Forestry Graduate Student Association

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Forestry Graduate Student Association

With the arrival of the new decade the forestry graduate student group is plentiful and as diverse as ever. The new arrivals during the 1989-90 academic year have increased the graduate student group to 27 members coming from 12 different countries. The Forestry Graduate Student Association (F.G.S.A.) has been quite active this year with a great deal of interest from all members.

New research opportunities have emerged within the department as a result of faculty success and the diverse interest of the incoming students. Some areas of research work include forest biometry, tropical forest management, tissue culture and hormonal research, forest economics, and tree root development. Some of the new students this year have helped to increase the importance of several research areas of interest. These growing areas of research include forest economics, agroforestry, and forest plant tissue culture.

Rick Meilan, a PhD candidate, has returned from Wales after a successful 15 months of conducting red pine hormonal research. Another PhD candidate, Risper Nyong'o is currently in her home country of Kenya conducting her field research related to tree genetics and improvement. Patricia Negreros, was in Quintana Roo, Mexico during the summer and winter break of 1989, conducting her research related to mahogany regeneration and natural stand improvement. She also led a group of forestry students and faculty on a trip to southern Mexico and Costa Rica to investigate tropical forestry and agroforestry management systems. It was a successful trip for all. The bunch soaked up plenty of sun, food, and culture in those wonderful countries.

The F.G.S.A. is a registered campus organization and receives funding from the Graduate Student Senate (G.S.S.) each year. Along with F.G.S.A. dues, this money is used to acquire needed text books for the departmental reading room. The F.G.S.A. group has had a successful year of activities and meetings. The group well attended the fall graduate student picnic. With the current enthusiasm within the group, the upcoming year should prove to be a good one for hard work and also social events.

— Gary Bahr