

CANTERBURY SCHOOL OF FORESTRY

Four flying high

Four undergraduates of the School finished their B.For.Sc. degrees with flying colours. John-Pascal Berrill, Bert Borger, Glen Kelly and Jared Wayman all achieved First Class Honours in their examinations. Bert Borger was awarded a University Prize and the Schlich Memorial Prize for his outstanding results, with A- in all seven Final Year Courses! Congratulations to all graduates. A full list of titles and abstracts for last year's Final Year Dissertations, covering topics as diverse as Silver beech population dynamics, incidence of resin pockets, the Forest Stewardship Council, treatments for erosion control, use of cannabis by forestry workers, and the service provided by building supply outlets to furniture and joinery manufacturers, can be found on our web site (<http://www.fore.canterbury.ac.nz>).

It is well known that changes in the number of undergraduate students reflect the fluctuations in the health of the forestry industry, but it seems no one has told that to the students recently! Projected numbers for the coming academic year are: Year 4 - 50; Year 3 - 33; Year 2 - 41. Numbers of First Year students will not be known until after enrolment is complete.

Visitors include Dr. Mary-Beth Adams and Dr. Robert Douglas. Dr. Adams is Project Leader of a sustainable forest ecosystem research unit with the USDA, based in West Virginia. She will be investigating sustainable forest management in New Zealand, as well as working with Landcare and Forest Research personnel on long-term catchment studies and long-term effects of forest management on soils. Dr. Douglas is from the Department of Forestry Engineering at the University of New Brunswick, Canada, and will be lecturing on forest roading and transportation during March and April. Dr. Douglas will also organise a workshop for industry personnel on the topic of forestry transportation research.

Ron O'Reilly

LINCOLN UNIVERSITY

Asian links extending

Two Chinese visitors, Professor Jiang Zhilin and Professor She Guanghui, from Nanjing Forestry University recently spent two weeks visiting Lincoln University and touring the South Island on a trip sponsored by Asia 2000. The purpose of the visit was to explore avenues for student and staff exchange and research collaboration. Dr Hugh Bigsby and Dr Don Mead will make a reciprocal visit to Nanjing University this coming October.

Asia 2000 also provided funding for a graduate student, Kate Ranford, to spend 6 weeks at the Universiti Putra Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur. She is carrying out research on development of rubberwood furniture industry. Kate's visit is part of an ongoing programme of developing international

linkages that will provide research opportunities in New Zealand's major forest products markets.

Graduate student activity is also happening closer to home. Alison Evans, has been undertaking PhD research which is looking at the potential impact of sustainable beech (*Nothofagus spp*) harvest on litter-dwelling invertebrates and decomposition. Alison's research, funded by Forest Research (Rotorua), Timberlands West Coast, and Robert Bruce Trust, has led to a paper at the International Congress of Ecology in Florence where she presented a paper entitled: "Diversity as a measure of sustainability in New Zealand's indigenous forests".

Hugh Bigsby

WAIARIKI INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Campuses join new faculty

The Forest Technology Campus (FTC) and Timber Technology Campus (TITC) of Waiariki Institute of Technology in Rotorua have become part of a larger new faculty, the Faculty of Forestry and Technology.

The two previous training centres (FTC and TITC), were part of the Forest Service until the mid-1980s, and have formed Waiariki's Faculty of Forestry for the past four years. After his appointment last year, Chief Executive of Waiariki, Dr Peter Rutland, restructured the Institute to focus on the Institute's mainstream disciplines: forestry and wood processing, tourism, and Maori studies.

The new Faculty of Forestry and Technology will include the existing programmes in forest management and harvesting, and in solid wood processing (sawmilling, timber machining, sawdoctoring, wood drying, timber grading, and remanufacturing). The additional programmes include applied

science (Year 1 of Massey University's B Appl Sc), mechanical and automotive engineering, environmental science, and horticulture.

"We will be capitalising on the opportunities for synergy among the programmes in the new Faculty of Forestry and Technology", said the Dean of the new faculty, Dr Margriet Theron. "Examples are horticulture and forest nursery management, environmental science and sustainable forest management, and mechanical engineering and the programmes offered in the training sawmill at TITC."

There will be two Schools within the faculty. Gordon Acres has been appointed as Head of School, Forestry and Applied Science; and Bill Dalzell as Head of School, Engineering and Technology.

Dr Margriet Theron