

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN FOREST RESOURCES  
MANAGEMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT  
JOINT DEGREE AGREEMENT BETWEEN SUNY ESF AND  
SOUTHWEST FORESTRY UNIVERSITY

SUNY ESF  
1 Forestry Drive  
Syracuse, New York 13210, USA

Southwest Forestry University  
Kunming, Yunnan 650224  
P. R. China

This Agreement is made and entered into on the date of the final signature hereto, by and between the State University of New York – College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY ESF) and Southwest Forestry University (SWFU), for the purpose of establishing Bachelor of Science degree programs in Natural Resources Management Bachelor of Science in Forest Resources Management that would be conferred jointly by the two institutions.

I .Eligibility of Student Participants

a. All applicants shall be *bona fide* matriculated students and be enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in degree programs in Forest Resources Management or Natural Resources Management at SWFU.

b. SUNY ESF will accept a limited number of students each year from SWFU to participate in the joint degree program. At least six months before the anticipated date of enrollment, the number of students to participate will be decided mutually by the faculty coordinator at SUNY ESF (in collaboration with the Office of Admissions and the Office of the Provost) and the designated official or faculty coordinator at SWFU's International Cooperation and Exchange Division Office.

II .Selection and Administration of Participants

a. Prospective student participants must file an application and all documents required by the SUNY ESF Office of Admissions. However, the application fee will be waived.

b. To be considered, applicants must present a minimum score of 550 (paper-based test), 213 (computer-based test) or 79 (internet-based test) on the TOEFL (Test of English as Foreign Language); or Total: 6 (with no less than 5 in Writing) on the IELTS; or Grade pre-1 on the STEP EIKEN tests. For complete and updated requirements, see <http://www.esf.edu/international/admissions.htm>.

c. Participants will be selected based on recommendation by the faculty coordinator at SWFU, credentials documented in the application materials, and results of an interview with an SUNY ESF faculty member. The SUNY ESF Office of Admissions will make the final decision regarding admission to the program.

d. SUNY ESF will facilitate the selection process by sending one faculty member to SWFU in the late summer or early fall to interview prospective student participants. The SUNY ESF faculty member will bring the completed applications, along with copies of the applicants' academic records from SWFU to the SUNY ESF Office of Admissions.

e. Participants will be admitted to SUNY ESF Office of Admissions as BS diploma (degree - seeking) students majoring in Natural Resources Management or Forest Resources Management.

f. Participants are expected to matriculate and begin their studies at SUNY ESF in the first term (beginning in August) of their Junior year (2+2), or in the first term (beginning in August) of their Senior year (3+1).

### III. Curriculum

- a. The curriculum for the joint degree program is defined in the attached articulation agreement.
- b. SWFU may have additional requirements over and above the curriculum.
- c. The curriculum should be reviewed by both institutions every other year. However, updating and / or modification of the curriculum must be approved by both institutions.

### IV. Joint Degree Program Assessment

- a. Each institution will provide documentation on student performance for the required courses and selected elective courses as requested by the other institution for program evaluation and / or assessment purposes. Each joint degree program must meet standards for accreditation established by the Middle States Commission of Higher Education, and the degree program in Forest Resources Management must also meet accreditation standards set by the Society of American Foresters (SAF).
- b. Evaluation and review of the joint degree program will be conducted annually by each institution for the graduating class. The evaluation results will be shared by both institutions.

### V. Granting of Degree to Individual Students Participating in the Program

- a. Each institution agrees to facilitate the transfer of successfully completed credits to the other institution.
- b. Only when the full requirements of the curriculum are fully satisfied will a degree or diploma can be granted to the particular student.
- c. To qualify for the joint degree participants must be physically present at SUNY ESF for a minimum of two semesters and successfully complete a minimum of 30 credits hours of study at SUNY ESF with a minimum GPA of 2.00.

### VI. Tuition, Fees and Financial Aid

- a. Tuition and fees for the joint degree students attending SUNY ESF will be the out-of-state rate less a scholarship that will average \$4000 per student per year (\$2000 per semester).
- b. Students in residence at ESF will pay tuition and fees to ESF. SWFU will be consulted to determine the distribution of scholarship funds among students coming to ESF.

### VII. Housing and Other Expenses

- a. Participants are responsible for the cost of their room and board. SUNY ESF will offer participants options for housing in SUNY ESF and / or Syracuse University residence facilities, however participants may elect to take lodging in off-campus quarters.
- b. Participants are responsible for arranging and paying for their own in-country and international travel, medical insurance, passport and visa application fees, textbooks, personal items and any other expenses.

### VIII. Other Related Articles

- a. Participants will be required to comply with the SUNY insurance policies and procedures for international students.
- b. Participants shall abide by all applicable rules and regulations of SWFU and SUNY ESF, and

by all applicable laws, rules, and regulations of the home and host countries. In case of violation, either institution has the right to terminate the student's participation, and SUNY ESF has the right to dismiss the violator.

c. The faculty coordinator at ESF will serve as the first point of contact at ESF for the participants.

d. SWFU may elect to develop a program that would permit SUNY ESF students to complete a similar joint degree program by completing at least one year study and a minimum 30 credit hours at SWFU.

e. Participants in the joint degree program are encouraged to consider graduate study at SUNY ESF following completion of their BS degrees. Participants should contact individual professors and/or the Graduation Coordinator in the Department of Forest and Natural Resources Management (FNRM) for potential openings. Research assistantships may be available to provide financial support for graduate study.

#### IX. Staff Exchange

a. Teaching and research staff from one institution are encouraged to visit the other institution. The host institution will facilitate the visits.

b. ESF will fund one faculty member each year to travel to SWFU to interview the students and coordinate the joint degree program.

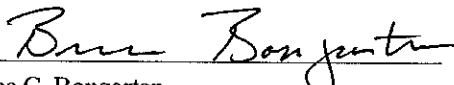
#### X. Validity of Agreement

a. All modifications to this agreement must be in writing and signed by both parties.

b. This agreement becomes effective when signed by representative of the two universities and shall remain effective for a period of five years. During the final year of the agreement, a full review of the program will be conducted by both institutions and renewal for another five-year period will be considered.

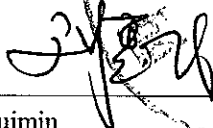
c. Either party giving ninety (90) days written notice to the other party may terminate this agreement provided that such termination will not affect the completion of any activity underway at the time. If future activity has been advertised and either party has made commitments to students concerning such activity, such termination will not affect that activity.

By and on behalf of  
The State University of New York –  
College of Environmental Science and Forestry

  
Bruce C. Bongarten.  
Provost / Vice President

28 April, 2010  
Date

On behalf of  
Southwest Forestry University

  
Liu Huimin  
President

2010. 5. 4

