

### Exploring business opportunities

In November 2000, Hugh Bigsby and three graduate students travelled to British Columbia and Alberta in Canada for three weeks as part of a graduate course in wood products market development. The students spent the previous term researching changes in markets, products and technology to develop a plan for businesses to visit on the tour. During the trip we visited Government offices, forestry consultants and a range of wood processing mills. The end product of the paper was the development of a proposal for a new business opportunity for a New Zealand company.

Students are once again gearing up for the academic year. Part of the education process is work and project experience to ensure that students have as wide as possible experience in the industry before graduating. We would like employers or anyone with small projects you have not had time to tackle to consider taking on a student. Please contact us if you have any questions (Hugh Bigsby - [bigsbyh@lincoln.ac.nz](mailto:bigsbyh@lincoln.ac.nz) or (03) 325-2811).



Lincoln students at a Riverside Forest Products logging operation in Armstrong, B.C.

WAIARIKI INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

### Waiariki Forestry graduates prove "work ready"

A group of eight students who completed the National Diploma in Forestry (Forest Management) at Waiariki Institute of Technology in Rotorua last year are employed collecting data from central North Island forests.

Don Hammond, managing director of Hammond Resource Management Limited in Rotorua, assisted his partner business, Data Collection Services in the hiring of the students.

Don says the Diploma students from Waiariki were an attractive proposition, because they had completed unit standards in the area of data collection.

"That means that aside from a couple of days orientation, these Diploma students were able to hit the ground running, and be productive from day one. Generally,

we've been really pleased with these Waiariki students."

Waiariki is the leading provider nationwide of the National Diploma in Forestry (Forest Management), a two and a half year qualification that equips students for employment in the planning and management of commercial plantation forests.

The qualification has been developed by Forest Industries Training in consultation with industry, based on the identified skill requirements of the industry. As a result the students are recognised as being well trained and able to quickly slot into the workplace.

Don Hammond says a key benefit of employment for the Waiariki Diploma students is the opportunity to see a range of different operations in different forests, during their early years of working in forestry.

"They'll get to see different operations in lots of different forests, and will see how different companies work."

Don Hammond, Visting the Faculty of Forestry at UBC says forestry remains a marvellous career choice for young people, particularly those with an aptitude for maths, the sciences and computers, wanting to be part of an environmentally sound and growing business.

"However, the employment openings in forestry are increasingly with smaller companies, involved in key supplier groupings. So students wanting to make a career in forestry need traits of creativity and reliability, along with good academic aptitude, if they are to do well in the new commercial environment," said Don Hammond.



Don Hammond

SCHOOL OF FORESTRY

### Professor to provide international view

Professor Karl-Reinhard Volz from the University of Freiburg, Germany has accepted an invitation from the School of Forestry as a visiting lecturer during his sabbatical. Prof Volz is the director of the Institute of Forest Policy at Freiburg University and specialises in the social and political aspects of forestry. He will give lectures on international forest policy issues to both undergraduate and graduate students. He is currently undertaking research on the influence governments have on the private forest sector. Prof. Volz holds degrees from the universities of Munich, Goettingen and Freiburg and previously had professional experience in state forestry administration. At present he has consultancy work with certain Eastern European countries and is very involved in the complex process of the formulation of a National Forest Programme (NFP) for Germany.

Dr Steven M. Olson from Calgary, Alberta, Canada