

IPFE at the XIII World Forestry Congress



The 13th World Forestry Congress was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina 18-23 October 2009 under the theme: "Forest Development: A Vital Balance". More than 7, 000 participants from 160 countries attended. The Conference Declaration called for the broadest possible coalition to address the many challenges the forestry sector is facing. It further called for immediate "multi-sector responses" to rapid global changes. "Today, the major pressures on forests are arising from outside the forest sector, such as changes in global climates, economic conditions, and population".

IPFE and IFSA organised a session on Forestry Education under the Theme: Research, extension and education.

Two invited papers were presented:

- The future of forestry education. (Hosny El-Lakany)
- Towards a global action plan for forestry education. (Florent Kaiser).

Four Voluntary papers were also presented:

- Exploring the motivation of international forestry degree students. (Javier Arevalo).
- Tendances et évolution de l'éducation forestière de niveau ingénieur: le cas français. (Michael Rivoire)
- Students become active to improve forestry education: inputs, perspectives – based on the example of the International Forestry Students. (Nicolas Dolidon)
- The discipline as main integrator and its role in building professional skills in the forestry career, Cuba. (Marta Bonilla).

The session received information on forestry education developments in various countries and institutions. Participants felt that the rise in the number of stakeholders in forestry accompanied by shifting societal perspectives are changing the role and importance of forestry education. They recommended that forestry training and education programmes must adapt to these changes. Participants supported the development of forestry education and professional networks. These have a role in ensuring that the right decisions are taken by governing institutions and policy makers and appropriately communicated and implemented. Further work



Hosny El-Lakany (1st from right) and August Temu (far right) meeting with IFSA representatives.

to improve the image of forestry and raise the overall professional competence was recommended.

IFSA presented a draft framework for a global action plan for forestry education proposing a holistic transformation in which the new roles of forestry can be incorporated into curricula. The proposal was appreciated and IFSA will follow on its development and adoption.

The session received information on forestry education developments in various countries and institutions. Some information was shared on forestry education research. Participants noted that students, led by the International Forestry Students Association (IFSA) are playing a key role in stimulating change in forestry education.

At the XIII World Congress the International Forestry Students Association It is important that in developing new programmes and reviewing old ones, the job market situations are taken into consideration. Further, participants at the Research, extension and education session strongly supported the idea of teaching the roles of forests and trees to other disciplines and in schools.



II Workshop on Forestry Education in Latin America, La Plata, October 18th 2009

In La Plata City, Argentina, and one day before XIII World Forestry Congress, the LATFE, Latin American Network on Forestry Education (in Spanish RELAFOR, Red Latinoamericana de Enseñanza Forestal), with 45 representatives from the majority of the countries in Latin America, SILVA Network secretary and professors of the Lerida University, Spain, held the II Workshop in Forestry Education in Latin America.

This is the second time where several aspects related with the challenges in forestry education and teaching had been discussed after the IV Latin American Forestry Congress (2008). In this opportunity, the host was the Faculty of Agrarian and Forestry Sciences, La Plata National University, and was supported by own resources of the participants and the help from the FAO Regional Office in Latin America and Caribbean, the Director of Forests, Government of Argentina, and FINATEC (Fundacao de Emprerimentos Cientificos e Tecnologicos, Brasil).

Valuable information was presented, starting with the announce of official support from the Latin American

Forestry Commission (COFLAT) to the LATFE during the 25th Session in Quito, Ecuador, in September 2008, considering the importance of the forestry education for the forestry sector in LA. Also, the data base with the forestry teaching related institutions in LA, actually created and inserted in the RELAFOR webpage is seeking to be completed soon.

Several tasks about revision of curricula, improve teaching, use of ICT, interchange of professors and students, Agreements between the universities of LA and others subjects were revised following the recommendations of the I Workshop in Forestry Education, Quito, 2008.

The experience of IPFE and SILVA was also considered and suggestions about the Statutes for LATFE were presented together with the successfully revisions of curricula in some countries.

The participants finally agreed to keep and strength the network, seeking resources and more participation of the members.





International Symposium on Forestry Education

May 17th – 21st, 2010, Vancouver, Canada

THE CHINESE STATE FORESTRY Administration, the Canadian Forest Service, the Chinese Education Association of Forestry, the Association of University Forestry Schools of Canada, the UBC Faculty of Forestry, the Beijing Forestry University, and the International Partnership for Forestry Education are jointly organizing the “Olympic Forestry Education Symposia for 2008 and 2010” in Beijing and Vancouver respectively. These symposia bring together senior level administrators of Chinese and Canadian forestry education institutions, and representatives from other international organizations concerned with forestry education.

The Beijing Symposium was held December 7-11 2008 at the Beijing Forestry University. Senior level administrators from more than thirty Chinese universities, from five Canadian universities and representatives from other universities (Australia, Finland, Indonesia, Malaysia USA and Venezuela) met for two days to discuss problems facing post-secondary forestry education, potential collaboration among universities and sharing of combined expertise through web-based learning technologies. The proceedings of the first symposium are available at www.forestry.ubc.ca/ISFE. Full video coverage and presentations are available at: <http://bj2008.forestryeducation.org/front.cfm>

The Organizing Committee has the pleasure of inviting you to participate in the follow-up symposium to be held in Vancouver, British Columbia on May 17th-21st, 2010. Our goal is to discuss progress with issues and themes that were identified at the Beijing Symposium. The symposium will provide a forum for reporting on joint educational programs and initiatives, and will explore future synergies and collaborations.

Topics proposed for the symposium include:

- Promotion of forestry education globally: forestry enrollment and employment prospect figures globally, joint promotion of forestry education, future for forestry education.
- Regional Forestry Education Networks: opportunities to enhance effectiveness of regional networks and possibilities for collaboration across networks.
- E-learning and course-based masters graduate programs in forestry: possibilities for collaboration.
- Incorporating global issues in a universal core curriculum: possibilities of developing a “universal core curriculum” that promotes global dimensions while maintaining special local circumstances.



To discuss how we can work together, please contact IPFE through our Secretariat based in Finland and Canada:

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