





INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

College of Forestry,
Wildlife and
Range Sciences

University of Idaho
Moscow, Idaho
83843





GOALS AND RATIONALE


The International Program of the University of Idaho College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences (FWR), in concert with related programs within the university, seeks to serve the university and the state while contributing to national objectives aimed at aiding peoples of the developing world. Over the past decade, three goals have been established for the college's program:

1. Develop a center of technical expertise for dealing with selected natural resource management problems, a center which will be a resource for the state, the nation and the world.

2. Encourage faculty and student participation in overseas educational and technical assistance programs through procuring grants, contracts and consultancies.

3. Enhance educational, research and employment opportunities in international resource management for both students and faculty.

International programs are vital to the mission of the University of Idaho. The university serves the people of Idaho through programs of higher education, research and extension. These programs have traditionally included international components such as foreign languages and student training, faculty exchanges and technical assistance. Such programs heighten awareness of our own culture and value systems and broaden perspectives in economics, science, and politics, as well as in the arts. Participation in international programs often stimulates academic achievement and can lead students to wider job opportunities. Faculty participation provides motivation and training and, frequently, the opportunity to put classroom theory into practice. The university seeks to provide leadership and assistance to state industries which have become increasingly coupled to international markets, national trade policies and complex technologies. International programs are vehicles to develop the necessary expertise and the links among state, international and university constituencies.



中華人民共和國



INDIA

Mexico



中華民國

CANADA

Brazil



RWANDA

Zaire
SUDAN



대한민국



Germany

Argentina

GREECE




RESOURCES AND ORGANIZATION

University of Idaho

Located in the northwestern U.S., the University of Idaho is situated in the northern panhandle of Idaho, a region renowned for its forests, agriculture and mineral resources. The University, a land-grant institution established in 1889, has nine colleges and an annual enrollment of about 8000 students. Undergraduate curricula address more than 130 areas. The Graduate School, with more than 1000 students, offers master's degrees in 75 areas and doctorate studies in 30 areas. University of Idaho programs emphasize professional preparation, with one third of the students enrolled in the Colleges of Agriculture, Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences, Engineering, Mining and Earth Resources, Education and Business and Economics. These programs are well supported by comprehensive curricula in the humanities and sciences within the Colleges of Letters and Science, Art and Architecture, and Law. An extensive library with over a million texts and 11,000 periodicals and a modern computer facility with two IBM 4341 computers and 350 remote terminals are housed on campus. The University of Idaho also benefits from its proximity to the Washington State University, 8 miles away. Students at these Universities are able to enroll in a large number of exchange courses. The two Universities cooperate in other ways, e.g., through collaboration between their computing centers, libraries, and cultural programs.





College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences

The College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences is housed in a modern 3-story brick building with well-equipped offices, laboratories, and classrooms. Enrollment in the college annually exceeds 600 students, of which nearly 200 are enrolled in graduate training. The college is staffed by 60 full-time faculty engaged in teaching and research and organized into 5 departments, each with an elected department head. These Departments,

- Forest Products
- Forest Resources
- Range Resources
- Fisheries and Wildlife Resources
- Wildland Recreation Management

work closely together to provide quality instructional and research programs in an interdisciplinary atmosphere. The work of these departments is coordinated by a dean, two associate deans and a director of international programs. A director of administrative services assists the dean and faculty in administering the college budget, which exceeds 6 million dollars annually. The college support facilities include a 7000-acre experimental forest, a cooperative nursery, a wilderness research center and other properties, as well as a word-processing center and a motor pool. The USDA Forest Service Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station maintains research facilities on the university campus. This organization of over 40 professional scientists and staff members is an important resource for the college. A cooperative agreement between these organizations provides affiliate appointments to the college for these scientists and is an important link between federal and state research programs.


Office of International Programs, College of FWR

The college's international program is administered by a staff of two. The director's primary role is the procurement and management of overseas projects. An assistant director provides coordination for foreign student training programs and logistical support for overseas projects. Both directors work with other on-campus personnel involved in international programs and maintain close liaison with the Consortium for International Development (CID) and the Universities in International Forestry (UNIFOR), in which the University of Idaho maintains membership.

In the past, the college has emphasized technical assistance primarily through research and educational projects which parallel its own institutional programs. As a matter of policy, the college now endeavors to (1) expand its project management efforts, particularly in undertakings where the goal is technology transfer through institution strengthening and collaborative research with developing country organizations concerned with natural resources management, and (2) technical assistance to the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID) and other donor agencies designing, implementing or evaluating assistance projects or programs. The college's primary expertise for overseas projects derives from a core of committed faculty with the requisite technical and administrative skills, overseas experience, and availability. The entire college faculty contributes to the on-campus program and is available for overseas assignments on more limited bases.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The college program has emphasized education, research and other forms of technical assistance in collaboration with AID, the Peace Corps, World Bank, other donor agencies and foreign governments. College faculty have assisted in more than four dozen countries on five continents. Assignments have ranged from highly technical research and instruction in genetics, remote sensing, and forest mensuration to advice to foreign governments on park and land-use planning, reforestation and the establishment of social forestry (extension) programs.



Recognizing the college's past contribution and continued potential, AID several years ago began to support a program to assist faculty in their understanding of the development process. Under a strengthening grant, sensitivity to cultural problems, increased language skills and overseas training have been provided for a number of faculty. Through a recently signed agreement with AID, selected college faculty have received appointments to the Joint Career Corps. These faculty will serve periodic assignments with AID missions, spending about one-third of their time overseas and two-thirds serving the University.

Research

The College is engaged in research, both in Idaho and abroad, which addresses important development issues through three primary areas of emphasis: 1) biomass production and conversion, 2) wood products technology, and 3) resource conservation and protection.


Biomass production research is underway in southern Idaho, where fast-growing hybrid poplar species are being studied under different silvicultural systems and irrigation regimes. Yields of poles, pulpwood, and green fodder obtained from experimental plantations are evaluated on the basis of returns from different multiple-product mixes and the response to irrigation. Conversion of lignin to digestible compounds suitable for cattle feed and other uses is the goal of a biomass conversion project underway at the university. A biological process has been devised and maintained *in vitro* as a first step in the development of a prototype biochemical digestion system. This research in obtaining "food from wood" has vast potential both in the developed and developing world. In more conventional research underway in Portugal, controlled burning is being studied as a means to increase the productivity of fuelwood and forage from forest and shrub lands. Recently initiated research in Honduras is designed to increase overall forest productivity by defining site quality indices which identify the more appropriate species for a given site. Wood technology research is also underway in Honduras. U of I scientists, in collaboration with Honduran counterparts, are testing tropical species to be used in the production of a new type of particleboard with a low-cost cement binder. This new building material has structural and production characteristics which make it promising for less

developed countries. Finally research is in progress to identify threats to parks and protected areas. This study, supported by the World Wildlife Fund, seeks management strategies commensurate with developing countries' social and fiscal resources.

Education

The college annually enrolls from 35-40 foreign nationals in its undergraduate and graduate programs. Under an agreement with the Ministry of Forestry of the People's Republic of China, the college offers a special program designed to familiarize Chinese scholars with American forestry and technology. A number of college faculty have also visited and taught at Chinese institutions under this same program. Similar programs have been carried out with the government of Honduras. During the past several years, the college has initiated a summer course in land-use planning. Offered in cooperation with the USDA, this course has attracted many planners and government workers from Asia, Africa and Central America. The College provides ample opportunity for studies in various aspects of international forestry. One of the more popular courses offered is Tropical Dendrology and Ecology. A major feature of this course is a visit to Central America for field work after the close of the school year. Other course offerings are titled: Tropical Wildlife Management and A Framework for Natural Resources Development.





Technical Support Services

College faculty provide technical support to bilateral and multilateral donor agencies and directly to national government and private institutions. Over the past ten years, through individual consultancies and university contracts, the college has provided both short-term (3-6 wk) and long-term (1-3 years) technical assistance in Africa, Asia, and Central and South America. These assignments have involved a range of problems, from implementation of a computer system for monitoring agricultural research in Pakistan and delineation of a methodology for appraisal of stumpage in Brazil, to translation of Chinese (PRC) log import standards and evaluation of fishery development potential in the Gambia. Exchanges of personnel between the College and the PRC Ministry of Forestry since 1979 have provided an unusual opportunity for college faculty to gain a knowledge of Chinese forestry practices and institutions and related natural resource needs. A number of faculty have served on USAID project design teams and field-research review panels. Several faculty have substantial experience in project design and implementation, particularly in the areas of reforestation, social forestry (extension), river basin development and the strengthening of forestry institutions.

INQUIRIES

Please direct inquiries to:

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