The story of the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry’s Ranger School began in 1912, when the Rich Lumber Co. donated land so the College could train students to fill the educational gap between the woodsman and the professional forester.

By the time the main Ranger School building was dedicated in 1928, then-Director James F. Dubuar declared the educational experiment a success.

A century after its founding, The Ranger School remains a unique educational institution. Its location, in the heart of the Adirondacks; its demanding work ethic, requiring a half-day in the classroom and a half-day in the forest five days a week; and its intense academic load that has students earning up to 48 credits in a single year, combine to make The Ranger School a one-of-a-kind institution.

The students who arrived in 1912 saw an environment vastly different from the one present-day students encounter. The forest had been largely clear cut in lumbering operations. The students and their successors set to work planting trees and learning how to restore the ecosystem. A century later, today’s students learn to manage those trees and the broader ecosystem for purposes that include harvesting timber, surveying, managing wildlife and providing valued space for recreation.

The Ranger School has proven its ability to adapt to societal trends, innovations in technology, changes in higher education and an ever-evolving environment. With your support, we can continue that success into The Ranger School’s second century.
Dear Friends,

SUNY-ESF’s Ranger School is a unique higher education institution. Since its founding in 1912, it has earned a reputation for academic excellence and for the work ethic instilled in students by the school’s hands-on approach to education.

A Ranger School education is rigorous; it is based on teamwork and field training. It requires 70 hours a week of evening and weekend study, daily classes and laboratory/field programs. The Ranger School produces leaders.

To continue that success, The Ranger School has embarked on a major fundraising campaign to support academic and technical innovation to help our students develop the skills necessary to compete in a changing world; scholarships to attract bright, dedicated students; new facilities to preserve The Ranger School’s history and enhance student life; and financial strength to enable The Ranger School to respond quickly to unanticipated needs.

I am extraordinarily proud to be associated with the faculty, staff, students and alumni of The Ranger School and salute them for their commitment to make this a better world. Please join me in supporting The Ranger School in its second century.

Sincerely,

Cornelius B. Murphy, Jr.
President, SUNY-ESF
Dear Friends,

In my 17 years as director of The Ranger School, I have had the pleasure of being part of the growth of this wonderful institution.

Our academic offerings have expanded from one forest technology program to now include land surveying technology and environmental and natural resources conservation. In keeping with our academic growth, we have greatly increased scholarship support for our students to help them offset the spiraling cost of education.

At the same time, our physical facilities have grown to include updated living and learning spaces for our students. And we have kept pace with the changing technology that is vital to the education and future careers of our students.

This extensive growth would not have been possible without support from The Ranger School’s alumni, neighbors and friends.

As we strive to make a traditionally great program even better and more affordable, we turn to those who know The Ranger School best to provide vital support to our students, our programs and our future.

The Ranger School celebrates its Centennial in 2012. Please help us make its second hundred years as successful as its first.

Sincerely,

Christopher Westbrook ’73
Director, The Ranger School
Shaping the Future of The Ranger School

Tremendous opportunity exists for The Ranger School to build on its history of training men and women for careers in forestry, surveying and natural resource management, and to meet the urgent needs of society for a well-managed natural environment.

Seizing this opportunity means keeping The Ranger School current with the newest technologies, maintaining our facilities and keeping a Ranger School education affordable. With those goals in mind, The Ranger School has launched a major capital campaign to raise $500,000 over four years, 2012 to 2016. This ambitious goal would increase existing funds that support The Ranger School by about 50 percent.

Support from The Ranger School's alumni, neighbors and friends is vital to help this unique institution thrive in its second century. Our students need financial support, up-to-date facilities and current technology. Our faculty members need access to professional development as they prepare students for the future in a fast-changing world. Just as important, The Ranger School itself needs to bolster its financial strength so it is prepared to meet challenges that, today, we cannot even imagine.
Academic and Technological Innovation

To ensure that The Ranger School can provide students training on the equipment they will use in their first jobs, and to insure Ranger School faculty can stay up to date on the latest technology, we ask donors to The Ranger School Centennial Campaign to consider gifts to The Ranger School Endowment Fund.

The Ranger School Endowment Fund comprises about 40 percent of the endowed funds that support The Ranger School. Growing this fund is one of the best ways to ensure that The Ranger School will be able to keep equipment and training at the cutting edge for faculty and students.

A plaque recognizing all gifts of $500 and more to The Ranger School Endowment Fund during the Centennial Campaign will be placed at The Ranger School. Donors of gifts of $5,000 and more will receive special recognition on the plaque. Donations of $25,000 or more will create a special fund within The Ranger School Endowment. That fund will be named for the donor.

A special endowment is also anticipated for creating a Dubuar Forest Intern Program that will provide one Ranger School student a year the opportunity to work in Dubuar Forest, keeping it a top-flight teaching facility for Ranger School students, and providing an unparalleled learning opportunity.
A gift of $100,000 would name the internship for the donor. Gifts to the endowment of $25,000 or more would create named funds that would provide additional support for projects to improve Dubuar Forest. Gifts can be made through pledges over the four years of the campaign.

Scholarships and Academic Support

Several other scholarships at The Ranger School honor individuals crucial to shaping The Ranger School. Most notably, donors may contribute to the Dubuar Scholarship, Remele Scholarship, Castagnozzi Scholarship and the Westbrook Scholarship. Other scholarships honoring others vital to The Ranger School are expected to be created early in The Ranger School Centennial Campaign.

Opportunities also exist at The Ranger School to support academic programs ranging from lectureships to conferences and professorships. This support may range from $1,000 to $25,000, and could support programs such as the visiting Bavarian Forester program that has made its home at The Ranger School for a number of years. Endowed gifts to support programs in perpetuity may range from $25,000 to $250,000. More information is available from the ESF College Foundation or The Ranger School director.
New Facilities
The new Archives Room, new recreational facility and other improvements at The Ranger School provide opportunities for naming gifts between $5,000 and $25,000. Donors considering a facility gift should contact the ESF College Foundation or The Ranger School director.

Financial Strength
Flexible funds that allow The Ranger School to meet pressing and unanticipated needs, from vehicles to equipment, are addressed by the Wanakena Institutional Development Fund. Donors to The Centennial Campaign for The Ranger School may choose to make a gift of any size, in one year or over the four years of the campaign, to the Wanakena Institutional Development Fund.

All gifts to the Wanakena Institutional Development Fund of $500 and more will be recognized on a plaque at The Ranger School.
Ways to Give and Donor Recognition

Gifts to The Ranger School are eligible for charitable deductions for federal income tax purposes to the full extent of the law.

Gifts can be made through Ranger School Centennial Campaign gift and pledge forms and online at www.esf.edu. Gifts can also be made through a donor’s will or estate. Please be sure to contact the ESF College Foundation or The Ranger School director if you are considering a gift through your will or estate. It is important to have the correct wording in your will or estate documents.

Donors who make gifts to The Ranger School through their wills or estates will be immediately recognized through the College’s Robin Hood Oak Society. All donors to The Ranger School Centennial Campaign will be recognized through the College’s annual Honor Roll of Donors in addition to the recognition that will be given through naming of scholarships, funds, facilities and on plaques at The Ranger School.

Donors may also give gifts through means other than cash. Gifts can be made with stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and gifts of real property, especially forest property that can be managed for long-term
income generation to support The Ranger School. One of the largest scholarships at The Ranger School, supporting multiple students each year, resulted from the gift of one piece of property from a Ranger School alum.

For more information on ways to give to The Ranger School, contact The Ranger School director or the ESF College Foundation.

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