2020 Commencement
Friday, December 11, 2020

7:00 P.M.
www.youtube.com/esftv
ABOUT ESF

Founded in 1911, SUNY ESF is one of the nation’s premier colleges focused exclusively on the study of the environment, developing renewable technologies, and building a sustainable future.

SUNY ESF’s Syracuse campus occupies 18 acres and the College operates 25,000 acres of experimental and demonstration forests, field stations, and research sites across Central New York and the Adirondacks. The SUNY ESF student body consists of more than 1,750 undergraduate and 450 graduate students.

The College offers undergraduate and graduate degree programs, including bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees in the environmental sciences, landscape architecture, forest and natural resources management, engineering, and related areas of scholarship and transdisciplinary studies. Associate's degrees are offered at ESF’s Ranger School in Wanakena.

SUNY ESF blends the personal attention of a small college with the world-class research of a doctoral degree-granting university and attracts truly exceptional students. This fall’s graduates join a family of more than 22,000 alumni worldwide and represent the leaders of tomorrow.

ACADEMIC REGALIA

During the Middle Ages, monks and students wore academic regalia as protection from the damp and drafty conditions of monasteries and castles. Through the years, regalia evolved to represent and celebrate scholarly achievement. The colors of the hoods and various trimmings symbolize the disciplines and institutional traditions.

Master’s Hoods
The colors of the SUNY ESF master’s hoods represent the colors of the College of Environmental Science and Forestry: forest green, white, and gold. Hoods are black with gold velvet lining with green, white, and gold satin chevrons on the inside lining.

Doctoral Hoods (Ph.D.)
The colors of the Ph.D. hoods represent the colors of the College of Environmental Science and Forestry: forest green, white, and gold. Hoods are black, with navy blue velvet outer lining and white, gold, and green satin chevrons on the inside lining.
**Program**

**National Anthem**
Gina Ryan  
SUNY ESF Staff

**Welcome and Introductions**
David H. Newman, Ph.D.
Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

**President’s Remarks**
Joanne M. Mahoney, J.D.
President

**Student Speaker**
Courtney Scheffler  
Class of 2020

**Presentation of Graduates of Distinction Awards**
David H. Newman, Ph.D.

**Recognition of Degree Candidates**
S. Scott Shannon, ’82, ’88  
Associate Provost and Dean of the Graduate School

**Conferral of Degrees**

**Alumni Welcome**
Gary Lipp, ’86  
President, SUNY ESF Alumni Association

**Closing Remarks**
David H. Newman, Ph.D.
**UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT MARSHALS**

**Rosemary Adrat**  
Garnerville, New York  
Environmental Science

Rosemary Adrat is an environmental science major with a focus on renewable energy and a minor in sustainable construction. She occupies her time with many SUNY ESF activities, such as Student Ambassadors, the treasurer of Food Recovery Network, International Student Mentor as well as working on campus at the Computer Network Service Helpdesk. Rosemary also spent her 2020 summer being a fellow at the University of Illinois Summer Institute on Sustainability and Energy and worked on projects with the American Energy Society. Graduating in May 2021, Rose aspires to be a part of the expanding green energy field.

**Jessica Proctor**  
Trumansburg, New York  
Conservation Biology

Jessica Proctor is a conservation biology major. She transferred to SUNY ESF in Fall of 2020 after receiving her Associate’s of Science in Environmental Studies. She serves as the Undergraduate Student Association EFB Department Senator, Vice President of the Green Campus Initiative, and Executive Officer of the Wildlife Society. Over the past summer she worked on local lakes monitoring invasive species and works as the lead leopard researcher on the ESF Big Cat Conservation Team. Jessica is focused on bridging the gap between the public and science and is interested in outreach and education.

**Student Speaker**

**Courtney Scheffler**  
Margaretville, New York  
Environmental Studies

Courtney Scheffler graduates with a degree in environmental studies, with focus areas in policy, planning, and law. She has been involved with environmental justice initiatives and conducted synthesis research on humane education as a practice to promote pro-social behavior towards environments and all inhabitants, with a focus on non-human animals. She works as a tutor for general biology and served as a teaching assistant. Courtney interned and later worked at Woodstock Sanctuary. She has served as a resident assistant in Centennial Hall with a focus on civic engagement and responsible waste management.
**GRADUATES OF DISTINCTION**

**Makoto Hagi ’10, Landscape Architecture**

*Incipiens Quercu (Beginning Oak) Award*

After graduating SUNY ESF in 2010, Makoto began his career working on several public space projects benefiting Western New York. Of particular note were the multi-phased Geneva Lakefront Park and work on the Genesee Valley Park West master plan originally designed by Frederick Law Olmsted.

In 2017 Makoto was selected as a winner of the National Grant Competition for Emerging Professionals in Landscape Architecture sponsored by Anova.

Makoto's accredited green roof professional credential and active involvement in many LEED projects are tangible commitments to promoting biodiversity in urban environments.

For his outstanding contributions in the field of landscape architecture, the College of Environmental Science and Forestry Alumni Association is proud to recognize Makoto Hagi as our Graduate of Distinction in the category of Incipiens Quercu.

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**Jeffrey J. Morrell ’77 & ’81, Environmental and Forest Biology**

*Notable Achievement Award*

After receiving both his B.S. and Ph.D. in Environmental and Forest Biology from SUNY ESF, Jeffrey began a distinguished career in the field of wood preservation spanning 35 years.

As a Distinguished University Professor in the Department of Wood Science and Engineering at Oregon State, his research focused on identifying the fungi associated with the deterioration process, assessing the potential for biological control of decay, developing methods for improving wood treatments, and systems for arresting decay once it has been initiated.

He successfully advised 60 Master’s and Ph.D. students and published over 700 articles in the area of wood protection.

In 2018 Jeffrey moved to Australia where he is currently the Director of the National Centre for Timber Durability and Design Life, based out of the University of the Sunshine Coast.

For his outstanding contributions in the field of wood preservation, the College of Environmental Science and Forestry Alumni Association is proud to recognize Jeffrey Morrell as the 2020 Graduate of Distinction Notable Achievement award recipient.
Graduates of Distinction

Edwin J. Green ’79, Silviculture and Forest Influences
Lifetime Achievement Award

After earning his master’s degree in silviculture and forest influences from SUNY ESF, Edwin received his Ph.D. in forest biometrics from Virginia Tech. His educational and research background led him to Rutgers University where he began a lifelong career challenging the conventional method of approaching statistical analyses as it applies to forest ecology.

Edwin has been a pioneering member of the forestry community through his early and continuing efforts to develop, apply, and raise awareness of Bayesian methods in forestry and ecology. Although Bayes’ Theorem was postulated in the 1700s, it remained largely of theoretical interest in ecological investigations prior to Edwin’s work utilizing Bayesian statistical methods in forestry research. He had a profound influence on the way statistical analyses are viewed in environmental and forestry applications and earned the highest regard of his peers in the biometrics community.

Edwin also served as a National Science Foundation panel member and as a member of a Technical Advisory Committee for the USDA Forest Service.

He is the author or co-author of more than 75 publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals, including leading forestry and ecological research journals. He was also one of several statisticians who co-authored a landmark publication in Nature Human Behavior titled “Redefine Statistical Significance,” which has the potential to have wide influence regarding the measures of statistical significance and how such measures should be interpreted by statisticians and scientists.

For his outstanding contributions to the field of forestry, the College of Environmental Science and Forestry Alumni Association is proud to recognize Edwin Green as the 2020 Graduate of Distinction Lifetime Achievement award recipient.
Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Science
December 12, 2020

Abuqube, Sofia O.*  
Antich, Simone*  
Baghdadi, Hannah C.*^  
Bailey, Sean C.*  
Barber, Marisa  
Baxter, Emily L.  
Beiter, Kyle*  
Benjangkaprasert, Chawalida*  
Bentley, Christopher W.+  
Bernstein, Brianna G.*^  
Bevevino, Joshua A.*  
Bielecki, Amanda*~  
Bogardus, Kelcie K.*  
Bonvell, Michael J.*  
Breidenstein, Rudy J.  
Brill, Aleksa R.++  
Buchner, Rachel A.^  
Burgess, Evan Paul*  
Capozzi, Gregory R.*  
Carpenter, Kyle  
Chizhov, Polina*  
Claflin, Lea E.*  
Cole, Rachel*^~  
Collins, Margaret E.*  
Conlon, Corinne L.*  
Cornish, Lee J.  
Corr, Rachel N.*  
DiGregorio, Bryanna T.*  
Dillsworth, Luke*  
Donnelly, Sean J.  
Ebert, Madeline  
Fagant, Madison*  
Fusco, Julia E.*^  
Geier, John  
Gemelli, Christopher*  
Genninger, Caprice  
Gors, Megan E.*  
Grimshaw, Meredith H.*  
Haddad, Isabelle*^~  
Hall, Gillian L.*+  
Helms, Matthew L.  
Herbig, Brian*  
Hilles, Gwendolyn E.*  
Housden, Nicole K.*  
Huber, Peter A.  
Jaskola, Wade  
Johnson, Kayla D.*  
Keenan, Thomas E.*  
Kinnison, James L.*  
Kleinhenz, Aaron*  
Knutsen, Carley F.*  
Konecny, Jacob J.*+  
Kotary, Jennifer L.*  
Lamica, Austin*  
Letendre, Haleigh  
Liddell, Clara Anne*  
Lindsay, Shianne  
Luca, Samantha C.*^  
Maffeo, Zachary G.*~  
Mason, Jared W.*^+  
Mass, Gabrielle E.*  
Meyer, Paige A.  
Motter, Anna G.*  
Murphy, Dylan T.  
Myagkota, Mickael  
Nazak, Rachel B.*^  
Nguyen, Hai T.^++  
Nozynski, Anna L.*  
O'Connell, Patrick D.  
Palileo, Arik*  
Parker, Ryan M.  
Patnode, Jeffrey  
Purce, Emily N.*  
Racine, Gavin S.  
Rahner, Kristen C.*~  
Rapavy, Connell C.  
Reardon, Connor M.  
Ribbeck, Nathan W.*  
Rojek, David*  
Romano, Julie A.*  
Rossie, Meg*  
Sadler, Mackenzie A.*  
Scheffler, Courtney H.*  
Sellers, Michelle  
Smith, Jeremy*#  
Song, Amanda~  
Stratton, Alexa R.*  
Sturtz, Melanie R.*  
Trick, Sarah C.*^  
Urbanski, Erin L.*  
Verenich, Maxim M.  
Wang, Jason*  
Westrick, William J.*^  
Willey, Brook A.  
Wong, Brittany C.*^  
Yang, Shinju

Candidates for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy
December 12, 2020

Agyeman, Fred Owusu  
Alsadoon, Waleed Abdulhadi  
Bonjourne de Almeida, Lilian  
Bullis, David  
Fuentes, Kaira Thaís  
Han, Youl  
Samson, Melvin Amand  
Wang, Qian  
Woodbridge, Margaret Huggins  
Xue, Lei  
Yuan, Jinxia
Candidates for the Degree of Master of Science
December 12, 2020

Ahouangbenon, Matthieu Jean Claude
Clark, Emlyn
Fox, Kaitlyn
Ingham, Alana
Kalina, Daniel
Macy, Gary Adam James
McCall, Laine
Perez Volkow, Lucia
Rosenthal, Michael Richard
Wang, Danhan
Wang, Yaoyao

Candidates for the Degree of Master of Professional Studies
December 12, 2020

Billinson, Paul
Diamond, Justin
Lesniak, Amelia
Oke, Amogh Pramod
Restivo, Paige Lyndell
Roberts-McMichael, Annabelle
Wagner, Matthew R.

Students Receiving the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy
August 14, 2020

Folta, Joseph
Jayasuriya, Maneesha T.
Kaishian, Patricia J.
Mackey, Thomas
Nagardeolekar, Aditi
Nyelele, Charity

Students Receiving the Degree of Master of Professional Studies
August 14, 2020

Modrak, Fiona
Morley, Madison S.+
O’Connor, Phoebe C.
Raichel, Jennifer E.

Students Receiving the Degree of Master of Science
August 14, 2020

Davies, Veronica L.
Field, Victoria G.
Grande, Jeanette
Kenward, Michaela J.
Pearce, Casey R.
Reinhardt, Biidaaban M.
Rossi, Anna M.
Schulkowski, Sara N.
Tariq, Zainab

Students Receiving the Degree of Bachelor of Science
August 14, 2020

Burkard, Danielle
Capogreco, Madison K.*
Carras, Matthew H.*
Christensen, Alexa R.
Clemens, Isabelle R.*
Danforth, Christopher J.*
Du, Jessica
Elliott, Jordan M.*
Hanan, Eva L.*
Mackey, Joseph M.
McMullin, Brett
Ranger, Timothy J.
Rivera, Tatiana*
Shen, Jinjin
Stewart, Connor R.
Stradtman, Lilly M.*
Trentini, Grace E.*
Warren, Julian*
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