Guide to Yale F&ES Resources for New Doctoral Students

2017
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**F&ES Doctoral Program**
The F&ES Doctoral Program Office works with the Yale Graduate School of Arts and Sciences to administer the Ph.D. program within F&ES. Please feel free to contact us at any time with questions or concerns.

*Director of Doctoral Studies:*  
Professor Karen Seto, 380 Edwards Street, room 102

*Doctoral Program Coordinator:*  
Elisabeth Barsa, Greeley Memorial Laboratory, room 115, 203-432-5146

*Doctoral Student Mailboxes:*  
Greeley Memorial Laboratory, room 114

*F&ES Doctoral Program webpage:*  
http://environment.yale.edu/doctoral

*F&ES Doctoral Student Listserv:*  
fesdoctoral-list@mailman.yale.edu

This guide is intended to introduce some of the resources available to Ph.D. students within the School of Forestry & Environmental Studies. It is by no means exhaustive. Please visit the Yale Graduate School’s website for new students: [http://gsas.yale.edu/gateway/students](http://gsas.yale.edu/gateway/students), for a schedule of Graduate School orientation events and quick links to New Haven dining, shopping and living resources.
# Yale University

**School of Forestry & Environmental Studies (F&ES)* Abbreviated* 2017 - 2018

## Academic Calendar - Abbreviated

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Term</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F&amp;ES MODs for doctoral students</td>
<td>M 8/14 – Th 8/17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yale Graduate School Orientation Week begins</td>
<td>M 8/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall-term Online Course Selection (OCS) begins</td>
<td>W 8/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yale Graduate School Matriculation Ceremony</td>
<td>Th 8/24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>F&amp;ES Doctoral Program Orientation &amp; Dean Indy Burke’s Welcome Address to new students</strong></td>
<td><strong>M 8/28</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall term classes begin</td>
<td>W 8/30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor Day (no classes)</td>
<td>M 9/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall-term Online Course Selection (OCS) ends: Final day for registration</td>
<td>W 9/13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October recess begins at 5:20pm</td>
<td>T 10/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classes resume</td>
<td>M 10/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>F 10/27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November recess begins</td>
<td>F 11/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classes resume</td>
<td>M 11/27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Classes end at 5:20pm</td>
<td>Th 12/14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final examinations begin</td>
<td>F 12/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final examinations end</td>
<td>W 12/20</td>
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<tr>
<th>Spring Term</th>
<th>2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring-term Online Course Selection (OCS) begins</td>
<td>W 1/10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLK Day (no classes)</td>
<td>M 1/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring term classes begin</td>
<td>T 1/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring term Online Course Selection (OCS) ends: Final day for registration</td>
<td>F 1/26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>F 3/9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring recess begins at 5:20pm</td>
<td>F 3/9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classes resume</td>
<td>M 3/26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classes end at 5:20pm</td>
<td>Th 5/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final examinations begin</td>
<td>F 5/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final examinations end</td>
<td>W 5/9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate School Convocation</td>
<td>Su 5/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Commencement</td>
<td>M 5/21</td>
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F&ES Housing Information

F&ES offers a general overview on accommodations, options and questions you may have concerning housing. The F&ES Housing Google Sheet is for new students, as well as returning students, to communicate with each other to find a suitable or a compatible roommate/housemate on their own. The average rent may range anywhere from $600 to $1400; your portion will depend on how many people share an apartment.

Yale’s Department of Graduate Housing maintains a computerized listing of off-campus rental apartments, houses, sublets, and roommate shares for the convenience of the Yale community (http://offcampusliving.yale.edu). It is recommended students live in the area outlined on the map on the next page.

Below are a few links that you may find helpful in your search:

Available Housing Sites and Other Useful Links:

1. F&ES Housing Google Sheet ~ to access the Google document housing match-up project
   https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0AkVn34EDAjIdGxjOXJxQlFEbm90WHFpNkNYNGZCaFE&usp=sharing&authkey=CLmeu2c#gid=9
   ✓ There are tabs at the bottom of the spreadsheet for those offering housing and those looking for housing.
   ✓ When posting your information, include a brief bio and the most up-to-date contact information so that your future classmates can get in touch with you.
2. Craigs List ~ http://newhaven.craigslist.org/
6. University Properties ~ http://onhsa.yale.edu/home
7. Elm Campus Partners ~ http://www.elmcampus.com/
8. Campus Map – Click on Science Hill ~ http://map.yale.edu/
9. Yale Shuttle Schedule and Map ~ http://to.yale.edu/

Renting Tips:
1. You may want to select your housing to be in the area blocked off on the map on the next page to be within walking distance of F&ES.
2. Be sure to read all lease information carefully before signing.
3. Take pictures of EVERYTHING before moving in - to document condition.
4. Make sure original walk through thoroughly documents condition of all parts of the apartment.
5. Make sure you have and keep a copy of the walk-through documentation with your lease.
   If you have additional questions concerning housing, please contact your Peer Mentor or Mariann Adams at mariann.adams@yale.edu.
Most F&ES students live in the area outlined below!
For New Students to the University:

On behalf of the Yale Housing Office, welcome to the Yale graduate community! Whether you are coming to Yale as a single student or as a family, a variety of housing options are available to you. It is the goal of the Yale Housing Office to provide opportunities for graduate and professional students to develop a sense of community while residing in University Housing.

You may take advantage of social functions planned specifically for the dormitory or apartment where you live, join a residence council, child playgroups and educational forums on relevant topics for students and their families. The possibilities are as varied as those who wish to participate.

The graduate housing experience is unique. The benefits and rewards of living on campus in the Yale graduate communities are long lasting. Applications are accepted starting April 15th and the assignment and notification process will begin in late April. University housing for graduate students is limited and we encourage students to also explore off-campus housing options (http://offcampusliving.yale.edu).

The Yale Housing office is located on the ground floor of Helen Hadley Hall, 420 Temple Street, which is also a graduate dormitory. Office hours are Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Yale Housing apartments are for graduate and professional students. The apartments range in size from efficiencies to three bedrooms, all unfurnished. Pets are not allowed in the apartments. All student housing is conveniently located within walking distance of central campus and is served by the Yale Transit Shuttle buses. Residing in graduate housing apartments offers a variety of excellent opportunities for students and their families to experience a truly international community.

Living in on-campus graduate student dormitories can be especially helpful in providing an opportunity to become familiar with Yale and the academic community. Advantages are proximity to university facilities, opportunities for students from diverse backgrounds and fields of study to socialize through a variety of planned functions, and facilities provided for relaxation and recreation. The dormitory rooms provided for single students are varied room types; layout and facilities designed to reflect different life styles and needs.

For more detailed information and access to the on-line application and rates, please visit our website at www.housing.yale.edu
Student Computer Resources and Services

Some common questions that are brought to the F&ES IT Department:

1) Will I need a computer?
Yes, it is our expectation that you will arrive on campus with a laptop computer capable of running Windows 8 SP1, or Mac OS X 10.10 or higher. We do not support the Linux platform. Our recommended minimum student computer specs are:
   - i5 Processor or better
   - 256GB hard drive or better
   - 8GB of RAM or better

We highly recommend Apple MacBook series or Lenovo ThinkPad T, X, or W series machines. You will need your computer for the IT orientation program (scheduled in August; details TBA), so please bring it with you when you come to campus.

2) I don't have a Notebook computer. What kind should I buy?
The majority of student laptops at F&ES are using Apple MacBook Airs or MacBook Pros. We also support VirtualBox installations of Windows on Macs so you don't have to leave the world of Windows behind. Yale has negotiated a very favorable discount program for student computer purchases on Lenovo computers through GovConnection; see the Yale ePortal site (be sure to use your Yale email address when setting up your account). If purchasing a Lenovo T, W, or X series machine, please purchase one of the Yale approved configurations from GovConnection through the Yale ePortal site. You receive the same price that Yale receives on these approved configurations and the Yale approved configurations come with a 4 year on-site next business day warranty with Accidental Damage Protection.
For security we recommend that you purchase the following items with your laptop, in addition to personal property insurance (note that bundles may include some of these items):
   - On-site warranty support
   - CompuTrace LoJack (Anti-theft software)
   - Find My Mac (Mac Only)
   - Laptop lock

When comparing notebook computers, ask about the turn-around time for warranty repairs. Many students find it very difficult to be without a computer for a week or more while waiting for a repair to be completed (although the FES IT Department has some loaners). You may also wish to inquire about what the warranty covers. Most standard laptop warranties exclude the LCD display and a broken display can be quite costly to repair (up to $1,000).
You may contact us at FESHelpDesk@yale.edu for assistance if you have questions.

3) I already have a laptop computer. Can I bring it?
If you have an older laptop (pre-2012) we strongly urge you to purchase a new laptop. If you do not purchase one through our program, you should at least have a minimum configuration of an i5 processor, 8 gig of RAM, and a 256 gig hard drive running. Your computer should be equipped with a wireless network adapter for accessing the Yale network while on campus.
4) What software will I need?
Yale maintains a Software Library that offers a variety of software either free or at a very low cost to students. You won’t need to install anything before arriving on campus. The Yale ePortal site provides links for buying other software that’s not available in the Yale Software Library, at discounted prices. F&ES also offers Microsoft OS and other Microsoft developer software to F&ES students at no charge through the DreamSpark Premium Program.

5) Will I need a printer?
Yes, you should have an ink jet printer or personal laser printer suitable for printing letters and short papers where you live. There are also printers in the student computer cluster in Sage Hall and in the Ordway Learning Center in Kroon Hall as well in every F&ES building available for student use. Black & white printing currently costs 10 cents per page with the duplex side charged at 2 cents. Full color printing is charged at 25 cents per page. Students are responsible for all printing charges and this is managed via Yale’s BluePrint (PaperCut) program. Charges can be paid for by check, credit card, or student account charge. All student printers are capable of double-sided printing to conserve paper.

6) Will I need an external hard drive for data storage and backup?
No, but you may find it helpful; students may store, collaborate, and back up their FES related documents using their Yale_FES Dropbox account. Each student will receive a FES Dropbox account during their stay at F&ES. F&ES IT also provides a cloud-based backup system for students, CrashPlan ProE, for all students. Both will be installed once you arrive on campus, during orientation.

Student Computing Facilities and Support at F&ES
With the help of our student computer assistants, we maintain a student computer cluster in Sage Hall, Room 39. The computer cluster is available on a 24-hour, seven days-a-week basis, and is equipped with 12 PC computers and 12 iMac computers, along with 3 27” iMac machines for video editing and 3 27” displays for plugging in of student laptops. All computers feature Adobe Creative Cloud Software. All Mac computers operate in both Mac OS and Windows platforms, and feature Microsoft Office, ESRI ArcGIS software, several statistical software packages, as well as software related directly to the F&ES curriculum. Several computers in Sage 39 have scanning hardware, and FinalCut Pro software installed. In addition to the F&ES IT staff, student techs & media techs also assist students with their IT needs. The student techs are generally available on-site 5-6 days a week during the academic year with varying hours throughout the week. Media techs are generally available during the academic year Monday through Thursday from 4pm - 8pm. Off-site, student techs are available 7 days a week with a more robust weekly schedule.

Loan Program
F&ES currently has several laptops available to students for loan for a period of up to one week, renewable once for an additional week. These loaners are useful if your laptop is temporarily out of commission. iPads, GPS units, digital cameras, USB headsets, LCD projectors and various other items are also available to students for class and research-related projects. All items for checkout can be viewed and reserved at the F&ES IT Loan Program catalog. The terms of service of the loan program can be viewed here.
**Student Directory**

As an F&ES student, you have the opportunity to create your own online profile within the school’s websites. There are two components to this:

- A public profile, which lists you on the public website.
- A *myFES* profile, which is used internally at the school, so that the faculty and staff can put a face with your name.

You have control over your own profile, and can update it whenever you like, using the instructions below starting in July 15th.

**MANAGING YOUR PROFILES**

**Step 1:** [http://environment.yale.edu/myfes/](http://environment.yale.edu/myfes/)

**Step 2:** Login, using your Yale NetID and password.

**Step 3:** Make Changes to Your Web Profile

There are several different sections of information: Privacy / General, Student Extras (work experience, travel, languages, etc.), Portraits, About / Bio, etc. Please add as much information as you can.
Step 4: Don’t forget to save Changes on each page/section as you go.
F&ES Research Office

The F&ES Research Office is responsible for supporting applications to government sponsored funding sources (e.g., NSF, EPA, USDA, Fulbright). Their office is located in Sage Hall, 205 Prospect Street, fourth floor room 42A.

Associate Dean for Research
Karen C. Seto, Professor of Geography and Urbanization
Director of Doctoral Studies
380 Edwards Street, New Haven, CT

Director of Research
Gai Doran
Tel: (203) 432-6523

Sponsored Projects Coordinator
Amelia Casey
Tel: (203) 432-8638; Fax: (203) 436-4371

Grant Support Specialist
Diana Morgan
Tel: (203) 436-9083; Fax: (203) 436-4371
F&ES Library Information

The core Henry S. Graves Memorial Library Collection is housed in the Center for Science and Social Science Information (Kline Biology Tower, Concourse Level) and is a part of the Yale University Library System. The Graves Collection is one of the oldest and largest collections of forestry, natural resource, and related publications in the world. Current holdings in the Graves Collection consist of more than 130,000 books, documents, technical reports, and serial publications dealing with forestry, forest science, natural resource management, and environmental sciences and management. The entire collection, comprised of material dating from the eighteenth century to the present, is housed in a number of locations: the Center for Science and Social Science Information, Beinecke Rare Book Library, and the Library Shelving Facility.

F&ES students have access to the enormous holdings of the Yale University Library which is comprised of over 15 million volumes, print and electronic. The library is committed to acquiring whatever books and journals are needed to support Yale’s teaching and research activities. The F&ES Librarian has an office in the Center for Science and Social Science Information (CSSSI) and is available most weekday hours to provide assistance to students. Reference and information services are provided by experienced staff in the CSSSI. For electronic retrieval, the library has a network of databases accessible via its website, which cover general environmental topics, as well as the specific subject areas of forestry, soils, fish and wildlife, and water resources. Overall, Yale University Library subscribes to over 1,400 databases. Library resources outside of Yale are accessed through the BorrowDirect service as well as Interlibrary Loan. As a part of Yale University Library system, the F&ES Librarian participates in all library services offered to Yale patrons. The Yale University Library supports both EndNote and RefWorks bibliographic data management tools and the F&ES Librarian provides instruction in both.

The F&ES Library Research homepage is located at http://guides.library.yale.edu/fes. Here are found links to Orbis, Yale’s main online catalog, as well as to help screens which assist in its use. Here also are links directly to several of the most frequently used bibliographic databases, such as BIOSIS, Web of Science, ProQuest Agricultural & Environmental Science Database, Environment Complete, and CABDirect. This webpage also provides a great deal of useful information, from instruction opportunities to online interlibrary loan forms and links to online full-text journals. In-house bibliographic instruction begins during MODs, and continues throughout the semester. Notification of tours and group instruction sessions will be posted via e-mail, or feel free to contact the librarian directly to set up an individual session.

Librarian 203-432-5132 (CSSSI C40)

All Yale University Libraries’ hours are posted at: http://web.library.yale.edu/buildings.
F&ES Career Development Office

Vision
Inspire and prepare all students to pursue high impact environmental careers aligned with their individual abilities, experiences and interests.

Mission
- *Proactively educate students to maximize their entire F&ES experience for impactful careers and lives.*
- *Cultivate strong relationships with leading domestic and international environmental employers.*
- *Support career related initiatives across F&ES.*

The Career Development Office (CDO) orients students to a range of environmental career paths and provides the resources and career skills training needed to conduct effective job searches. Each year CDO facilitates opportunities to meet, interview and network with a broad group of employers and alumni. The office is open to F&ES masters and doctoral students and alumni. Students’ spouses and significant others may seek assistance in local job searches.

Individual Counseling and Peer Review
Our career counselors provide individual, confidential career guidance. Appointments with professional staff are available daily and are conveniently scheduled online. Peer reviewers offer weekly drop-in hours.

We offer:
- General Career Advising (strategy, focus, vision)
- Resume Reviews
- Cover Letter Reviews
- Personal Statement Reviews
- Networking Advice
- Online Tools Orientation (FESNext, LinkedIn, Yale Career Network)
- Interview Skills Review
- Internship Planning Guidance
- Internship Funding Advice
- Salary Negotiations Strategies
- Mock Interviews
Career Sectors – The F&ES Fifty

The CDO is structured to provide career support for all types of career fields. The primary career sectors our students pursue fall into the below fifty categories:

1. Air Quality Management  
2. Biofuels Research  
3. Brownfield Remediation  
4. Business and the Environment  
5. Carbon and Forest Finance  
6. Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation  
7. Coastal and Watershed Systems  
8. Corporate Sustainability  
9. Disaster Risk Management  
10. Ecosystem and Wildlife Conservation  
11. Ecotourism  
12. Energy Analysis and Strategy  
13. Energy Efficiency  
14. Entrepreneurial Interests  
15. Environmental Consulting  
16. Environmental Education and Training  
17. Environmental Engineering  
18. Environmental Health and Safety  
19. Environmental Investing  
20. Environmental Justice  
21. Environmental Law & Policy  
22. Environmental or Ecology Economics  
23. Environmental Policy Analysis  
24. Food and Agriculture / Food Security  
25. Forestry – Sustainability  
26. Forestry – Management  
27. Global Climate Change Science & Policy  
28. Green Chemistry  
29. Green Design and the Built Environment  
30. Green Infrastructure  
31. Green Manufacturing  
32. Human Health & the Environment  
33. Industrial Ecology  
34. Information Systems/G.I.S.  
35. International Development  
36. Land Management & Land-Use Planning  
37. Media & Communication  
38. Parks & Recreation  
39. Protected Areas Management  
40. Recycling  
41. Religion and Ecology  
42. Renewable Energy Development  
43. Resilient Local Food Systems  
44. Social Ecology  
45. Tropical Resources  
46. Urban & Regional Planning  
47. Urban Design  
48. Urban Ecology  
49. Waste Management  
50. Water Resources Management
Workshops
CDO offers annual, optional workshops on job search skills development and major career questions. Programs include: resume writing, networking and LinkedIn, writing the personal statement, cover letter writing, job and internship search strategy, applying for the PhD, interviewing, telling your story at the interview, locating grants and fellowships, and salary negotiations.

Career Panels and Information Sessions
CDO organizes thematic career panels annually, often in coordination with student interest groups focusing on particular fields or topics. Recent panels include: Careers in Wildlife Conservation, Demystifying the Application Process: Big International Development and Conservation, BNGO INGO ENGO: Alumni in NGOs Career Panel, and Going Green in a Down Economy: The View from Corporate America. We also provide important information sessions on applying for fellowships, grants, and jobs, including the Fulbright, Presidential Management Fellowship, and job and internship applications through USAJOBS.

Student Interest Group (SIG) Career Event Support
CDO works in collaboration with and offers support to SIGs to bring employers, alumni and relevant professionals to F&ES for small group career conversations. We are interested in supporting student initiatives to develop professional relationships and to share important career and industry information with peers.

FESNext
Our online job database, FESNext, offers you a central resource for job and internship postings targeted to FES students and alumni. It features postings from F&ES registered employers and includes opportunities shared by faculty, alumni, and fellow students. FESNext grants you access to:
- Maintain an up-to-date profile to receive targeted email announcements
- Upload resumes, cover letters, writing samples, and other documents to send to employers
- View over 150 new F&ES focused jobs and internships added each month
- Apply directly online for jobs/internships of interest
- Publish your resume to multiple resume books for review by alumni and employers
- Create and save quick searches for locating jobs/internships
- Schedule appointments with career advisors

All-Ivy Environmental and Sustainable Development Career Fair
Each year CDO offers you the opportunity to explore career options, apply for upcoming positions, and practice your interview and networking skills at the All-Ivy Environmental and Sustainable Development Career Fair at Columbia University. You will have access to approximately 90 employers in a range of employment sectors.
Treks
CDO provides logistical support to groups of F&ES students interested in visiting employers on-site. While treks are student initiated and organized, CDO helps identify employer contacts, and provides strategic guidance in planning and outreach. All treks are self-funded. Past trek destinations have included Boston, New York City, San Francisco and Washington, D.C.

On-Campus Recruiting
In addition to recruiting through our major career fairs, CDO offers students the opportunity to connect with employers during on-campus information sessions, informational interviews and selected interview opportunities. F&ES students are also eligible to attend selected employer information sessions offered through School of Management, Jackson Institute of Public Policy and undergraduate career service offices. Students seeking opportunities with management consulting firms are encouraged to attend the early fall programs scheduled with Yale’s Office of Career Strategy.
Throughout the academic year, CDO hosts employers available to interview students through on campus interviewing. Announcements for opportunities will be made via email and resume submissions for interview consideration will occur using FESNext.

Employment and Internship Profiles and Salary Data
To help you research job and internship options, we provide employment information on recent alumni and summer interns/researchers on our website. These downloadable documents provide outcomes details on all alumni from 2007 onward.

Alumni Connections
CDO offers the opportunity to network through alumni career panels, employer information sessions, career conversations, and evening mixers. In addition, you have access to alumni visiting classes, guests of F&ES Centers & Programs, and through numerous other venues at F&ES and at Yale.
The following resources provide you with access to and information about alumni from F&ES and Yale:

- **F&ES LinkedIn Group:** The Office of Development and Alumni Services and the CDO maintain the [Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies LinkedIn group](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/17529426).
- **F&ES Alumni Database:** You can download from the CDO website the most current [F&ES alumni information](https://www.yalealumni.org) available through Yale’s Alumni Association.
- **Yale Career Network (YNC):** You have access to 13,000 alumni who are available to give tips and advice on their industry, employer or job.

**F&ES 006 Summer Internship/Research - Required for all masters students 0 Credits.**
The summer internship or research project is the opportunity for students to apply knowledge and skills gained during their first year of study, to gain professional experience, build networks and to investigate potential career paths first-hand.

The course consists of a research project or internship experience between 10 and 12 weeks, between the summer of first and second year of the program. Students have latitude in designing a summer practicum closely aligned with individual academic and career goals. Students are responsible for securing their own internship or developing a relevant research project with
appropriate faculty supervision, applying for and securing their own summer funding, and filing appropriate paperwork with the Career Development Office before and after the internship or research experience in order to receive course credit.

ELM – Environmental Leadership Mentoring Program
All returning 2nd year F&ES students have the opportunity to be matched with an alumni mentor in their chosen career sector. You are encouraged to participate in this formal, managed mentoring program with trained alumni mentors trained to provide career guidance during your final academic year and beyond.

CDO Staff and Responsibilities
Director, Ladd Flock – ladd.flock@yale.edu
Employer development, career counseling, and faculty relations
Senior Associate Director, Kathy Douglas – kathy.douglas@yale.edu
Career counseling, career programming, and office communications
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Employer relations, F&ES 006 management, Mentoring program administration
Professional Skills Development at F&ES

Environmental professionals are expected to take the knowledge they have learned and use it to address complex resource issues. The Professional Skills Framework provides a structure to help F&ES students think through the skills that they may need to develop or deepen. Based on surveys of alumni, employers and students, five major skill sets are reflected in the framework:

- Strategic Communication
- Leadership & Interpersonal Skills
- Finance & Project Management
- Technical Skills for Environmental & Resource Managers
- Navigating the Work-Life Balance

Professional skills training is often integrated into regular coursework at F&ES and other parts of Yale. In addition, students can tap into offerings of varying levels and lengths in each skill set area, including:

- Technical Skills Module (TSM) workshops;
- Professional Skills Courses;
- Career Development Office workshops;
- Classes at other Yale schools;
- Workshops and discussions with alumni/other experts
- In-person and on-line offerings by other parts of Yale, such as the Center for Teaching and Learning, as well as Yale’s subscriptions to digital resources, such as Lynda and Coursera.

Technical Skills Module Program

The Technical Skills Module (TSM) Program of F&ES aims to equip students with the professional and personal development skills needed for successful future careers, particularly those related to the environment, sustainability, resource management, and natural and social sciences. The TSM program also collaborates with Student Interest Groups (SIGs), classes, and other units within the School to deliver trainings and other programs of mutual interest. TSM programs generally occur in the evenings after classes or on Fridays. They consist of only one class meeting and do not count towards graduation credits. Students are encouraged to submit suggestions throughout the year for new TSM offerings. Past classes have included “Writing for Social Change”, “Basic and Advanced Microsoft Excel”, “Photography”, “Business Etiquette Dinner”, “Speed Reading”, and “Time Management”. For more information, visit: [http://environment.yale.edu/academics/professional-practice/](http://environment.yale.edu/academics/professional-practice/)

Professional Skills Courses

F&ES offers a number of half-semester classes (1 credit) geared towards the development of professional skills. Well established classes within this category include “Collaboration and Conflict Resolution Skills for Environmental Professionals”, “Environmental Communicator”, and “Financial Concepts for Environmental Managers”. These classes are commonly taught by outside practitioners and may include visiting speakers. For full class descriptions, visit: [http://environment.yale.edu/courses/2016-2017/subjects/professional-skills/](http://environment.yale.edu/courses/2016-2017/subjects/professional-skills/)
Career Development Office
The F&ES Career Development Office (CDO) hosts a number of workshops, speakers, and events related to professional skill development throughout the year. These include workshops on financial literacy and salary negotiations, career conversations with visiting professionals, cover letter writing tutoring, and more. For full listings, please visit the CDO webpage and check their calendar: http://environment.yale.edu/careers/. CDO also runs the Environmental Leadership Mentoring (ELM) program where second year master’s students are paired with alumni mentors: https://environment.yale.edu/careers/elm-mentee/.

Classes at other Yale schools
F&ES students are fortunate to have access to many strong programs and schools at Yale University. Elective classes at the Yale School of Management (SOM) are the most popular with F&ES students, however Yale Law School, the Political Science Department, the Yale School of Public Health, and other programs including Yale College itself offer excellent opportunities to master those skills and materials not offered at F&ES.

For class listings, please visit:
- Yale School of Management: http://som.yale.edu/our-programs/full-timemba/curriculum/our-integrated-curriculum/our-courses
- Yale Law School: https://courses.law.yale.edu/students
- Yale Department of Political Science: http://politicalscience.yale.edu/academics/graduate-program/courses-workshops
- Yale School of Public Health: http://publichealth.yale.edu/academic/index.aspx

Not finding what you’re looking for or want to search by keyword or time offered? Try Googling “Yale Blue Book” and follow the sign in prompts!

Workshops and Discussions with Alumni/Other Experts
The F&ES Alumni Office, CDO, Student Interest Groups (SIGs), Centers and Programs and others bring many alumni and other experts to campus throughout the year. While our visitors are on campus, students have the opportunity to network with and listen to career advice from experienced environmental professionals. Students are highly encouraged to reach out to potential visitors and initiate campus visits; funding for such travel is available from a number of sources on campus.
The Center offers communication skill-building covering all aspects of writing, speaking, presenting, and interviewing. Current F&ES students may sign up for free one-on-one coaching sessions during the academic year. The experienced coaches at the Center can improve your public speaking, give guidance on your presentations, check your citation of sources in research papers, review your resume and cover letters, prepare you for a job interview, and sharpen your academic or professional writing styles. We also help F&ES international students with accent reduction, fluency, and cross-cultural communication. Our primary focus is on skill-building to ensure that you make lasting improvement.

**Ways to Use the Center**

Students are encouraged to use the Center to improve their skills in a variety of academic and professional arenas.

- Writing: research proposals, funding and scholarship essays, Ph.D. personal statements, course papers, theses, cover letters, resumes
- Speaking: class presentations, conference talks, case competitions, seminar discussion leadership, scholarship interviews, podcast preparation, Master’s Colloquium & Capstone
- Professional: Mock informational and behavioral interviews, negotiation, pitching, panel participation, team leadership, networking, and on-line image strategy

Note: In keeping with our skill-building mission, we are unable to edit student work. No written work may be submitted for review outside of your coaching session.

**How to Use the Center**

To gain maximum benefit from your session, follow these guidelines:

- If you are working on a presentation, bring your file and laptop. Be prepared to summarize the goals and content of your presentation, or to deliver it.
- If you are working on writing, bring the assignment and your latest draft on your laptop or printed.
- If you are working on public speaking, interviews, panels participation, or other oral communication skills, bring relevant material and be ready to describe the context at the start of your coaching session.
- When you arrive, outline your goals for each meeting, and evaluate these goals with the coach at the meeting’s conclusion.
- If our coaches give you a skill-building assignment, complete it before your next meeting. While meeting with a coach is helpful, only practice and application of the skills discussed will lead to improvement.

**Appointments and Location**

The resources of the Center are available throughout the academic year while classes are in session, Monday-Thursday. We are located in Sage Hall, Room 09. Appointments are 45 minutes and can be scheduled on-line at: [meetme.so/fes-coaching](http://meetme.so/fes-coaching). You may meet with the coaches several times throughout the year, but be sure to schedule only one upcoming appointment at a time to ensure all students have access to appointments. Our goal is to help you write concisely, speak clearly, present effectively, and communicate confidently. We look forward to working with you!
F&ES Diversity Initiatives

At the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, we recognize that cultivating a diverse and inclusive community is vital for any effective educational institution. F&ES is invested in training environmental leaders; to this end, we are working to create a learning environment that is inclusive and an education that is rich in diverse disciplines, viewpoints, and experiences. Fostering a diverse student body is an essential part of the F&ES mission: to prepare new leadership and create new knowledge to sustain and restore the long-term health of the biosphere and the well-being of its people. More than twenty-five percent of our student body is comprised of international students; over the last decade, we have consistently endeavored to increase the number of U.S. minority students. Our Admissions team continues to expand targeted recruitment efforts across the country, as well as abroad, to increase our visibility and educate populations about what is possible in the environmental field.

There are several staff members within F&ES who work to further institutionalize the values of diversity and inclusion within the School. Within the Admissions Office, the Admissions Counselor is charged with working to increase outreach, provide resources and support the recommendations of our EQUID Committee. The EQUID Committee (Equity, Inclusion & Diversity) is comprised of faculty, staff and students working collaboratively to foster an open and inclusive community at FES. The Director of Enrollment Management & Diversity Initiatives oversees recruiting efforts to increase diversity, and oversees efforts to create an inclusive community for all parties in the F&ES community.

In the fall of 2016, we welcomed our two inaugural Pinchot Fellows to the School. The Pinchot Fellowship was created to bring to F&ES emerging scholars and early career faculty who will contribute to the diversification of the field of environmental and sustainability studies. For more information about the fellows, you can visit http://environment.yale.edu/news/article/pinchotfellows-bring-new-voices-to-fes/.

We acknowledge that greater diversity and the inclusion of a wide range of voices will strengthen our School and the environmental community as a whole. Our upcoming strategic plan includes a significant focus on diversity by continuing to grow and inform our teachings, our community and our practices. We are furthermore excited to be a part of the broader conversation taking place across Yale about diversity, representation, and equity.

Please direct any questions, suggestions, or concerns regarding diversity initiatives at F&ES to rebecca.desalvo@yale.edu. We also encourage you to visit www.environment.edu/diversity/ for more information.
Student Organizations

Student Affairs Committee (SAC)
The Student Affairs Committee (SAC) is an elected body of active students at the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies (F&ES). SAC is dedicated to facilitating communication and understanding among the F&ES student body, administration, and staff; advocating on behalf of the student body on pressing issues; supporting student interest groups and executing a limited number of official duties.

Forestry Club
The mission of the Yale Forestry Club (FC) is to first and foremost foster a strong sense of community at the School of Forestry and Environmental Studies (F&ES). FC organizes events that bring together the F&ES community, including students, faculty, and staff, in a variety of ways to facilitate discussion, knowledge exchange, and collaboration with the greater Yale community. FC members make themselves readily accessible to all students, seek and encourage new ideas for programs and activities, and create inclusive and safe spaces for the student body. Through these activities, FC builds a sense of community at F&ES that will last for years to come. New members are nominated and elected to the Forestry Club by the student body at the beginning of each semester.

Africa SIG
The Africa SIG is a collection of students interested in the environmental challenges and opportunities on the continent. The purpose of Africa SIG is two-fold: (1) to serve as a forum for information exchange and research support for members; (2) to create opportunities on campus to engage with the vibrant culture of Africa. The SIG hosts and co-sponsors talks with scholars and practitioners, movie screenings, and a new biannual tradition- a West African dance workshop with the help of Konjo!, Yale's African dance group.

Asia SIG
Asia SIG seeks to strengthen awareness on environmental issues in Asia through lectures, panel discussions and round table events. Our events cover a wide range of issues related to water resources, forestry, energy and climate change. Students share Asia-related internship and work experiences through panel discussions to raise awareness on career opportunities both domestic and abroad. The SIG also seeks to foster dialogue among students through social events such as film screenings, tea tasting, and potluck dinners

Built Environment and the Environment (BE2)
Built Environment and the Environment (BE2) provides a forum for students, faculty, and practitioners interested in the intersection of environmental issues in design fields across multiple scales. Spanning considerations from construction materials to building systems to urban design, BE2 hopes to spark dialogue among students, professors, and practitioners in the field. Our goal is also to bridge the gap between FES and the Yale School of Architecture. This group aspires to serve as a foundation for both short-term projects between students in FES and architecture and long-term comprehension of the skills required to cultivate successful collaboration. We will organize lectures, film screenings, field trips, and design workshops throughout the school year.
Climate Change
The Climate Change Student Interest Group was initiated in 2005 with the aim to foster personal, campus, and political awareness of climate change, and its broader environmental and social implications. To this end, we have formed linkages with other campus groups and researchers with relevant interests; promoted energy efficiency and fuel switching on and off campus; and engaged in broader community awareness-raising activities. Furthermore, we support policy efforts to mitigate climate change including local, state, and federal legislation. In the past, we have sponsored guest speakers on campus, submitted an energy conservation grant proposal to the Green Fund, attended Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative stakeholder meetings and participated in Yale’s first Climate Justice Speaker Series. We have also provided organizational and financial support for students to attend relevant international conferences and events, such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of the Parties (UNFCCC COPs). We welcome all interested students and faculty to contribute to our efforts and invite newcomers to help the SIG develop further.

Coalition on Agriculture, Food Systems, and the Environment (CAFÉ)
CAFÉ (Coalition on Agriculture, Food, and the Environment) aims to educate the F&ES and larger Yale student body on the environmental issues and challenges of agriculture, and to highlight the agricultural ecosystem as an important component of ecosystem studies and management. It is also our goal to help students, staff, and faculty make the connection between the academic and the personal facets of agriculture, by illustrating how and where the food they eat is produced. The group works actively with local farmers and producers, as well as international agricultural and food system issues.

Commons Collective (CoCo) – inactive: 1 year
The Commons Collective (CoCo) SIG seeks to raise awareness on human cooperation as a fundamental factor in addressing most environmental challenges. CoCo will serve as an interface for other SIGs and students to engage in collective action! Our goal is to educate the F&ES and Yale community on the theory and practice of common-pool resource management.

Conservation Finance SIG
The Conservation Finance SIG serves to enhance career development opportunities for students interested in a career after Yale that focuses on ecosystem services, economically/ecologically sustainable working landscapes, and private/public investment in conservation. The SIG provides opportunities for practical learning and professional development through organizing job treks, career chats, and speaker events relevant to conservation finance. It also provides a platform for students who have both domestic and international interests and experience in this thematic area to share and extend their professional networks. Students in the group have interests and experience in domestic and international timber, agriculture, energy, carbon, grasslands, and preserved landscapes.

ECHO SIG – inactive: one semester
ECHO SIG brings together people with all kinds of backgrounds and perspectives to create interdisciplinary, tailored articles for publication in magazines, newspapers and blogs. Members are actively working on Op Eds for publication to submit to Huffington Post, Sierra Magazine, Yale Environment 360, Yale Journal of International Affairs, New York Times, Washington
Post, The Guardian, Business Insider, The Economist, Wall Street Journal, Sage Magazine, Yale Daily News, and the self-publishing website Medium.com. Publications like Op Eds and letters to the editor have the potential to be extremely influential. By bringing Yale’s best minds together, we can create messages that resonate with readers around the world. The multidisciplinary membership of ECHO enables writers to team up and write about issues that cover multiple topics - like finance, science, technology, health, and law, as just a few examples. Writers can expand their knowledge base by working with partners from other sectors. ECHO encourages members to write about what matters to them. You have a voice - use it! Get published - be heard.

**Energy SIG**
In response to the continued increase in national and global attention on energy issues, the F&ES Energy SIG has become the fastest growing student group at FES. We work on a variety of fronts to increase opportunities and knowledge within the energy sector at Yale. Our activities include hosting guest speakers, running workshops, organizing field trips, and providing networking opportunities for students focused on the nexus between energy, business, and the environment. In addition, we are working closely alongside faculty to expand the number of energy-focused course offerings at F&ES and to bring in experienced industry professionals as guest lecturers.

**Environmental Justice at Yale (EJAY)**
The Environmental Justice movement addresses the disproportionate impacts of environmental burdens on people of color, poor people, native peoples, women, and other disadvantaged communities locally and globally; the intersection between human rights, human dignity and environmental sustainability; and the exclusion of marginalized communities from environmental policy decision-making. The Environmental Justice movement engages with a wide variety of issues including: concentrations of toxic waste and pollution in poor communities; sustainable energy generation on tribal lands, food access, farmworker rights, the disequilibrium in the causes and effects of climate change between developing and overdeveloped countries, and options to balance conservation and development goals in, for example, strategies such as REDD+ or the creation of protected areas. Environmental Justice at Yale (EJAY) bridges the gap that exists right here at F&ES. We increase the attention of faculty, staff, and students to EJ topics. We make this group both a learning tool and a skill-building experience for participants through two avenues: 1) bringing speakers and other awareness-raising events to F&ES, and 2) creating opportunities for students to become involved with environmental justice communities here in New Haven. The latter includes both long-term and short-term volunteer opportunities that build upon the progress made in strengthening bonds between the Yale and New Haven communities and to continue our own awareness about environmental injustice that occurs right here in New Haven.

**Environmental Media & Arts**
The Environmental Media & Arts SIG is a collective of students that seeks to incorporate the arts and multimedia into the environmental dialogue at F&ES and beyond. We sponsor media- and arts related events on campus such as films and design charettes, and provide a space for students to come together to express themselves creatively around an inclusive range of environmental and social issues. We provide support for the production of short videos, public art, and eco-craft
projects, in addition to helping other students and SIGs to utilize the arts and multimedia to reach out to a wider audience through workshops on film production.

**Ethnobotany and Economic Botany SIG (STIGMA)**
The Yale student interest group STIGMA promotes the study of people and plants by providing a network to bridge F&ES students whose research or personal interests touch upon ethnobotany, economic botany, traditional ecological knowledge, and the sustainable use of non-timber forest products. The objectives of STIGMA are to promote knowledge exchange and broad skill building in botany and ethnobotany amongst the F&ES community through events such as edible plant ID hikes, the STIGMA journal club, field trips, speaker events, lecture series, seed exchanges, and workshops. STIGMA also collaborates with the CAFÉ SIG to sponsor an ongoing series of urban homesteading skillshares on topics ranging from canning to soap-making to meadery. Past, present and future club activities include: edible plant foraging in East Rock park, plant collecting and pressing workshops, a week long Herbal Uppers series, F&ES seed swap, making cocoa, from bean to chocolate, field trips to NYBG to visit F&ES associate professors Dr. Chuck Peters from the Institute of Economic Botany and Dr. Larry Kelly and Dr. Fabian Michelangeli from the Institute of Systematic Botany, *Synsepalum dulcificum* tasting, a series of dinners with ethnobotanists, the Key Club, and journal club discussions of current and influential literature in economic botany and ethnobotany.

**The FES Political Activities Club (FES PAC)**
The FES Politics SIG (FES PAC) is a place for students interested in environmental politics. Our focus is real-life policymaking in state legislatures, regulatory commissions and the halls of Washington DC. No matter their background, F&ES students should be versed in how politics will effect their work and interested in learning more about how our government works today. We are the FES connection to the elected officials, senior staff, and interest lobbyists who are engaged in shaping legislation today, and a place for bonding with peers who are interested in working in the field of politics. Basically, we’re all about being in the room where it happens.

**Fire Ecology & Management**
The Fire Ecology & Management SIG brings experiential learning, invaluable training, and certification in prescribed fire use, and general education on fire as a natural process and tool for conservation. Our mission is to bring awareness to the role of fire in ecosystems and describe the ways the public can benefit from education about prescribed and natural fire.

**Fresh & Salty**
The Fresh & Salty SIG provides a channel for the incorporation of marine and freshwater issues into the life and educational opportunities of the School. The main objectives of the SIG include: 1) to consolidate and expand the collective marine and freshwater knowledge and experience of students and faculty, and to encourage and provide a forum for interactive exchange of information and ideas; (2) to strengthen and encourage the base of knowledge in marine and freshwater policy and science within the curriculum; and (3) to develop linkages with institutions and organizations outside the Yale community to broaden opportunities for student research, internships, and employment in marine and freshwater science and policy positions. SIG events include: Lectures by external researchers, practitioners, and alumni who work in marine or freshwater science or policy; regular dinners with members and/or faculty where attendees meet
to discuss current water events and professional/academic water experiences; and outings to relevant facilities such as wastewater treatment plants and the Yale-Peabody Marine Station.

**Greening the Vote***
*Currently inactive*
The mission of Greening the Vote is to engage students at the School of Forestry and Environmental Studies in politics, elections, campaigns, advocacy, policy-making, and other forms of political action at all levels of government. Through the activities of GTV, students will gain a better understanding of the political process, make connections with political and policy leaders, and develop new skills that will enhance their education and professional development at Yale. Our activities including hosting speakers from local, state, and national organizations, Congressional staff and representatives, and political organizers. We also organize workshops and trainings in skills such as lobbying and grassroots organizing. Additionally, GTV organizes trips to Hartford and Washington, DC to lobby, attend and testify at hearings, and participate in other activities such as political/policy conferences, demonstrations, and rallies.

**Health and Environment at Yale (HEY)**
Health and Environment at Yale (HEY) is an interdisciplinary student group, linking students at the School of Forestry & Environmental Studies with students, staff, and faculty from across Yale, including the School of Public Health and the School of Medicine. We have a shared interest in the linkages between the environment and human health and seek to forge connections with future colleagues from all disciplines. Throughout the year we hold social networking events, host speakers, meet for a journal club, talk about career and research opportunities, and volunteer in the community. We're always looking for new ideas and new student involvement!

**Industrial Environmental Management and Energy (IEME)**
Working closely with the Yale Center for Industrial Ecology (CIE), the Industrial Environmental Management and Energy (IEME) SIG aims to provide students with a community wherein issues of industrial ecology, corporate environmental management, energy and transportation be explored in a manner that is not possible in the classroom. This group attracts students from the private, public, and nonprofit sectors who are interested in working with industry to improve environmental quality. Industrial ecology is an organizing concept that is increasingly applied to define various interactions of technological society with both natural and altered biophysical environments. A working definition of industrial ecology is that it addresses ways in which human production and consumption can be made more sustainable. Technology and its potential for modification and change are central to this topic, as are implications for government policy and corporate response. SIG activities include: Facility site visits; student mentoring events with faculty and industry professionals; social mixers; resume book that is distributed to CIE industry contacts; professional skills training courses.

**International Development and Environment (IDE) – inactive: 1 year**
The International Development and Environment (IDE) student group is a forum for a broad range of views regarding the role of sustainable development in increasingly globalized markets, and how it relates to environmental and social objectives. These ideas are explored through various IDE-sponsored events, such as seminars, lectures, and a biweekly lunch series. While
there is not a single right way to approach sustainable development, it is our belief that a thoughtful dialogue will illuminate each individual's path toward constructive action.

**International Society of Tropical Foresters (ISTF)**
Yale's student chapter of the International Society of Tropical Foresters (ISTF) was first organized in 1989, as part of a network of natural resource professionals concerned with tropical resource management. ISTF provides a forum for students with interests and experiences in linking natural resource conservation and management with economic development. Members participate in a range of social, educational, and professional activities that promote the sharing of experiences and knowledge related to resource management in developing countries. In addition to organizing field trips to the New York Botanical Garden, hosting discussion events and career talks (“Dinner with a Tropical Forester”), ISTF also organizes a two-day conference on an emerging topic in the tropics – the largest student-organized conference at FES. Conferences in recent years have brought together representatives of governments, universities, and environmental and development organizations to discuss Innovations in Tropical Forest Management; Tropical Forests and Climate Change; Conflict and Cooperation; Reduced Emissions from Degradation and Deforestation; Payment for Environmental Services; Illegal Logging and Certification; People in Parks; Himalayan conservation and development

**Land Use and Urban Coalition at Yale (LUUCY)**
The Land Use and Urban Coalition at Yale (LUCY) is a collection of students interested in the planning and practice of sustainable land use management, and its implications for human settlements and resource allocation. LUCY provides a forum for students interested in land use, urban ecology, design, planning, and sustainable development to collaborate and identify ways to bring quality events to FES.

**Latin American Student Interest Group (La SIG)**
The Latin America SIG was created by students as a venue for sharing information and experiences for all Latin America enthusiasts. The Latin SIG aims to gather students interested in discussing Latin American current issues and on researching or working in the region. These interests are translated to events such as talks with academics and practitioners, research and internship sharing sessions, movies and discussions or co-hosted activities. It provides the F&ES community with a place to share regional cuisine and practice Spanish in the unique “Espanish Dinner” experience.

**Multicultural Community (MCC)**
Multicultural Community Club brings together students united by an interest to celebrate their different, respective cultures and looking for space to showcase their cultural expressions and explore their identities as well as the diverse identities of other students. This space will facilitate greater F&ES community involvement in multicultural related education, collaborations, and cross-cultural community building. We would like to provide an alternative space for cultural expressions and identity exploration and build community among Yale’s diverse student body, staff, and faculty. In this space students will be able to learn about different cultures and backgrounds as well as reflect upon their own mixed cultural identity.
Natural Resource Extraction (NRX)
The Natural Resource Extraction (NRX) SIG is a campus-wide student group focused on the economic, social, technological, and environmental dimensions of natural resource extraction and its associated industries. NRX is a space for students to discuss their ideas and shape the conversation at Yale around oil, natural gas, coal, and mineral resource extraction. Topics in these extractive industries that are at the heart of our group’s interest include environmental impacts, water use, community interactions, corporate social responsibility and sustainability, fuel supply and demand, and energy security. The group encourages collaboration among students from all backgrounds and perspectives to enhance our collective understanding of these important resources.

On the Margin
On the Margin provides a forum through which individuals with common interest in exploring economics & the environment can interact, learn from one another, and develop new ideas. The goal of OTM is to facilitate students’ experience of how the discipline of economics can inform social and environmental decision-making. We are a community that acknowledges economics as a field of study beyond equations and graphs. Our activities include events with outside speakers and organizations, in addition to a biweekly discussion group.

Out in the Woods
Out in the Woods is a social and advocacy group for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans-gendered, Queer and Allied students at F&ES. As F&ES and the environmental movement continue to address diversity issues on multiple levels, Out in the Woods is working to increase the openness and inclusivity at F&ES towards those who identify as LGBTQ. Primarily, Out in the Woods provides a safe and welcoming space within F&ES for students who identify as LGBTQ. Additionally, we provide a means to network with allied groups in the graduate and professional school community and work to extend the reach of underrepresented and minority groups within the environmental community. Out in the Woods sponsor’s discussion groups, film showings, social events, and brings speakers to campus.

Outdoor Recreation SIG*
Currently inactive
The Outdoor Recreation SIG (formerly the 100% Club) brings F&ES students together to enjoy and share the beauty of the natural world. Outdoor Rec aims to provide an outlet for students to explore the outdoor recreation opportunities of the Northeast, share past stories, gain outdoor skills, and provide a respite from the stress of academic life. Past Outdoor Rec activities have included attending the Banff Radical Reels Tour, ice climbing, day hikes, and a Wilderness First Responder certification course.

Religion, Spirituality and Nature
Currently inactive
The Religion, Spirituality and Nature SIG provides an open forum for people to talk comfortably about metaphysical, religious, and spiritual understandings of nature. Be it lessons learned from natural phenomena, religiously-inspired understandings of the spiritual-environmental nexus, euphoric experiences with the natural environment, reflections on cosmological wonders, awe-
inspiring writings of admirers of nature – all topics are welcomed to be shared. The group also intends to organize field trips, retreats, and conferences or general events on the topic.

**Reptile and Amphibian Naturalist Alliance (RANA)**
*Currently inactive*
The Reptile & Amphibian Naturalist Alliance (RANA) brings together students and researchers interested in reptile and amphibian conservation. The group aims to share ideas, information, and resources through academic and local community involvement. Global declines of amphibians and reptiles are a major concern for biodiversity and ecosystem dynamics. It is important to understand the needs of these species and spread awareness through multiple approaches. RANA will regularly host meetings and expert talks to exchange knowledge, educate others, and drive support for the conservation of valuable amphibians and reptiles.

**PhD SIG**
The PhD SIG promotes networking and collaboration within the FES PhD student community. The PhD SIG has three goals 1) to encourage FES PhD students to meet and interact, 2) to promote collaboration on research projects, and 3) to encourage PhD student integration into the larger FES community. Our activities include networking events, socials, and retreats which allow students to interact with both peers and the broader FES community. These events encourage discussions of current research and possible collaborations.

**Risk Reduction, Adaptation and Disaster SIG (RRAD)**
The Risk Reduction, Adaptation and Disaster Student Interest Group (RRAD) explores the overlap between disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation and promotes its integration into the wider Yale community. Past activities include: helping secure internships for F&ES students with international and domestic organizations such as the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and Mercy Corps, raising awareness and financial support for several international disasters, and visiting the UNISDR headquarters in New York City. RRAD has also engaged in increasing F&ES partnerships and collaborations within the broader Yale community (such as the School of Public Health) and beyond the University with organizations such as the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), Mercy Corps, UNISDR, and UNDP.

**ROOTS SIG**
ROOTS at FES is dedicated to the advancement and resilience of students of the African Diaspora. Environmental challenges overwhelmingly impact communities of color; however, their voices and presence are underrepresented at FES. Our work is centered on fostering a safe space for all students with an emphasis on community-building, programming, fellowship, professional development, recruitment, retention, and mentoring of Black students. ROOTS not only celebrates the richness of African/Black culture, but also works to increase the diversity of FES.

**Scope – the Research SIG: inactive - one semester**
Scope, the research SIG, provides a venue for scientists (MFS and MESc students in particular) to discuss their research ideas, address curricular needs, and host guest speakers. Scope allows students to compare and contrast their varying experiences in research and to get feedback and suggestions from peers. Scope helps students address topics such as developing hypotheses,
experiment designs, proposals, field research strategies, analytical tools, and publishing in the broader context of research. This SIG is complementary to the Research Methods courses and provides a space for social and natural science students to collaborate and learn from one another.

**Social and Environmental Entrepreneurship (SEE)**
SEE’s main objective is to foster environmental entrepreneurship at F&ES and the greater Yale community. The club will create a structured forum for student idea generation, where students can meet to discuss environmental problems and suggest potential business solutions. It will also act as a vehicle to showcase successful environment-related businesses to students. Through attracting accomplished entrepreneurial speakers and hosting environment-related business brainstorming events the club will foster a supportive community and offer valuable resources to potential F&ES student entrepreneurs.

**Society for Conservation Biology (Con Bio)**
Conservation biologists use a foundation of natural and social sciences combined with principles from economics, policy, and management to conserve biological diversity. Since its inception in 1985, the Society for Conservation Biology has been one of the fastest growing scientific societies, expanding to more than 10,000 members worldwide. In 1990, students at the School of Forestry & Environmental Studies established the first national chapter of the Society for Conservation Biology and developed the bylaws that are now used in the formation of other chapters. The role of the Chapter is to complement and supplement academic programs with diverse student-initiated activities and strengthen the conservation biology community at Yale. The Chapter sponsors lectures, field trips, and events to promote professional development and the advancement of conservation science. We support a community of students and encourage dialogue on innovative solutions through student research presentations, networking opportunities with field practitioners, and co-mingling with other Yale Departments and Programs. In doing so, the Chapter hopes to foster the development of tomorrow's global conservation leaders.

**Society of American Foresters (SAF)**
Advancing the science, technology, education, and practice of professional forestry and using the knowledge and skills of the profession to benefit society are constitutionally mandated objectives of the Society of American Foresters (SAF). Chartered by the SAF, Yale's student chapter sponsors programs and events which are in keeping with these professional objectives, and facilitates communication among individual members and the regional and national SAF representatives. Major goals of the student chapter include positive interaction and communication with other School groups, and, within the larger Yale and New Haven communities, promotion of the integral role of forestry in the protection of natural resources. The group hosts student, faculty, and guest speakers at regular chapter meetings, conducts field trips and local workshops, and participates in regional and national SAF affairs.

**The Spatial Collective**
In the absence of a Geography Department, The Spatial Collective is the hub for geographic research and spatial thinking at Yale. The Spatial Collective is a community of students, faculty, staff, and research centers from across the university interested in all things geographic or
geospatial. Some of the interests of our community members include geographic information systems (GIS), remote sensing, biogeography, the politics of maps, cartography, human geography, and much more. The group facilitates MapChats (informal geography seminars), workshops, and a weekly digest of geography-related events on campus.

**Walk the Talk (WTT)**
*Currently inactive*
Walk the Talk (WTT) is a conduit for implementing creative solutions for environmental problems within the F&ES community. WTT strives to make being a responsible steward and sustainability leader on campus easy, affordable, and second nature. Past and current campaigns to implement sustainable practices include, but are not limited to: reducing use of disposable food containers; composting in Kroon Hall; and eliminating bottled water at F&ES.

**Western Resources SIG (Westies)**
Connecting F&ES with Western Issues, Western Careers, and Good Ol’ Western Fun, the Westies student interest group at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies promotes awareness of environmental issues important to the Western United States. Westies supports a student community committed to the West through professional networking opportunities and social events that keep the Western spirit alive at Yale. We also promote Western courses, faculty, case studies, and training. Westies members explore creative solutions to Western challenges and take advantage of the unique opportunities present in the region. The group organizes events for the Yale and F&ES community which address important western resources-related topics including: land and water conservation; ecosystem management; water rights and consumption; outdoor recreation; mining and resource extraction; forest restoration and fire management; wildlife habitat impacts and restoration; green development and western urbanism; climate change adaptation and mitigation; renewable-energy infrastructure; public lands management; conflicts surrounding environmental regulations and statutes; rural economies & working lands

**Yale Environmental Law Association (YELA)**
The F&ES chapter of the Yale Environmental Law Association (YELA-F&ES) is a hub for students interested in all aspects of environmental law and policy. YELA places special emphasis on the interdisciplinary, multifaceted character of environmental law and its relevance to a wide range of legal and policy issues. YELA-F&ES hosts conversations with academic and professional experts, provides pedagogical and professional resources to students, and enriches the school calendar with community events, speakers, and opportunities to connect and collaborate with other campus groups. As one of its primary functions, YELA-F&ES joins the Yale Law School chapter to design, host, and run the New Directions in Environmental Law Conference (NDEL), which is held alternately at F&ES and at YLS each spring. Through the annual conference, a reading group, and other activities, YELA helps grow and develop the field of environmental law by more successfully integrating science and policy studies with a sustained partnership between the School of Forestry and Law School communities.

**Yale Environmental Women (YEW)**
Yale Environmental Women (YEW) is a group that explores the roles that women play in the environmental movement. The group strives to provide an open forum for all genders to bring
forth points for discussion. YEW sponsors events to give women the information and skills they need to be effective environmental leaders while also creating a female friendly forum where any women's issues can be addressed.
The 2017 Summer Program in Technical Skills “MODs”

Introduction

MODS (short for modules) are a central part of the FES student experience. MODS take place during three weeks in August and are mandatory for all masters students at FES. For only the second year, all incoming doctoral students will be required to participate in one week of MODS, *August 14 – 17*. We have included doctoral students in MODS because of overwhelming feedback from current doctoral students that participation in MODS is central to their experience and community building at FES.

MODs impart field knowledge and problem solving techniques considered indispensable to students intending careers in environmental science, management, and policy.

FES doctoral students are required to participate in ONLY week two of MODs at the Great Mountain Forest.

MODs has three goals:

1. Introduce basic systems analysis techniques, the foundation for all environmental science, management, and policy, using three local ecosystems
2. Build FES community spirit
3. Introduce students to the landscape they will be living, studying, and working in for the next few years

MODs will introduce you to both the collection and analysis of field data and a systems thinking approach that applies to any environmental field. We do this in two settings: the urban environment of New Haven, and the forested landscape of Connecticut. For some, this will be new and help prepare you for courses you plan to take at FES; for others, this will be old hat – we will call on you to help your fellow MODsters who are new to field work. Even if you never plan to collect field data again, you will have a better understanding of the usefulness, challenges and limitations of ecosystem analysis.

Teamwork is critical to success in any endeavor, and MODs is the place where you first work in teams with your fellow students. This will prepare you for, and ease your transition into, the intensity of team work on class assignments and projects, and student-led activities at FES. Here are a few quotes from prior MODsters:

There are three interrelated MODs, each held in a different venue:
1. Urban Ecosystem Analysis takes place in New Haven
2. **Land Use and Spatial Analysis takes place at Great Mountain Forest in northwest Connecticut**
3. Ecosystem Measurement takes place at the Yale Myers Forest in northeast Connecticut

MODs 2 and 3 (Land Use and Spatial Analysis and Ecosystem Measurement) require students to be away from New Haven for 4 days in comfortable but rustic accommodations. Activities
within each MOD are for the most part conducted in the field. The two MODs that take place away from New Haven require that students bring sleeping bags; indoor accommodations are available, but those wishing to camp are encouraged to do so. Meals – including vegetarian options – are provided. Students who have specific medical or religious dietary restrictions must make these needs known to the School prior to their arrival so accommodations can be made. Many activities will take place outdoors despite inclement weather. Weather in Connecticut during August is typically hot and humid, but it can be rainy and cold, especially in the forest – the camps are not heated. So students should come prepared for all types of weather, and bring rain jackets and warm clothes.

Students will be expected to prepare for the following day’s field work with assigned readings. There will be evenings dedicated to instructional activities as well as opportunities for discussions, fun activities, and just ‘hanging out’ with new friends. The Teaching Assistants (TAs) are all FES students or recent graduates, who are very enthusiastic about meeting the new masters’ class. They are there to help you and answer your questions, not only about the MODS program, but about any aspect of life at FES.

Syllabus: Land Use and Spatial Analysis (MODs week 2)

Ultimately, all environmental work is place-based. Whether it is research, land management, education, policy, or innovative solutions to sustainability challenges, at some point all work for change must be done on the ground. An essential component of natural resource management and policy is an understanding of how the history of a place influences its trajectory, opening or constraining future options. Just as essential is an understanding of how landscapes and environmental issues are, or can be, represented spatially and graphically.

This MOD takes place at Great Mountain Forest, approximately 6,500 acres in the northwestern hills of Connecticut in the towns of Norfolk and Canaan. The history of Great Mountain Forest parallels that of the New England landscape, from Native American settlements, through European settlement, clearing for farming, and then regrowth to forest; thus making it the ideal classroom for studying changes in the landscape. With its long tradition of forest and wildlife management, it is recognized for its sustainable forest management practices and its protection of unique natural areas. The entire forest is now permanently protected under the auspices of the Great Mountain Forest Corporation, which is owned and managed by a tax exempt private operating foundation. This was made possible by the sale of the development rights in 2003 to the USDA Forest Service’s Forest Legacy Program using federal and state funds.

The goals of this module are twofold:

- To provide a basic understanding of how to interpret landscapes, taking into consideration land use history, land management, ecological conditions, and geological features, and how they have combined to shape the land and ecosystems today. We will use the Great Mountain Forest, one of the largest intact northern hardwood forests in the region, as our classroom – as a remarkable case study in conservation and land use change.
To introduce the fundamentals of navigation, surveying, and map making, leading to an understanding of how to interpret various representations of spatial information. These fundamentals are central to mastering the principles of GIS, remote sensing, and the digital representation of all spatial data. Understanding how maps are made, used, and interpreted is important for all natural resources professionals, from field researchers to policy-makers.

We will cover:

- History of the Great Mountain Forest as a case study of land use change as well as conservation challenges and achievements.
- Reading the landscape – understanding how land use and management have shaped the landscape today.
- The principles of navigation, mapping and orienteering, including use and interpretation of maps and cartographic data both in the field and classroom.

We have designed this MOD to emphasize field exercises over classroom training. Each exercise begins with a brief lecture to outline learning objectives and review the fundamental skill involved. Many of the concepts covered during the week are best understood by doing them, so we stress hands-on exercises. Moreover, many of your peers have a good deal of experience with some of this MOD’s material and are often the best tutors we have. Consequently, the exercises emphasize teamwork and student interaction.

During your stay at Great Mountain, we will provide you with as many opportunities as possible for you to get to know each other, and to get to know about the School, its history, and its resources.

You will be staying at the Yale Camp, located in the middle of the forest, which was donated to Yale University by the Childs Family in the 1940s. There is a lodge with a dining room, classroom, living room and bunkrooms, sleeping cabins, restrooms, and kitchen, all comfortably rustic. You must bring a sleeping bag – there are beds, but no sheets, pillows or blankets. You are welcome to bring your tent and camp in the adjacent fields. All meals will be provided.
What You Will Need for MODs:

Required for Great Mountain:

- **Boots** – work boots, hiking boots, or sturdy-soled running shoes. This is a necessity – you will be bushwacking (i.e. walking through the woods off-trail)

- **Poncho/Rain gear** – both rain jacket and rain pants – field work will continue even if it rains (within reason)

- **Long pants** – you will be bushwhacking through the woods

- **Warm clothing** (wool or fleece jacket), long pants, and warm socks – nights can be cold even in the summer months

- **Toiletries**

- **Towels** for the shower and swimming

- **Sleeping bag** (we have a few of these that can be borrowed for use during MODs by students who may not have or be able to bring them from home.) Both camps have bunkhouses/cabins with beds, but no sheets, pillows or blankets

- If want to bring a **tent**, you are welcome to camp out in the fields at Great Mountain

- **Flashlight or headlamp** and spare batteries (essential)

- **Insect repellent** – insects can make it difficult to carry out assignments. "Cutters" or "Deep Woods Off" are in favor. Please use a cream, pump, or rub-on style rather than aerosol (which should be avoided given inhalation risks by you and nearby students when you apply it)

- **Small backpack, belt pack, or day pack**, to carry your lunch, measuring instruments, and other small items, into the field

- **Water bottle (re-useable)**

- **Pencils and a good field notebook or a clipboard**
Recommended for both **Great Mountain Forest** and Yale Myers:

In addition to your regular clothing, footwear, personal items, etc. that you will pack, here is a short list of items you’ll need that you might not have thought about:

- Bathing suit and towel (there are swimming places at both Yale Myers and Great Mountain)
- Shower shoes
- Pillow
- Musical instruments, if you play
- Camera
- Binoculars
- Softball mitt (for the annual Great Mountain game)

**At all MODs, Be Prepared For:**

Poison ivy, ticks, and yellow jacket stings. If you are allergic prepare with proper medications and let your TAs know! We will do a safety orientation at each MOD so don’t be concerned if you are not familiar with these local pests, we’ll make sure you are prepared.

**The School Supplies You With:**

- All field supplies (except notebooks and pencils), transportation to the field, and loan of plant identification guides
- **Meals at the Land Measurement and Mapping MOD (Great Mountain) and the Ecosystem**
- Measurement MOD (Yale-Myers)
- Snacks and morning coffee at the Urban MOD
YALE SCHOOL OF FORESTRY AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES
MODs MEDICAL FORM

Please return to Student Services Office by July 1, 2017.

NAME:

Person to notify in case of emergency:

Name:

Address:

Telephone (day and night):

Relation to you:

Please answer the following questions:

Check off your current physical condition:  poor    fair    good
                                           very good

List any food allergies that you have:

Check all dietary restrictions that apply:
• Vegetarian
• Vegan
• Pescetarian
• Lactose intolerant
• Gluten free
• Other _____________________

Please list any allergies you have (e.g. Penicillin, bee stings, etc):

Are you taking any regular medication?  Yes  No

If yes, please specify (list drugs used and purpose):

Date of last Tetanus shot:

What is your swimming ability?  poor    fair    good
                                           very good

Please list any physical handicaps that we should be aware of (e.g. heart condition):

Please list any recent illnesses: