

New appointment at School of Forestry Tara Murray

Bruce Manley

Dr Tara Murray joined the School of Forestry in 2012. She is a graduate of Otago University where she received a BSc (Hons) in Zoology and Ecology in 2001. It is here she began her entomological research with an investigation into the diversity of native weevils and plant-weevil interactions in a tussock grassland community.

Before her postgraduate studies, Tara worked for the New Zealand Crown Research Institute, AgResearch Ltd. Here she assessed the distribution and non-target attack on native alpine grassland weevils by a parasitoid introduced to control the nodding thistle pest *Rhinocyllus conicus*. At this time she was also involved in the collection, sorting, counting and identification of thousands of arthropods. This was part of a collaborative study on the effects of fire on arthropod diversity in native tussock grasslands where fire is used as a pastoral management tool.

Tara studied methods and principles of biological control with parasitoid wasps for her Master of Science in 2005 at the University of Massachusetts, where she worked with native and introduced pierid butterflies and introduced larval parasitoids. Returning to New Zealand, she completed her PhD in 2009 at the Crown Research Institute Scion through Lincoln University. Here she studied the influence of physiological and behavioural characteristics of egg parasitoids on host specificity, testing outcomes and the biological control

of New Zealand's worst eucalypt pest *Paropsis charybdis*.

She then joined the Hawkesbury Institute for the Environment at the University of Western Sydney as a postdoctoral fellow studying the effects of climate change factors, such as carbon dioxide and temperature on the development and diversity of arthropods on woodland and plantation eucalypts. As an ecologist, she also has considerable interest in working with native New Zealand birds, frogs and fungi.

At the School of Forestry Tara is teaching in the areas of indigenous forest biology, forest health – primarily invertebrates and fungi, forest biosecurity and pest management. She is also teaching a broader biosecurity course covering a variety of native and production systems in conjunction with biological sciences. Her research includes assessing the effects and biological control of invasive plantation pests as well as a broader ecological interest in native invertebrates, fungi and other organisms in indigenous forests and grasslands.

Bruce Manley is Head of School, New Zealand School of Forestry, University of Canterbury.



Chair of Forestry, Waiariki Institute of Technology

In October 2012, the Waiariki Institute welcomed Professor Glen Murphy as their new Chair of Forestry in the School of Forestry and Primary Industries. With over 25 years in both the forestry industry and higher education, Dr Murphy brings his significant knowledge and experience. He will provide professional leadership in the area of research and the provision of quality teaching across various courses.

He earned a Bachelor of Science (Forestry) from the Australian National University in 1974 and a PhD in forest engineering from Oregon State University in 1987. For much of the time between 1974 and 2001 he worked for the Forest Research Institute in Rotorua. However, during this period he also worked as an exchange scientist with Weyerhaeuser Company in Oregon, as a forest industry consultant in New Zealand and overseas, and as a professor in New Zealand.

In 2001, Dr Murphy took up a professorial position at Oregon State University, a leading institution in the study of forestry, where he taught classes and undertook

research in production economics, planning and control of forest operations. In 2008, he was appointed as the Stewart Professor in Forest Engineering.

Although he greatly valued his time in Oregon, he was keen to join the School of Forestry and Primary Industries at Waiariki. The 11 years he spent with Oregon State University were productive and fulfilling, but he felt it was time to return to New Zealand where he can re-establish links with New Zealand's forest industry.

With over 150 scientific publications and reports and a book targeted at small forest woodlot owners, Dr Murphy possesses a notable presence in the community. He has been an invited speaker, trainer and consultant for forestry on five continents and has led three international teams which include the International Union of Forest Research Organisations – Working Group, International Energy Agency Bioenergy Project, and the FAO/Finland Consultation on Forest Harvest Training in Developing Countries.