders and change-makers in the field of sustainability,” Carlos said. “We felt that we needed a unique forum for Yale leaders to come together, share knowledge, experience, and best practices, and see how we could do more by knowing more about each others’ initiatives and offering each other support.”

YESS organizers crafted a comprehensive program on the theme of “From Innovation to Practice: Scaling Solutions for the World’s Food, Energy, and Water Systems,” engaging participants at many levels. The dynamic program included interactive panel discussions as well as thought-provoking keynote speakers. The enormous scope of expertise of the speakers and panelists, ranging from renewable energy to apparel consulting to finance to the fast food industry, brought both depth and breadth to the conference. Fifty of the 70 YESS speakers/panelists were Yale alumni.

“We realized that what we really need are innovative ideas that can be scaled up quickly, because that’s how we’re going to solve the problems we’re facing now,” said Holly Welles ’88 M.F.S., a member of the YESS organizing team and member of the AYA Board of Governors. Concurrent sessions on the second day of YESS focused on strategies to get to scale, including how to encourage entrepreneurship and how to overcome challenges in each sector.

“My question for Yale is: Is YESS a new way of engaging with alums? We should be working more together in our efforts to save the planet.”

– Brad Gentry, Associate Dean for Professional Practice and CBEY Faculty Director

In addition to the extraordinary level of alumni interest in the summit, YESS also generated immense student interest, with student tickets selling out within the first week after their release. A team of students also volunteered at YESS.

Susannah Harris ’16 M.E.M./M.B.A., student representative to the F&ES Alumni Association Board, volunteered and observed that student participants had an opportunity to meet alums they had always hoped to meet, make connections with alums in their fields of interest, and obtain professional guidance.

YESS was co-sponsored by the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, the Yale School of Management (SOM), and the Yale Center for Business and the Environment (CBEY). YESS was also co-sponsored by the Association of Yale Alumni (AYA), under the umbrella of Yale Blue Green (YBG), the AYA shared interest group for Yale alumni who are engaged in environmental and sustainability topics and issues.

YESS was supported by generous contributions from Fusco Corporation, Connecticut Green Bank, The Nature Conservancy, Green Davos 3.0 Team, Environmental Defense Fund, The Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation, Kabobank, ICF International, AECOM, Brown-Forman, The Betsy and Jesse Fink Foundation, Keystone Energy Efficiency Alliance, and TrickleStar. In addition, many Yale and F&ES alums made personal contributions in support of YESS.

The Twitter newsfeed with the hashtag #YESS_2015 generated more than 600 tweets, and there were over 1,300 livestream views of the sessions.

Watch recordings of livestreamed sessions, view YESS highlights through a Storify timeline, and review the YESS program: yess.yale.edu
The next two pages share just a small selection of photos from the many innovative and thought-provoking YESS sessions.

**FIRST ROW** 1. YESS kicked off with a fireside chat with Tom Steyer ’79 B.A., founder of NextGen Climate, and Yale President Peter Salovey ’86 Ph.D. 2. A panel focused on successes and failures in innovating for food, water, and energy was moderated by Holly Welles ’88 M.F.S., Communications and Outreach Manager, Princeton Environmental Institute, with panelists (left to right) Chris Larson ’09 M.B.A., Chief Investment Officer, New Island Capital Management; Thomas Emmons ’69 B.A., Head of Renewable Energy Project Finance, Rabobank International; Emma Felipe-Fernandez, Corporate Director for Social Responsibility, AECOM; Victor Gonzalez ’77 M.F.S., President, Windmar Renewable Energy; and Michael Davies ’08 M.E.M., Environmental Manager, Bechtel Corporation.

**SECOND ROW** 1. Nancy Pfund ’82 M.P.P.M., CEO of DBL Investors, gave a keynote presentation focused on how to scale up investment in sustainability-driven companies. 2. An “Emerging Ideas” panel which explored current innovations in food, energy, and water was moderated by Tom McHenry ’77 B.A., ’80 M.F.S., Partner, Gibson Dunn (far right), with panelists (left to right) Jeff Albert ’02 Ph.D., VP for WASH, Thrive Networks, and Founder of Aquaya Institute; Jen Mohar ’04 M.E.M., Lead Scientist, The Nature Conservancy; Anupam Bhargava ’98 M.B.A., President, Dolphin Water Care; and Suzette Garry ’04 M.E.M., Manager, Environmental Sustainability & Strategy, Brown-Forman. 3. At one of the “Exploring Thought Leadership” sessions, Onaje Jackson ’77 B.A., President, Sustainable Systems and Design International, gave a presentation on “Sustainability: The Road Map for 21st Century Action.”

**THIRD ROW** Frances Beinecke ’71 B.A., ’74 M.F.S. (far right), 2015–2016 Dorothy S. McCluskey Fellow in Conservation and Former President, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), moderated a panel focused on tackling the challenges of scaling ideas at the intersection of food and water with panelists (left to right) Rebecca de Sa ’13 M.E.M., Food Technology and Supply Chain Consultant; Timothy Searchinger ’86 J.D., Research Scholar, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University and Senior Fellow, World Resources Institute; Peter Lehner, Senior Attorney and Director, Sustainable Food and Agriculture Program, Earthjustice; and Kirk Siegler, Reporter, National Public Radio.

A session on the “Craft of Entrepreneurship” included panelists (left to right) Adrian Horotan ’10 M.E.M., Partner, Safe Made; Jim Boyle ’87 M.S., ’94 Ph.D., Co-Founder and Managing Director, Yale Entrepreneurial Institute (YEI); Jen McFadden ’08 M.B.A., Associate Director of Entrepreneurship, Yale SOM; and Kevin Czinger ’82 B.A., ’87 J.D., Founder and CEO, Divergent Microfactories, moderated by Stuart DeCew ’11 M.E.M./M.B.A., Program Director, Yale Center for Business and the Environment (CBEY).

Celebrating a successful YESS, pictured in the front row are Frances Beinecke ’71 B.A., ’74 M.F.S., 2015–2016 Dorothy S. McCluskey Fellow in Conservation and Former President, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), and William Reilly ’62 B.A., former Administrator of the U.S. EPA from 1989 to 1993, and currently Senior Advisor to TPG Capital, LP, who gave closing remarks, and in the back row, the four F&ES alumni co-chairs of the organizing team for YESS (left to right): Jen Molnar, Holly Welles, Jaime Carlson, and Carlos Pineda.

Sara Smiley Smith ’07 M.E.Sc./M.P.H, ’16 Ph.D., a member of the YESS Content Committee, introduced the “Shifting Thought into Action – Campus as Your Canvas” session which focused on how Yale is leading the way in institutional sustainability and what more can be done to actualize new ideas.

Remarks by Fred Krupp ’75 B.S., President of the Environmental Defense Fund, on Friday evening at the New Haven Lawn Club were followed by a dinner for hundreds of alumni, students, and distinguished guests including (left to right) Carlos Pineda, Alexandra Pineda, William Reilly, Holly Welles, Jen Molnar, and Dean Peter Crane. A standing-room-only presentation was given by Cassie Flynn ’07 M.E.M., Climate Change Advisor at the United Nations, on the upcoming (at that time) Paris climate change negotiations.
MEXICO-BASED F&ES ALUMS DRIVE AMBITIOUS CONSERVATION INITIATIVE

At the wet border of Mexico and Guatemala grows a florid jungle called the Lacandon. In its dark interiors, jaguars still hunt tapir, and red macaws and howler monkeys still pass through canopies thick with vines and flowering bromeliads. “The Lacandon is the last real rainforest in Mexico,” says Lucía Ruiz Bustos ’13 M.E.M., a biologist with Mexico’s National Commission on Natural Protected Areas.

The Lacandon is disappearing – at a rate of about five percent of its area each year, largely to slash and burn agriculture. By 2011, the Lacandon covered just 10 percent of its original expanse. In the pieces that remain live indigenous communities descended from the Maya, one-third of all Mexican bird species, a quarter of all Mexican animal species, and one-tenth of all Mexican fish species.

The Lacandon now also hosts a small part in one of the planet’s largest experiments in conservation, led by F&ES alumni.

Mexico is currently one of the world’s most advanced countries in preparing for REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation), a global payment for ecosystem service scheme aimed at stabilizing our climate through the protection of tropical forests. The basic idea is that the developed countries in the global north would pay developing countries in the south to protect or restore real forests, thereby reducing one significant contributor to climate change.

It’s a sound idea. But no country in the world has yet fully implemented REDD+, with real money flowing to protect or restore real forests. Mexico may be one of the places where it happens first, thanks, in part, to F&ES alumni. “In the region, at least, we are many steps ahead,” says Gabriela Alonso ‘09 M.E.M., a former REDD+ technical consultant to Mexico’s National Forest Commission. With national strategies established, grants secured, and monitoring systems developed, she says, “everything is moving into place now.”

In addition to Lucía and Gabriela, Ana Karla Perea Blázquez ’11 M.E.M. is Mexico’s current national focal point for REDD+ in the international climate negotiations process, which completed the methodological guidance to implement REDD+ last year, Jaime Severino ’11 M.E.M. oversaw the preparation of Mexico’s REDD+ strategy at the national level, and Yves Paiz ’07 M.E.Sc. works to design and implement REDD+ projects in the Yucatán, one of Mexico’s key early action regions.

When these alums were graduating from F&ES, REDD+ discussions were maturing in the global arena and each was able to return to Mexico after graduation to work on a different aspect of this conservation issue. “The National Forest Commission was open and ambitious, and really wanted to implement a landscape approach,” says Gabriela. “We had to come back to Mexico.”

Though the government has a strong desire to participate in REDD+, implementation can be tricky. For example: “In Mexico deforestation is already illegal,” says Yves. “The government can’t make a payment to someone to not do something that is illegal – so instead we are trying to incentivize management practices that can promote rural development and limit deforestation.” For example, Yves works with cattle ranchers to intensify their ranching practices so that they receive more income from less land, which will reduce the pressure on intact forests.

“We are trying to address deforestation not just by looking at direct causes,” says Jaime, “but also indirect, secondary causes. We are trying to promote sustainable rural development through a landscape approach.”

This is an exciting time to be working on forests and land conservation in Mexico. “We have the opportunity to test REDD+ before it enters into force,” says Yves, noting that the full program is not expected to begin around the world in earnest until 2020, when negotiations on its funding should be complete. There are several elements, like strong monitoring plans, that countries need to have in place by then if they are to receive REDD+ payments. In Mexico, says Jaime, “we are advanced in all of them.”

The idea is sound and the structures are in place. But, “will it work?” wonders Gabriela. She hopes it will, and she shares optimism with her fellow alumni working on REDD+ in Mexico. “If we don’t do it right now, here – where else could this work?”

Learn more: environment.yale.edu/news/article/yale-fes-alumni-help-shape-redd-forest-conservation-projects-in-mexico-landscape

Adapted from an article by Aaron Reuben ’12 M.E.M., first published on the F&ES website (see link above).
Thank you to all the alums who have volunteered to be a mentor in the Environmental Leadership Mentoring (ELM) program. We’ve been thrilled by the growth of this program in the two years since it was launched. We have more than doubled the mentor pool in the second year of the program to over 250 alums, and we hope many more alums will volunteer in the years ahead.

“Alumni engagement in ELM has been remarkable, and is a testament to the bond that alums form with F&ES and its students,” notes Gordon Clark ‘07 M.E.M., who helped develop the program. “ELM provides timely opportunities for students preparing to enter the work force to connect with alumni leaders living all over the world, and alums with an easy way to stay connected with what’s going on at the School while honing their professional skills by serving as mentors.”

The more alums willing to be mentors, the better the matches between student interests and alumni experiences each year. Help us strengthen the ELM program by joining today!

“I feel like my mentee and I were very well matched for each other,” notes Helen Chabot ‘09 M.E.Sc. “Her interests align very well with my line of work and experience, so I feel like I can give her valuable advice. I appreciate the specific guidance and recommendations for topics to discuss provided by the ELM program (e.g., the month-by-month topics) because they helped me think of specific questions to ask my mentee rather than just general job search questions.”

We’ve received a lot of enthusiastic feedback from both ELM mentors and mentees. Brian Marrs ’12 M.E.M. notes: “I’ve had a good experience with the ELM program and have found it meaningful to reconnect with the on-campus Yale community through the program.” Guy Steucek ’65 M.F. encourages alums to volunteer. “If you have the opportunity to mentor a student through ELM, do it!” he suggests. “The program will add spice to your life.”

More than 40 alums living in countries other than the U.S. are currently part of the ELM program, and we welcome participation by additional alums living around the world. This provides opportunities for us to match a student interested in a specific geographic area with an alum residing there.

The ELM program aims to help F&ES students grow professionally through the guidance and advice of alumni, helping them to become environmental leaders and managers in today’s world. Meredith VanAcker, a current second-year student, noted: “The ELM program has enriched my academic experience at F&ES. It has been extremely helpful to talk to someone who not only knows the nature of the graduate programs at F&ES but is also pursuing a similar career trajectory as my own.”

We will share additional opportunities to support current and prospective students with alumni who sign up to be a part of the ELM program. One priority need we identified, working in collaboration with Becky DeSalvo, Director of Enrollment Management & Diversity Initiatives, is to have alums support the Admissions Office by calling those who have recently been admitted to encourage them to come to F&ES. This is a key role for alumni volunteers and provides a great benefit to the School. This new volunteer program started this spring – thank you to the ELM participants who volunteered to assist!

It takes just a few minutes to fill out a profile and sign up to be a mentor. Resources have been developed to assist mentors in providing guidance to their mentees. Become a part of ELM today and join this growing group of alums willing to mentor the next generation of F&ES students.

Sign up for ELM: www.myinterfase.com/yale-fes/mentor

The ELM Committee, which coordinates the mentoring program, is committed to ensuring that the ELM program fully enables and supports successful and rewarding alumni–student mentoring experiences. The ELM Committee includes representatives of the Alumni Association Board (Gordon Clark ’07 M.E.M. and Sara Smiley Smith ’07 M.E.Sc./M.P.H., ’16 Ph.D.), faculty (Gordon Geballe, Associate Dean for Alumni and External Affairs), students (Stefanie Wnuck ’16 M.E.M. and Andrew Wu ’16 M.E.Sc.), staff from the Career Development (Ladd Flock, Director, and Alyssa Student, Assistant Director), Development and Alumni Services (Kristen Clothier ’98 B.S., ’01 M.F., Assistant Director), and Student Services (Joanne DeBernardo, Assistant Dean) offices, and the Diversity and Sustainability Fellow (Maclovia Quintana ’11 B.A., ’14 M.E.Sc.).

Dinners at restaurants in D.C. in February during D.C. Job Treks connected alumni who are part of the ELM program with students. Pictured here from left to right are alums Jen Molnar ’04 M.E.M., student Stefanie Wnuck ’16 M.E.M., alum Ryan Sarsfield ’12 M.E.Sc., and student Stefan Kazmanowski ’17 M.E.M. The dinners were co-hosted by the Career Development and the Development and Alumni Services offices the evening before the D.C. Alumni-Student Networking Reception.
ALUMNI CONNECT WITH CURRENT STUDENTS AT D.C. NETWORKING EVENT

This year’s annual D.C. Alumni–Student Networking Reception was held at the headquarters of the National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) on February 12. It was the perfect setting for over 140 students and alumni to gather to share opportunities and make connections.

Ryan Valdez ’96 M.F.S., NPCA Senior Manager, Conservation Science & Policy, generously hosted F&ES and helped plan an engaging program for participants. After welcoming those gathered, Ryan introduced Joy Oakes, NPCA Senior Regional Director of the Mid-Atlantic, who provided an overview of NPCA’s current initiatives and opportunities. Special guests from the NPCA and the National Park Service were introduced. During the remarks, it was noted that 2016 is the centennial of the National Park Service.

Alumni Association Board President Brian Goldberg ’03 M.E.M. then facilitated alumni networking introductions. Each alum briefly described their professional areas of expertise and, in many cases, shared job and internship opportunities with students and fellow alums. Following the alumni introductions, students and alums mixed together, connecting first by professional areas of interest and then more generally.

The D.C. Alumni–Student Networking Reception was organized and co-hosted by the F&ES Development and Alumni Services Office and Career Development Office. We would like to sincerely thank alum Ryan Valdez for his tremendous help in planning and facilitating this event; his NPCA colleague Carolyn Curry-Wheat for her assistance with event planning; all the terrific staff at NPCA for welcoming alumni and students into their beautiful headquarters; and the special guests who shared opportunities with students and alums.

In the days leading up to the D.C. Alumni–Student Networking Reception, over 100 students participated in the D.C. Job Treks organized by the Career Development Office. A number of the workplaces students visited, from TNC to USAID, had alumni volunteer hosts. In addition, the evening before the D.C. Alumni–Student Networking Reception, the Career Development and Development and Alumni Services offices teamed up to hold group dinners at local restaurants that brought together students and alumni volunteers in the ELM program. (A photo from one of the dinners is on the previous page.)

Thank you to all the alums who volunteered to participate in one or more of these events and generously share your knowledge with current students!
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION CLINIC FACILITATES STUDENT-ALUMNI COLLABORATIONS

The Environmental Protection Clinic (EPC) is a joint F&ES and Law School course, where students work in interdisciplinary teams on client projects. The EPC supports projects focused on an array of environmental issues, such as climate change adaptation, energy, urban forestry, coastal protection, and farming policy. In addition to the client work, the course provides consulting and environmental law training to the students through a weekly seminar.

Several of the client projects have been in collaboration with F&ES alumni, and Josh Galperin ’09 M.E.M., who directs the Environmental Protection Clinic, said he finds this alumni involvement to be greatly beneficial to students. “Alumni know how the EPC works and they know how our students work, and that knowledge makes them more thoughtful and productive supervisors,” he said. “Alumni also tend to work on incredibly important projects for diverse and productive organizations, so having this connection helps us advance environmental protection and helps the client organizations advance their goals.”

When she was a student, Erin Beasley ’15 M.E.M. participated in the EPC. “I was amazed at the level of access to high-level international projects that we had as students. As a Gruber Fellow in Bolivia [after F&ES], I wanted to make sure that my host organization in Cochabamba could benefit from the Environmental Protection Clinic,” said Erin.

Erin did just that. This spring, EPC students teamed up with Erin, Gruber Fellow and Climate Change Program Coordinator of Fundación Gaia Pacha, to create maps of current and potential urban tree cover in Cochabamba, Bolivia. “The high quality and specialized work done by students in the EPC course allowed Gaia Pacha to spark a discussion among city planners, local researchers, environmental regulators, young designers, and local citizens about where and why we should promote urban tree cover in Cochabamba. This experience put Gaia Pacha in a position to influence the planning discussion about greenspace management in a collaborative and proactive setting,” said Erin. She further added that “having the students visit Cochabamba midway through their project allowed them to share their initial findings and get on-the-ground feedback to improve their final product.”

Lucian Go ’16 M.E.M. participated for two semesters in the EPC while a student, during which he had the opportunity to engage in the global climate negotiations in Paris and to present on urban forest planning in Bolivia with Erin’s Gaia Pacha project. “These projects left me feeling more confident in my ability to work across new fields and disciplines,” he said.

Students in the EPC teamed up with Sean Dixon ’09 M.E.M., NYC Staff Attorney for Riverkeeper, working in his capacity as a member of the Technical Advisory Board of the Billion Oyster Project, to navigate the regulatory and political challenges inherent in working to re-establish 200 acres of new oyster reefs in the waters of New York City. “As external consultants, EPC students are well poised to approach problems from new angles, with new insights; as expert researchers, they’re perfectly positioned to supply organizations with invaluable ideas, conclusions, and strategies,” said Sean. “Beyond connecting with students through the ELM mentor program, guest lectures on campus, and happy hours and TGIFs in NYC, the EPC gave
me a chance to help return the favor for that aspect of F&ES that I valued as a student – practice-oriented, experiential education," he added.

EPC students also worked with Lia Nicholson ’14 M.E.M., Board Member of Antigua and Barbuda’s Environmental Awareness Group (EAG), to develop the EAG’s strategy for ensuring development projects in the Northeast Marine Management Area (NEMMA) – a large coastal and marine protected area – abide by national environmental law. “The EAG is a well-established non-governmental organization in Antigua, but being on a small island, we’ve always struggled with funding and human resources, especially to carry out in-depth research and strategizing on some of the larger challenges confronting the island in conservation,” said Lia. “Partnering with EPC students has given the organization expertise and new perspectives, bringing ideas, suggestions, and contacts into the mix.”

Edan Rotenberg ’08 M.E.M./J.D., a partner at the Super Law Group, worked with students on a project focused on improving water quality in Long Island Sound by cleaning up leaking sewage and addressing septic system leakage on Long Island. Edan commented that “the EPC has given our clients, small non-profit environmental organizations, the ability to fight above their weight class. Clinic students with backgrounds ranging from litigation to sewage plant maintenance and engineering have enabled our clients to participate productively in state and regional policy forums, in the development of a state guidance manual for sewage plants, and in precedent-setting litigation that, although far from over, is already changing the dialogue on future protection of Long Island’s drinking water supply and coastal waters.”

EPC students also collaborated with Diana Madson ’14 M.E.M., Sierra CAMP Director, to help Sierra CAMP prepare a climate adaptation plan for the Sierra region. “The Environmental Protection Clinic allowed our program to work with a team of bright, resourceful, and creative graduate students,” said Diana. “Our final product, a Sierra Nevada climate risk assessment and resilience plan, was far more robust and actionable as a result the EPC team.”

“I not only expanded my command of climate policy and vulnerability assessment methodologies in California through the project, but was able to gain insight into what the first few years after leaving Yale were like for my client,” remarked Laura Hamnett ’17 M.E.M., one of the students on the team. “This valuable interaction in my first semester as a M.E.M. student has helped shape my goals for the remainder of my time here at F&ES and my approach to what I pursue after graduation.”

“The Environmental Protection Clinic helps students learn how to communicate, how to collaborate, and how to navigate a lot of professional situations that they’ll face once they graduate.”

– Josh Galperin ’09 M.E.M., EPC Director

“Alumni engagement shines light on the amazing work that our graduates go on to do, and it gives students a clearer picture of themselves a few years down the road,” said Josh. The Environmental Protection Clinic would welcome additional project proposal submissions from alumni. If you are interested in submitting a project proposal for consideration by the Environmental Protection Clinic, contact Josh at joshua.galperin@yale.edu.

This article was written by Grace Lange ’17 M.E.M.
F&ES FACULTY, ALUMNI, AND STUDENTS HELP MAKE HISTORY AT COP21 IN PARIS

F&ES faculty, alumni, and students went to Paris as part of the pivotal COP21 climate negotiations in December.

Throughout the COP21 talks, members of the Yale community filled a wide range of roles. They served as delegates at the conference, provided translation, spoke on panels, and presented original research. They hosted side events, covered breaking news on social media, and worked with NGOs, international coalitions, student organizations, and Yale-based programs. And ultimately they each played a part in achieving a historic agreement, signed by 175 countries at the UN on Earth Day.

F&ES set up a detailed COP21 website landing page – visit environment.yale.edu/cop-21 for articles, blog posts, videos, photos, and more.

“Being in the negotiating rooms and seeing delegates work tirelessly, sometimes overnight, for two weeks to converge on these issues really put the enormity of the climate change issue in perspective for me,” said Lucian Go ’16 M.E.M., who, as a delegate for the Republic of Palau, was tasked with monitoring certain parts of the negotiations. “It was encouraging to see a lot of countries show a willingness to compromise on key issues in the spirit of moving forward.”

To bring the F&ES community together, F&ES hosted a panel and reception for alumni, faculty, students, and friends of F&ES on December 6 in Sevres, France.

The panel, focused on leadership in climate change, was moderated by Dean Peter Crane. Panelists included:

- Maria Ivanova ’99 M.E.S., ’06 Ph.D., Associate Professor of Conflict Resolution, Human Security, and Global Governance, University of Massachusetts Boston;
- Julia Marton-Lefèvre, 2016 Edward P. Bass Distinguished Visiting Environmental Scholar, Yale Institute for Biospheric Studies, and former Director General, IUCN; and
- Paul Lussier ’81 B.A., F&ES Lecturer and President of Me2U Media.

“The Yale reception at the climate COPs has become somewhat of a tradition, gathering alumni from across the world,” said Maria Ivanova ’99 M.E.S., ’06 Ph.D. “In Paris, the dynamic panel took this tradition to a new level with a substantive and inspirational discussion on the critical concerns. So inspired were we by the conversation that we spontaneously locked hands into ‘c’s and shouted: ‘Connect for climate.’”

More than 150 people attended the panel and reception. The gathering provided an excellent opportunity for F&ES alums from all over the world to connect with each other and the School.

Read more: environment.yale.edu/news/article/making-history-yale-contributes-to-landmark-climate-talks-in-paris
Since December 2015, several Yale units, including F&ES, have been participating in an experimental pilot study, the Yale Carbon Charge Project, testing four different carbon-pricing models in 20 Yale buildings, including Kroon Hall. Organizers hope the pilot project will provide insights into the best approach for a campus-wide carbon charge. At F&ES, School leaders see it as an opportunity to expand research, student learning, and outreach on a critical energy issue.

“Many economists think that putting a price on carbon is how the world should address climate change. But there’s a long way to go between theoretically setting a price on carbon and having it change people’s behavior. The carbon charge experiment is an opportunity to bridge that gap,” said Brad Gentry, Associate Dean for Professional Practice at F&ES and member of the first Carbon Charge Task Force.

The Yale Carbon Charge Project emerged during a 2014 Earth Day event organized as part of F&ES Professor Dan Esty’s course, “Climate Change and the Quest for Clean Energy.” During a panel that day, panelists were asked about Yale’s role in reducing carbon emissions. In an offhand comment, Sterling Professor of Economics William Nordhaus, one of the panelists, suggested that “Yale could implement an internal carbon tax.” The idea quickly gained traction. Within a year Yale President Peter Salovey ’86 Ph.D. appointed a Carbon Charge Task Force to examine whether a carbon tax would be a feasible and effective tool in the University’s sustainability initiatives. Then in April 2015, President Salovey announced that Yale would move ahead with a pilot project exploring different carbon pricing options. In a series of experiments which began in December, 20 Yale buildings are being used to test one of four different carbon-pricing schemes for six months: a distributed charge model; a target-based model; an energy-efficiency earmark model; and a price signal model.

“Feedback from the participants and an analysis of the results will inform a broader conversation about whether and how to consider potential wider implementation at Yale,” President Salovey said. “We believe that this pilot project can serve as a model for other institutions, expanding Yale’s role as a pioneer in researching, teaching, and designing climate change solutions.”

Kroon Hall, Yale’s first LEED-certified building, is one of five units being assessed in the distributed charge model in which poor performers (those who fail to meet their emissions targets based on past performance) pay good performers (those who fail to meet their emissions targets based on past performance) pay good performers. Sara Smiley Smith ’07 M.E.Sc./M.P.H., ’16 Ph.D., who chairs the F&ES Environmental Stewardship Committee, commented, “As of our February Yale Carbon Charge Report, we were 19% below the pilot program baseline, which is a significant achievement for a building as efficient as Kroon. We have achieved this through thoughtful collaboration between students, administrators, faculty, and facilities staff with a focus on a common goal: strategically enable learning and experimentation in this remarkable building.”

“It strikes me that this is exactly what we want to be doing,” Professor Gentry said. “If you think about the University as a learning lab, we should try price mechanisms and see how they work. We should try quantity mechanisms and see how they work. And then we should harvest lessons learned … and share those widely through our teaching, as well as our broader engagement with alumni (such as through the YESS events – see earlier article) and policy makers (such as through Yale’s membership in the Carbon Pricing Leadership Coalition).”

Learn more: environment.yale.edu/news/article/yale-carbon-charge-plan-offers-new-research-and-outreach-opportunities
Political gridlock in Washington, D.C., has frustrated many critical environmental policy initiatives in recent years. But in Connecticut, leaders are proud that a spirit of innovation and bipartisan cooperation has made the state a model for how to get things done on critical energy and sustainability-related issues.

Many of the recent achievements – from the creation of the acclaimed Connecticut Green Bank and a new institute for climate resilience to the merging of the state’s environmental and energy agencies – have been led by faculty, alumni, and even current students from the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies.

During a panel discussion at F&ES on April 4, several of those leaders discussed the factors that have made Connecticut a successful “laboratory” for sustainable development and environmental policy, and opportunities to make government work better for local communities and the environment.

“A lot of the innovation, a lot of the thinking, is happening now at the state level,” said Connecticut State Sen. Ted Kennedy Jr. ’91 M.E.Sc. (D-Branford), co-chair of the state’s Environment Committee. “And Connecticut can really lead the way in a lot of the innovation that we’re seeing.”

Other panelists included State Rep. James Albis ’16 M.E.M. (D-East Haven), co-chair of the state’s Environment Committee; Bryan Garcia ’00 M.E.M., President and CEO of the Connecticut Green Bank; Robert Klee ’99 M.E.Sc., ’04 J.D., ’05 Ph.D., Commissioner of the state’s Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP); and Catherine Smith ’83 M.P.P.M., Commissioner of the state’s Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD).
The discussion was moderated by F&ES Professor Dan Esty ’86 J.D., the Hillhouse Professor of Environmental Law and Policy and former DEEP commissioner. Joe MacDougald ’05 M.E.M., a professor at the University of Connecticut School of Law and F&ES delegate to the Association of Yale Alumni, offered introductory remarks.

A key ingredient in some of the state’s recent environmental successes, panelists said, was the inclusion of multiple parties and, particularly in the current fiscal climate, finding ways to limit the amount of public spending.

Locating outside funds is a foundational principle of the Connecticut Green Bank, which uses private capital and other funds to provide low-interest loans to projects exploring cleaner and cheaper energy technologies. And after just five years, Garcia said, the project has exceeded expectations.

The Green Bank, he said, recently completed a deal in which investor Hannon Armstrong will provide $100 million that Connecticut can use to support clean energy projects statewide. “That’s an example of how the green bank movement, how smart government, can use limited public dollars to scale up clean energy deployment,” Garcia said.

And, he predicted, it’s a model that can ultimately be used to address other environmental challenges. “As a staff we had a conversation about what’s the future of this kind of movement,” he said. “We’re really thinking it’s all about sustainability. How do we treat waste? How do we deal with water? How do we deal with land use? This model can be applied to that.”

Albis, a second-term state representative who earned a master’s degree from F&ES this spring, first sought a lead role on environmental issues after Hurricane Irene devastated his district in 2011.

In the aftermath of the storm, he helped create a shoreline preservation task force that initiated the momentum for a new climate resilience framework. The new Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation, which Albis helped create through legislation, now helps municipalities plan for the impacts of climate change, including sea level rise. “It doesn’t cost the state any extra money but utilizes our money in a more efficient manner and could save money down the road,” he said.

The urgency to manage costs has led DEEP to consistently evaluate how it can operate more efficiently and transform its processes, said Klee, who two years ago succeeded Esty as the agency commissioner. Within the department, he said, staff members are given the space to reimagine how things can be done more efficiently, and to share their lessons with other state departments, so that they can focus on their primary job.

When the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development examined business sectors where the state could be a national leader, Smith said, one area that stood out is green technology. “This is a place where we think we can be strong and we can grow faster than the average state, or even faster than the average country,” she said.

Before the panel discussion, New Haven Mayor Toni Harp ’78 M.E.D. shared some of the initiatives that have made the city a better environmental steward, including production of its own renewable energy, more efficient lighting technologies, and new bioswale systems to improve water management. She also discussed the importance of the city’s relationships with community-based organizations, including with the F&ES-led Hixon Center for Urban Ecology and the Urban Resources Initiative, which creates green jobs for city residents while also maintaining public parks, planting trees, and installing green infrastructure.

“We already share a limited space,” she added. “We might as well learn to share resources, transportation options, and most importantly share responsibility for increased sustainability. We’re certainly working toward that end in my Administration, and I know you’re working toward that end here at Yale.”

Adapted from an article by Kevin Dennehy, F&ES Communications Officer.

**The Class of 2016 Gives Back to F&ES**

The Class of 2016 raised a remarkable $5,306 for their class gift to the Annual Fund, creating five scholarships for students from the incoming Class of 2018. These newest F&ES alumni are keenly aware of the tough choices created by student loan debt. When making their gift, students were encouraged to reflect on the impact that F&ES has had on them and also the impact that they would like to have after they graduate. An astounding 83% of graduating students participated in the campaign, each taking a moment to add an icon to the class gift display in Kroon Hall (see image). The scene quickly populated with an array of plants, animals, and symbols of their environmental education, representing the great diversity among the class.

Join the Class of 2016 in helping to support the more than 80% of students who could not attend F&ES without financial aid.

**Make an impact – give today!**

[environment.yale.edu/giving/donate](http://environment.yale.edu/giving/donate)
More than 160 alumni returned to F&ES for Reunion Weekend from October 9–11, 2015, with over 225 total participants (alumni, family members, faculty, etc.) taking part in events and programs. Reunion Weekend activities included a school-wide TGIF, alumni seminars, a keynote presentation, an Alumni Awards Luncheon, special trips and tours, alumni musical performances, and a Harvest Dinner in Bowers.

**Doctoral Conference**

The annual Doctoral Student Research Conference took place on the Friday of Reunion Weekend. It featured doctoral student presentations and keynote speaker Dianne Dumanoski ’94 M.A., author and environmental journalist, who gave a talk titled “Born in a Strange Time: On the Front Lines of Galloping Global Change.” Alumni were invited to attend the doctoral conference and keynote before Reunion Weekend.

**TGIF**

The Reunion Weekend festivities kicked off on Friday evening with a special TGIF in Kroon Hall’s Knobloch Environment Center. At the beginning of the TGIF, the doctoral conference wrapped up with the awarding of the F. Herbert Bormann Prize to Jennie Miller ’15 Ph.D., whose research has explored an emerging method of spatial mapping to reduce conflicts between humans and carnivores. The Bormann Prize honors a Ph.D. student who has made a significant published contribution to his or her field in the past year.

At the packed TGIF, alumni reconnected with classmates and faculty, met alums from other classes, and engaged with current students and staff. The TGIF featured the opening of an interactive exhibit in the Knobloch Environment Center by alum Stephen Young ’85 M.E.S. and his colleague, Paul Kelly, titled “Macro or Micro? Challenging Our Perceptions of Scale” which was profiled in the Fall 2015 Edition of CANOPY. For alums with young children, a movie was shown on the big screen in Burke Auditorium.

Following the TGIF, a live music event, “Sage Boy (Still) Rocks!,” was held in Bowers Auditorium in Sage Hall. The event – the first reunion of the F&ES Music Project – featured incredible performances by the Class of 2005 and the Loggerythms, as well as a special appearance by New Zealand-based spoken-word poet Redwood Reider ’05 M.E.Sc.
Reunion Weekend TGIF gives alumni a chance to reconnect with classmates, engage with faculty, meet current students and staff, and connect with alumni across generations. This annual event is not-to-be-missed.
Distinguished Alumni Seminars

F&ES honored two graduates during Reunion Weekend with Distinguished Alumni Awards. The Saturday morning before the Alumni Awards Luncheon, the two recipients each shared their work with alumni, faculty, and staff during insightful and thought-provoking seminars.

“When Cities Stop Growing: Using a Multicultural Perspective to Understand Food Access and Sustainability in a Post-Industrial City” was the topic of the seminar given by **Dorceta Taylor ’85 M.F.S., ’91 Ph.D.**, Professor of Environmental Sociology, University of Michigan’s School of Natural Resources and Environment, and Coordinator of the Environmental Justice Field of Studies.

“Research Responses to Major Forestry and Forest Products Challenges over the Past Quarter Century” was the topic of the seminar given by **Jeffery Burley ’62 M.F., ’65 Ph.D.**, Director-Emeritus, Oxford Forestry Institute, and Emeritus Fellow, Green Templeton College, Oxford University.

The second presentation was followed by a forestry panel discussion moderated by former F&ES Dean John Gordon, with Jeffery Burley and members of the faculty who were also celebrating their reunions — Mark Ashton ’85 M.F., ’90 Ph.D., Chad Oliver ’70 M.F.S., ’75 Ph.D., and Tim Gregoire ’85 Ph.D.

View profiles of Distinguished Alumni Award recipients:


[environment.yale.edu/news/article/jeffery-burley-reflects-on-five-decades-in-forestry](environment.yale.edu/news/article/jeffery-burley-reflects-on-five-decades-in-forestry)

Reunion Welcome and Keynote Address

Dean Crane, who was in Singapore for the first Yale-NUS College Governing Board meeting, welcomed all alumni, faculty, staff, and students in a video message shown in Burke Auditorium. He thanked former Dean Gordon for standing in for him throughout the weekend and presiding over such a special event. He congratulated the alumni award recipients, thanked the keynote speaker, extended his appreciation to all alums, and gave a warm welcome to all in attendance.

After an introduction by Professor Os Schmitz, Julia Marton-Lefèvre, former Director General of IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) and 2016 Edward P. Bass Distinguished Visiting Environmental Scholar, Yale Institute for Biospheric Studies, then delivered a keynote address on leadership challenges in the environment.
Jeffery Burley ’62 M.F., ’65 Ph.D.

2015 Distinguished Alumnus Award

Jeffery, in a career spanning five decades, you helped transform the field of forest genetics and research. With the bold notion of “I can do better than that!” you came to F&ES seeking to learn from, and then surpass, the very best.

You voyaged across the Atlantic, trading England for New England, Oxford for Yale, the warmth of home for the warm welcome of Great Mountain, time with your young family for long, laborious days at Greeley Lab. And for you, the journey truly never ended.

With your Ph.D. from F&ES in hand, you traveled to central Africa to create national labs in forest genetics and tree breeding. You were among the first Yale Foresters to forge a broad international path, a model for a global career trajectory we now take for granted, uniting agriculturalists with activists, governments with private citizens, social scientists with bench scientists, and human progress with technical advances.

From your early days studying the chromosomes of conifers, to ultimately becoming a catalyst of change and a stalwart for international cooperation and leadership, you crossed boundaries, both political and technical, and scientific and social.

With the academic discipline instilled by your mentor, Professor François Mergen, you planted the seeds for a new understanding of forestry by creating novel research programs in developing countries. Returning to Oxford, you continued to conduct research, teach, and lead, advancing the research itself, while also advancing the role research plays in creating a common understanding of why we humans fundamentally still need forests.

Your achievements as a scientist and a leader have been recognized at the highest international levels: named president of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations and presented with the Commander of the British Empire by your Queen. But most importantly, your life’s work will impact millions of people who will quite literally breathe easier because you have helped to ensure a world inhabited by healthy trees.

Journey, in recognition of your academic excellence, innovation, and leadership, your pioneering efforts to establish forest research programs across the globe, and your recognition of the need for human ingenuity to deliver sound forest management solutions, we are proud to name you a Distinguished Alumnus of the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies.
Dorceta Taylor ’85 M.F.S., ’91 Ph.D., received a Distinguished Alumna Award. Professor Emeritus Bill Burch read the citation as the award was presented.

Dorceta Taylor ’85 M.F.S., ’91 Ph.D.
2015 Distinguished Alumna Award

Dorceta, as a leading academic scholar and researcher, you have been an authoritative voice for fairness and equality in the environmental movement during the past three decades. Your contributions to environmental justice and institutional diversity, as well as food access and justice, have helped propel these issues into the national spotlight by raising awareness, by fostering important dialogue, and by challenging the environmental community to take action.

As a respected academic leader, you have convened disparate voices for demanding yet constructive conversations. At Michigan’s School of Natural Resources and Environment, you helped to establish the nation’s first academic program in environmental justice, and you served as Program Director of the Multicultural Environmental Leadership Development Initiative, a project that helps experienced environmental professionals diversify their organizations, and minimizes the hurdles that youth face in obtaining jobs and building successful careers in the environmental field.

Your seminal report on diversity for Green 2.0 was a clarion call to the environmental community to continue to do more to address diversity in the environmental movement. Your national survey of nonprofits, government agencies, and leading grant-makers revealed that much work remains to be done if the environmental community hopes to respond to the changing needs of our constituents, and help them achieve their hopes and dreams for cleaner, safer, and healthier communities.

Your 2014 book Toxic Communities has been called a “standard-bearer” for bringing science and sociology to bear on racial and socio-economic dimensions of exposure to environmental hazards in the U.S. And your recent work with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to address food security issues in Michigan is leading to a deeper understanding of the disparities in access to healthy food, and more effective and scalable interventions to enhance food security.

You were the second African-American woman admitted to the master’s degree program in the history of the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, and the first to earn a Ph.D. Your passion and commitment to addressing inequalities of race and gender in the environmental field stand as a model and inspiration to the School and its alumni.

You once said: “One of the most important things for me, as a leader, is to help others.” To that end, you have been a teacher and a mentor to hundreds of students and future leaders of the environmental movement.

Dorceta, you are a pioneer in your field, and a beacon of change. In recognition of your outstanding leadership and scholarship, as well as your courage, fortitude, and determination, we are proud to name you a Distinguished Alumna of the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies.

Reunion Weekend participants at the Alumni Awards Luncheon.

Note: The citations on pages 28-31 have been slightly revised and reformatted to fit within CANOPY.
Distinguished Service Award

Tom McHenry ’77 B.A., ’80 M.F.S. received a Distinguished Service Award. Gordon Clark ’07 M.E.M., Alumni Association Board Vice President, read the citation as the award was presented.

Thomas McHenry ’77 B.A., ’80 M.F.S.
2015 Distinguished Service Award

Tom, as an accomplished environmental attorney, you’ve done much to protect our air, water, land, and the environment. You’ve served your firm, the City of Los Angeles, the State of California, and the public with integrity, commitment, and leadership. Today, however, we are here to honor your service to the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies.

As a member of the Class of 1980, you and your peers have previously been recognized for your collective service to the School. The School has benefited greatly from the Class’s leadership, devotion, and contributions of time and funding. You and your classmates are all “stars” in the F&ES universe, but like the night sky, some stars shine more brightly than others, commanding our attention and reflecting a unique brilliance that sets it apart, even when part of a stellar constellation. Tom, you are a star among stars.

As a member of the Class of 1980, you are one of its leaders and one of its doers, part celestial beacon, part terrestrial spade. You are the one setting the agenda, and also tirelessly implementing it, rallying your classmates, keeping them connected, raising funds in support of students, and stewarding the Class’s relations with the School. Simply put, you are the one who makes it all happen.

But the Class of 1980 is only part of the story. Your service to F&ES extends to all facets of the life of the School. Since 2010, you have co-chaired the F&ES Leadership Council, the School’s primary advisory and development body. You co-led the recent two-and-a-half year campaign that successfully raised more than $10 million in new scholarship funds, including the new Thomas McHenry Scholarship Fund, one of 22 new endowed scholarships that you helped secure.

You are also an active member of the Advisory Board of the Institute for Biospheric Studies, Yale’s home for research and training efforts in the environmental sciences, and you have worked hard to forge strong connections between YIBS, F&ES, and the University.

In addition, you served the School as Chair of the F&ES Annual Fund and Sand County Society. You also served as the School’s representative to the Yale Alumni Fund and received the Chairman’s Award for your distinguished service. And you continue to host the annual F&ES Sand County Society luncheon, bringing together the School’s most generous Annual Fund donors to recognize their contributions to the School and its students.

Tom, for being a champion of the Class of 1980; for your volunteer leadership with the F&ES Leadership Council, YIBS, and the University; and for your deep devotion and loyalty the School and its students, the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies is proud to honor you with its Distinguished Service Award.
Prospect Street Award

The Prospect Street Award, a new award, was created 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.

Heather Coleman ’04 M.E.M. was the recipient of the 2015 Prospect Street Award. Brian noted that Heather epitomizes the leadership, innovation, and creativity that the Alumni Association Board sought in creating the award. Jane Sokolow ’80 M.F.S., a member of the Alumni Association Board, read the citation.

Heather Coleman ’04 M.E.M.
Inaugural Prospect Street Award

Heather, as the Climate Change Manager for Oxfam America, you lead a policy and advocacy team in the areas of climate finance, energy, food, and agriculture. In this role, you successfully engaged the ten largest global food and beverage companies to adopt stronger climate policies, including new land-use change and forestry commitments. You also led the advocacy strategy to secure a U.S. commitment of $3 billion to capitalize the Green Climate Fund. As Senior Policy Advisor at Oxfam, you facilitated business partnerships on climate resilience with industry leaders, including Starbucks, Levi Strauss, and Green Mountain Coffee Roasters.

You participated in a team of global policy experts to influence international climate negotiations and U.S. climate policy, and advised the governments of developing countries on climate policy. As a climate policy analyst at Environment Northeast, you worked on regional and state climate-related initiatives such as the development of The Climate Registry, and the design and implementation of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative.

In recognition of your early career accomplishments and bright future, you were nominated by your fellow alums for the Prospect Street Award, and selected from among a group of incredibly talented alumni of the last decade.

Your commitment, resolve, and respect for others were revealed in the words of your nominator:

“Since graduation, Heather has worked at the forefront of climate change policy. Climate change policy moves slowly and is incredibly complex. I nominate Heather because she’s remained committed to making change in this difficult environment, and she seeks solutions that are real but also grounded in social justice. The world could use a lot more people like that.”

“Heather is massively committed, smart, and unafraid, and has managed to move ahead in a demanding career with lots of travel while maintaining a home life and raising two children. She’s supportive of other young women leaders in the field.”

Heather, for your work leading efforts to push for climate action globally and to address the impacts of climate change on the most vulnerable communities, and for your demonstrated leadership, innovation, and creativity, the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies is proud to honor you with its Prospect Street Award.

Jane then told the origin story of the award, a Yale Bowl, as she presented it to Heather:

“For your award, we have selected this bowl, which was handcrafted from a 45-year-old white oak that grew across the street from Sage Hall and in direct view of Sage Boy. When the tree had to be removed in April 2011 as part of the Prospect Street renovation and construction, Yale Professor Scott Strobel created a limited series of bowls, including this one, from the wood. For a short period, the logs from this tree served as lunch tables in the Kroon Hall courtyard. By giving you this bowl, we are connecting you to the long history of this School and to the legacy of leadership, innovation, and creativity that the Prospect Street Award represents.”
Alumni had a free afternoon to explore on Saturday. Guided tours were offered of Kroon Hall, the Grove Street Cemetery, and recent renovations in Marsh Hall and Greeley Memorial Lab. Alums also visited the Peabody Museum of Natural History and other sites.

On Saturday in the late afternoon, alumni attended an outdoor cocktail reception on the terrace of Kroon Hall, next to Sage Hall. Beautiful weather, hors d’oeuvres, refreshments, and great company were enjoyed by all.

The F&ES Reunion Weekend Harvest Dinner was held in Bowers on Saturday evening. Everyone enjoyed a delicious family-style dinner at festively decorated wooden tables as live fiddle and bass music played in the background.
Throughout the weekend, various additional activities took place for specific classes and groups of alumni, including the traditional five-year reunion gathering at Great Mountain Forest for the Class of 2010 (*top left photo*), a 35th-reunion trip to Yale-Myers Forest for the Class of 1980 (*top right photo*), and a special dinner with Professor Tim Gregoire ’85 Ph.D. for mid-career alums who gathered for their first-ever reunion (*bottom photos*).

Reunion Weekend wrapped up with a brunch at the Yale Farm on Sunday morning, including a tour led by undergraduate and graduate students.

Through their 2015 Reunion Weekend registrations, alumni donated more than $14,000 toward the Dean’s Scholarship Fund. Thank you!
ALUMNI REFLECTIONS

The F&ES Office of Development and Alumni Services is collecting reflections about the experiences of alums from the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s. The stories can be from the time alums were students (inspiring faculty members, lessons learned, experiences in the classroom or in the field, annual traditions, memorable events, etc.) and/or describe the influence the School has had on alums’ careers and lives after graduation.

Thank you to those alums who have already shared a story! Excerpts of some of the reflections collected follow. Additional excerpts will be included in upcoming editions of CANOPY.

We would welcome additional stories from alums from the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s. For more info or to submit a reflection, contact Kristen Clothier ’98 B.S., ’01 M.F., Assistant Director of Development and Alumni Services, at kristen.clothier@yale.edu.

Sixty-five years ago a handful of us from Yale College started on our second year in the then Yale Forest School, as part of the Class of 1951. In 1950 Yale College had awarded us bachelor’s degrees in plant science and forestry in an unusual program that lasted only a few years after WWII. It was created to help veterans in Yale College expedite their entrance to the world of jobs, cramming six years of usual courses into five. The student spent three years as an undergraduate, the curriculum loaded with prerequisite courses, and in the fourth year took all courses at the Forest School. Thus by some legerdemain that fourth year served as both the senior year in Yale College and the first year of the two-year graduate course in forestry.

Senior year as undergraduates for us started in June at the Forest School’s summer camp in northwest Connecticut. This was a crash course of two months in surveying, mapping, and learning the elements of timber inventory. We learned how to build a Biltmore stick, that arcane marked piece of wood that enabled one to take tree diameters and heights. We learned to use the box compass and Abney level, both instruments no one uses today. My cousin Ingersoll Arnold’s (’41 M.F.) Keufel and Esser box compass now sits somewhere in the School’s memorabilia. It was a skittish piece of equipment, the needle taking forever to settle down, and if any moisture made its way into the compass the point of the needle would stick to the glass. It had been the weapon of choice for a quarter century for running compass courses, but its end came when Silva came out with a liquid-filled model.

In those days the Yale Forest School offered just two curricula, forest management (home of dirt foresters) and wood technology (home of the wood busters). All five of us from Yale College opted for forest management, though one went into forest industry production after a brief stint in the woods.

The forest management program ended with another two months of field work, this time on the lands of the Crossett Lumber Company in southern Arkansas. Final exams in New Haven for the preceding term took place toward the end of February, and then we all headed southwest to spend our final two months there.

The first half was devoted to applying the skills taught in New Haven to develop a management plan for a block of the Crossett holdings, including surveying and mapping it, running a timber inventory, doing growth studies, and then writing the plan that would dictate how much timber should come off the property at what intervals to assure a sustained yield for it over the long haul. The second half dealt with the forest industry of that part of Arkansas, studying logging practices, visiting numerous mills, and doing sawmill recovery studies.

– Peter Arnold ’50 B.S., ’51 M.F.

Peter also shared the following story:

I almost didn’t get my B.S. degree. The Assistant Dean – a good friend with whom I used to hunt ducks – called me into his office one day toward the end of my junior year, just before cutting all ties with Yale College and heading for the Forest School. He said, “You realize, don’t you, that a B.S. degree requires the equivalent of two years of either French or German, and your record shows only Spanish, which does not qualify.” I asked what to do, and he said, “Go talk to your Forest School counselor,” which I did. Old Dr. Castle listened to my tale of woe, and came up with the solution: “Just tell them that you plan to work in Latin America and the Forest School approves of Spanish for your foreign language requirement.” So back I went to the Assistant Dean and, lying in my teeth (I thought) told him that. Little did I realize that my very first job out of school was going to be cruising timber in Brazil, and that a very large part of my entire career was going to be spent working on aspects of forestry in many other Latin American countries.
My favorite professor was Professor Harold Lutz ’27 M.F., ’33 Ph.D. He had a real grasp of the difference between practical application and scientific research. During the first day of a special project I had signed up for, Professor Lutz told me to go to the School’s library and read the last paragraph of thirty scientific papers from several disciplines. I was then to tell him whether there was any similarity between these final paragraphs. It was amazing to me that almost every one said, in some fashion, “more research is necessary.” Seldom did these scientists come to a finite conclusion, yet managing the ecosystem requires us to make decisions every day.

I was in the class that was the transition period between the old-time foresters like Lutz and Smith and the new ecologists like Bormann. I consider the experience between practical forestry and ecological theory to have been very important to my current leadership in a national land trust. I have been the CEO of three land trust programs that have sought to bridge the gap between science and practical knowledge.

– Andy Johnson ’68 M.F.S.

During my time at the School of Forestry, 1953-55, Professor Harold Lutz taught our courses in Silviculture (along with eventual successor Professor David Smith ’46 M.F., ’50 Ph.D.) and Soils. It was obvious, however, that his interests went beyond these two subjects and in retrospect anticipated by some years the change from Yale School of Forestry to Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies.

One incident during our first-year Silviculture course occurred on a field trip to one of the New Haven Water Company’s tracts that served as our outdoor classrooms. During a stop for lunch, one of our classmates crumpled up his sandwich bag and threw it on the ground. Professor Lutz immediately admonished him to take his trash with him, as other people could be passing by to enjoy the uncluttered natural woodland and we, as foresters, had an obligation to keep it this way when we weren’t actually conducting forestry operations.

Though having briefly considered a program in Conservation as an undergraduate at Cornell University and picked up many a scrap of paper or cigarette butt while policing the company area in the Army, I was rather oblivious to what others left behind along woodland trails. Also I hadn’t made much of a connection between my previous interest in conservation policy and my current interest in forestry. By this one incident and other long-forgotten comments, Professor Lutz effectively opened my eyes to the real connection between the wise use of the forest resource and the forest as part of the much wider environment. The lesson has stayed with me, and in retirement I have a lingering interest in forestry but a more active interest and involvement in air and water quality, wildlife, recreational use, and other aspects of the broader local, national, and world environment.

– Larry Sunderland ’55 M.F.

Dr. Nicholas Polunin ’34 M.S. was a visiting professor from Harvard who conducted a weekly three-hour session on environmental matters in the early 1950s. He was memorable by his repeated dictum to “Gather ye reprints while ye may!” It was his way of encouraging us to build a personal technical library. Though reprints have long since yielded to the convenience of Internet searches, his dictum resulted in my building my own technical library. I became involved in outdoor recreation management in the early years of the 1960s and later, read the emerging literature, typed out my own abstracts on computer punch cards, indexed them by my own rubrics, and permitted searching on those rubrics by hand-punched slots in the margins. This was truly useful in my teaching and research efforts – an impact of Dr. Polunin that lasted through several decades of my career.

Sometime during the two years, it became apparent to me that an understanding of economics would be very useful in attempting to gain social and business acceptance of desired conservation practices. This realization led me to pursue and complete a Doctorate in Agricultural Economics at UConn, and in turn led to my lifelong interest in environmental issues and in policy concerning alternative uses within the National Forest System.

– Richard Bury ’55 M.S.

My principle instructor was Dr. Frederick Wangaard, who taught wood technology majors and introduced us to the Forest Products Research Society and its hardcover publications of Annual Conferences in the 1940s and 50s. These covered many topics about research, manufacturing, and products in the industry, and I attended many of its conferences in later years working at Sherwin-Williams, Masonite, and JELD-WEN, Inc.

While at the School, working on an assistantship testing pine tree bark properties related to fire resistance (like in controlled burns), I learned about utilizing volatile xylene solvent to extract water from bark in determining its low moisture contents, and then distilling the mix to separate out the water and purified xylene to be recycled for use again. For the project I also conducted an extensive literature review, the practice of which served me well in my later career in R & D and continues to energize me in seeking answers to current affairs like the Four Forest Initiative newly in practice in Arizona National Forests.

– Karl Spalt ’61 M.F.
Thank you for submitting your updates to Class Notes and for sharing stories of your accomplishments and adventures. F&ES alums are collectively making such an important and impressive impact around the world. We would like to hear from even more of you – send updates to your Class Secretary or alumni.fes@yale.edu.

1964
Class Secretary Needed
Pete Passof writes: “I have been retired since 1999. I have been living in the same home in Ukiah, Calif., since 1968. Flo and I have been married for 55 years and have two children and five grandchildren. The oldest attends the University of Idaho and is majoring in wildlife management. For the last nine years, I have taken up wood turning and especially enjoy the challenge of segmented turning. Not spending a lot of effort with forestry activities, preferring time spent traveling and visiting with family, who are all close.”

1971
Class Secretary
Tom Nygren
tnygren@juno.com

Michael Finkbeiner works at Earth Image, with new emphasis on drones and remote sensing, precision GPS, GIS, and all the great new ways to do the old tasks for inventory, mapping, and management. Mike and Joan are looking forward to a return to Bolivia during the Florida summer and are otherwise enjoying life on the Gulf of Mexico.

Tom Nygren writes: “It’s been a busy year – keeping up with preparing stewardship plans for small woodland owners, as well as managing my own woodland. Highlights have included attending the Ph.D. dissertation for our oldest grandchild, high school graduation of our first granddaughter, and being straw boss for three grandchildren working on our woodland for the summer! It was good to be with young people and help them learn about the beauty of the forest and the value and satisfaction of working in the woods.”

Jim Okraszewski writes: “I am very involved as a volunteer with the local hospice here in the Wisconsin Northwoods, about 32 miles away. We still live in Michigan right on the border. We have a very fine hospice house for up to eight patients, as well as serving terminal ill folks in their homes in several Wisconsin counties, which most people choose. Clare volunteers at the local library about 12 miles away. Everything here is a 20- to 45-minute drive on a good day in summer. Our four children are scattered from Chicago to Honolulu with two grandkids in Colorado. If El Niño gives us easy winters such as this one, then how do we make it permanent? Just kidding! Only about 18 inches of snow in the woods and very few below-zero nights or days so far. The companies I once worked for as a forester now do not even exist. Even the universities I attended no longer teach traditional forestry. Such are the changes in life, and perhaps that is all for the past. Not spending a lot of effort with forestry activities, preferring time spent traveling and visiting with family, who are all close.”

1975
Class Secretary
Hallie Metzger
hallie.metzger@rcn.com

Jaynee Levy reports that our 40th Reunion was a great affair. “The Reunion was wonderful. The warmth and friendship from my fellow classmates was overwhelming. The presentations were excellent and timely, and the presenters were tops in their fields. The awards were fun and entertaining.” But best of all was learning how effective her work in South Africa had been. “At one of the Reunion cocktail parties, a young man came up to me and told me he had just returned from South Africa. He told me that the trails I worked on as part of the National Hiking Way System were considered the best in the world. I was full of pride and even shed a tear of joy.”

1978
Class Secretaries
Susan Curnan
curnan@aya.yale.edu
Marie Magleby
immagleby@att.net
Regina Rochefort
regina_rochefort@nps.gov

Rebecca Bormann ’82 Ph.D. writes: “My highlight news is that I am going on a Viking River Cruise in September with my mom (who will be 87 but is, knock on wood, strong enough to go and enjoy, along with my husband and my sister). I can’t wait. In March I started training for state certification as a Certified Family Peer Specialist. I am already nationally certified but having the state’s stamp of approval means that my services can now be charged to medical assistance, and I should even get paid. I am hoping to create my own position. We’ll see how that goes. Best to everyone.”

1980
Class Secretary
Sara Schreiner Kendall
saraskendall@comcast.net

Star Childs writes: “Nothing new under the sun, or at least not this sun...”

Jack and Patti Millet are still “bi-coastal,” dividing time between Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, and the Sierra Nevada. Son Nathan is
second generation with the Forest Service as hydrologist. Daughter Emma just accepted a position at Maine Maritime Academy as captain of the schooner Bowdoin.

Ken Olson’s essay “The Geography of Philanthropy” will appear in Acadia National Park: A Centennial Celebration, due this spring from Rizzoli. This is Ken’s second literary collaboration with photographer Tom Blagden Jr. Blagden and Olson’s 2003 book, First Light: Acadia National Park and Maine’s Mount Desert Island, won a National Outdoor Book Award for Design and Artistic Merit and was an Award Finalist, Book of the Year competition, ForeWord Magazine.

At the end of 2015, Al Sample ’89 D.For., capped off two decades of leading the Pinchot Institute for Conservation in Washington, D.C. As President Emeritus and Senior Fellow, he will continue research and policy development focused on forests and climate change mitigation, adaptation, and resilience—and enjoy having more time for grandparenting.

Jim Thorne ’85 Ph.D. writes: “Biggest news has been the birth of our first grandchild Rosemary to our daughter Megan Bowers and her husband Nick. I have retired from conservation nonprofit work as staff scientist and am volunteering for my favorite ones.”

1981

Class Secretaries
Fred Hadley
fhadley@sit-co.net

Gail Kalison Reynolds
gail.kalison.reynolds@aya.yale.edu

Ann Clarke ’92 D.F.E.S., who is on the F&ES Alumni Association Board, brought together interested Yale alums in Monterey County, Calif., from various classes and schools to plan spring activities including a hike, wine tasting, concert, and other cultural and educational events. In doing so she met Derek Lieberman ‘00, who is an engineer on contract to the Army for the cleanup of Fort Ord’s groundwater. Meanwhile, Ann also volunteers at the local SPCA Wildlife Rescue Center while growing a private mediation practice.

Louise Richardson Davis and Joth Davis ’82 are ecstatic in their third year of marriage, and with five children between them in their 20s, really hoping someone will produce a grandchild! Of course a wedding would be fun too. With a shellfish farm outside of Seattle, a home on the range in Bozeman, Mont., and many family members to visit in Maine, they are never worried about finding something to eat.

Thea Hayes writes: “Howdy from the West Coast and Pseudotsuga menziesii Country! Retirement doesn’t quite mean that, as I’m mostly subbing in middle and high schools (science, math, etc.), tutoring, and doing a lot of volunteer work. This involves altruistic efforts for Alpha Delta Kappa and the Oregon Invasive Species Council, and I’m about to take up with a USGS group monitoring chytrid on rough-skinned newts in the Portland area. Husband Angel is engineering at Intel, daughter Rachel is learning Arabic at the University of Oregon in Eugene, and daughter Hanna is stalking the wilds of Seattle. Oh, and I’m learning to be a beekeeper!”

Bruce Kernan writes: “I continue to live in Quito, Ecuador. Most of the year, I work on the conservation aspects of USAID projects in Latin America, but I spend a few months a year in South Worcester, New York. My favorite occupation there is silvicultural work in our family forest. We managed to fight off Constitution Pipeline’s attempt to confiscate a mile-long swath of our forest for a right-of-way.”

Gail Kalison Reynolds writes: “I now work for UConn Extension and run the Master Gardener program for my county. We had our soils unit last week, and I dusted off Sandy Manley’s famous sand collection for the students’ collective benefit! Yes, I have steadily stowed the sand collection all these years—most times it sits safely in a box in the second floor eaves of my house.”

Jim Runyan writes: “Bev and I moved from our home in Pembridge, Maine, to Danbury, N.H., about two-and-a-half years ago to get closer to our two sons and granddaughter. I am still doing consulting work for PWC, which includes certification to the SFI, PEFC, and FSC standards along with reviewing appraisals for investors of forested lands. On my own I still get requests to review wood procurement systems into pulp mills, which also includes work to stabilize the chip distribution to the digesters. It keeps me busy and in beer money, along with a recent trip to New Zealand and a yearly trip to a timeshare we have in St. Martin the second week of December. I limit my work in the winter so I can go skiing at Ragged Mountain, which is just across the valley from the house. I presented a paper at the SAF conference in Baton Rouge, La., in November related to using Damming’s principles to lower wood cost through stabilizing the procurement system. We did attend the F&ES get-together and had a great time talking to other graduates and current students. Every now and again I run into Andy Howard ’79, ’85 Ph.D., which is always fun.”

Marcia Sailor writes: “Rick and I are planning to build a house in Northampton, Mass., and will be moving from Belmont/Watertown this year. We’re excited about the community—great college vibe, art scene, beautiful countryside, and the Connecticut River, yet still close to Boston and New York. I left my job at Wentworth Institute of Technology and will find something part-time and interesting to do once we get settled. Lots of changes in 2016 and all for the good.”

David Van Wie writes: “I just recently retired from my job as an environmental consultant with Amec Foster Wheeler after 11 years there. I am moving on to some new chapter yet to be written, but likely involving more writing and photography. I have a book coming out in early May that may be of interest to classmates, called The Confluence: Fly-fishing and Friendship in the Dartmouth College Grant, co-written with several college classmates. We have been getting some great advance reviews, and the book and website will explain more of what I have been doing in the last 35 years. Enjoy!” confluencebook.com

1982

Class Secretaries
Barbara Hansen
bjhansen@fs.fed.us
Ken Osborn
kennethosborn@gmail.com

Ken Osborn recently attended a retirement party for Mark Hitchcock ’81 in Skagit County, Washington. Ken continues to work in forestry with a client’s properties in Washington State and New Zealand.

1987

Class Secretaries
Christie Coon
christie.coon@mac.com
Melissa Paly
mpaly01@gmail.com

Julie Dunlap, Ph.D., continues writing, editing, and teaching from her home in Columbia, Maryland. She’s especially appreciative of F&ES students and alumni because several contributed essays to her forthcoming anthology (co-edited with Susan Cohen) Coming of Age at the End of Nature. To be published by Trinity University Press in 2017, it is a collection of Millennials’ reflections on climate change, dwindling biodiversity, and other environmental challenges that have shaped their lives. Thanks to everyone, especially
SAGE magazine editors, who helped find the powerful works in the collection.

1988

Class Secretaries
Diane Stark
salsrad@yahoo.com

Philip Voorhees
philipvoorhees@gmail.com

Holly Welles
hwelles@princeton.edu

Eric Jay Dolin had a new book come out in mid-April—Brilliant Beacons: A History of the American Lighthouse (Liveright, an imprint of W.W. Norton). Last December, 20th Century Fox staged a private screening of The Revenant for Eric and his wife so he could give his perspective on the historical accuracy of the movie (one of Eric’s earlier books is on the fur trade). Eric says it was an unusual experience sitting in an empty theater with two security guards watching so that he and his wife didn’t film any of the movie, which was still weeks away from being released. Eric ended up writing an introduction for the screenplay, which was sent to members of the Writer’s Guild of America so that The Revenant could be considered for the award of best-adapted screenplay. Eric and his family still live in Marblehead, Mass., and he welcomes visitors.

1989

Class Secretary
Betsy Carlson
bcinpt@gmail.com

Betsy Carlson writes: “Greetings from the upper left-hand corner of the contiguous 48. I volunteered to be a Class Secretary for the Class of 1989 and look forward to connecting with fellow ’89ers for the fall edition of CANOPY. Where are you, what are you doing, travels, adventures, mishaps? We’d all like to hear more. I had a nice visit with Jamie Williams last year while taking the time-honored spring break tour of D.C. with my kids. I would love to see more of our classmates, perhaps at a Reunion in the not-so-distant future. I am the citizen science coordinator for the Port Townsend Marine Science Center (think kelp forests and eel grass meadows). My office is on a pier that juts out into Puget Sound and Admiralty Inlet. Instead of tweets, I get periodic texts about orcas or gray whales passing by. It’s a noisy place with bubbles and water flowing to touch tanks in the exhibit and wet lab just outside my door. My commute is bikeable, with glimpses of Mount Rainier, Mount Baker, and the San Juan Islands. Let’s just say I get paid in sunsets, and it’s priceless. Visitors are very welcome if you don’t mind a couple of teenage boys lurking about. My home base is Port Townsend, Wash., a picturesque Victorian Seaport. You can see Canada from here.”

Mary Nelligan Robbins writes: “In 2012, I joined the Worcester Area Mission Society (WAMS), an organization founded in 1829 by Worcester, Mass., industrialist and philanthropist Ichabod Washburn. In addition to revamping the WAMS Service Learning program that now includes ReachOut Worcester, I’m also actively engaged in a new WAMS effort called Sustainable Massachusetts. Sustainable MA brings together leaders and thinkers working at all levels across multiple organizations to promote programs and policies that offer real and measurable opportunities for households/families to enjoy long-term economic stability and success. Family-wise, we are doing great with many celebrations in 2015. John and I turned 50, we celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary, our son Johnny turned 16, our daughter Megan turned 18 and entered her freshman year of college, and our son Colby turned 21 and entered his senior year of college. In April 2015, I spent my 50th birthday in the hills of Tuscany with my daughter, mother, sisters, and nieces. And in August 2015, the five of us went with John’s parents on a cruise to Alaska where we spent at least ten hours per day walking the decks, awed by the incredible sea life.”

1994

Class Secretaries
Jane Calvin
jcalvin@prospeed.net

Cynthia Henshaw
c.henshaw@comcast.net

Jane Whitehill
janewhitehill@gmail.com

Cynthia Caron writes: “I’ll start a one-year sabbatical leave in June 2016. I’ve received a grant from the American Institute of Sri Lankan Studies to continue my research on community formation, resettlement, and post-disaster management. I cannot wait!”

Nicola Robins and partner Steve have a beautiful baby daughter named Kim. In between mommy stuff, Nicola is co-director of Incite, helping emerging market organizations to address society’s biggest challenges — profitably and at scale.

Jane Whitehill is working in drug development, translating data into prose, and enthusiastically volunteering for Bernie Sanders. She recommends Friday by Michel Tournier, a novel with an interesting look at Robinson Crusoe and lots of island biogeography.

1998

Class Secretary
Claire Corcoran
corcoranclaire@me.com

Ben Gardner lives in Seattle with his wife Jenn Meyer and daughters Stella (13) and Maylie (9). He moved to Seattle in 2008 after receiving his Ph.D. in geography from the University of California, Berkeley. He is associate professor of global studies, cultural studies, and environmental studies in the School of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences at the University of Washington Bothell. He is also chair of the African Studies Program at the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies at the University of Washington. Ben recently published Selling the Serengeti: The Cultural Politics of Safari Tourism (2016, University of Georgia Press, Geographies of Justice and Social Transformation Series). The book is part of his long-term research on grassroots environmental activism, the cultural politics of development, and community conservation in Tanzania. Ben teaches classes on global development, environmental politics, African history, cultural studies theory and methods, humanitarianism, and tourism. He won the University’s distinguished teaching award in 2014. He would love to reconnect with other Forestry School alums in the Pacific Northwest. ugapress.org/index.php/books/index/selling_the_serengeti
Joseph Guse writes: “I still teach in the economics department at Washington and Lee University. This May I am excited to co-teach (with Harvey Markowitz) ‘Land in Lakota Culture, Economics, and History’ — a course for environmental studies majors and others that includes nine days of off-campus travel in and around the Pine Ridge Reservation.”

2003
Class Secretaries
Ben Hodgdon
benjamin.hodgdon@gmail.com
Pete Land
petercland@gmail.com

Margaret Francis writes: “My husband Williams, son Marcos, and I live in Gainesville, Florida, where Williams is finishing his Ph.D. at the University of Florida. I work remotely for The Nature Conservancy as assistant director of the Great Lakes Project.”

Brian Goldberg writes: “I’m enjoying newlywed life with Missy and our snow-loving dog Baylee. If you’re reading these Class Notes and are feeling nostalgic to reconnect with F&ESers, then flip back to those earlier pages in CANOPY and check out the fantastic F&ES social and volunteer opportunities!”

Krith Karanth writes: “I got married to Avisnas Nosh in 2015, and we welcomed our baby girl in early 2016.”

Carlos Linares writes: “I am collaborating with the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry of Myanmar to prepare Myanmar’s National Environmental Policy – a UNDP/Myanmar funded project. I was in Myanmar in March 2016 for a second round of public- and private-sector consultations. I also am enjoying teaching an ‘Environment and Development’ course at the Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University, and enjoyed hosting two F&ES students during their visit to Washington, D.C., in February 2016.”

2004
Class Secretaries
Jennifer Vogel Bass
jennifer_vogel@yahoo.com
Keith Bisson
keith_bisson@yahoo.com
Daniela Vizcaino
danavizcaino@gmail.com
Laura Wooley
le.wooley@gmail.com

Ian Cheney writes: “Amanda and I are living in western Massachusetts with our newborn son Kepler, who enjoys snow, birdwatching, and old Star Trek reruns. I’m still making films, and teaching a documentary class at Yale College, so it’s been fun to pop into F&ES from time to time and bother Gordon Geballe about various things. Last week we inexplicably roasted a whole head of garlic together in the staff lounge.”

Ilmi Granoff is returning to the States after two-and-a-half years leading the Green Growth unit at a London think tank, the Overseas Development Institute (ODI). He’ll be bouncing between San Francisco and New York through the summer, continuing his policy research with ODI part of the time and advising on low-carbon investment the rest.

2005
Class Secretaries
David Cherney
david.cherney@colorado.edu
Dora Cudjoe
dcudjoe@worldbank.org
Virginia Lacy
virg.lacy@gmail.com
Benjamin Urquhart
bnurquhart@gmail.com

Ines Angulo writes: “After two-and-a-half years working in Costa Rica, I have moved back to Washington, D.C. I am working as a forest specialist for the Climate Investment Funds, which is housed in the World Bank.”

Ann Grodnik ’06 writes: “It’s been awhile, so here’s a status update. Married to the lovely Kyle Nagle for seven years now! Two kids, Sylvie (5) and Sam (2). Working in resilient power, energy efficiency, sustainability program management, and finance for CB&I. Living in Golden, Colo. Dreaming of starting a yurt commune in the Fraser Valley. Come visit us anytime! Seriously – we always have room for F&ESers.”

Andrea Johnson writes: “I’m still in Costa Rica but no longer living full-time in a green paradise, having moved into San José. I am now working as a consultant to both fight illegal logging (once again with the awesome Environmental Investigation Agency) and to support happy logging (helping The Forestland Group manage some properties in Belize and Costa Rica). To compensate for the return to urban life – and in hopes of creating the unofficial Class of 2005 retirement commune – I have bought 25 gorgeous but largely deforested acres of land on the Osa Peninsula that I am beginning to restore to its original splendor. Please be in touch … I love hosting visitors.”

Sarah Matheson writes: “I joined Tata Sons and am heading up sustainability across our 12 North American companies (Jaguar Land Rover, Tata Consulting, Tata Chemicals, Tata Communications, etc.) and having a great time learning about the company and this new challenge. I’m living in Alexandria, Va. A major highlight of the year was attending our 10th Reunion, where we were inspired to start a new project to give back to F&ES … more to come!”

2006
Class Secretaries
Ying Chi
ra.chi@gmail.com
Reilly Renshaw Dibner
reilly.dibner@ayayale.edu
Sue Ely
suzie.ely@gmail.com
Krista Mostoller
anderson_kb@yahoo.com
Jill Savery
jillsavery@yahoo.com

Diana Dimitrova writes: “After a number of years in environmental consulting, since 2013 I have been the environmental manager of Aurubis Bulgaria, the largest copper smelter in southeastern Europe, part of the Hamburg-based Aurubis AG. Working in the heavy industry can be challenging at times, but the potential for positive change is immense. Unlike in consulting, in the plant I can directly see the results of my efforts, which is very rewarding. During the weekends, my husband and I like to take our son Delyan (4) to the nearby woods.”

Ross Geredien writes: “After some speed bumps on the Road of Life, I’m taking time to explore new and meaningful possibilities in the environmental field. I recently returned from an epic trip to Colombia where I had a small reunion with Luisa Lema-Velez and Anamaría Aristizabal ’07. I also spend my time volunteering with the Bernie Sanders campaign.”

Gudmundur Ingi Gudbrandsson writes: “I have worked as the managing director for Iceland’s largest environmental NGO for more than four years. Landvernd (care for the land) focuses on nature conservation and environmental education. We are working on...
building a consensus around establishing a national park in the central highland of Iceland, supported by recreational groups, tourist companies, and others.” ha lendid.is

Mary McNealy Czarnecki writes: “Things are moving right along here in Oregon’s Willamette Valley! My boys Emmett (4) and Jonathan (2) are growing like weeds, husband Chris is still running our two family restaurants (Joel Palmer House and The Barlow Room), and in addition to helping with the restaurants, I’m growing my own wellness and lifestyle consulting business. Our door is always open for anyone headed out to Oregon Wine Country!”

Kim Wilkinson writes: “Over the past 18 months, I’ve been receiving a tremendous education – I passed the test and jumped the hoops to Canadian citizenship while working for the First Nations government of the shishalh (Sechelt) Nation. I work as a researcher in the Rights and Title Department. I am enjoying living on the Sunshine Coast of British Columbia with my husband Rahul. I’m looking forward to returning to New Haven for Reunion this fall!”

2007

Class Secretary
Katherine Neville
kate.neville@ayayale.edu

Anamaria Aristizabal writes: “I just bought a cabin at the Aldeafeliz Ecovillage near Bogota, solidifying my commitment to this ten-year project aiming for sustainability in community. I’m engaged to be married in July and continuing to work as coach and facilitator.”

Hannah Murray writes: “After five years in California’s Eastern Sierra, Nelson and I moved back to Patagonia in early 2015. I had been working for the University of California Cooperative Extension and consulting with environmental nonprofits but decided ultimately to leave in order to pursue a less sedentary life. In mid-2014, I went to New York City to complete a five-month plant-based culinary program at the Natural Gourmet Institute, followed by an internship at a vegan fine dining restaurant in Boston. Here in Patagonia, Nelson has been working in Torres del Paine National Park and on the island of Tierra del Fuego – anywhere he can be out and about on glaciers and in the backcountry. While I have continued some limited environmental consulting with U.S. clients, I have been spending most of my efforts on starting a small business that provides vegan prepared foods. In my free time, I collect sea glass and pottery that washes up on the Straits of Magellan (half a block from our house) and, due to the challenges of a sub-Antarctic climate, have picked up indoor activities again (metalsmithing and knitting). Our two feline family members, Tomasiño and Emily Noelia, are learning to navigate the 70-mph winds, and there are very few days that my raised bed garden can go without its cover.”

Stephanie Ogburn writes: “I’m working as a reporter for KUNC, an NPR member station in Northern Colorado. I cover stories about the environment and much more, some of which run on NPR’s national shows Morning Edition and All Things Considered. It’s pretty fun! Colorado is a rapidly growing state and experiencing a lot of growing pains along with that, so there is a never-ending source of news. My partner Ryan and I recently bought a home in Fort Collins – a mecca for beer and bikes. When I’m not working, I’m on my mountain bike, planning or tending our giant garden, and scheming if I can convince Ryan to let me get a backyard chicken flock.”

Elizabeth Pickett writes: “My partner Tom and I celebrated the birth of our first child, Laith Kamakani, in May 2015 and are raising him for the year between Hawaii and Port Townsend, Wash, where Tom is attending boatbuilding school. I’m still working as executive director of Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization, where we have expanded our work to protect communities and natural resources throughout the Pacific from wildfire. It’s hard to believe I’ve been there eight years! In order to be parents, as well as travel back and forth between Washington and Hawaii, Tom and I are taking the year off from the afterschool environmental education program that we run, with plans to return full-time to Hawaii in October 2016 with boatbuilding added to our student programming (and our lives)! If you’re in the neighborhood (meaning anywhere near Washington state), please get in touch. I’d love to share some time before we are once again in Hawaii full-time and separated by an ocean!”

Amanda Sahi writes: “Last year I moved to the San Francisco Bay Area to work for Google, where I lead the development of energy services for Nest Labs. I’m enjoying exploring all the Bay Area has to offer, including opportunities to catch up with fellow F&ESers!”

Tanja Srebrotnjak, Ph.D., writes: “About a year ago, I moved to Harvey Mudd College to teach sustainable environmental design. It’s keeping me plenty busy, but I’m loving it, and working with students, faculty, and staff to build our new Center for Sustainable Environmental Design has been hugely rewarding. I’d love to (re)connect with F&ES alums who are in the Los Angeles region.”

2008

Class Secretaries
Angelica Afanador Ardila
angelica.afanador@ayayale.edu
Kelsey Wharton
kelseyk.wharton@gmail.com

Mariya Absar ‘09 writes: “I am pursuing an interdisciplinary Ph.D. jointly sponsored by Oak Ridge National Laboratory and University of Tennessee, Knoxville. My research is focused on climate change impacts on the energy-water nexus in the U.S. I also am involved with estimating the costs and benefits of implementing green infrastructure in the City of Knoxville. I have had the opportunity to present my research at high-profile conferences in Vancouver, Canada, and the Netherlands, and I am enjoying the exposure very much. I also had an opportunity to reconnect with Agha Ali Akram ’15 Ph.D., Georgia Basso, and Gerald Bright and to learn that everyone is doing really well in their chosen fields. In my free time, I like to bike the greenways and hike in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and spring is a lovely time to do so.”

Natalie Ceperley writes: “I returned to Switzerland after a year in Vancouver, B.C., where I met up with a few more F&ESers than usual. I am working as a researcher at the University of Lausanne and living in Bern with my boyfriend Marco. My research has shifted to alpine hydrology, but I’m still collaborating on some projects in Burkina Faso. Commuting isn’t so bad, except when people wear perfume on the train, and working in the mountains is fantastic. They are still my weekend playground. Visitors welcome – we have a guest room!”

Chris Clement writes: “I am wearing a couple of hats these days. By day, I am wrapping up my Ph.D. in ecological economics from the University of Vermont. By night, I am working in a start-up clean energy finance firm called IronOak Energy and am enjoying my first real taste of entrepreneurship. My wife and I are living in Durham, N.C, and enjoying the sweet South and its easy pace of life.”

Jihoon Min writes: “I moved to Austria and joined IIASA as a research scholar. I am doing
research mainly on energy, development, and equality issues.”

John Nixon writes: “I have taken on a new role as the program manager for the Global Infrastructure Initiative. If a large infrastructure or building project catches your eye (for good or bad), I’d be very interested to know. I have a great platform to highlight interesting projects.”

Paula Randler writes: “As of February, I’ve returned to the Forest Service, where I manage landowner assistance programs (Forest Legacy Program and Forest Stewardship Program) in California and across Hawaii and the Pacific Islands. I sold my house in Tucson, and I’m delighted to be among so many friends in the Bay Area, especially MODS-mates Yuliya Shmidt and Julie Witherspoon.”

Ashley Roberts writes: “This spring I spent a sensational month at the Yandara Yoga Institute on the Baja peninsula completing my 200-hour yoga teacher training certification. My boyfriend (recently fiancé) and I are finishing extensive renovations to our new-to-us 1976 camper van. We plan to head out for an extended period of travel and adventure quite soon!”

Peyton Smith writes: “Since November 2014, I have been working with a fabulous team of (mostly) lady scientists at PNNL. My current DOE-based research focuses on the vulnerability of soil C stocks to climate change, and I was awarded an internal lab grant to look at mineral-organic mechanisms of soil C stabilization. I also have been thankfully introduced to the open science community and have a 100% publicly available experiment (from draft to data collection to manuscript preparation) located on GitHub with the goal of enhancing reproducibility and public trust in climate change science. My daughter is turning 3 this year and shows promising signs of being a top-notch soil ecologist (or at least, she loves playing in the dirt and looking for mushrooms).”

Kelsey Wharton writes: “I’m launching a podcast for the Arizona State University office of research that brings my long-time love of NPR and the medium of audio into my full-time job, which has been so fun. My boys are 1 and 3, and we are outside all the time exploring, playing in the dirt, finding big sticks, watching birds, and having picnics. Chris and I are planning a trip for the two of us to New Zealand in the fall during his sabbatical, and we are so looking forward to that big adventure.”

Julie Witherspoon writes: “Andrew and I were married in October and are thankful for the many F&ES friends who helped us celebrate (too many to list ... ). Inspired by this big change, I returned to the real estate development world in January and am having a great time helping promote sustainable development in San Francisco.”

2009

Class Secretaries
Rajesh Koirala rajesh.koirala@aya.yale.edu
Neelesh Shrestha neelesh.shrestha@gmail.com
Simon Tudiver tudiver@gmail.com
Judith Wu jude.wu@aya.yale.edu

Ke Cao writes: “I am pursuing a Ph.D. in strategic management and organizations at the University of Alberta in Canada.”

2010

Class Secretaries
Daniella Aburto Valle daniella.aburtovalle@gmail.com
Luke Bassett lhbassett@gmail.com
Paul Beaton paul.beaton@aya.yale.edu
Clara Changxin Fang cfang2@gmail.com
William Lynam william.lynam@aya.yale.edu
Kristin Tracz kristintracz@gmail.com

Michael Blazewicz writes: “Round River Design continues to assess, design, and construct the 2013 Colorado flood recovery effort as a core member of the state’s technical assistance team. In addition to mucking around rivers with big yellow machines, I co-authored a protocol for mapping erosion hazards along river channels with the aim of increasing long-term resiliency and protection of our river corridors. I bought a home last year and installed a permaculture landscape in Salida – my backyard is a Rocky Mountain playground of climbing, biking, hiking, fishing, and much more – come visit!”

Eric Desatnik just launched a $5-million Artificial Intelligence XPRIZE with IBM Watson, challenging teams to demonstrate AI’s ability to tackle some of the world’s biggest problems.

Mary Fischer writes: “In the past two years, I’ve gotten married, bought a house, had a baby, and gotten a new job. My son Oliver Gray Rees will be a year old in March – he says to tell you ‘hi!’ and ‘uh oh.’ I am the sustainability manager for Brandeis University, where not only do I get to have fun with students, but also I can bring my dog to work. We live in Lowell, Mass. I occasionally see some Boston-area F&ESers – look me up if you’re around!”

Emily Jack-Scott started with the Aspen Global Change Institute a year ago, and is still loving life in western Colorado with her two dogs and backyard chickens (obligatory under Colorado law). Come visit!

Jordan Jobe writes: “2015 was a great year for us – Nathan Karres and I had our second child (we named her Sage), and I made the leap from coral reef to farmland conservation and have a great new job as conservation manager at PCC Farmland Trust in Seattle.”

Jason Nerenberg writes: “My wife and I live in Jericho, Vt. We welcomed our son Jake in October. Life just keeps getting better and better! We’ve got guestrooms and plenty of space for tenting ... MODS 2017 perhaps? Come visit!”

Toshi Tanuma writes: “Ever since I graduated from F&ES, I have been working for PwC Japan. Last year, I was sent to the United Kingdom for secondment, and I have been working in the energy strategy team in London to learn about the energy deregulation process that will take place in Japan. When not working, I have been travelling throughout Europe! Please let me know if you are based in the United Kingdom or Europe, and we can have a small F&ES reunion. I’m going back to Japan this May and will be happy to host you there if you ever visit that side of the world!”

Rae Wynn-Grant finished her Ph.D. in ecology and evolutionary biology at Columbia University in May, gave birth to her daughter Zuri Taj Davis in June, and began a postdoctoral fellowship at the Center for Biodiversity & Conservation at the American Museum of Natural History in August. Since then, she’s been enjoying all the F&ES visitors that have come through New York City.
CLASS NOTES

2011
Class Secretaries
Margaret Arbuthnot
marbuthnot@gmail.com
Lucien Bouffard
lbouffard@gmail.com
Efrie Friedlander
efrie.friedlander@gmail.com
Gabriel Mejias
gabriel.mejias@aya.yale.edu
Randal Strobo
rastrobo@gmail.com
Lucien Bouffard writes: "We all meet wonderful professors at F&ES, driven to pass along the world's knowledge on forestry and their enthusiasm to their students. I've now been given the opportunity to pass along my excitement for the study of the natural and physical world to magnet students in zoology and biotechnology. Hats off to F&ES for changing the world and participating in a conversation that is ever-present in our society."
Efrie Friedlander enjoys getting to see Steph Carlisle and Rod Bates '07 at work every day as they work on bringing the concepts of Life Cycle Assessment to the architectural mainstream. She and David have finally finished unpacking boxes with the "help" of their dog in their new house in South Philly.

Chris Kieran writes: "In 2015 I took a job in Philadelphia with the William Penn Foundation working to provide funding for nearly 100 environmental organizations that focus on the Delaware River watershed."

Jessica Koski writes: "I started a new position last fall as a Great Lakes restoration biologist for the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs Midwest Region. I'm stationed along the beautiful shores of Lake Superior in Ashland, Wis. I really enjoy my new position and the ability to support important on-the-ground restoration activities for about 30 Tribes and inter-tribal organizations in the Great Lakes Basin, as well as coordinate with more than a dozen federal agencies to advance Great Lakes protection and restoration goals."

Gabriel Mejias and Monica are doing great and living in Washington, D.C. Gabriel was hired (again) by the International Finance Corporation as an environmental specialist and will be managing environmental and social risk of IFD investment projects in the LAC region. Monica is working for a company that provides survey services for political campaigns and has been doing some coding too. They love being in D.C. surrounded by the F&ES community. They are looking forward to seeing everyone at Reunion this fall.

Daniel Oppenheimer writes: "I've been living and working along the Colorado–Utah border, coordinating the Dolores River Restoration Partnership for more than four years. Let me know if I-70 brings you through Grand Junction. Cheers."

Rebecca McKay Steinberg writes: "I am excited to be moving out West again! Please come visit me in Corvallis, Ore., and feel free to stay in my tiny, pet-friendly house. I'll be working for Greenbelt Land Trust as its membership and outreach coordinator. I will miss Kent, Conn., and Weantinoge Heritage Land Trust, where I have been assistant director of land conservation for two-and-a-half years. The staff, community, and my experience have been wonderful. I look forward to new adventures in the Northwest and hope to reconnect with F&ESers on the West Coast!"

Dania Trespalacios transitioned from the Global Environment Facility’s Evaluation Office to The Nature Conservancy’s Global Oceans Team. At TNC, she is a marine science project manager: she ensures the smooth sailing of various projects that focus on the interface between coastal conservation, climate adaptation, and disaster risk reduction. She lives in Santa Cruz, Calif., and works out of the Long Marine Lab at the University of California, Santa Cruz. You can visit her in paradise, or you can catch up with her in D.C., as she travels there often.

Grant Tolley ‘12 writes: ‘Hayley Jade Fink ’13 and I married this past May at Sugarloaf Mountain in Maryland! We were delighted to have a great group of F&ES friends there. Following two years of working at EarthJustice, I'm in my second year at Georgetown Law. Loving it! I'm working at EPA this semester, and I'll be at a D.C. environmental law firm this summer."

Steve Wood writes: "I finished my Ph.D. this year in ecology at Columbia and moved back to the Have’ for a post-doc in Mark Bradford’s lab – hanging out with Emily Oldfield. I’ll be around until August 2017, so let me know if you’re passing through."

2012
Class Secretaries
Simon De Stercke
simon.destercke@aya.yale.edu
Naazia Ebrahim
naazia.ebrahim@aya.yale.edu
Alison Schaffer
schaaffer.alison@gmail.com
Leigh Whelpton
leigh.whelpton@gmail.com

Kevin Barrett writes: "I recently left my job at the National Ecological Observatory Network and started work with the Colorado Forest Restoration Institute at Colorado State University in Fort Collins. I’ll be assisting with forest monitoring that feeds into adaptive management on several Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program projects throughout the state and helping address multiple forest management concerns in Colorado. I'm still enjoying all the skiing, fishing, and hiking that comes with residing in the Front Range."

Bryant Cannon writes: "I'm doing environmental law, representing California state agencies in a variety of enforcement and regulatory defense actions in a broad range of fields – climate change to energy to water to pesticides and everything in between. San Francisco has been a great place to live and work and the Bay Area is filled with many delightful F&ESers. Drop a line if you’re traveling through!"

Shane Hetzler writes: "I've been growing my forestry consulting firm based out of New Haven steadily, and have recently enjoyed bringing Shannon Murray ’14 on to help out. The projects have been diverse (timber harvests, timber trespass valuations, habitat improvements, trail projects, and (land trust stewardship trainings, to name a few), and we have really enjoyed meeting and working with such a range of clients. Non-work related, it has been great that so many F&ESers have been able to stay with us on Orange Street while back in town. The door is always open if you find yourself back here for a conference or visit!"

Bassem Khalifa writes: "I moved back to Cairo in the spring of 2013 to co-founded ma7sool, a video production house whose flagship project is to document Egypt’s food heritage – that project is on hold for lack of funding, but Google us and watch our shorts online. In 2014, I co-founded and opened ma7ali (which means both ‘local’ and ‘my store’), a locally sourced grocery and deli..."
that promotes slow food values: good for producers, consumers, and the planet. We make all our meats from scratch in-house and source from small-scale producers. I work and play a lot with Pam Labib ’11, who also is involved in food and agriculture on the learning and education side. Somehow I’ve managed to catch up with a delightfully surprising number of F&ESers in Egypt, Mexico, Italy, and the U.S.

Sameer Kwatra writes: “I miss New Haven! It’s been four years since graduating, and I haven’t been able to visit. I switched jobs last year. I work on climate and energy policy with the international program at NRDC and travel frequently to India. Suparna is midway through her Ph.D. We continue to live in D.C. and are both being ably raised as parents by our 2.5-year-old daughter Ajooni (aka Chia).”

Steve Liapis is graduating with his Ph.D. in biochemistry from Harvard University in May 2016. After graduation, he will join the global firm L.E.K. Consulting as a senior management consultant, where he will work on corporate growth strategy in the pharmaceutical, healthcare, and biotechnology sectors.

Ainsley Lloyd writes: “I’m in Washington, D.C., primarily doing indicators work for an entrepreneurship institute, but with several side hustles in the past year or so, including a paper on green growth indicators and some design work (go figure). My dog Ruby and I enjoy being outdoors, and one of us enjoys chasing balls.”

Shelly Barnes Thomsen writes: “Life is grand in America’s heartland. I am leading the statewide Lakes and Rivers Management Team with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Distributing $6 million in grants for lake and river planning/protection projects and aquatic invasive species education/control projects keeps me busy, as does keeping up with our 1.5-year-old Lily Jane.”

Leigh Whelpton writes: “I am in Washington, D.C., where I share a house with the wonderful Maisah Khan and Ainsley Lloyd. I run the Conservation Finance Network, which works with professionals to expand the use of financing strategies for land and resource conservation. In January we teamed up with the Yale Center for Business and the Environment to launch a new website featuring original content by current students as well as industry news and events. Things have definitely come full circle!”

2013
Class Secretaries
Judith Ament
judithament@gmail.com
Adedana Ashebir
adedana.ashebir@ayayale.edu
Rebecca de Sa
rebecca.desa@ayayale.edu
Laura Johnson
laura.a.johnson@ayayale.edu
Victoria Lockhart
victoria.lockhart@ayayale.edu

Judith Ament writes: “Started a Ph.D. program at the Zoological Society London/University College London, working on hind- and forecasting human–wildlife co-occurrence in past, present, and future. Enjoyed some happy reunions with fellow F&ESers in town and generally excited to be back in Europe. Looking forward to a field trip to California in mid-March!”

Adedana Ashebir writes: “There’s been a lull in F&ES visits since Kathryn the Great’s February 2015 trip, so I’m glad Facebook told me Lia Nicholson ’14 was in town. So great to catch up. And the homie Angel Hertslet ’15 will be here next week. Very excited. Will host for granola and maple syrup (and perhaps for serving as a muse for my mail and absentee ballot), so come on over!”

Alana Callagy made the jump to the public sector after almost a decade working for private consulting firms. She is an environmental planner with the City and County of San Francisco and walks to work every day.

Chris Colvin writes: “I started a new position – still with the National Park Service – but now working in Legislative and Congressional Affairs for parks in Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas, as well as on Natural Resources and Wilderness issues.”

Lili Dávila writes: “After finishing two very demanding consultancies, including being co-author of a chapter for Colombia’s Third National Communication on Climate Change, I was invited to Japan to help establish NELIS – a Network for Leadership and Innovation in Sustainability. In this trip, I was able to catch up with Mio Kitayama ’14 on our lives post-F&ES, and I took advantage of this opportunity and traveled with my brother to be amazed by beautiful gardens, incredible landscapes and temples, and a fascinating culture! I finished the year with a vacation to southeast Mexico, exposing my boyfriend Juan Carlos Espinosa ’04 to the natural richness and unique gastronomy of Mexico.”

Patrick Hook writes: “I’m surprised to find myself enjoying Portsmouth, N.H., more and more! I’m in my third year at Conservation Forestry, and am cooking a lot and playing classical piano whenever I get some down time.”

Vanessa Lamers tied the knot, landed in D.C., and is working on environmental health projects (drinking water, vector control) at the Public Health Foundation.

Victoria Lockhart is working on a large-landscape longleaf pine restoration initiative, the Coastal Headwaters project. Through Coastal Headwaters, Resource Management Services is attempting to restore 200,000 acres of longleaf pine ecosystem on privately owned investment timberland. The restored land will be protected in perpetuity through easements while retaining the lands in private ownership and on local tax rolls.

Tais Pinheiro is working at the largest enzyme producer company, Novozymes, where she is responsible for all activities related to supplier innovation and responsible sourcing. She looks forward to visits from more fellow F&ESers to the beautiful city of Copenhagen, where she has been living with her husband for almost two years.

Katherine Romans writes: “I’m still living the good life in the Lone Star State. I took on a new role as the interim executive director of the Hill Country Alliance – a wonderful nonprofit committed to protecting the natural and cultural resources of the Texas Hill Country. If you ever find yourself in Austin and want to go for a paddle, bike ride, or hike, look me and Cody up! We love F&ES visitors.”

Teodora Stoyanova writes: “Fighting coal in Bulgaria, challenging the status quo.”

Mona Wang writes: “How do we make palm oil, soy, cattle, and pulp and paper deforestation-free? TBD, but definitely cannot be done without coffee and creativity, as far as your imagination and sanity can go.”

Kathryn Wright writes: “I recently co-founded a solar software start-up, MySunBuddy, which received a U.S. Department of Energy Catalyst Business Innovation grant in December. The platform aims to expand access to renewable energy through peer-to-peer energy transactions. We hope to grow our team in the near future and are always open to feedback – it’d be a great chance to reconnect!”
Class Notes

2014
Class Secretaries
William Georgia william.georgia@yale.edu
Chetana Kallakuri chetana.kallakuri@aya.yale.edu
Lin Shi linshi@aya.yale.edu
Cary Simmons cary.simmons@tpl.org
Karen Tuddenham karen.tuddenham@yale.edu
Matthew Bare writes: “I’ve been working with Rainforest Alliance since the end of last year; my team helps to analyze the impacts of our organization’s conservation and sustainable agriculture programs. When I sneeze too loudly, my office mate Ian Starr ‘11 tells me to keep it down.”

Robert Buchkowski writes: “Hi everyone! I am writing from Rio de Janeiro where I am passing the winter months working remotely on my Ph.D. My focus has been on planning for my summer research and working on a model since passing my qualifying exams in December. In March I will be back in New Haven and at Yale-Myers awaiting the start of field work! I was lucky to see many friends from 2014 last year and hope to see more of you in 2016!”

Ben Friedman lives in Washington, D.C., and works at Western Conservation Foundation providing grants to non-traditional NGOs working on federal conservation issues. He lives with his Forestry Club partner-in-crime Lauren Sanchez. Recent highlights include D.C. Forestry Club shenanigans involving dancing, margaritas, and Leigh Whelpton’s ’12 garment box. All are welcome, always, in D.C. He misses Elgin and the Tonics a lot.

Lynette Leighton, Merlin, and Sterling are relieved that Lynette’s husband Shawn was successful in exporting a pair of Naval Aviation wings in June 2015, following the family’s successful in exporting a pair of Naval Aviation wings in June 2015, following the family’s travels in Bama–Gators territory. She is living and working as an urban planner trying to help keep agricultural land available for long-term, but for now I am going to channel my URI Greenspace experiences and work my butt off at this new job!”

Holly Rippon-Butler writes: “I am working with the National Young Farmers Coalition to help keep agricultural land available for the next generation of farmers, milking cows every now and then on my family’s farm, and making/eating lots of ice cream in hopes of eventually turning that passion into income.”

Lauren Sanchez left the desert oasis of Dubai when the temps soared above 140° to settle down in our nation’s capital with 2014 Mayor of Kroon, Benny Friedman. Recent highlights of District life include: watching the city debilitated by an inch of snow; joining the State Department climate team and negotiating a successful Paris Agreement – all worth it for the late-night celebration with Secretary John Kerry; and happy houring in some dingy bar with our F&ES friends, pretending it’s like TGIF on Kroon Lawn. Miss you all – come visit us in D.C!

Cary Simmons ’15 joined The Trust for Public Land in 2015, managing the organization’s city park development program in Washington, Oregon, Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming. Among his projects, Cary is working with fellow alum Maddy Fishel Pope ’83 on the restoration, design, and construction of Story Mill Community Park, a new 55-acre city park in Bozeman, Mont., slated to break ground in 2017. Cary lives in Seattle with fellow forester Jonathan Parks Loewer, along with their beloved dachshund Francoise.

Lily Sweikert writes: “I’m currently living in Brookings, S.D. (think flat corn and soybean fields), working on my Ph.D. My research involves working with five states and USFWS’s Plains and Prairie Pothole Landscape Conservation Cooperative (aka PPPLCC) to investigate habitat loss among private landowners in the ecoregion. It’s pretty exciting stuff! I’ll be graduating in May 2017, and then who knows where I’ll go?”

2015
Class Secretaries
Akiva Fishman fishman.akiva@gmail.com
David Gonzalez david.j.x.gonzalez@gmail.com
Philip Kunhardt philip.kunhardt@yale.edu
Frances Sawyer Frances.Sawyer@aya.yale.edu
Eric Vermeiren ericvermeiren@gmail.com
Melissa Arias writes: “After graduating from F&ES, I received a Yale Fox International Fellowship. Through this award, I am undertaking a year of research at the University of São Paulo in Brazil. My research aims to assess the impact of protected area mosaics on avoiding deforestation and conserving wildlife habitat in the Amazon. I am applying a series of spatial analyses and statistical matching methods to answer the counterfactual question of how much deforestation would have taken place had the mosaics not been implemented. This question is relevant to the current debate around landscape conservation governance mechanisms.”

Ross Bernet is working at Stanford’s Geospatial Center with Stacey Maples managing a web map database of mass shootings in America.

Jena Clarke writes: “I’m getting married! My long-time boyfriend-now-fiancé, Kyle Kuznik, and I are getting married in California in November, at which point I’ll be Jena Kuznik.”

Akiva Fishman writes: “While finishing law school at NYU, I took a job with WWF’s forests team on a part-time and remote basis until I move to D.C. and transition to full-time employment in August after sitting for the bar. My work combines advising forestry sector companies through the Global Forest & Trade Network, and furthering implementation of jurisdictional deforestation-free approaches.”

David Gonzalez writes: “I’m wrapping up my Fox Fellowship in Mexico City and starting a Ph.D. program at Stanford in environmental epidemiology this fall!”
ALUMNI CONNECTIONS

Yale Forest Forum Leadership Seminars

Ben Hodgdon ’03 M.F.S., Director of Forestry at the Rainforest Alliance, spoke to students, faculty, and community members at a Yale Forest Forum (YFF) Leadership Seminar in Marsh Hall in April 2016 (see photo above). Ben provided an overview of the Rainforest Alliance’s approach to forest management, which emphasizes the role of community forests and enterprise development to ensure sustainability.

"Working all over the tropics in forestry, I’ve been fortunate enough to keep the F&ES connection strong,” said Ben. “Over the past few years, I’ve worked closely with Citlali Cortes-Montano ’02 M.F. in Mexico, Andrea Johnson ’05 M.E.Sc. in Guatemala, and Kevin Woods ’04 M.E.Sc. in Myanmar, as well as F&ES alums Jonathan Labozetta ’10 M.F., Ian Starr ’11 M.F., and Matt Bare ’14 M.F.S., who are all Rainforest Alliance staffers. Going back to F&ES to present at the YFF and interact with students was an honor and a lot of fun … and I’m sure I met a few people there who I’ll see down the road someplace far from New Haven.”

The YFF luncheon seminar series is hosted by the Global Institute of Sustainable Forestry (GISF). Guest speakers include leaders in forest management, conservation, and policy from a wide range of organizations and perspectives.

Mary Tyrrell ’97 M.F.S., GISF Executive Director, notes that “the students gain so much from interacting with professionals in the field, especially alums.”

Learn more: gisf.yale.edu; gisf.yale.edu/current-projects/yale-forest-forum

Yale Built Environment Symposium

The Yale Built Environment Symposium, organized during the ten-year anniversary of the Master of Architecture/Master of Environmental Management joint-degree program, focused on the interdisciplinary connections between the environmental sphere and the world of architecture. Through discussions with industry leaders, multi-disciplinary panels, and facilitated breakouts, attendees discussed ways to advance the curriculum and practice of transforming the built environment.

Alumni speakers/panelists included Chris Rogers ’91 M.F.S. (left hand photo), as well as (right hand photo from left): Stephanie Carlisle ’11 M.E.M., Meredith Sattler ’10 M.E.M./M.Arch., Chris Starkey ’10 M.E.M./M.Arch., Sheena Zhang ’15 M.E.M./M.Arch., and Aram Marks ’10 M.E.M./M.Arch., in a panel moderated by Alex Felson, Assistant Professor, F&ES and Yale School of Architecture.

The symposium was organized by the F&ES Built Environment & the Environment Student Interest Group, along with support from the Yale School of Architecture. Sponsors included the F&ES Class of 1980 Project Fund.

Yale Blue Green

Yale Blue Green (YBG) is an Association of Yale Alumni (AYA) shared interest group that serves as a hub for thought leadership, collaborative action, lifelong learning, and social impact relating to the environment and sustainability for Yale alumni.

YBG has hosted a number of regional events in 2016, including in Boston, Washington, D.C., and New York City. The New York City YBG Launch Reception (shown in the photos) brought together more than 100 Yale alumni, including F&ES alums.

F&ES alum Lauren Graham ’13 M.E.M. (bottom photo, left, with YBG NYC alumni/staff event organizers) is the chair of YBG and additional F&ES alums are on the leadership team.

Learn more: yalebluegreen.org
IN MEMORIAM

Alan Gerald Dent ’59 M.F.
(1936–2015) died peacefully in Richmond, B.C., on February 19, 2015, surrounded by his family. He was born on January 19, 1936, and raised in British Columbia, where he played high school basketball. Alan obtained a Bachelor of Applied Science in forestry engineering from the University of British Columbia in 1958 and received his Master of Forestry from the Yale School of Forestry in 1959. He went on to become a professional engineer for MacMillan Bloedel, which required several transfers along Canada’s west coast, as well as a short period in Alabama. Alan was consistently a hands-on father and active member of the community. He spent his time leading Girl Guide and Scout activities, coaching ball teams and umpiring games, mentoring debate clubs, tutoring math, and hosting youth groups. He enjoyed making pancakes, chess, billiards, and reading. Alan also supported the Kate Booth House as a Board Member and by mowing its lawn. A devoted husband, father, and grandfather, Alan is survived by a large family.

Patricia Ann Donohoe ’81 Ph.D.
(1947–2015) passed away peacefully at her home in Seattle on September 20, 2015. Pat was born on January 26, 1947, in Coronado, Calif. She obtained degrees in education and zoology, a master’s degree in finance, a CPA, and, in 1981, a Ph.D. at F&ES. She worked at a variety of organizations including Weyerhaeuser, Burlington Resources, PACAAR, and the U.S. Forest Service. Pat loved to hike, ski, and travel, both around the globe to learn about other cultures and in the U.S. visiting friends. She is remembered for her deep friendships and verdant spirit. Pat is survived by two brothers, sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, aunts, and cousins.

Daniel Wilkins Fort ’83 M.F.S.
(1958–2015) passed away peacefully at his home in Charlottesville, Va., on December 21, 2015. Daniel was born on November 10, 1958, in Johnson City, Tenn. He attended The Hill School in Pottstown, Pa., and the University of the South in Sewanee, Tenn.; he went on to receive his M.F.S. at F&ES and his M.D. at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. Daniel completed his internship and residency in Pediatrics at the Children’s Medical Center of Dallas and was a Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Fellow and Neuro-Oncology Fellow at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, where he then became Assistant Instructor of Pediatrics. In 1994, Daniel became an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Virginia, which led to a Faculty Appointment in the Department of Pediatrics. Daniel left his practice in 1999 to explore his other interests and spend time with his son Duncan. He traveled around the world, frequently with Duncan. His excursions included Asia and South America, as well as far-flung places, such as Antarctica and the Arctic; it was on these trips that Daniel was also able to embrace photography. Daniel spent a significant amount of time during his last years at his second home in Pointe au Baril, Canada. Daniel had a vibrant spirit and made friends everywhere he traveled. He cared deeply about the environment and medicine, devoting a great deal of his time to philanthropy. He was a key fundraiser for the endowed Karen Jargowsky Chair in the University of Virginia Pediatric Hematology-Oncology Department and sat on the Board for the Bishop Mazereka Christian Foundation in Uganda, the Leadership Council at F&ES, Coker College, the St. Anne’s-Belfield Foundation, and the Hill School. He also served as the Chair of the Board of the Rice Rivers Center at Virginia Commonwealth University. Daniel is survived by his son, his sister, his brother, four nieces and nephews, his longtime partner Kate Haw, and innumerable friends.

Richard Kent Hanby ’71 M.F.
(1938–2015) passed away on November 14, 2015, at his home in San Angelo, Texas. Kent was born in 1938 in Buffalo, N.Y. He spent the majority of his childhood in Birmingham, Ala., with his mother, sister, and paternal grandparents, to whom he was very close. He graduated from Meridian High School in Meridian, Miss., in 1957 and went on to join the U.S. Navy. From 1958 to 1961, Kent served as a gunners mate technician, 2nd class. After his time in the Navy, Kent attended Auburn University from 1962 to 1965 and graduated with a B.S. in forestry; while there, he met and married his wife of 52 years, Janice Louise Smith. Kent then obtained his M.F. from F&ES in 1971. His career spanned more than 50 years. Prior to retirement in 2003, Kent held the position of Director of Student Services and Fire Management instructor at Auburn’s School of Forestry and Wildlife Services. Kent kept teaching Fire Management part-time and led Alabama Burn Workshops until 2014. Kent is survived by his wife, four children, nine grandchildren, his sister, niece and nephew, and many cousins.
Aloise “Al” Lupa ’49 M.F.  
(1924–2015) died on September 27, 2015, in Two Harbors, Minn. Al was born in Wausau, Wis., on April 14, 1924. He served in the Navy as an executive officer on an LST in the South Pacific. He obtained a B.A. in forestry, botany, and geography from Dartmouth in 1947 and an M.F. from the Yale School of Forestry in 1949, the same year he married his wife Mary Estelle. Al and Mary lived in Wisconsin, Arkansas, West Virginia, Mississippi, North Carolina, and Minnesota while he worked as a forester, sawmill superintendent, sawmill manager, and lumber company president. Al worked for the Red Lake Indian Reservation in Minnesota during the 1970s as the manager of the tribe’s sawmill. Upon his retirement in 1986, Al and Mary settled down in Two Harbors. Al loved to hunt, fish, and spend time with his dogs. He also loved to ski and was a champion ski jumper. Al is survived by several nieces, nephews, and their families, as well as close friends.

George Lucas Perry ’62 M.F.  
(1936–2016) passed away on February 7, 2016, at Farnham Manor in Farnham, Va. George was born on September 25, 1936, in New York City but spent his childhood in Sanford, N.C. George attended Patterson Episcopal School and upon graduation accepted a football scholarship to Lees McRae College. George went on to receive an M.S. in forestry from University of Georgia and an M.F. from the Yale School of Forestry the following year. In 1950, Lewis was commissioned as 2nd Lieutenant into the U.S. Air Force and was called into active duty in 1952 to serve during the Korean conflict. Lewis was in active duty until 1954 and served in the Air Force Reserve until 1958. He was honorably discharged as a Captain. Lewis worked as a forester and spent most of his career as a co-owner of a consulting firm, Bennett & Peters, from which he retired in 1997. Upon retirement, Lewis worked part-time with his son, Warren Peters, at Peters Forest Resources. Lewis is remembered for his kindness and easy friendship. He is survived by his wife, Julia Brumfield Peters, his children, stepchildren, and their families.
FROM THE OFFICE OF: ADMISSIONS

Help Recruit the Next Generation of F&ES Alums!

Our alumni are the best ambassadors for the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies. The Admissions Office is looking for alumni to assist with recruiting talented F&ES students from around the world.

Thank you to the many alumni who already support efforts to recruit top candidates!

Here are some of the ways you can get involved:

- Meet or speak with a prospective student to share your experiences and answer questions.
- Identify potential students through your networks and encourage them to consider F&ES.
- Attend, 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.
- Provide the names and contact information of anyone you think might be interested in F&ES to the Admissions Office; staff will follow up.

Thank you for considering supporting F&ES recruitment efforts!

To volunteer, contact the Admissions Office:

fesinfo@yale.edu

Learn more: environment.yale.edu/admissions

FROM THE OFFICE OF: CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Making a Career Move?

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

Set up a profile: environment.yale.edu/alumni/careers

Does Your Organization Need F&ES Talent?

Post Jobs and Internships to Students and Fellow Alumni

Alumni forward hundreds of jobs and internships to the Career Development Office each month. If you are aware of a position that would be of interest to our students or alumni, feel free to forward it to CDO Director Ladd Flock at ladd.flock@yale.edu. He will post it in F&ES Next for review by current students, recent graduates, and alumni.

Review and Share the F&ES Student Resume Book

Share a PDF of current F&ES student resumes with colleagues and hiring managers. For a copy, contact CDO Assistant Director Alyssa Student at alyssa.student@yale.edu.

Learn more: environment.yale.edu/careers

Alumni connecting with recently admitted students at a reception in San Francisco in March. This event was co-hosted by the Admissions and Development and Alumni Services offices.

Current F&ES students listening as alumni introduce themselves and share job opportunities at the Alumni–Student Networking Reception in Washington, D.C., in February. This event was co-hosted by the Career Development and Development and Alumni Services offices.
FROM THE OFFICE OF:
DEVELOPMENT AND ALUMNI SERVICES

The Development and Alumni Services team connects alumni to each other and F&ES through annual Reunion Weekends, regional events and receptions, the alumni–student mentoring program, alumni campus visits, continuing learning programs, an alumni speaker series, volunteer activities, and student scholarships.

We also produce publications like this alumni magazine, CANOPY, and the alumni e-newsletter, CANOP-E. If you haven’t been receiving alumni e-newsletters and e-blasts, please make sure we have your updated contact information.

Our office, located on the second floor of Sage Hall in Room 20, is a resource and a base for alumni and friends of the School who come to campus for a visit. We look forward to seeing you the next time you are here at F&ES!

Learn more: environment.yale.edu/alumni

CONTACT INFORMATION

Tim Northrop ’03 M.E.M., Director
203.432.9361 • tim.northrop@yale.edu

Kristin Floyd ’01 B.A., Associate Director
203.432.5189 • kristin.floyd@yale.edu

Kristen Clothier ’98 B.S., ’01 M.F., Assistant Director
203.432.4511 • kristen.clothier@yale.edu

Julian Ward, Officer
203.432.8540 • julian.ward@yale.edu

Brian Gillis ’09 M.Div., Coordinator
203.432.2041 • brian.gillis@yale.edu

Hannah Perez, Coordinator
203.432.9959 • hannah.perez@yale.edu

Emily Blakeslee, Senior Administrative Assistant
203.432.9958 • emily.blakeslee@yale.edu

Peter Otis, Project Assistant/Linker
203.432.9958 • peter.otis@yale.edu

Every time you get a new email address, relocate, or change positions, please send us an update at alumni.fes@yale.edu. If you keep us updated, we’ll keep you updated!

www.facebook.com/YaleFES
twitter.com/YaleFES
linkedin.com/groups/147435

ALUMS – ORDER F&ES SWAG ONLINE

The F&ES Swag Store makes it easy for alums to order F&ES classic dbh t-shirts, infant onesies, bandanas, and more online!

Alumni and friends can now purchase swag online through Campus Customs and promote the School and its world-wide impact in the fields of forestry and environmental studies.

Your purchase also gives back. A portion of sales are donated to the F&ES Community Fund, which goes to support student projects.

Submit a photo of yourself in F&ES swag around the world – you might end up in CANOPY!

Visit the F&ES Swag Store: environment.yale.edu/alumni/swag
FIRST ROW Left to right: Dean Crane welcoming incoming students under the oak tree at MODS in 2012; Dean Crane volunteering with alums at the Yale Day of Service project at The GrouHaus in Denver (May 2015) and at the Yale Day of Service project in Kentucky at the Parklands of Floyds Fork (May 2014) – Dean Crane was the first Yale dean to lead a Yale Day of Service project; Dean Crane addressing the F&ES Leadership Council in April 2015, which included an update on the scholarship initiative, nearing completion at that point – the scholarship initiative raised more than $10 million; and Sage Boy welcoming Dean Crane to F&ES in 2009.

SECOND ROW Left to right: Professor Herb Bormann receiving the Aldo Leopold Award from Dean Crane in 2012; Yale President Peter Salovey ’86 Ph.D. and Dean Crane awarding Teresa Heinz the Aldo Leopold Award in 2014; Dean Crane participating in Rock-to-Rock, an annual Earth Day fundraising bicycle ride in support of local environmental organizations, with Colleen Murphy-Dunning, Program Director, Hixon Center for Urban Ecology, Urban Resources Initiative (URI), and Gary Dunning ’96 M.E.S, Executive Director, The Forests Dialogue.

THIRD ROW Left to right: Dean Crane connected with alumni around the world, including at an alumni dinner in Peru in 2015; Dean Crane, Former Dean Gus Speth ’64 B.A., ’69 LL.B., Former Yale President Rick Levin ’74 Ph.D., Poon Kohlberg ’75 B.A., ’77 M.F.S., Edward Bass ’67 B.S., and Tom McHenry ’77 B.A., ’80 M.F.S. during the Leadership Council meeting in April 2013, when Former President Levin was recognized for his green legacy and presented with a framed Yale sustainability timeline; officials from Yale University and Tsinghua University signing the Memorandum of Understanding for the new dual-degree program in Beijing in October 2014; and Dean Crane presiding over F&ES Commencement.

FOURTH ROW Left to right: Dean Crane at Reunion Weekend 2014 with special guest Aldo Leopold; Dean Crane and students in Paris for COP21 in 2015; and Dean Crane with Star Childs ’76 B.S., ’80 M.F.S. at Great Mountain Forest during MODS 2014.
THANK YOU, DEAN CRANE, FOR ALL YOU HAVE DONE FOR F&ES!

We wish you all the best as you set off on a new adventure!