Quarterly Cruise—College of Forestry (COF)
Spring 2017

What is the Quarterly Cruise?
The Quarterly Cruise is a newsletter distributed to future students and published once a term. It is designed to provide a sneak peak of life at Oregon State, with articles on people, projects, clubs, and events. We’re providing a window into our community to give future students an idea of who they’ll be rubbing elbows with if they enroll in a College of Forestry major.

View the past Quarterly Cruise newsletters

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Design & Writing
Brittany Cotry, Katie Burgher, Aleksa Wood
Coming Soon: New Forestry Building & TallWood Design Institute

The College of Forestry is getting a new building on the OSU Corvallis campus. Once completed, the state-of-the-art facility will provide current and future students with a transformative educational experience across a full range of degree programs. The former Peavy Hall is being replaced with expanded and innovative classrooms and laboratories, as well as new public spaces supporting student learning and continuing education programs.

The new forestry building is a part of the Oregon Forest Science Complex. A separate portion of the complex facilities will include the A.A. “Red” Emmerson Advanced Wood Products Laboratory (AWP Lab). The AWP Lab will house sophisticated manufacturing systems, a “high-bay” lab with a unique strong floor for full-scale product testing, and a “design” lab to support interdisciplinary education programs. The lab will serve as the home for the new TallWood Design Institute, a collaboration between the OSU College of Forestry, OSU College of Engineering, and the University of Oregon School of Architecture and Allied Arts to drive commercialization of new and innovative wood products in buildings.

The Oregon Forest Science Complex will open in the fall of 2018, and Peavy classrooms should be ready for use by January 2019. For more information, visit the Oregon Forest Science Complex website and watch a video about our new building!

Ettihad Cultural Center

Ettihad means unity—as a cultural resource center, it means a forum to unite students from various backgrounds in order to bond over things that bring us together.

The Ettihad Cultural Center (ECC) is home to a large population coming from central, southern and western Asia as well as northern Africa. This region contains lots of similarities and differences in culture, religion, and politics.

The ECC’s mission statement embodies the combined vision of hundreds of students who want to build a community based on their mutual commitment to unity and inclusion. Moreover, the ECC serves as a student resource not only culturally but also academically by mentoring international and domestic students.

The ECC does not affiliate with any particular religion; rather, they represent all belief systems embraced by these cultures.

For more information, visit the Ettihad Cultural Center website.
Understanding Human Impacts on the Environment

Specifically, Ashley studies spatial aspects of outdoor recreation by asking people to carry a GPS unit while they recreate. She then analyzes where they go and how long they spend at a location, and combines this data with information about the ecosystem. All of this enables her to better understand people’s interaction with the environment, and the impacts that occur. Ashley also creates models to help predict impacts and assist land managers in determining if they need to take action to reduce impacts or begin restoration.

For students interested in recreation ecology, Ashley recommends having a strong foundation in science and math, and a variety of social and environmental classes. Relevant classes that would be good for someone interested in recreation include ecology, chemistry, soil science, environmental science, geography, wildlife science, statistics, sociology, economics, conflict management, communication, and even history and anthropology to provide context. Each class that she teaches draws upon topics from other fields of research to help students better understand recreation management. A major in Recreation Resource Management, Tourism and Outdoor Leadership, or Natural Resources would prepare students for a career in recreation management.

Ashley also encourages students to spend time outside and enjoy the public lands, open space, and protected areas around them. Many research studies show that spending time in nature is great for physical and mental health.

Assistant Professor Ashley D’Antonio began her position in nature-based recreation management at Oregon State University in September of 2016. She studies the impacts that outdoor recreation has on the environment in parks and protected areas. Ashley is passionate about her research in the field of recreation ecology. She does research for the sake of knowledge and advancing her field of study, but also because it has implications for recreation management. This enables her to provide information and tools to land managers such as the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, and state parks.

Outdoor recreation always has an impact on the environment. Ashley’s research helps to better understand the relationship between recreation and the resulting impacts on the ecosystem. Her findings also inform management on the best methods for allowing recreation in a way that will not cause a level of disturbance that is unacceptable or threatens the future existence of recreational areas.

It should come as no surprise that Ashley enjoys spending time outdoors, both for work and for recreation. Some of her favorite activities include hiking, trail running, backpacking, and yoga. She is also a self-proclaimed sci-fi and fantasy nerd and loves knitting. In 2015 she was able to combine her passion for knitting and love of public lands by inspiring her knitting group to create a blanket of knitted squares, with a square for each National Park to celebrate the National Park Service’s Centennial in 2016 and raise funds for the National Park Foundation.

Before arriving at OSU, Ashley earned a bachelor’s degree from Pennsylvania State in Biology with a focus on Ecology and Wildlife and Fisheries Science. She went on to earn a master’s degree (2010) and a Ph.D. (2015) in the Human Dimensions of Ecosystem Science and Management from Utah State University, where she also completed postdoctoral research on teaching.

To learn more visit Ashley’s website.
Exploring fungi, culture, and language in Latin America

Krystal Lemhouse grew up in Junction City, just a thirty-five minute drive from the OSU Corvallis campus. She is studying Natural Resources with an option in Sustainable Agroforestry and a minor in Spanish. Although she does not yet know where she wants to take her career, she is positive that Natural Resources is the right major for her.

“It is a growing, flexible, and diverse field and I feel that fits me perfectly,” Krystal explains.

From a barefoot, wild child running among the flowers, to working on the family nursery and farm, the natural world has always been a big part of Krystal’s life. In high school, she balanced sports, student government, and volunteer and extracurricular activities. But none of these activities could compete for her attention when she had the chance to go hiking or just be in nature.

Over the summer of 2016, Krystal carved (and at times macheted) her own path of experiential education and research. First, she embarked on a faculty-led excursion to the remote reaches of the Peruvian Amazon.

Krystal and her peers explored the fungi that inhabit the tropical woods of this lush Amazonian playground through the research lens.

After her two-week, intensive Peruvian experience, Krystal decided that she was up for another couple of weeks, and chose to stay on as a volunteer with the research station. After her time in the heart of Peru, Krystal traveled north to join a six-week Spanish intensive summer course in Ecuador, led by Angela Palacios, an OSU Spanish instructor.

“The reason I went on the study abroad was to get out,” Krystal explains. “I wanted to learn through experience, and be scared, and be forced to learn and grow as a person. I wanted to experience the real world and get away from Corvallis and my life here and my phone and social media. I wanted something new and different, and to see if I could do it... I was looking for a real adventure that I could justify through getting credits. The result—that is exactly what I got and I could not be more satisfied.”

While she was abroad, Krystal was able to work in the local communities, experience the culture, and improve her Spanish. This experience really opened her eyes and pointed her in the direction that she wants to take in life.

“Eventually, I would like to go into the Peace Corps and work with plants and people to conserve, protect, and restore the forests in third world countries,” Krystal says. “I feel that I will be most fulfilled by working with those who use the forests as their livelihoods, where I could see I was actively making a difference.”

Today, Krystal is a member of the Delta Gamma sorority, and participates in any intramural that she can sign up for. She even coordinated a color run for two local charities last year, Krystal joined the Forestry Ambassador team in the spring of 2016. As an Ambassador, she represents the College of Forestry at a variety of different events, and works with future students, alumni, and industry partners.

“Oregon State has been quite the adventure so far,” Krystal shares. “I am so thankful for this opportunity as an Ambassador to grow and learn even more right beside my awesome team members.”

Learn more about studying abroad at OSU and read more international student stories.

For more information visit the Forestry Ambassador Program
Changing perceptions of what forestry means

There aren’t many logging sports events that he doesn’t compete in. He participates in the horizontal and vertical chop, single buck, stock saw, speed pole climbing, and axe throw. In 2013 he represented OSU at the STIHL Timbersports Collegiate series.

Brad has gained hands-on work experience as an intern with Hampton Affiliates in Salem, and he currently works on OSU’s Student Logging Training Program (SLTP). Brad thoroughly enjoys being involved in the SLTP, where he gets to “experience logging in a much safer environment that is purely education based.” He also enjoys the 14,000 acres of OSU College Research Forests, much of which are just minutes from the OSU Corvallis campus.

This summer Brad will be studying abroad in New Zealand at a research institute where he will work on Douglas Fir genetics and breeding trials. He explains that, “It’s a phenomenal opportunity to get to go to New Zealand and study what I am interested in, and to also experience the research company, Scion, that I will be working with.”

When asked what has surprised him about forestry since attending OSU, Brad mentions his views on clearcutting, which is a forestry practice where all of the trees in an area are cut down. Before attending OSU, he was really against clear-cuts. That is, until he learned more about clearcutting in his classes. Brad realized that clearcutting not as bad as he had once thought, and that the practice can actually be effective and sustainable if done correctly.

Once he graduates, Brad hopes to go into the private forestry sector, which would provide him with a similar experience to his internship with Hampton Affiliates. He wants to work on the more sustainable side of forestry, and in a family-based company so it will be more personal and he will have more freedom. Eventually, he wants to own a couple thousand acres that he can use as a demonstration forest to test out different management strategies.

“I’d like to leave a lasting imprint on the forestry field on how we manage timber and how the forestry field connects with the general public,” Brad shares.
Fun, Friends & Forestry: Join the OSU Logging Sports Team!

Oregon State’s Logging Sports Team, housed within the Forestry Club, is a part of the Association of Western Forestry Clubs (AWFC), which includes forestry clubs from colleges in Oregon, Washington, California, Montana, Arizona, Nevada, Colorado, Utah, and Idaho. These forestry clubs have the opportunity to compete against each other in logging sports competitions.

OSU’s Logging Sports Team usually attends three events per year, including one at the University of Montana in Missoula, MT. OSU hosts one AWFC meet every year in the OSU College Research Forests, just minutes from the OSU Corvallis campus. The OSU team also attends the annual AWFC Conclave, a week-long forestry competition connected to the Western Collegiate Logging Sports Championship. Conclave is hosted by a different school within the AWFC every year.

There are many different logging sports events that students can compete in. The axe throw is similar to throwing darts, but on a larger scale. Burling is known as the “log roll,” where two individuals try to roll each other off a floating log. Buck sawing is an event where participants must cut through a log in the shortest amount of time with a peg-and-raker crosscut saw. In the caber toss, women throw six-foot poles and men throw nine-foot poles. The choker race is an obstacle course where two people race each other and must correctly set the choker around a log at the end of the obstacle. A choker is a piece of equipment used in logging and is tied around logs to drag them up hills using a skyline.

The chopping events include vertical and horizontal chop, which can either be executed by speed or by the number of chops it takes to cut through the log. With limber pole, a thin tree is suspended over water and the contestant must get out as far as they can before falling. Climbing events are speed-based, where the contestant must climb the pole as fast as they can to a designated height. Obstacle pole is a race between two people who must balance across a log while carrying a chainsaw and make a cut at the end. Technical events include plant and wood identification, timber cruising, and a traverse course.

Jake Putney, former Forestry Club president, enjoys the obstacle pole because of the technicality and skill that it requires. Jake earned his bachelor’s degree in Forest Management in the spring of 2016, and is currently working towards a master’s degree in Sustainable Forest Management at Oregon State. He spent two years competing on OSU’s Logging Sports Team.

“The Forestry Club helped me make a lot of friends within the College of Forestry,” Jake declares. “It is a great way to get a lot of exposure to the profession outside of the college.”

As long as you have an OSU ID you can join the Logging Sports Team, regardless of your major. Practices are scheduled every term and are held at the George W. Brown Logging Sports Arena at the Peavy Arboretum. For more information visit the OSU Logging Sports Team website.
Photo Credits
The cover photos featured in this newsletter are student photography from the Photo of the Week contest for College of Forestry undergraduate and graduate students, sponsored by the Student Services Office.

Front Cover Photo: Northern Pintail
By Jeremy Lee, Natural Resources

Page 2 /Header Photo: Jackson Lake in Grand Teton National Park
By Kylie Brooks, Natural Resources

Back Cover Photo: Mt. Rainier Shooting Star
Chase Berg, Forest Engineering/Civil Engineering