
AUBURN UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE SCIENCES



ADVISORY COUNCIL
2019 ANNUAL REPORT

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



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Dear members,

With the continued support of the Advisory Council, including participation of new members hailing from emerging sectors of industry and government, the School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences is poised to open a new chapter in its history. Building upon its core curricula and research platforms, the School has undergone many changes that have ushered a period of growth and expansion that is anticipated to continue into the next decade.

New undergraduate degrees and the School's new distance education platform, including an online non-thesis master's degree and professional certification, have increased undergraduate and graduate student enrollment nearly 50 percent. The School's research program also continues to be a major strength and source of national and international renown.

With the retirement of several key faculty including Brenda Allen, James Armstrong, Art Chappelka, and Larry Teeter; we have filled these vacancies and expanded our ranks with the hiring of new faculty members, Richard Cristan, Kelly Dunning, Todd Franks, Lana Narine, Yucheng Peng, and Jana Willoughby, who will bring their vast knowledge, skills, and diverse experience to expand the School's academic, research, and outreach programs.

Finally, the implementation of the School's new 2019-2024 Strategic Plan will guide us forward to become the "go-to place" for forestry, wildlife sciences, and natural resources programs in the U.S. Southeast and beyond. We thank you sincerely for your your efforts and welcome your feedback and guidance to help the School achieve its mission during the February 27 and 28 annual meeting. Please let us know if you have any questions or comments regarding the annual report.

With appreciation,


Janaki Alavalapati

HIGHLIGHTS

- Increased undergraduate and graduate student enrollment nearly 50%
- Successfully completed strategic hire of 6 new faculty members
- Completed 2019 – 2024 Strategic Plan
- Received State of Alabama funding allocation of \$890k for CLT research, outreach, and education
- Awarded \$3.7m in extramural funding
- Extensions programs yielded nearly \$16.5 million in economic impact
- First donation received toward the creation of the Boone & Crockett Club Professorship



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2019 ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS & RESPONSES

February 27 and 28, 2019

Increase exposure and instruction of students in the areas of operational backgrounds, cruising, procurement, taxes, finance, law and GIS/GPS digital mapping.

Operational backgrounds, cruising and procurement: The School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, or SFWS, curriculum within the Forestry degree offers many required and elective courses that explore these topics. There are 42 Society of American Forestry (SAF) accredited forestry programs. Only 4 programs include some sort of class addressing wood procurement, including Georgia, Virginia Tech, NC State, and Auburn University. At Auburn, we offer several elective classes that address the wood procurement systems found in the Southeast, including a procurement methods class that teaches about the wood procurement systems and the theory and methods used to supply a wood consuming facility with raw material. There is also a wood procurement practicum where foresters from the industry spend 2.5 days with students at the Solon Dixon Forestry Education Center where they orientate students to the processes involved in buying, trading and selling timber. They are exposed to bid sales (i.e., cruising techniques and merchandising), negotiating, the role of the logger, supplier and consulting forester, and how mills keep their operations running. During the practicum, they also have the opportunity to work for a forester where they will explore real-world scenarios of procurement, land management, and consulting processes, exploring issues they will likely encounter in their careers. Students interested in the procurement tract may elect to take this class twice within the forestry curriculum. Lastly, the Forestry in the Private Sector class hosts 5-7 speakers who address several procurement topics. Speaker topics include, supplying a pulp mill and sawmill, merchandising, logging practices, supplier challenges, the role of a consulting business, and several other related topics. In addition, some of the Advisory Council members have volunteered to serve as professional contacts and/or mentors, where they will allow students to job shadow their day-to-day activities. SFWS identifies interested students and pairs them with potential mentors.

Taxes, Finance, Forestry Law: There are both required and restricted elective courses available within the forestry curriculum that address these topics. In addition to the availability of courses, the School's forestry faculty have conducted a curriculum mapping exercise to identify gaps and opportunities within their lectures where this information could be better addressed. Courses where these topics are covered include the following required courses; FORY 5400 Forest Economics, FORY 5410 Forest Management and Administration, FOWS Natural Resource Policy, as well as various restricted electives. Students are expected to successfully complete some of the following courses; FOWS 5320 Environmental Services, FORY 4820 Forestry in the Private Sector, FORY 5620 Forest Finance and Investment, and NATR 5880 Ecological Economics.

2019 ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS & RESPONSES

Continued:

GIS, GPS, Digital Mapping: Within the forestry curriculum there are both required and elective courses that cover these topics. The first point of exposure is during summer practicum where students have access to GPS units and work with instructors in FORY 3050 Field Mensuration to obtain hands on, field and computer applications of digital mapping. After practicum, students are required to take FORY 3180 Forest Resource Sampling, FORY 4190 Forest Biometrics, and FORY 5470 GIS for Natural Resources. All three of these courses have some level of activity involving the use of GIS, GPS, and digital mapping. All this exposure comes to fruition during the FORY Capstone Course, FORY 4890, where students are expected to develop and present a management plan to a landowner. We have also recently hired a new faculty member who has a strong background in forestry, GIS, and remote sensing. She will be an integral part of the FORY and GSEI degree.

The Advisory Council voiced concerns regarding the Wildlife Enterprise Management degree, specifically related to enrollment, lack of “wildlife biologist certification,” competition with other wildlife degrees and capacity issues versus employment opportunities.

Enrollment: The School’s Offices of Communications and Marketing and Student Services have promoted the Wildlife Enterprise Management degree, or WLEM, in the same manner as the Geospatial and Environmental Informatics and Sustainable Biomaterials and Packaging degrees. News releases and feature stories were developed for all three programs, as well as marketing brochures for distribution to high schools and community colleges. However, there has been a surprising interest in the Wildlife Enterprise Management program, both from the media and students. This degree program, because of its uniqueness and attractiveness to students, has caused the School to consider a cap on enrollment as we are approaching the classroom limits in some of our partner units on campus (Hospitality and Business).

Competition with other wildlife degrees: Despite the significant interest in the WLEM degree, the Wildlife Ecology and Management degree, or WLDE, along with the Pre-vet Medicine Concentration degree are near capacity. We currently have 38 WLDE students enrolled for Summer Practicum 2020, one of the highest levels in 5 years.

2019 ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS & RESPONSES

Continued:

Not wildlife biologist certified: WLDE and WLEM are two distinct degrees with two different career paths. When faculty designed and constructed the courses within the WLEM degree, it was known that the WLEM degree would not be “Wildlife Biologist Certified” to allow the necessary training in hospitality and business that was desired by industry.

Capacity issues vs employment opportunities: Initial estimates of interest and capacity put enrollment at 30 students per class, 120 students maximum after 4 years. While not at capacity class-wise, the SFWS and Colleges of Human Sciences and Business can place GPA and enrollment caps if necessary. Employment opportunities are estimated to be good, however, 6 months into the program, we simply will not know until 2022 or 2023 when the first graduates begin to move into the market place. However, five WLEM students were sponsored by the Safari Club International convention, which indicates employers interest for these students.

The Advisory Council recommends that the School expand its sustainable biomaterials and packaging research to include fiber-based products and greater nanocellulose undergraduate research opportunities.

Research in materials other than corrugated fiber, i.e. plastics: Faculty that we now have expertise and experience in the following areas:

- A. Sustainable packaging, packaging manufacturing and innovation, polymer composites, biomaterials, porous structure materials.
- B. Nanotechnology, surface and interfacial chemistry particularly applied to biopolymers and nanocomposites,, with special focus on development of value-added products from bio-bas polymers.
- C. New product development, nano-composites, the effects of wood quality on wood composite performance, and bio-composites.

These faculty collaborate with a range of faculty, especially from engineering, across the campus to advance their research. Currently we do not have strong expertise to focus on plastics but we will keep that on our mind.

2019 ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS & RESPONSES

Continued:

Nanocellulose undergraduate research opportunities: The Sustainable Biomaterials and Packaging faculty are mentoring several undergraduate students in their research labs. Students have presented research posters, attended conferences and created a faculty-advised student club to promote the degree and to foster networking opportunities and experiential learning. In addition, we have added another faculty member to this program which will further increase undergraduate research opportunities.

The Advisory Council recommends that the School increase the Council's involvement with the Forest, Environment and Wildlife Leadership, or FEWL, Academy and allow more time for the Council members to engage with the students during the Council's annual meeting.

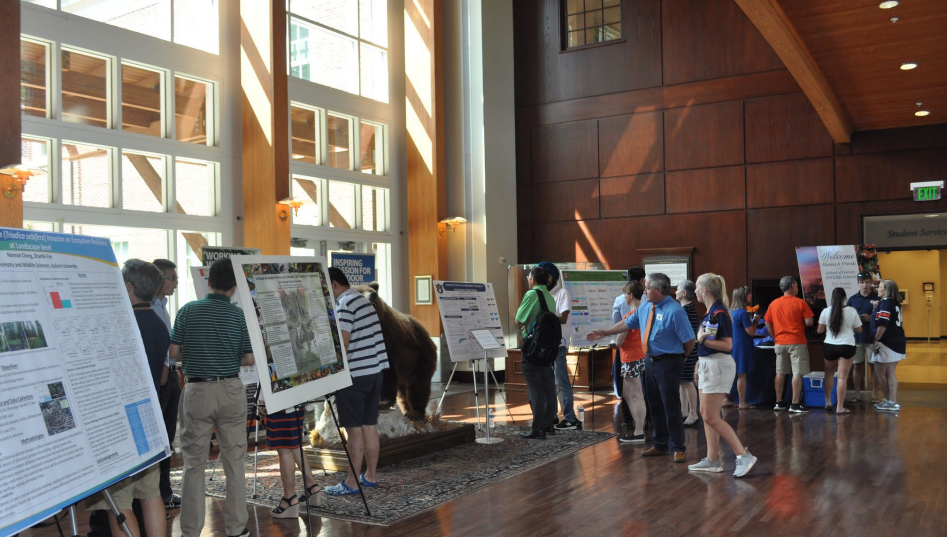
Advisory Council engagement with FEWL Academy: With the Leadership Academy in its second semester, we have reached out to Advisory Council members to include them in the course, lectures and visits as their schedule and interests allow.

Allow more time during the Advisory Council meeting to engage FEWL Academy members: Per the Council's recommendation, we have increased student engagement with the Council by one hour during the 2020 annual meeting.



ACADEMICS



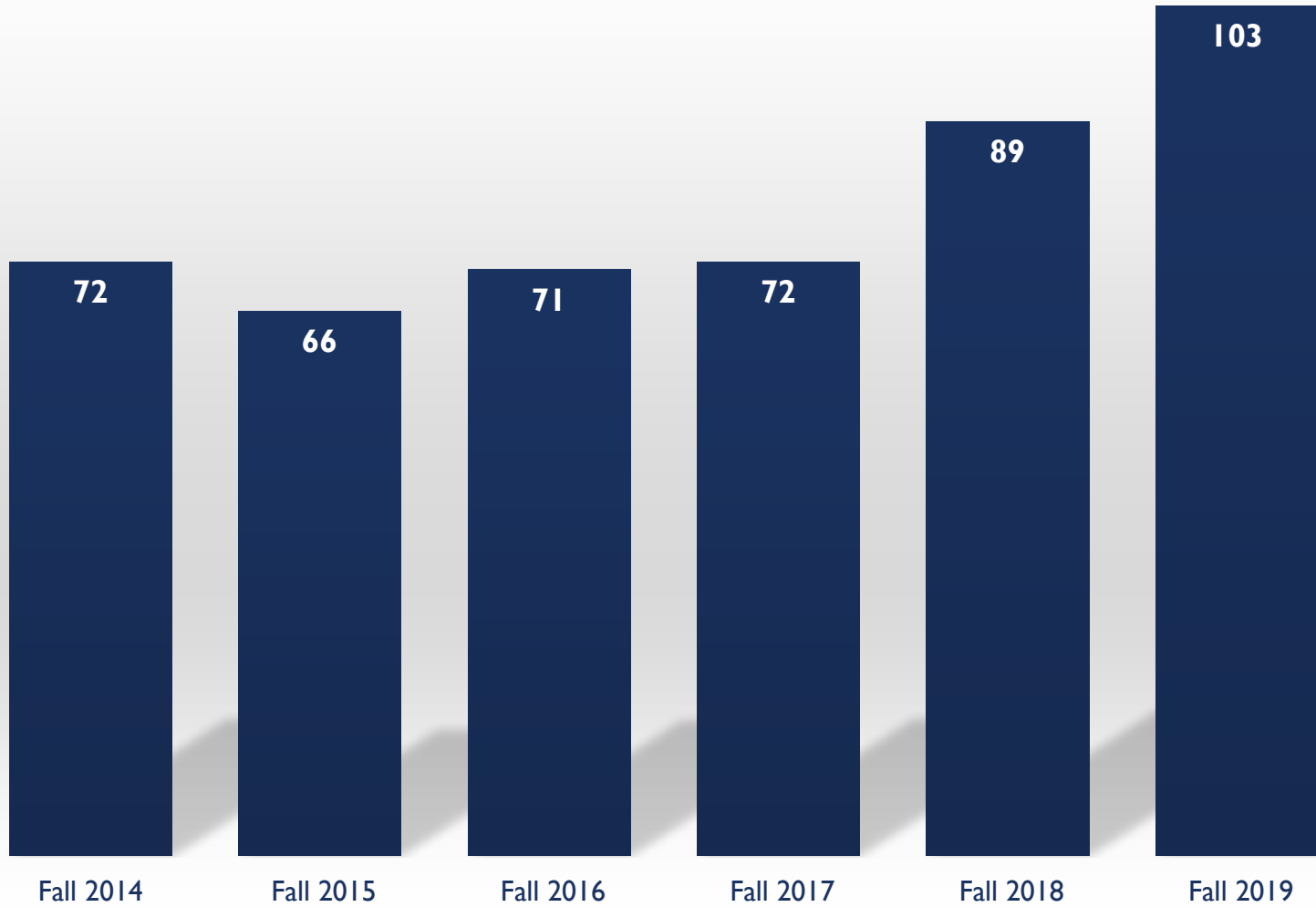


2019 ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

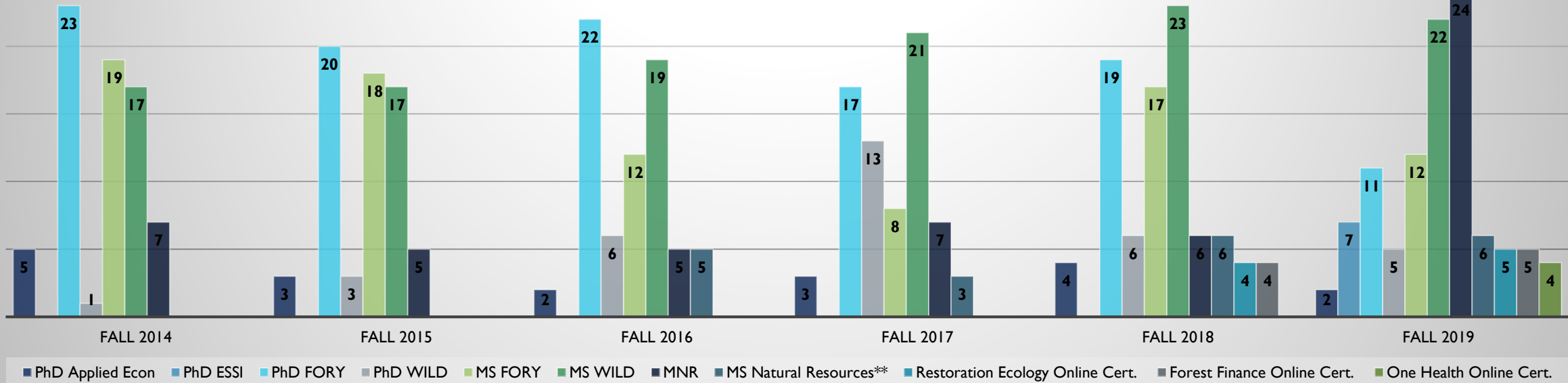
- Increased undergraduate enrollment 13% from 407 to 461 students, Fall 2018 to Fall 2019.
- Had 4 students enroll in the Path-2-Plains dual enrollment degree program with the Geospatial and Environmental Informatics degree for Fall 2019 from Southern Union Community College in Opelika.
- Students now moving through junior courses of GSEI degree.
- Students now moving through junior courses of BIOP degree.
- Completed First Destination Survey for SFWS students Graduation.
- Have graduation exam ready for students enrolled in UNIV 4AAO course.
- Increase in Quality of Assessment Scores for all degree programs and with faculty input, completed purposeful reflection on FORY and WLDE degrees.
- Started assessment for the graduate certificate programs.
- Completed the 4th Graduation Exam for FORY seniors and the Board of Registered Foresters with over 70% of forestry students passing the RF exam.
- FEWL Academy visits with Governor Kay Ivey and NGO Leaders in Montgomery, Spring 2019, and Leaders in Washington, D.C., Summer 2019.

Degree	Fall 2014	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Fall 2018	Fall 2019
Forestry	92	108	106	113	121	104
Wildlife Ecology	105	121	111	132	152	150
Wild Pre Vet	47	50	51	55	66	52
Natural Resources	45	50	52	56	52	43
Geospatial Informatics	-	-	-	4	14	20
Sustainable Biomaterials	-	-	-	-	2	10
Wildlife Enterprise	-	-	-	-	10	82
Total	289	329	319	361	407	461

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT ENROLLMENT



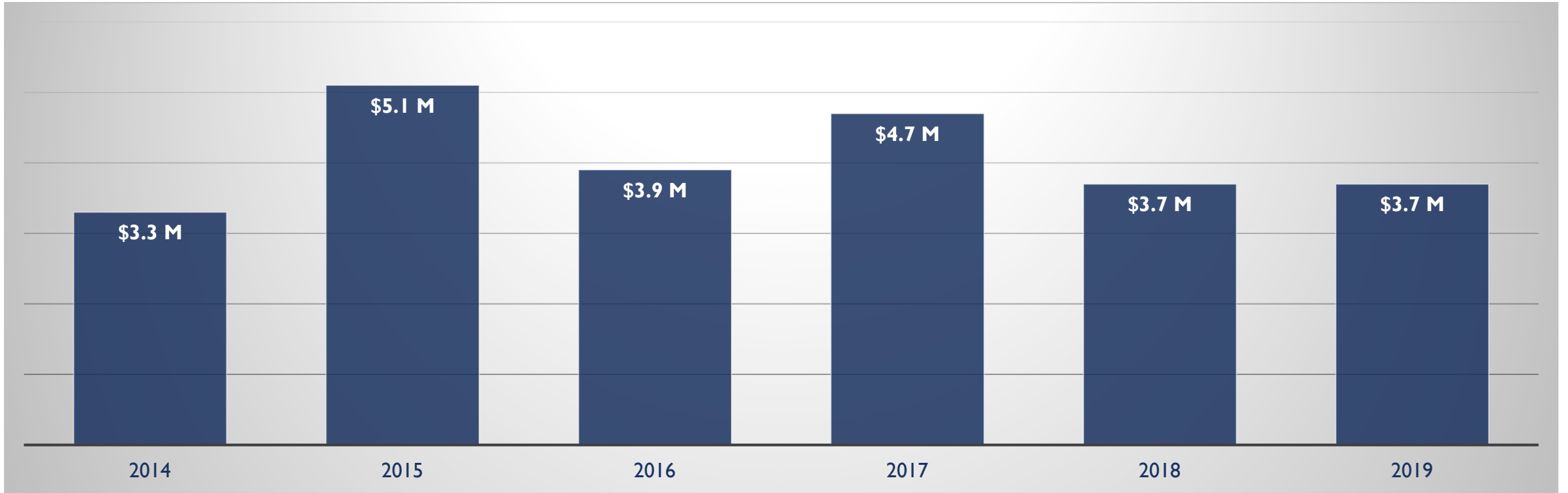
TOTAL GRADUATE STUDENT ENROLLMENT



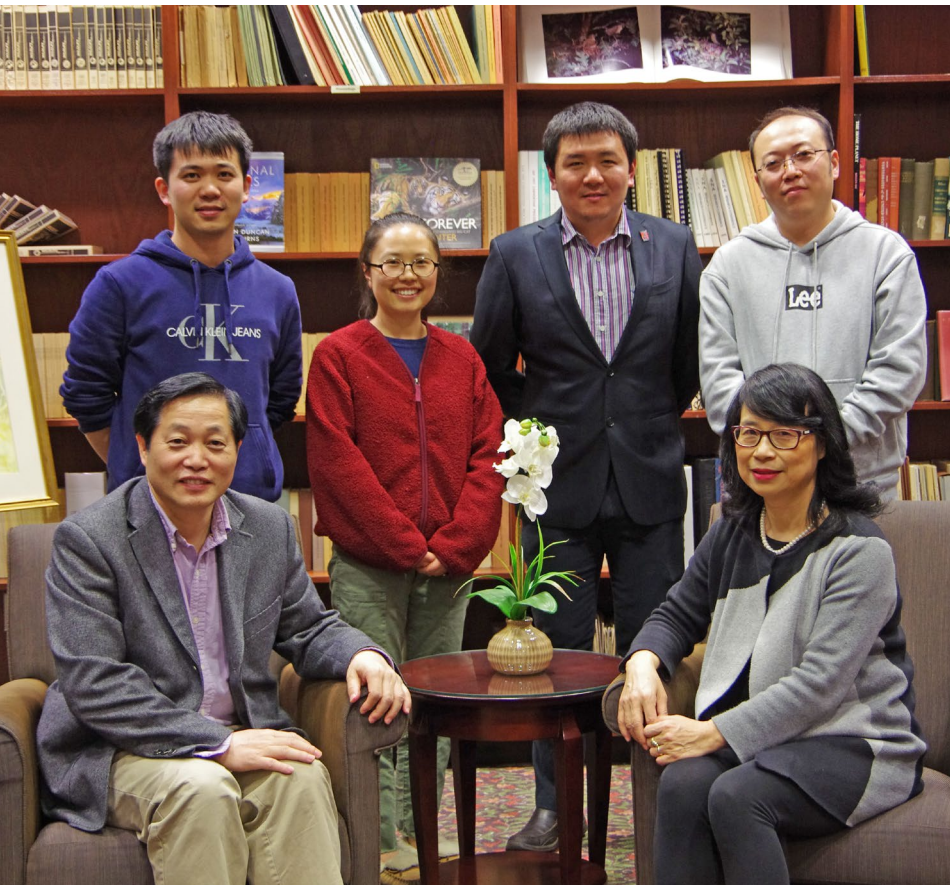
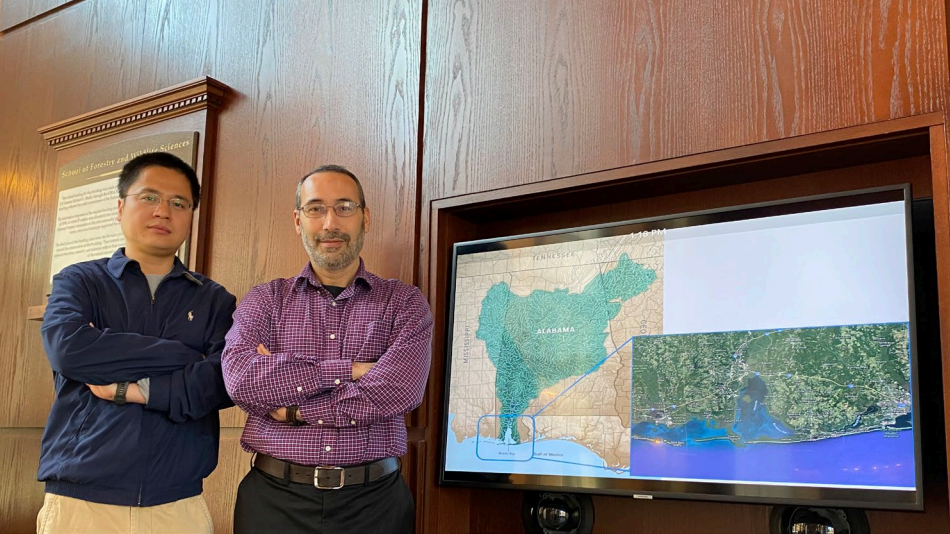
GRADUATE STUDENT ENROLLMENT



RESEARCH



2014 – 2019 EXTRAMURAL FUNDING



SIGNIFICANT GRANTS AWARDED IN 2019

- Dr. Latif Kalin was co-pi on a \$2.8 million grant from NOAA RESTORE Science Program to facilitate cooperative ecosystem management to build the resilience of oyster, blue crab and spotted seatrout to environmental change in the Gulf of Mexico.
- Dr. Shufen (Susan) Pan, is part of an Auburn University an interdisciplinary team recently awarded a \$3 million NSF grant to educate students on how to study climate change.
- Drs. Hanqin Tian and Shufen (Susan) Pan along with other researchers at AU and in China received a \$1 million grant, jointly funded by the NSF and the National Natural Science Foundation of China to conduct research on both the Mississippi River Basin and China's Yellow River Basin.
- Dr. Hanqin Tian has been named a 2019 Andrew Carnegie Fellow and will receive \$200,000 to support his research on how Asia can provide enough food for its citizens without detrimental effects on the environment.
- Dr. Mark Smith received a USDA-NRCS grant of \$450k to study the effect of feral pigs on water quality within several counties of southern AL. The effectiveness of eradication techniques will be assessed and outreach programs will educate local stakeholders regarding pig removal strategies.



EXTENSION



2019 PERSONNEL UPDATES

- Dr. Mathew Smidt accepted a position with the US Forest Service
- Dr. Jim Armstrong retired in July 2020
- Regional Agent Doug Fulghum joined the team as Set 3 Regional Agent. Doug comes to us from the Alabama Forestry Commission. Ryan Mitchell joined us as the Set 6 REA. He comes to us from the Longleaf Alliance. And Drew Metzler is now the Set 5 REA. Drew joins us from the Alabama Forestry Commission.
- Dr. Beau Brodbeck – Statewide Urban Forestry Specialist
- Jack Rowe – Now Alabama Extension’s Beekeeping program lead
- Dr. Richard Cristan joins us as a new Assistant Professor in Forest Operations and Professional Logging Management training.
- Wildlife Extension Specialist and Assistant Professor position – search is ongoing



Forestry, Wildlife & Natural Resources Management

State Extension

Dr. Becky Barlow
Extension Coordinator & Professor
Forest Management & Economics
office: 334.844.1019 cell: 334.329.0554
rjb0003@aces.edu
Appointment: 60%

Dr. Eve Brantley
Associate Professor &
Extension Specialist
Water Resources
office: 334.844.3927 cell: 334.740.4425
brantef@aces.edu
Appointment: 75%

Dr. Beau Brodbeck
State Community Forestry
Extension Specialist
cell: 251.259.6507
brodbam@aces.edu
Appointment: 100%

Kelly Knowles
Outreach Programs Administrator III
SFWS Extension
office: 334.844.1010
knowlkw@aces.edu
Appointment: 50%

Dr. Nancy Loewenstein,
Extension Specialist
Invasive Species
office: 334.844.1061 cell: 334.332.4610
loewenj@auburn.edu
Appointment: 90%

Dr. Adam Maggard
Extension Specialist &
Assistant Professor
Forestry Systems Management
office: 334.844.2401 cell: 352.999.0654
adm0074@aces.edu
Appointment: 75%

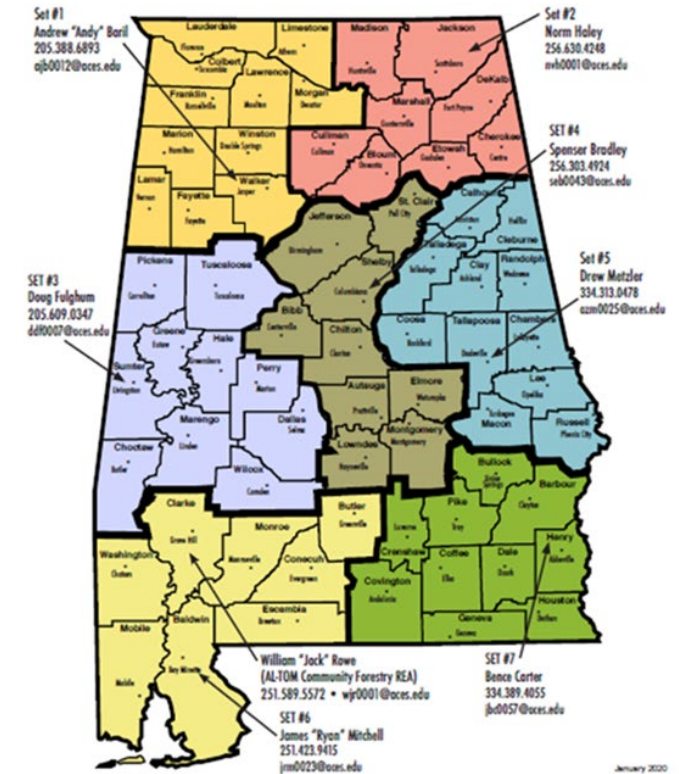
Dr. Mark Smith
Professor & Extension Specialist
Wildlife Management
office: 334.844.8099 cell: 334.332.4833
mrs0007@aces.edu
Appointment: 75%

Dr. Richard Cristan
Assistant Professor
& Extension Specialist
Forest Operations &
Professional Logging Manager Training
office: 334.844.1072 cell: 334.750.2259
email: rzc0067@aces.edu
Appointment: 75%

Vacant
Assistant Professor
& Extension Specialist
Wildlife Damage Management &
Human Dimension
Appointment: 76%

Regional Extension Agents

All REAs are 100% Extension



2019 TEAM PROJECTS AND IMPACTS



2019 Town Creek Invasive species removal
workday in Auburn, AL

Invasive Plant Identification and Control

Project Leader: Dr. Nancy Loewenstein

Impact: 2.5 million acres, adoption rate 96, Adult participants: 834 in 26 events, Youth participants: 243

Community Forestry

Project Leader: Dr. Beau Brodbeck and Jack Rowe

Impact: 60 continuing education hours, 4 new Certified Arborists in Alabama, Participants: 1,720

Wildlife Management: Enhancement and Damage

Project Leaders: Drs. Jim Armstrong and Mark Smith

Impact: Management Minute video segments for Outdoor Channel, field days, seminars, Participants: 3,713

2019 TEAM PROJECTS AND IMPACTS



2019 workshop participants learn how a portable sawmill can benefit land management and be a value-added business

Wild Pig Damage Management

Project Leaders: Dr. Mark Smith and Bence Carter
Impact: Landowner's Guide to Wild Pig Management, \$715,200 in damage reduction on over 141,848 acres. Participants: 298

Forest Business Resources

Project Leader: Dr. Adam Maggard
Impact: Workshops, field days and online classes. Over 353,000 forestland acres owned or managed by program participants. Estimated \$5.1 million in improved forestland value. Participants: 2,223 in 36 events

Family Forests: From the Backyard to the Back 40

Project Leader: Dr. Becky Barlow
Impact: Workshops, short-courses, Prescribed Fire video series. Participants: 3,275 in 68 events. ForestHER: Over 13,000 acres influenced. Estimated \$9.1 million in improved forestland value



OUTREACH





KREHER PRESERVE AND NATURE CENTER

HIGHLIGHTS

- Membership has increased over 50%
- Tiger Giving Day birding campaign exceeded goal by 200%
- City of Opelika join's the City of Auburn with annual support of \$10k for FY20
- With SFWS support, project initiated for classroom building, highlighting CLT construction
- Construction has begun of a pond pavilion
- Forest management action plan developed
- Woodland Wonders Nature Preschool initiated – first nature preschool in East Alabama





SOLON DIXON FORESTRY EDUCATION CENTER

HIGHLIGHTS:

40th Summer Practicum

- 60 students attended SFWS & ALA&M

Dixon Foundation Funding Projects

- Roofing for 6 buildings which completes roofing of all buildings at SDFEC over 6 years

Research Conducted

- AU, PSU, Clemson, Miss. State, South Alabama, Univ. of Chicago

Wildland Firefighter Apprentice Program – USFS

- Under negotiation in FY 2019 to return in FY 2020

Mitigation Banking

- Rejected by US Army Corps of Engineers

Storm Shelter Completed

Forest Management

- Over 1,000 acres burned
- 385 acres thinned & 91 clear-cut
- 126 acres reforested

FACULTY, STAFF AND STUDENT OUTREACH

Programs

- Touchdown for Trees, Michelle Cole
- Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources & Related Sciences (MANRRS), Junior Leadership Conference, Michelle Cole
- Alumni Diversity & Inclusion Workshop, Michelle Cole
- Plant Ahead, A Tree Planting Event, Drs. Becky Barlow and John Kush
- Graduate Student Research Symposium and Reception, Dr. Graeme Lockaby
- Fall & Spring Seminar Series, Dr. Lori Eckhardt, Faculty Coordinator
- Munford Middle School Field Day, AU Deer Lab, Dr. Steve Ditchkoff and graduate students
- Can Art Save the Plant, A Symposium on Art and Planetary Health, Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art, Dr. Sarah Zohdy
- Roundtable Discussion and Program, AFA Young Leaders Meeting, Dean Janaki Alavalapati, Dr. Nancy Loewenstein
- CLT Stakeholder Meeting, Dean Janaki Alavalapati, Drs. Adam Maggard, Soledad Peresin and Brian Via
- Wild Science Sci-Pubs, Wildlife Graduate Students, Sara Bolds and Kayleigh Chawlkowski

Service

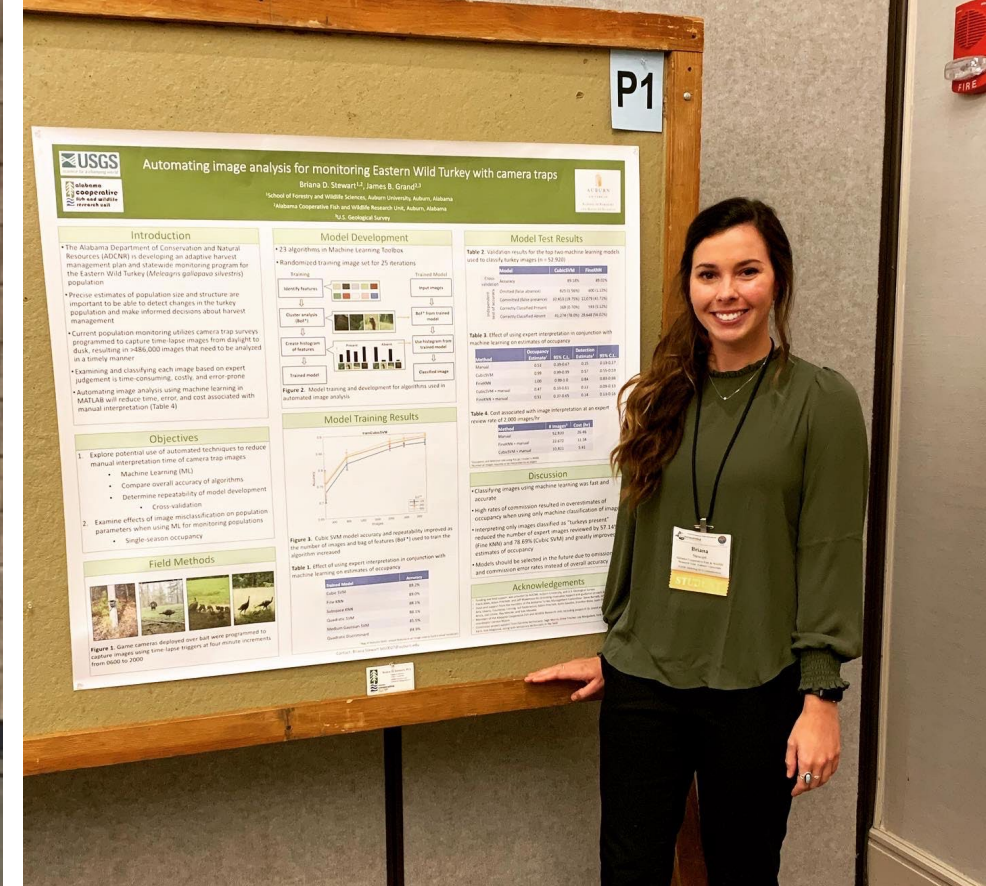
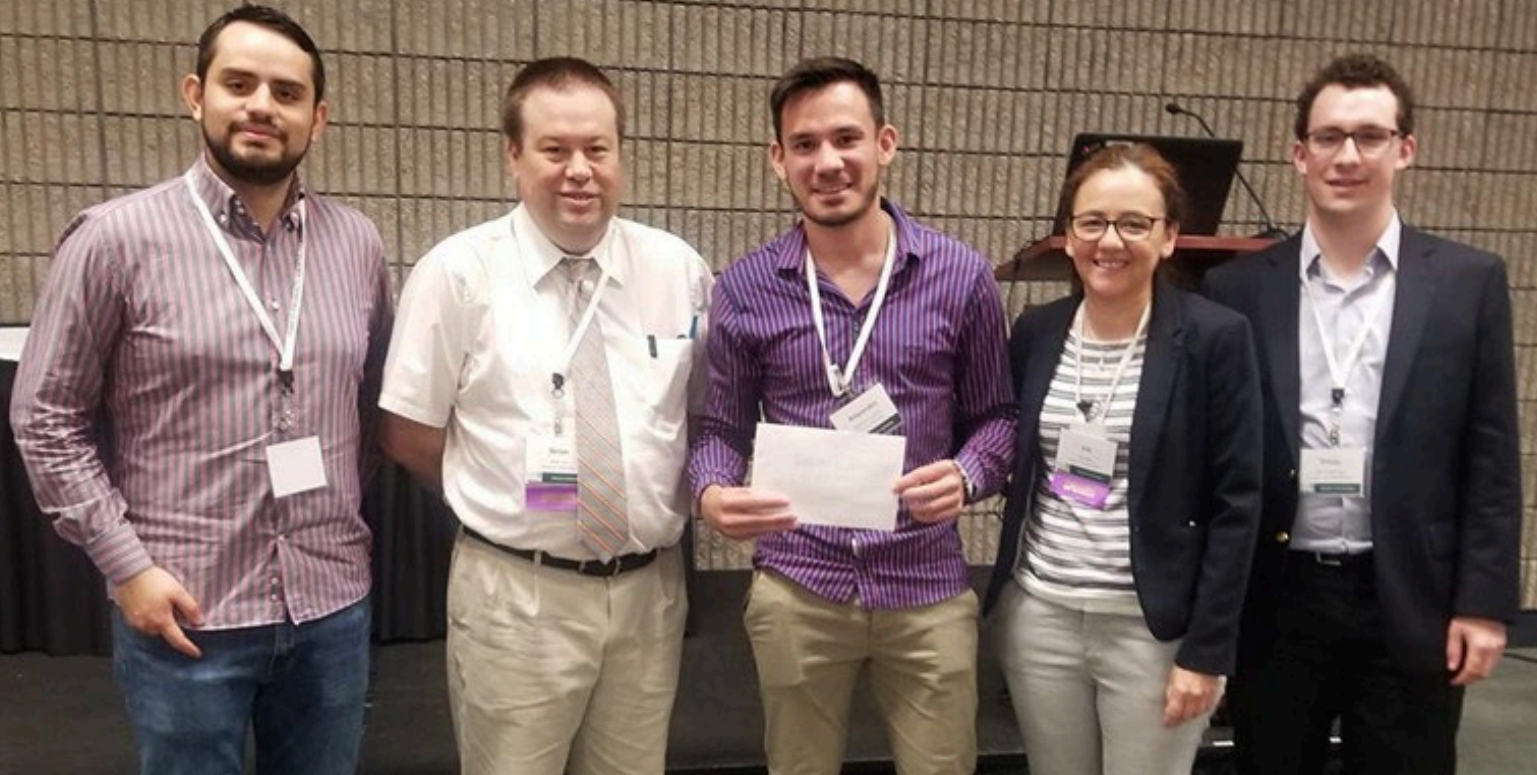
- Panelist, Forests and Climate Change Mitigation: The Role of Markets, Washington, D.C., Dean Janaki Alavalapati
- Presenter, EEECHO or Panelists, ADCNR CWD Public Information Meetings, Drs. Steve Ditchkoff and Will Gulsby
- Education, Economics, Environmental, Climate and Health Organization Community Outreach Program, Gulfport, MS., Dr. Chris Anderson

Service Cont.

- Member, Scientific Steering Committee of the Global Carbon Project, an international project affiliated with the World Climate Research Programme and Future Earth, Dr. Hanqin Tian
- Committee Member, Thriving Earth Exchange, Assessing Flood Risks for Community-Led Action, Dr. Chris Anderson
- Panelist, Auburn Talks, Dr. Sarah Zohdy
- Visiting Foresters, Boy Scouts of America's Philmont Scout Ranch, New Mexico, Drs. Ed and Nancy Loewenstein

Featured Experts

- How to Plant 20 Million Trees, International YouTube Tree Planting Campaign, Drs. Becky Barlow and John Kush
- BBC Earth Series Documentary on "Madagascar", Dr. Sarah Zohdy
- Deer & Deer Hunting, Drs. Steve Ditchkoff, Will Gulsby, and Sarah Zohdy
- National Geographic, Dr. Todd Steury
- Smithsonian Magazine, Drs. Chris Lepczyk and Sarah Zohdy
- National Parks Traveler, Dr. Todd Steury
- Science and the Sea, a production of The University of Texas Marine Science Institute on the Gulf of Mexico, Dr. Kelly Dunning
- This Morning with Zac Blackerby, Dr. Lori Eckhardt
- Auburn University Office of Communications & Marketing, Drs. Tom Gallagher, Will Gulsby, Chris Lepczyk, and Hanqin Tian
- Alabama Public Television Series, Spotlight on Agriculture, Drs. Janaki Alavalapati, Chris Anderson, Steve Ditchkoff, Scott Enebak, Tom Gallagher, Will Gulsby, Latif Kalin, Chris Lepczyk, Graeme Lockaby, Ed Loewenstein, Nancy Loewenstein, Adam Maggard, Joel Martin, Ryan Nadel, Wayde Morse, Soledad Peresin, Lisa Samuelson, Mark Smith, Todd Steury, Hanqin Tian, Brian Via, and Sarah Zohdy



FACULTY, STAFF AND STUDENT RECOGNITION



NEW FACULTY

In order as shown:

- Dr. Richard Cristan, Extension Specialist & Asst. Professor of Forest Operations
- Dr. Kelly Dunning, Asst. Professor of Conservation Governance
- Todd Franks, Professor of Practice & Program Coordinator
- Dr. Lana Narine, Asst. Professor of Geospatial Analytics
- Dr. Yucheng Peng, Asst. Professor of Sustainable Biomaterials & Packaging
- Dr. Janna Willoughby, Asst. Professor of Population & Conservation Genetics





NEW STAFF & RESEARCH PROFESSIONALS

- Tina Ciaramitaro, Tech III, Forestry
- Alex Doss, Development Coordinator
- Dr. Jeanne Fantle-Lepczyk, Research Faculty
- Dr. Brian Folt, Postdoctoral Fellow
- Dr. Abigail Lawson, Postdoctoral Fellow
- Donald Odom II, Tech II, Forestry
- Dr. Anna Tucker, Postdoctoral Fellow
- Dr. Rongting Xu, Postdoctoral Fellow
- Dr. Shaoyang Yang, Postdoctoral Fellow
- Steven Madere, Research Assistant I
- Christopher Seals, Research Assistant I



PROMOTIONS

Join us in congratulating the following faculty on their recent promotions:

- Dr. Becky Barlow, appointed as Forestry, Wildlife, and Natural Resources Extension Coordinator



MILESTONES

Join us in congratulating the following faculty and staff on their milestone anniversaries:

- Elizabeth Bowersock, 15 years
- Dr. Zhaofei Fan, 5 years
- Dr. Chris Lepczyk, 5 years
- Dr. Jodie Kenney, 5 years
- Dr. Ryan Nadel, 5 years
- Nina Payne, 5 years

RETIREMENTS

Join us in wishing the following retiring faculty and staff a joyous next chapter:

- Dr. James Armstrong, Extension Coordinator, Professor, retires as Emeritus Professor
- Teresa Cannon, SDFEC Administrative Assistant and Kitchen Manager
- Lisa Hollans, Student Services Coordinator
- Dr. Lisa Samuelson, Luce Professor
- Sharon Tatum, Development Coordinator

HONORS & AWARDS

Faculty

- Dr. Hanqin Tian recognized as 2019 Andrew Carnegie Fellow
- Dr. Daowei Zhang recognized by the International Union of Forest Research Organizations, or IUFRO, as recipient of its Scientific Achievement Award for 2019
- Dr. Wayde Morse inducted into the Global Teaching Academy, Auburn University Office of International Programs
- Dr. Brian Via received a new soy flour patent to replace petroleum-based adhesives in wood composite materials commonly used for furniture manufacturing and construction.
- Southern Region Extension Forestry Awards:
 - Award for Excellence – Extension Publication (Prescribed Fire for Wildlife Poster (ANR-2408)
 - Jim Armstrong, Becky Barlow, John Kush, Adam Maggard, Bruce Dupree
 - Award for Excellence – Extension Publication (Alabama Stumpage Price Trends (2007-2016)
 - Adam Maggard and Becky Barlow
 - Award for Excellence (High distinction) – Journal Publication (Special Report: 2016 Cost and Cost Trends of Southern Forestry Practices) Adam Maggard and Becky Barlow
- Dr. Steve Ditchkoff was renamed the William R. and Fay Ireland Distinguished Professor of Wildlife
- Dr. Lisa Samuelson was renamed the Dwain G. Luce Endowed Professor of Forestry
- Dr. Mark Smith was named a fellow of The Wildlife Society and was recognized for his 6 years of service as President-Elect, President, and Immediate Past-President on the Executive Board of the Southeastern Section of The Wildlife Society
- Dr. Yaoqi Zhang was selected as one of five new Alumni Professors for 2019
- Dr. Steve Ditchkoff chosen by SGA to receive the Outstanding Faculty Award and also received the Harry Murphy Faculty Research Award
- Dr. Lori Eckhardt received the Award for Excellence in Research and Development from the Southeastern Society of American Foresters
- Dr. Tom Gallagher received the Harry Murphy Faculty Award for Undergraduate Advising. Also received the Outstanding Faculty Award, Teacher of the Year
- Dr. Christopher Lepczyk received the Harry Murphy Faculty Outreach Award
- Dr. Ed Loewenstein was the recipient of the Harold E. Christen Award for Service to Teaching
- Dr. Robert Gitzen chosen by The Wildlife Society Student Chapter for the Outstanding Faculty Award, Teacher of the Year

HONORS & AWARDS

Staff & Students

- Audrey Grindle was the recipient of the Harry Murphy Outstanding Staff Award
- Alejandro Cardozo – 3rd Place Poster, 73rd Forest Products Society Intl Conference (Maj. Prof. Brian Via)
- Osei AsibeAsafu-Adjaye was a top 10 finalist for the Abstract Competition and Travel Grant at the 2018 Society of Wood Science and Technology/ Japan Wood Research Society International Convention in Nagoya, Japan.(Maj. Prof. Dr. Brian Via)
- Diego Gomez-Maldonado – 1st Place Poster,Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Society of American Foresters (Maj. Prof. Soledad Peresin)
- Maria Celeste Iglesias - College Award and the Outstanding International Student Award,Auburn Student Research Symposium (Maj. Prof. Soledad Peresin)
- Katie Izenhour – Fulbright Scholarship (Maj. Prof. Sarah Zohdy)
- Sam Bickley – 2019 Garden Club of America Award for Coastal Wetland Studies (Maj. Prof. Chris Anderson)
- Benjamin McKenzie - Outstanding Master’s Student,Auburn University Graduate School (Maj. Prof. Sarah Zohdy)
- Mark Turner - Best Student Presentation,Alabama Chapter of the Wildlife Society (Maj. Prof.Will Gulsby)
- Briana Stewart –Best Student Poster Presentation Wildlife Technical Session, 73rd Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Annual Conference (Maj. Prof Barry Grand)
- Collin Sutton - Outstanding Student Presentation,Annual Meeting of the American Geophysical Union (Maj. Prof. Sanjiv Kumar)
- Anna Tucker - Outstanding Doctoral Student,Auburn University Graduate School (Maj. Prof. Conor McGowan)
- Arielle Fay, Outstanding Oral Presentation from SFWS,AU This is Research Student Symposium (Undergraduate Research Mentor, Dr. Mark Smith)
- Marina Natalia Hornus received the first place Graduate Student Poster Award at the 2018 Forest Product Society International Convention. (Maj. Prof. Dr. Brian Via)
- SFWS Graduate Research Symposium Awards:
 - 1st place: Hannah Leeper (Maj. Prof.Todd Steury)
 - 2nd place: Celeste Iglesias (Maj. Prof. Soledad Peresin)
 - 3rd place tie: Mariah McGinnis, Dylan Stewart, Morgan Morehart (Maj. Professors,Will Gulsby, Chris Lepczyk)



DEVELOPMENT & ALUMNI AFFAIRS

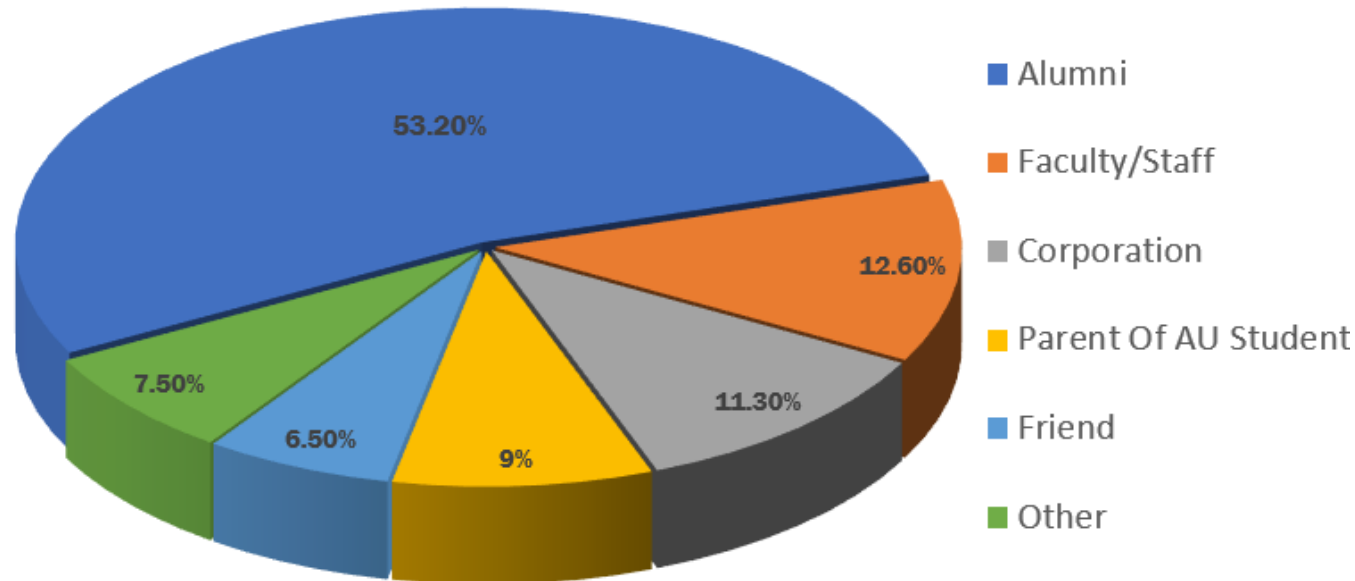
2019 PROGRESS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2019 Total Gifts	\$1,404,077 (65% increase)
2019 Woodlands & Wildlife Members	211 (9% increase)
2019 Compass Circle Members	48 (10% increase)
2019 Tiger Giving Day Results	\$19,708.78 supported 2 projects
Tiger Conservation	\$13,437.09
KPNC Birding Enhancements	\$6,271.69
Alumni Participation	12%



Frank Walburn '79
Selected as
2018 Outstanding
Alumnus of
the Year

2019 SFWS Giving Breakdown



Create a Named Deanship (\$1M+) for 75th Anniversary Celebration

An endowed deanship provides discretionary funds to help a dean realize their vision. Universities with endowed deanships have a significant advantage in recruiting or retaining the best possible deans. This endowed fund will:

- Elevate the status of the school
- Position the School to become a college
- Help launch new initiatives and develop cultural excellence
- Assist in recruiting and retaining highly qualified deans

*Naming opportunities available in the SFWS building to support this initiative

PROGRESS: Currently \$248,820 committed & a \$200k in planned gift.

Establish a Named Endowment to support the FEWL Leadership Academy (\$300k)

The SFWS Student Leadership Academy is designed to prepare select students with leadership abilities necessary for the critical problem solving issues related to the management, utilization, and stewardship of natural resources. This personal development program focuses on the practices, values, actions, and visions associated with leadership and the development of skills that students will use to guide and strengthen their leadership abilities.

PROGRESS: Currently funded through FY 2020 by annual gifts

2020 MAJOR DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

Annual & Endowed Scholarships for newly established majors (\$25k endowed, \$1k annual)

- Sustainable Biomaterials and Packaging
- Wildlife Enterprise Management
- Geospatial & Environmental Informatics

PROGRESS: Currently have secured two endowed and two annual scholarships.
Currently lacking dedicated scholarship for Sustainable Biomaterials and Packaging major.

Establish a Boone & Crocket Club Professorship (\$1-4M)

This professorship will help cultivate future leaders in wildlife conservation and management and attract the best and brightest young minds to Auburn University. Auburn undergraduate and graduate students, and the research produced through their studies, will strongly influence state and national wildlife conservation and management policy for decades to come.

***Namings in the SFWS building area available to support this initiative

PROGRESS: Currently \$100k has been designated for this initiative

2020 MAJOR DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

2019 Events:

2019 Golden Eagles Celebration
Woodlands & Wildlife Society Annual Dinner
Monroeville Regional Reception
Andalusia Regional Reception
Montgomery Regional Reception
2019 Scholarship & Fellowship Recognition Luncheon
Black Alumni Weekend Signature Event
Compass Circle Roundtable

April 10, 2019
June 7, 2019
July 23, 2019
July 24, 2019
August 8, 2019
August 24, 2019
September 27, 2019
March 8, 2019
November 1, 2019
November 2, 2019

Woodlands & Wildlife Fall Tailgate

2020 Upcoming Events:

Compass Circle Roundtable
Birmingham Regional Reception
Huntsville Regional Reception
SFWS Awards Ceremony
Golden Eagles Luncheon
Atlanta Regional Reception
Woodlands & Wildlife Society Annual Dinner
2020 Scholarship & Fellowship Recognition Luncheon
Woodlands & Wildlife/Compass Circle Fall Tailgate
Mobile Regional Reception

March 2020
March 11, 2020
March 12, 2020
April 8, 2020
April 10, 2020
April 16, 2020
June 2020
August 22, 2020
November 7, 2020
Fall 2020

2019 -2020 DEVELOPMENT EVENTS



COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

ANALYTICS

FEB. 2019 -2020

* WEBSITE STATS:

- 63k sessions
- 325k page views
- 42k unique users
- 40% visits from organic search results
- 30% visits from direct search
- 84% new visitors
- 5 pages viewed per session
- 65% view on a desktop computer

* Google Analytics

SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS:

- Facebook – 2,982, 17% increase (34k post impressions)
- Instagram – 813
- Twitter – 547 (74k post impressions)
- LinkedIn – 392

TOP 25 WEBSITE PAGES

RANK	PAGE	PAGEVIEWS	UNIQUE
		324,630	PAGEVIEWS 122,165
1	/	69,060	25,380
2	/faculty-directory/	20,120	6,057
3	/browse-degrees/	13,605	5,486
4	/graduate-study/graduate-degrees/	9,371	3,651
5	/wildlife-sciences/wildlife-enterprise-management/	8,463	2,864
6	/forestry/	7,968	2,584
7	/wildlife-sciences/	7,349	2,551
8	/research/research-faculty-directory/	7,127	2,098
9	/staff/	6,859	2,934
10	/programs/majors/	6,604	2,536
11	/online-professional-graduate-certificate-programs/restoration-ecology/	5,894	2,281
12	/online-professional-graduate-certificate-programs/	5,400	1,968
13	/wildlife-sciences/wildlife-ecology-management/	5,318	1,826
14	/natural-resources-management/	5,172	1,797
15	/online-professional-graduate-certificate-programs/one-health/	4,469	1,629
16	/potential-careers/	3,877	1,636
17	/geospatial-environmental-informatics/	3,412	1,212
18	/online-professional-graduate-certificate-programs/forest-finance-investment/	3,224	1,143
19	/sustainable-biomaterials-packaging/	3,110	1,131
20	/research/	2,866	1,096
21	/summer-practicum/	2,839	917
22	/online-master-of-natural-resources/	2,812	902
23	/job-boards/	2,792	775
24	/graduate-students/	2,422	1,095
25	/contact-us/	2,199	965

SHARE OF VOICE FEB. 2019 - 2020

* Total # of News Clips

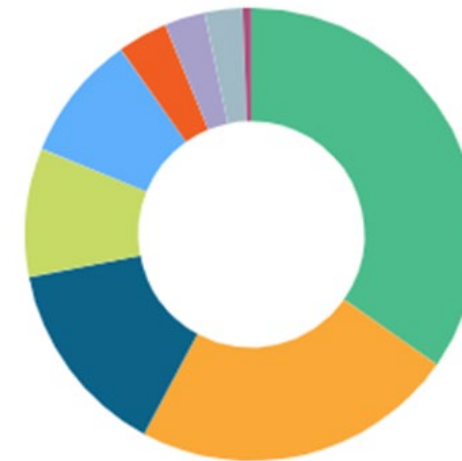
<i>Oregon State University College of Forestry</i>	743
<i>Texas A&M University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences</i>	495
<i>Auburn School of Forestry & Wildlife Sciences</i>	302
<i>Virginia Polytechnic Institute</i>	196
<i>Michigan Technological Forest Resources and Environmental Science</i>	194
<i>North Carolina State University College of Natural Resources</i>	76
<i>Colorado State University Warner College of Natural Resources</i>	62
<i>University of Florida School of Forest Resources and Conservation</i>	58
<i>Georgia Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources</i>	13

* News Analytics & Reports by Cision

PUBLICITY VALUE

\$165.7k

Breakdown by percentage of clips based upon the universities discussed within them.

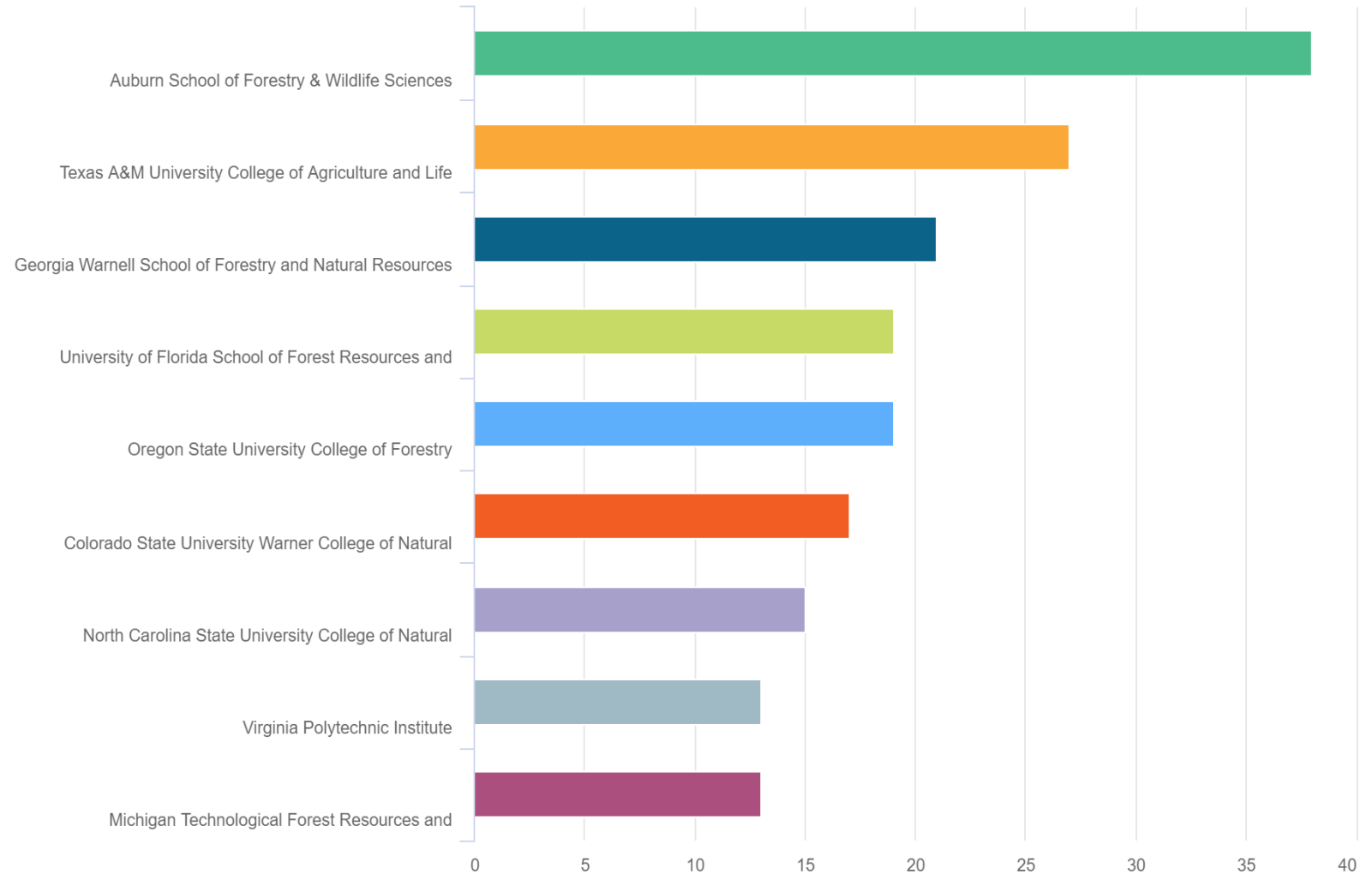


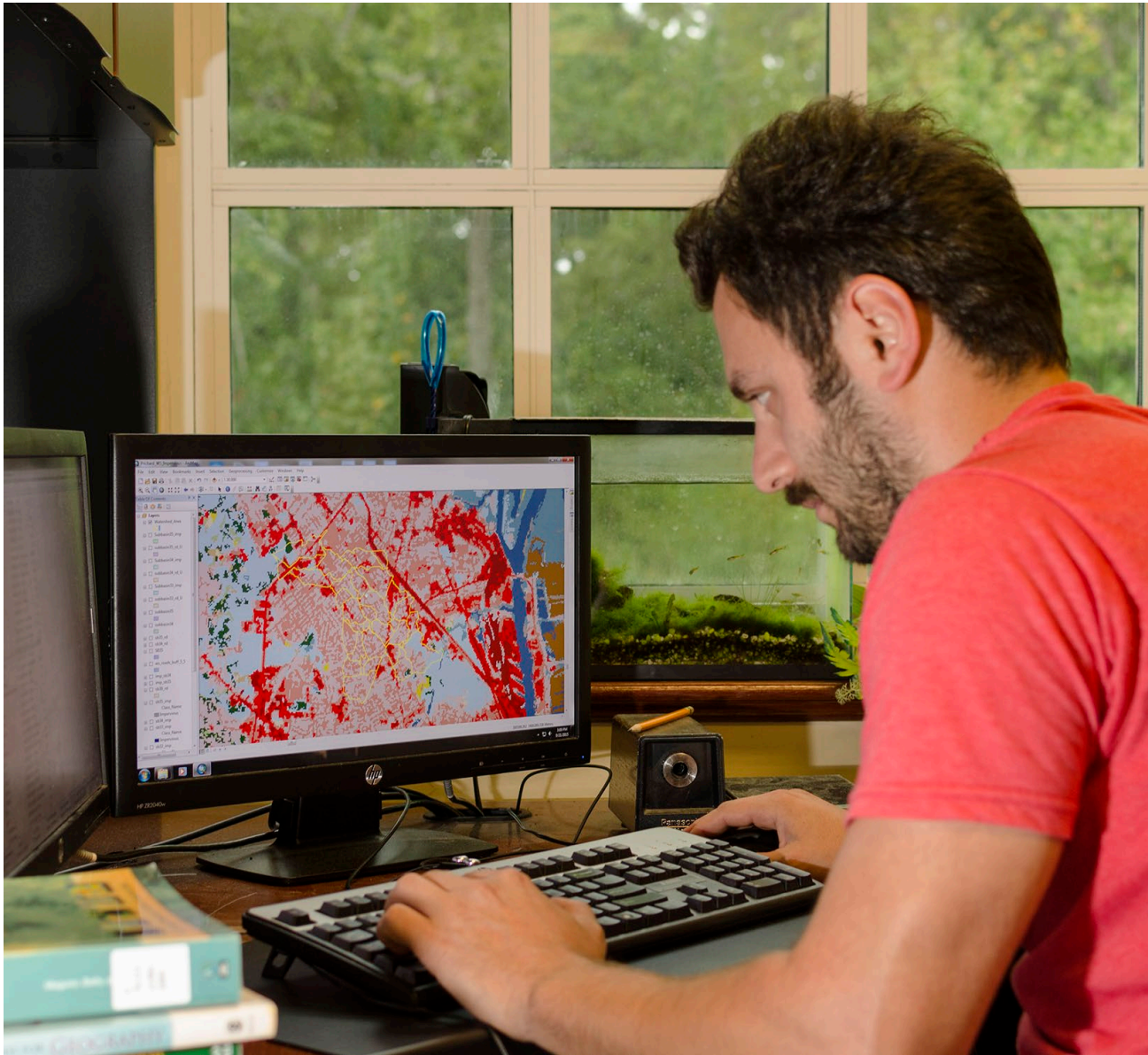
- Oregon State University College of Forestry: 34.7%**
- Texas A&M University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences: 23.1%**
- Auburn School of Forestry & Wildlife Sciences: 14.1%**
- Virginia Polytechnic Institute: 9.2%**
- Michigan Technological Forest Resources and Environmental Science: 9.1%**
- North Carolina State University College of Natural Resources: 3.6%**
- Colorado State University Warner College of Natural Resources: 2.9%**
- University of Florida School of Forest Resources and Conservation: 2.7%**
- Georgia Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources: 0.6%**

PROMINENCE OF BRAND

Cision assesses the prominence of a brand based on the profile of the mention and the importance of the outlet in which it appeared. Cision may rate the profile of the outlet, clip views, shares, mentions, and other factors. Publicity value is estimated by Cision's proprietary formula, but is likely based on advertising costs to achieve the same level of exposure.

Share of Company Prominence





INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

SFWS IT support services are #1 in volume per capita compared to other units or 9% of total campus-wide volume.

- Salvaged and rebuilt units to upgrade SDFEC computer lab, saving approximately \$16,600 in comparison to new systems.
- Salvaged and rebuilt 2 SANS storage arrays for future research storage needs.
- Deployed ServiceNow IT ticketing system to improve service and efficiency.
- Implemented Printing Accounting software for more accurate reporting on the School's printing.
- Implemented Cisco AMP endpoint protection which greatly increases our resilience to hacking, ransomware, and malicious code.
- Tested a VMware Virtual Computing Lab.
- Migrated school's physical servers to a more fault tolerant and cloud-enabled Hyper-V environment.
- Migrated systems and accounts to Windows 10 and the Microsoft O365 platform, allowing for future expansion of services.
- First distributed unit adopters of Microsoft Intune for better management and security for mobile devices.
- Launched a Mac management platform – JAMF to improve support for Mac users and iOS devices.
- Transitioned SDFEC summer practicum registration to mobile-friendly platform, reducing processing from 4 months to 1 week.

MAJOR INITIATIVES



AUBURN

UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF FORESTRY
AND WILDLIFE SCIENCES

sfws.auburn.edu