Dear Friends,

One of the college’s goals is to develop leaders among our student body. The best way to do this is to lead by example. The SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry has spent years building a solid foundation of research, service, and education and is now taking a leadership role in many arenas.

The college has introduced a new bioprocess engineering major. This program will lead the way into the latest technologies to create a sustainable future. Already, Dr. Thomas E. Amidon’s work in producing ethanol from wood is at the forefront of research being done to break the nation’s dependency on fossil fuels. Likewise, work by our Salix Consortium to convert willow biomass into energy, bioproducts and biofuels is receiving considerable media and government attention as a way to develop an alternative source of carbon.

We have put what we teach into practice with the installation of a green energy-saving roof on Walters Hall and a 250-kilowatt carbonate fuel cell. We expect to be installing a 15kw photovoltaic system late this fall.

This year, the college can claim having someone — whether faculty or student — working and studying on every continent. From Antarctica to Honduras and Japan to Brazil, ESF is helping build sustainable futures worldwide while bringing cultural influences home and incorporating them in the work being done here.

We are working with the Manufacturers Association of Central New York (MACNY) to keep jobs and trained professionals in New York. Our certificate programs train professionals to take their careers in new directions to meet today’s new economy.

Our students continue to lead in the area of community service. Whether building houses for Habitat for Humanity or maintaining area nature trails, ESF students are making a difference by getting involved, finding solutions and bringing those visions to fruition. Last year our students provided 65,000 hours of community service.

I hope you will join me in celebrating ESF’s achievements as highlighted in this year’s annual report.

Sincerely,

C. B. Murphy Jr.
Cornelius B. Murphy, Jr., President
SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
In The Classroom

SUNY-ESF 2006 Annual Report
ESF in US News & World Report rankings

For the sixth year in a row, ESF earned a place among the top universities in America, as ranked by U.S. News & World Report. ESF was ranked either first or second among the SUNY institutions included in the magazine’s national universities category.

ESF tied at 46 in the list of top 50 public national universities, and 98 in the category of best national universities, which includes both public and private institutions.

In the “Great Schools, Great Prices,” ranking for national universities, ESF was ranked 43.

One of the key criteria in judging schools is the proportion of classes with fewer than 20 students. In that category, ESF was ranked fifth in the nation, in a tie with Yale University.

The national universities category contains 248 American universities (162 public and 82 private) that offer a wide range of undergraduate majors as well as master’s and doctoral degrees, and are generally considered the top universities in the nation.
Record-setting freshman class

Freshman applications exceeded 1,000 for the first time and 260 freshmen enrolled in 2005-06. These are both records in recent college history. Additionally, 196 transfer students began their studies at ESF in the fall ’05 semester, including 43 who enrolled at the Ranger School in Wanakena. Freshman student quality surpassed expectations as the college continued to accept fewer than six out of 10 freshman applicants for admission. Diversity of the transfer population was equally impressive, attracting students from more than 80 different colleges and universities.
Antarctica expedition

Dr. David Kieber, professor of chemistry, led a team of ESF undergraduate and graduate students to Antarctica in 2005 to conduct chemical oceanography research aboard the Research Vessel *Nathaniel B. Palmer* in the Ross Sea. Kieber, master’s degree candidate Jordan Brinkley and undergraduate John Bisgrove were aboard the NBP in the Ross Sea from late October until Dec. 12, 2005, studying the biological and chemical transformations of algal-derived sulfur compounds, and the climatically important trace gas, dimethyl sulfide (DMS).

Another ESF graduate student working for Kieber, George Westby, was at the U.S. Palmer Station in Antarctica from late October 2005 until February 2006. Westby was part of an international team studying how physical factors such as wind and sunlight affect the biological and chemical changes in DMS in the water column.

Through the ESF in the High School program, the researchers partnered with high school science students who followed the progress of the ESF research, asked questions and viewed pictures through [www.esf.edu/antarctica](http://www.esf.edu/antarctica).

The Antarctica research project was funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation Office of Polar Programs.
Engineers Without Borders in Honduras

Members of the ESF chapter of Engineers Without Borders traveled to Honduras to build and update low-impact, ecologically sound hiking trails for tourist access to Pico Bonito National Park.

Seven students from ESF and one from Syracuse University were in Honduras Dec. 29, 2005, through Jan. 16, 2006. The project was organized through MIRA (Manjelo Integrado de los Recursos Ambientales), a U.S. Agency for International Development program working in Honduras.

Participating ESF students were Matthew Sutton, Richard Huggins, Kristy Davila Lazo, Daniel McCormick, Mary Gifford, Daniel Flynn, and Ronald Sanzo. SU student Kristin Wunsch was also part of the group.
Endowed Faculty of Environmental Resources and Forest Engineering chair

The ESF College Foundation and the Faculty of Environmental Resources and Forest Engineering (ERFEG) are working toward endowing a chair for the department. The endowed chair will strengthen the college’s role in the field of environmental and resources engineering, and promote strong relationships between engineering practitioners and ESF faculty and students. The cumulative total of all gifts and pledges to the ERFEG chair is approaching $300,000.
The Faculty of Landscape Architecture was ranked among the nation’s top programs in that discipline.

In rankings compiled by DesignIntelligence, the undergraduate program at ESF was ranked ninth in the United States. The graduate program was ranked 14th.

DesignIntelligence ranks programs that are accredited by the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board.

When the survey results were broken down by region, the ESF undergraduate program did even better, with employers in 11 northeastern states and the District of Columbia ranking the undergraduate program third in the nation.
New faculty hires

ESF added several new faculty members during the 2005-06 academic year.

Nasri Abdel-Aziz was named instructor in the Faculty of Forest and Natural Resources Management; Shijie Liu was named assistant professor in the Faculty of Paper Science and Engineering; Georgios E. Mountrakis was named assistant professor in the Faculty of Environmental Resources and Forest Engineering; Christopher Nomura was named assistant professor in the Faculty of Chemistry; Kelley Donaghy was named assistant professor in the Faculty of Chemistry and Timothy R. Toland was named assistant professor in the Faculty of Landscape Architecture.

*From top: Christopher Nomura, Georgios Mountrakis, Kelley Donaghy, Timothy Toland, and Shijie Liu*
New bachelor of science degree in bioprocess engineering

The Faculty of Paper Science and Engineering has added a new undergraduate major in bioprocess engineering. The program prepares students for careers as engineers in biology-related fields, filling positions typically filled by chemical engineers who have had additional training. Students will study chemical engineering with a focus on developing products and energy from sustainable sources, especially from wood and other lignocellulosic materials and the application of biological processes to provide a wide range of polymers and platform chemicals.

ESF researchers and students are helping to develop ways to enhance bio-based manufacturing to produce a wider base of products. The long-term career prospects of this emerging industry extend from alternative energy research to the pharmaceutical industry. The new academic program is believed to be the first of its kind in the Northeast United States.
Partnership with Manufacturers Association of Central New York

ESF is collaborating with the Manufacturers Association of Central New York (MACNY) to keep skilled workers in New York state. The collaboration continues to expand the certificate of advanced study program that gives professionals a technical edge in the job market and helps businesses meet current and emerging technology needs.

Programs offered include:

- Strategies for the use of sustainable and renewable energy (SURE)
- Advanced Engineering Tools (Brownfields Development)
- Best Practices in Environmental and Green Building Strategies and Techniques (BEST)
- Bioprocess Engineering
- Indoor Environmental Quality
- Solar Power as Renewable Energy (SPARE)
In the Community
SUNY-ESF 2006 Annual Report
State Employees Federated Appeal/United Way

ESF not only met, but exceeded, its State Employees Federated Appeal (SEFA)/United Way goal of $50,000 by more than $2,000.

Two hundred forty-five employees contributed in 2005-06, with 88 increasing their contribution from the previous year. Employees not only gave financially as 22 people volunteered their time to serve as coordinators for the annual drive. The college faculty and staff clearly demonstrated their generosity and commitment to the well being of our greater community.
Graduates of Distinction

ESF and its Alumni Association bestowed Graduate of Distinction honors on two of its alumni during convocation ceremonies in December. This is the first time the Alumni Association has bestowed such an honor.

Anne Papageorge and Dr. David M. Hickok were honored for contributions to their communities and ESF.

A 1983 graduate of ESF’s landscape architecture program, Papageorge is involved in the reconstruction of Lower Manhattan following the 9-11 attacks on the World Trade Center. She is a senior vice president for memorial, culture and civic development with the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation and has a long history of service to ESF.

Hickok has dedicated much of his career to promoting the application of science to support wise public policy and resource management in Alaska.

A 1947 graduate of ESF, Hickok used his knowledge and expertise on the Arctic and associated environs to help formulate the United States Arctic Science Policy. He has been involved in developing the framework for more than 15 federal and state natural resource management laws.
Service Learning/Community Service

For five years, ESF’s Service Learning Initiative has been improving the student experience while contributing to local communities. As it has every year, the college expanded the scope of its service learning initiative with increased community involvement.

Faculty use service learning to give students real hands-on experience while the community service helps students clarify their career goals by affirming their chosen path or introducing them to new possibilities.

Students contributed more than 65,000 hours through the service learning initiative and community service in 2005-2006.

The college added 30 new partners to a new total of 100 community partners. We are clearly providing a high standard and are backing our words with action.
Habitat for Humanity

Students in the ESF/SU chapter of Habitat for Humanity helped put roofs over two families as they worked on houses during the 2005-2006 academic year. The student Habitat chapter initiated a house sponsorship program with the goal of building a house every other year through a partnership with ESF’s Faculty of Construction Management. Two ESF students serve as interns responsible for running the construction aspect of the project, including procurement of building materials and management of student volunteers. Ken Tiss, construction management instructor, oversees the students who earn six credits for their work. During the most recent build, Joshua Brusoe and William Tidd were site managers.

Students also presented Toolbox Talks providing short tutorials on equipment safety and tool techniques to other volunteers adding a Service Learning component to the build.

Seventy-five percent of the students enrolled in the Construction Management program participated, with many working well beyond required class time. The student organization received the President’s Award for Student Organizations. The award recognizes the significant volunteer service of an ESF-recognized student group.
Saturday of Service

For the second year in a row, incoming freshmen participated in ESF’s Saturday of Service.

Saturday of Service for incoming freshmen was initiated to increase ESF’s efforts to become more involved in the Syracuse community. ESF was one of the first colleges in the area to send its freshman class out for community service before classes begin.

Approximately 290 students and orientation leaders spent a Saturday in August working on cleanup projects throughout the city of Syracuse and Onondaga County.

The college teamed up with the Syracuse Parks and Recreation Department for work in Lincoln, Thornden, Elmwood and Sunnycrest parks as well as a section of Onondaga Creek.
Sol Feinstone Awards

ESF presented the 2006 Sol Feinstone Environmental Awards to a pair of outstanding science teachers in May. Carmen Glenn de Luna and Robert C. Hughes II were honored for their innovative teaching techniques and dedication to their students.

The Feinstone program honors individuals from across the United States for their significant contributions to protecting the environment, promoting the wise use and management of our country’s natural resources, and promoting the spirit of volunteerism.

Sol Feinstone, a widely known historian and author who was a graduate of ESF, established the Feinstone awards program in 1976.

Ira Flatow, host of National Public Radio’s (NPR) Talk of the Nation: Science Friday, delivered the keynote address at the Feinstone Awards banquet.

Ross S. Whaley, former ESF president and currently chair of the Adirondack Park Agency, hosted the event and was honored with a special Feinstone Award recognizing his ongoing commitment to the environment.
Groundbreaking Research
SUNY-ESF 2006 Annual Report
Onondaga Lake boat tour

ESF researchers, administrators and staff took area government officials, engineers, civic leaders and other guests on a tour of Onondaga Lake in October 2005 to celebrate the restoration efforts of ESF and its many partners and to highlight the work that remains to be done.

Participants saw where ESF fisheries biologists are monitoring fish populations, an area where water quality is being monitored and where native plantings are being used in wastebeds and wetlands to capture water before it moves through the waste beds.

The tour won a Best of Category award for community relations programs from the SUNY Council for University Advancement (SUNY CUAD) during its annual meeting in June 2006.
Deer tracking/chronic wasting disease

Scores of deer in Central New York are being tracked by satellite around the clock for a year in an effort to discover more about their habits and, in turn, learn more about the potential spread of chronic wasting disease, a highly contagious and unavoidably fatal neurological disorder.

Researchers from ESF fit deer with collars that use a high-tech global positioning system to mark their locations every five hours for one year.

Deciphering the patterns of deer movement should shed light on how the disease spreads across geographic areas. The study results will also help wildlife managers learn more about controlling deer populations, and by extension, diseases like chronic wasting disease.

After a year, researchers will remove the collars from the first 50 deer and retrieve an electronic record of each deer's movements. Then another 50 deer will be collared and tracked for a year.

The work receives funding from the N.Y. Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and McIntire-Stennis forest research program.
Renewable energy, $700,000 grant

The college received a $700,000 federal grant from the New York City Department of Environmental Protection to further study alternative energy. The woody biomass project develops, tests, evaluates and demonstrates the commercial venues of wood-based bio-refinery technology. ESF’s partners on this project are SUNY Delhi and the Center of Excellence in Watershed Management led by both institutions.

This project will act as a new way to retain and attract green business in New York state and give additional value to the state’s forests and farms.
Governor Pataki Promotes Energy Independence Initiatives during visit to ESF

Governor George E. Pataki highlighted an innovative $20 million program in the state budget for the development of a cellulosic ethanol pilot facility in New York state during a visit to the ESF campus on May 8, 2006.

The governor emphasized the importance of boosting the production of clean, renewable fuels. Governor Pataki proposed, and the Legislature approved, a $20 million program to develop a pilot cellulosic ethanol facility in New York. The State Department of Agriculture and Markets will administer this program, using a competitive process to make the award.

The governor also announced $60,000 in funding for ESF to develop its first commercial willow plantation, to be located in the Tug Hill region and managed in cooperation with Lyonsdale Biomass. This project will establish feedstocks that can be used in the production of cellulosic ethanol.
Scope of ESF research highlighted

Research and researchers at ESF were involved in a flurry of activity in 2005-06. A new traveling exhibit highlights ESF faculty and students carrying out research in more than 60 locations worldwide. Nine international scholars carried out research at ESF.

A patents fair showcased 27 inventions by ESF faculty; six new disclosures were submitted.

A grantsmanship conference was undertaken by the Office of Research Programs (ORP) on behalf of the faculty. The 12th Annual Mentoring Conference was held in January during which outside speakers and ESF faculty met to share knowledge of the funding process and its contribution to ESF programs.

The ORP also launched a new web-based tool for researchers. The Research Times provides ESF’s research community timely access to new opportunities.
Finances and Buildings
SUNY-ESF 2006 Annual Report
ESF moves to use more alternative energy

The college continued its mission to “practice what it teaches” by using a variety of methods and technologies that will cut the college’s dependency on oil.

A green, or vegetated roof, was installed on Walters Hall. The roof will aid in storm-water management, serve as insulation, reduce noise levels inside the building and protect the roofing material.

The college also installed a 250-kilowatt carbonate fuel cell with assistance from the New York Power Authority and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority. The fuel cell will produce energy to help power campus and provide research opportunities into methods for commercializing clean energy. Producing electricity through a chemical process, the fuel cell gives off virtually no emissions in meeting about 17 percent of the campus’ electricity requirements.

Plans are also underway to install a 15-kilowatt photovoltaic system in Walters Hall. The photovoltaic project includes an education and training partnership with the Syracuse City School District and Onondaga Community College with funding provided by the NYSERDA and Congressman James Walsh.
Baker Laboratory update

The interior demolition and abatement project at Baker Lab was completed this spring, on time and within budget. The project included demolition of the original interior of the tower, including removal of remaining hazardous materials/asbestos items. Consistent with ESF environmental sustainability goals, many of the demolition materials were recycled or salvaged rather than placed in the landfill.

The third and final phase of the Baker project is underway. This phase represents $14.8 million of construction. Murnane Building Contractors, the prime contractor for Phase 3, also completed Phase 1 of the project. Renovation is on schedule.

Once this work is completed, alterations will be made to the temporary spaces in the one-story section of the building to convert them to their final programmatic purposes. Afterwards the temporary spaces occupying portions of the first floor of the four-story section of the building will move to their permanent locations in the one-story wing. These moves will then allow for renovation of much of the first floor of the four-story section of Baker Lab.

The entire project should be complete in 2008.
College expands wireless capability

ESF continued its efforts to provide wireless computer access to faculty, staff and students by expanding the technology to areas in Marshall and Illick halls. Moon Library has been wireless since fall 2005.
Foundation report

Along with keeping pace to reach its $100 million goal in assets by 2020, the ESF College Foundation had a number of accomplishments this year:

- Foundation assets reached $17.8 million, which is approximately one year ahead of annual goal to reach $100 million in 2020.
- The endowment grew by 12 percent.
- Seven new named scholarship funds were created.
- A new major gift officer position was created and filled to enhance fundraising efforts.
- The foundation purchased student rental properties to provide housing to 97 ESF students.
- Financial support for academic programming and equipment increased by 19 percent.
- A new fundraising initiative was completed raising $75,000 to endow a scholarship in honor of ESF Professor Emeritus Harrison H. Payne, who also served as vice president of student affairs.
- The foundation hosted 11 friend and/or fund-raising events.
Research funds increase

ESF continues to increase the amount of sponsored research taking place at the college. Total expenditures for sponsored research in fiscal year 2005-2006 were approximately $13.1 million. This is a significant increase over the previous year. There were 225 proposals submitted for a total of $46.2 million.
College Community
SUNY-ESF 2006 Annual Report
Dr. Robert French named new vice president for enrollment management and marketing

Following a national search, Dr. Robert C. French was appointed to the position of ESF vice president for enrollment management and marketing. He oversees the offices of undergraduate admissions, financial aid, and news and publications.

French comes to ESF from the Rochester Institute of Technology where he served as assistant vice president for enrollment management and career services.

French earned his bachelor’s degree in political science from Eisenhower College, his master’s degree in educational administration from Syracuse University, and his Ph.D. in higher education administration from SUNY Buffalo.
Marcia Barber promoted to HR director

Marcia A. Barber, a 16-year veteran of ESF, was named the college's new director of human resources. Barber, who most recently served as ESF's assistant director of human resources, replaces Elaine Irvin, who retired in October.

In her previous role, Barber was responsible for recruitment and employment processes for the college's 485 employees on both state and SUNY Research Foundation payrolls. Her experience includes overseeing classification and compensation, working with employee relations, and developing and delivering employee-training programs.
Dr. Theodore Endreny awarded Fulbright

Dr. Theodore A. Endreny, associate professor, was awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to lecture and conduct research at the University of Cyprus in Nicosia, Cyprus, during the 2006 spring semester.

Endreny, a water resources engineer, investigated the water balance of the area. By studying the links between water resource changes and likely on-going channel destabilization, Endreny hopes opportunities to correct degradation will not be missed.

Recipients of Fulbright Scholar awards are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement and because they have demonstrated extraordinary leadership potential in their fields.
Dr. Donald Leopold named EFB chair

Dr. Donald J. Leopold assumed the post of chair of the Faculty of Environmental and Forest Biology. Dr. Leopold had been serving as interim chair since the summer of 2005. Following a national search, Leopold was recommended for the position by the EFB faculty and the search committee. Leopold has served the ESF community as a distinguished professor and researcher for 20 years. He specializes in dendrology, freshwater wetland ecosystems, and Adirondack ecosystems.
Dr. Neil Ringler Appointed Dean of Research

Dr. Neil H. Ringler, formerly chair of the Faculty of Environmental and Forest Biology, was appointed dean of research programs in May 2006. Ringler, a specialist in the ecology of St. Lawrence River fishes and the effects of forest practices on aquatic systems, joined the ESF faculty in 1974.
Three ESF faculty members were honored by the Research Foundation of the State University of New York and TIAA-CREF for their outstanding research and scholarship.

Dr. Thomas E. Amidon, Dr. Charles A. Hall, and Dr. Edwin H. White were chosen for their dedication and efforts to advance humanity and enhance New York state’s economy, and for contributing to the SUNY’s excellent reputation for research and scholarship.

Amidon is a pioneer in evaluating new approaches for the disassembly of woody materials with the twin aims of preserving existing uses while making new raw materials available to develop new wood products.

Hall is a systems ecologist best known for developing the concept of EROI, or energy return on investment, which examines how organisms, including humans, invest energy to obtain additional energy to improve their biotic or social fitness.

White is director of the SUNY Center for Sustainable and Renewable Energy, based at ESF. He has contributed to the education of students and the advancement of science in the fields of forest soils, forestry, tree nutrition and bioenergy for nearly 40 years.
James F. Palmer elected to Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture

Professor Emeritus James F. Palmer was elected to the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA) Academy of Fellows.

Palmer is part of the inaugural class of the CELA Academy of Fellows which honors faculty members’ lifetime accomplishments in teaching, scholarship/creative activity and service.

Palmer, a specialist in quantitative social sciences and natural resource planning, was nominated by the Vermont ASLA Chapter for his contributions to the field of landscape architecture. He has taught for more than 22 years in the Faculty of Landscape Architecture at ESF.

Palmer received his bachelor’s degree in both politics and environmental studies from University of California Santa Cruz. He earned his Master of Landscape Architecture and Ph.D. from University of Massachusetts Amherst.
Elizabeth Titus Putnam receives honorary degree

Elizabeth C. Titus Putnam received an honorary doctorate from ESF during the May 13 Convocation. Titus Putnam is the founder of the Student Conservation Association (SCA), America's largest conservation service organization. Many ESF students have participated in SCA projects since the organization's inception in the late 1950s and early '60s.

Nominations for recipients of all SUNY honorary degrees must pass several stages of review. They first must be approved by the campus president and State University administration before being considered by the SUNY Board of Trustees, which votes on all prospective honorary degree recipients.
Dr. Myron Mitchell receives Exemplary Researcher Award

Dr. Myron J. Mitchell, Distinguished Professor in the Faculty of Environmental and Forest Biology, received ESF's first Exemplary Researcher Award during the college’s annual Spotlight on Research April 20. He was selected for the honor by his peers.

This new, college-level award recognizes a successful, currently active faculty member with exemplary research activity, publication record and graduate/undergraduate research program. Mitchell's achievements in biogeochemistry, hydrology and ecology serve as an excellent example of accomplishment in research, and in development of a mentoring program for graduate students and post-doctoral scientists.

Mitchell's research involves terrestrial and aquatic ecosystem processes. He is currently director of the college's Council on Hydrologic Systems Science. He serves on the SUNY Research Foundation Board and regularly serves on National Science Foundation funding panels.
ESF students receive chancellor’s award for student excellence

Deborah Visco of Huntington Station, N.Y. and Laura Wayne of Skaneateles, N.Y. were presented with the Chancellor’s Award for Student Excellence during a ceremony at the Empire State Convention Center in April. They received framed certificates and medallions, which were worn at commencement.

Visco was an environmental and forest biology major. She was on the President’s High Honors List every semester and was a SUNY Alumni Memorial Scholarship Honorable Mention winner. She was a member of the ESF Green Campus Initiative executive board. Visco was a chemistry tutor, and an orientation leader, and earned the Gold Award as a Girl Scout of America.

Wayne was a biotechnology major and received presidential high honors. She was active in ESF’s Honors Program and completed her bachelor’s degree in only three years. She was selected in a national competition to receive a summer undergraduate research fellowship from the American Society of Plant Biologists. Wayne served as a research intern at Johns Hopkins University between semesters and volunteered at Roberts Middle School in Syracuse. She founded the Bioethics Club at ESF in 2005 and is an accomplished dancer and musician.
ESF Honors its own with Community Service awards

President Cornelius B. Murphy, Jr., presented the 2005 recipients of the President’s Awards for Community Service to a faculty member, a student and a student group in December.

Associate Professor Cheryl S. Doble received the President's Award for a faculty or staff member. She was recognized for incorporating service-learning into her course curricula and involving students in community service. Doble teaches in the Faculty of Landscape Architecture and co-founded and directs the Center for Community Design Research.

Then-senior Megan Scott, an environmental resources and forest engineering major, received the President's Award for Individual Service by a student. Scott co-founded the ESF Chapter of Engineers Without Borders.

Scott helped lead the Engineers Without Borders on their first project to the island of Dominica where they installed a micro-hydro turbine to supply electricity to the Archbold Research and Education Center.

The ESF-SU chapter of Habitat for Humanity received the President's Award for Student Organizations. Almost 300 students have participated in Habitat for Humanity projects including renovating and building homes in Syracuse.
Dick Sage honored posthumously

The late Richard W. Sage Jr., who was associate director of ESF’s Adirondack Ecological Center, was honored posthumously with a 2005 Wildlife Stewardship Award from the American Forest & Paper Association.

Sage was 58 when he collapsed and died while leading an ecology class at Whiteface Mountain in the Adirondacks.

He was honored in the national award program’s Industry Cooperator Category for his contribution to wildlife and land stewardship in the Adirondack region. The stewardship awards recognize significant achievements by wildlife and fisheries biologists or managers whose work with the forest industry has benefited wildlife management or forest resource management.
ESF Graduate Named 2006 Presidential Management Fellow

Robert McAfee, who received his bachelor of science degree from ESF in 2004, was named a 2006 Presidential Management Fellow. He was one of 550 fellows selected from 167 graduate institutions out of 3,500 applicants in a competitive selection process.

The purpose of the program is to attract to the federal service outstanding men and women from a variety of academic disciplines and career paths who have a clear interest in, and commitment to, excellence in the leadership and management of public policies and programs.

McAfee graduated with his master of science degree in forest and natural resources management in May 2006. His thesis research, “Innovative Management Structures for Onsite Wastewater Treatment” was completed under the guidance of co-major professors Dr. Robert W. Malmsheimer and Dr. Sharon D. Moran.
ESF community events

ESF increased its presence in the community through a variety of events and venues. The college made its first appearance at the Greater Syracuse Chamber of Commerce show in March, college staff also participated in 40 Below, the Link CNY Innovation Expo, the Duck Race to End Racism, and the New York State Fair. During these events, ESF highlighted its bioenergy research, graduate programs and the different faculties.

ESF President Cornelius B. Murphy, Jr.; Dr. Richard Smardon, chair of the Faculty of Environmental Studies; and Dr. Edwin White, director SUNY Center for Sustainable and Renewable Energy, were presenters at the Link CNY Innovation Expo.
ESF in the media

Nature in Your Backyard

ESF produced a series of two-minute television features titled “Nature In Your Backyard.” The features are designed to help people enjoy and better understand the world around them, give ESF students a proactive learning environment and enhance the broadcast image of the college.

Under the supervision of D. Andrew Saunders, Faculty of Environmental and Forest Biology, the programs dealt with aspects of nature people often overlook. Graduate student Emily DeBolt did the basic research, writing and reporting for each segment. DeBolt earned her master’s degree in environmental interpretation in May. David White, media relations coordinator, edited the scripts, supervised taping of each segment, and developed distribution outlets.

The first eight segments aired on Bridge Street, a magazine show on WSYR Channel 9 in Syracuse, the Orange Television Network at Syracuse University, WCNY television in Syracuse, WNED in Buffalo and WPBS in Watertown. The segments are being packaged on DVD and will be available to New York science teachers and nature centers.
ESF in the media

Waterdrops

Peter E. Black, emeritus professor of water and related land resources at ESF, was featured on WRVO radio stations with weekly essays about water in January 2006. Black shared his wonderment about water and how it touches our lives every day with listeners. Programs and scripts are available at www.esf.edu.

Black retired in 2000 but continues to teach short courses, advise students and provide public service. Black was appointed SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor in 1997. He holds professional hydrologist certification by the American Institute of Hydrology.
ESF in the media

Science Friday
ESF and the WRVO Stations were proud to bring National Public Radio’s (NPR) Talk of the Nation: Science Friday to Central New York. Hosted by Ira Flatow, the live broadcast took place in Marshall Auditorium on the ESF campus on May 19, 2006.

Science Friday’s Syracuse broadcast was heard nationwide on more than 200 NPR stations and reached an audience of more than 3 million. Listeners in central and northern New York tuned in to the program on the WRVO family of stations.

ESF President Cornelius B. Murphy, Jr., was a panel member on the first hour of the broadcast. ESF professors Richard Smardon and Emanuel Carter were panel members during the second hour.