



College of Natural Resources

Annual Report 2003

For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2002 and ending June 30, 2003.



Paper Science students making paper



Treehaven Summer Field Training



2003 Student Research Symposium



Prescribed Burn at First Law Group Property

Ongoing CNR initiatives

Academic Initiatives

- Completed program reviews of the Paper Science Department.
 - To complement its strong presence in the State of Wisconsin, collaborative efforts in pulp and paper research and education nationally are being planned, as well as international student internships and faculty development opportunities.
- Enhanced the educational options for students from the Fox Valley by adding UW Fox Valley, Menasha, as a partner to a recently established articulation agreement between UWSP College of Natural Resources and Fox Valley Technical College, Appleton. The new 3-way agreement makes it easier for natural resource technician students at Fox Valley Tech and UW Fox Valley to transfer into any CNR major once they complete their associate degree.
- Strengthened the urban forestry technician “2+2” agreement with Mid-State Technical College, making it easier for MSTC graduates to pursue a 4-year baccalaureate in the CNR.
- CNR faculty and staff assisted UW Richland Center in developing 3 introductory natural resources courses. The new courses will allow UWRC students to explore their interest in natural resource careers, and transfer these credits if they decide to pursue a 4-year degree in the CNR.

Outreach and Extension Initiatives

- Established the Center for Watershed Science & Education (CWSE) in the CNR. The Center, which includes the Central Wisconsin Groundwater Center, Water and Environmental Analysis Lab, and Wisconsin Groundwater Guardians Program, employs 13 faculty and staff members. In FY '03, the Center provided jobs and practical learning experiences for about 30 student employees -- paying out approximately \$50,000 in wages – and field-related volunteer opportunities for about 20 students. GEM Watersheds Program, funded by \$1 million grant from the USEPA for watershed modeling and capacity building for healthy watersheds in Wisconsin and abroad is associated with the CWSE.
 - Renamed the groundwater testing lab the Water & Environmental Analysis Lab – WEAL (formerly Environmental Task Force), now a part of CWSE.
 - Co-sponsored the first-ever statewide Volunteer Stream Monitoring Conference, held in Wisconsin Rapids in September 2002.
- Wisconsin Cooperative Fishery Research Unit – completed 8 fishery research projects and continued work on 12 others. The unit worked with over 20 cooperators representing 11 public and private organizations in the U.S. and Canada, and involved 16 graduate students, 5 research associates, and 10 current or emeritus UWSP faculty members.
- Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Program -- Organized the 25th Annual Wisconsin Lakes Convention in Green Bay on April 10-12, 2003. The conference, titled “Silver Reflections, Golden Projections – 25 Years of Lake Partnerships,” attracted over 600 attendees from around the state. Dean Victor Phillips, one of the plenary speakers for the event, presented “From Here 2 Opportunity.”
- Established the LEAF program – Learning, Experiences & Activities in Forestry – to promote kindergarten through 12th grade forestry education in Wisconsin. Progress in 2002-03 included the development of the K-8 section of the new K-12 Activity Guide

for teachers, and the hiring of Jeremy Solin, Wisconsin School Forest Specialist. LEAF has a current staff of four.

- National Environmental Education Training Partnership (EETAP) -- CNR continued its national leadership in environmental education as the management entity for the EETAP program involving 10 partners nationwide, and \$2.5 million in renewed funding from the E.P.A. for 2003.

College-Wide Integrating Initiatives:

- Global Environmental Management (GEM) Education Center
 - 2002 and 2003 International Seminars on Watershed Management (Sept.-Oct. 2002 and June 2003) – planned and hosted the first two seminars through partnering grants (\$96,073 and \$77,900) from the USDA Forest Service Office of International Programs. A two-week practical, field study tour that visits numerous sites throughout Wisconsin, the 2002 event attracted 20 international water resource managers from 12 nations; in 2003 there were 24 participants representing 15 nations.
 - GEM Advancement/Statement of Purpose -- GEM Advancement Planning Sessions held in March and May 2003 with market research input conducted by national management consultant, Francis Pandolfi. The meetings helped to establish a 20-word statement of purpose and a 12-month operating plan for GEM. The research is guiding the update of GEM communication materials and a strategy for GEM advancement.
 - Secured \$2 million federal grant through USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) to launch the GEM *Rural Leadership & Community Development* program. Thanks to efforts by Rep. Dave Obey, this is the third major federal grant for GEM since 2000, totaling over \$5 million. The GEM project calls for a 10-year total federal investment of \$40 million, together with \$30 million investments each from the State of Wisconsin and private sources, or \$100 million total.
 - CNR Dean Victor Phillips and other faculty and staff continued staging discussions toward new GEM partnerships in numerous countries, including Mexico, Puerto Rico, Germany, Austria, Poland, France, South Africa, China, Kenya, Tanzania, Costa Rica, Ecuador.
 - CNR Dean Victor Phillips and other faculty and staff continued staging discussions with potential NGO partners, including United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), U.S.AID, National Wildlife Federation, World Wildlife Fund, Pro-Natura, and many others.
- Waters of Wisconsin Project of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters – CNR staff, Mike Dombeck and George Kraft were part of the Waters of Wisconsin steering committee that organized the first-ever statewide Waters of Wisconsin Forum in Madison in October 2002. Their efforts contributed to the governor's declaration of 2003 as the Year of Water in Wisconsin.
- 2003 Year of Water – CNR and GEM have organized or hosted numerous events in observation of the governor's declaration of 2003 as the Year of Water, many of which are listed on the 2003 Year of Water website calendar:
<http://www.wisconsinyearofwater.org/calendar/index.html>
- Groundbreaking for the first of four planned double cabin residential facilities at Treehaven. Construction of the double cabin, to be completed by fall 2003, was

made possible by a \$150,000 lead gift to the Treehaven Double Cabin Campaign from the Dorothy K. Vallier Foundation.

Activities and accomplishments in Student-Centered Excellence

- 2003 CNR Student Research Symposium -- An annual CNR highlight event established in 2000 by Dean Victor Phillips to celebrate student excellence in research. This year's Symposium, held April 11, 2003, featured 38 student presenters, 28 research projects, a buffet lunch, and nearly 300 attendees including Maliyakal John, UW System intellectual property manager. The event was made possible through a generous gift from John and Anne Meyer of Trego, Wisconsin:
ORAL PRESENTATION WINNERS:
1st Place - Nicholas Johnson -- The Movement of Nitrate, Chloride, and Sulfate in the Emmons Creek Basin
2nd Place - Marie Galewski -- Nitrous Oxide in Groundwater Discharge from an Agricultural Basin
3rd Place - Randy Mentz -- Nitrate and Pesticide Penetration and Trends in Wisconsin Aquifers
POSTER PRESENTATION WINNERS:
1st Place - Jessica Orlofske, Sarah Orlofske and Nathan Peterson -- The Occurrence of *Ribeiroia ondatrae* (Platyhelminthes: Trematoda) Life Stages in Snail and Amphibian Hosts
2nd Place - Luke Hennigan and Kurt Rasmussen -- Relationships Between Land Use and Water Quality in Lakes Helen and Lions, Portage County, Wisconsin
3rd Place - Grant Domke -- Weather on Burn Days and Its Effects on Northern Pin Oak Growth
- CNR Rendezvous Awards Program – annual spring event held on April 12, 2003 at Sentry Theater attended by over 300 people; distributed 146 student scholarships totaling \$119,150, plus 10 outstanding student awards and 8 service awards to faculty, staff, alumni and professionals.
- UWSP Society of American Foresters (SAF): Top Student Chapter in the Nation. Awarded in October 2002. Since 1994 UWSP's SAF chapter has been awarded two third-place, two second-place, and now two first-place awards. SAF faculty advisor is John Houghton, associate professor of forestry.
- UWSP Wildlife Society (TWS): 2002 Student Chapter of the Year Award, North Central Section of The Wildlife Society. Awarded in September 2002 for involvement in projects such as prairie restoration, wolf tracking, and bluebird habitat restoration. Faculty advisor is Eric Anderson, professor of wildlife.
- UWSP Soil & Water Conservation Society (SWCS): 2002 National Outstanding Chapter of the Year Award. One of only five clubs nationally to be recognized. Awarded in July 2002. The club's main project was a study of Horicon Marsh near Beaver Dam, WI. Faculty advisor is Ron Hensler, professor of soil and waste resources.
- Nicholas Crawford, a senior majoring in Urban Forestry, was elected to serve as President of the UWSP Student Government Association in 2003-04.
- Kelly English, a graduate student in natural resources with a bachelor degree from Harvard, made a presentation with Chancellor Tom George at the UW System Board of Regents meeting on the UWSP campus held on May 9, 2003. The presentation was titled "Regional Sustainability: The Economy and the Environment." Kelli was

also honored as the recipient of the 2003 UWSP Outstanding Graduate Student Award at Spring Commencement.

- Adam Hoffman, a senior from Park Falls majoring in paper science, was awarded the 2002-03 Student of the Year in New York City on June 30, 2003, by the Paper Industry Management Association (PIMA), a leading trade association in the paper industry.
- Keith Halvorson, a senior from Spooner majoring in paper science, was selected to participate in an international paper science internship in Sweden during 2002.
- Sarah Braun, a junior majoring in wildlife and biology, and Juliet Nagel, a senior majoring in wildlife and biology, were named Morris K. Udall Scholars for 2002-03, each receiving up to \$5,000 for school expenses.
- Developed and printed *CNR Student Organizations*, an informational booklet for student orientation that describes each of the College's 22 student organizations, including specific contacts and faculty/staff advisors for each organization.

Activities and accomplishments in Partnerships

- Secured \$2 million federal grant through USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to launch the GEM *Rural Leadership & Community Development* program. This is the third major federal grant for GEM since 2000, totaling over \$5 million. Previous grants are funding GEM programs for watershed management and comprehensive land use planning in Wisconsin with twinning studies abroad.
- CNR faculty and staff earned 64 extramural grants totaling \$4,172,168 (73% of UWSP campus total). Partners include:
 - Applied Ecological Services, Inc.
 - Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation
 - City of Waupaca
 - Columbia County
 - County of Dane
 - Energy Center of Wisconsin
 - ESEA Title II Higher Education Professional
 - Fond du Lac County
 - Fox-Wolf Basin 2000
 - Lake Michigan Air Directors Consortium
 - Long Lake Preservation Association
 - Marathon County Land Conservation
 - Portage County
 - Portage County Planning & Zoning
 - Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
 - Stevens Point Water & Sewage Commission
 - Stora Enso
 - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
 - U.S. Department of Agriculture
 - USDA Forest Service
 - UW-Coop Extension
 - UW-Madison
 - UW-Sea Grant Institute
 - Village of Plover
 - Whiting Utilities
 - WI Association for Environmental Education
 - WI Department of Administration
 - WI Dept. of Natural Resources
 - WI Environmental Education Board
 - Wood County
 - Zoological Society/Milwaukee County

- Continued partnerships with Mid-State Technical College, Fox Valley Technical College, UW Fox Valley, and UW Richland Center, to allow a smoother transition for students from 2-year programs to pursue a bachelor degree in natural resources.

Student success/First year initiatives

- Opened new CNR Student Success Center in September 2002. Remodeled existing space on the CNR's first floor into a 3-room suite that serves as a "one-stop" center for CNR student information and services. The Center is home to the CNR Peer Advising Program, a Career Library, and a CNR Information Center, which handles scholarship applications and admissions to the summer sessions in Europe and Treehaven. The Center's staff of 12 students is managed by Sue Kissinger, CNR advising and recruitment coordinator.
- Group Tutoring Sessions held weekly in fall and spring in conjunction with the Biology Department.
- Low GPA Alert Program – Aimed to help natural resource students who are having difficulty be more successful by reminding them of their academic status and encouraging them to seek counseling through the CNR Student Success Center.
- FIG Program – Two established CNR Freshman Interest Groups with about 20 students each in Neale and Knutson halls. Students take 9 credits of classes together during their freshman year, and participate in other academic and social activities. The FIG Program helps to engage students early in their career through involvement with peers that share similar interests.

Development success

Highlights of new support:

- Global Environmental Management (GEM) Education Center -- Federal appropriation to launch GEM Education Center Rural Leadership & Community Development program -- from USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) (confirmed May 2003): **\$2,000,000.00**
- CNR Spring Appeal (Apr. 1 – June 30, 2003) -- Phonathon
 - 2,467 alumni contacted
 - 552 pledges
 - Total raised (gifts and pledges): **\$23,276.00**
- Ross-Schmeekle Endowment – May 2003 gift from John and Nancy Ross; current balance of the endowment is over \$20,000 **\$2,724.50**
- Ryan Wallock Forestry Memorial Scholarship established - annual gift for Treehaven Summer Camp tuition scholarship award (March 2003) **\$500.00**
- New funds:
 - Paul Foundation Wildlife Research Fund established - five-year/\$100,000 total commitment; Sept. 2002 gift installment: **\$20,000.00**
 - BOW Nicole Oeltjen Endowment – for support of the Becoming An Outdoors-Woman program: **\$16,150.00**
 - Southern Lakes Whitetails Scholarship Award established - gift to initiate endowment and 2003 award (January 2003): **\$5,500.00**
 - Mark & Eva Schroeder Scholarship (charter in progress): **\$25,000.00**
 - Martini Family Scholarship -- new annual scholarship for natural resource students (charter in process): **\$500.00**

Other solicitation, cultivation and related development activities:

- Schmeekle Reserve Visitor Center Prospectus – Proposal to Sentry Insurance (CEO Dale Schuh) – requested support for \$4.8 million expansion project (December 2002)
- Dorothy K. Vallier Foundation Proposal - for \$42,000 to continue the Vallier Treehaven Chair of Ecology (resulted in verbal commitment to continue this program indefinitely)
- Herb Kohl Charities Proposal - for GEM Education Center building funds (\$10 million) or GEM endowed chair (\$6.5 million)
- GEM Advancement/Feasibility Study -- national consultant Francis Pandolfi - next steps for GEM development
 - Planning sessions on Feb. 28, March 1, and May 13, 2003
 - In-depth telephone interviews with 44 national leaders in business and industry
 - Reputation/status of CNR: ranked among top 3 in U.S.
 - Developed Statement of Purpose for GEM
 - Developed 12-month calendar of development action items
- Sam Johnson dialogue – postponed due to recent cancer diagnosis
- Fall 2002 CNR News alumni/donor newsletter – 16 page tabloid printed and mailed to approximately 7,000 CNR alumni and friends; also available on the web: <http://www.uwsp.edu/CNR/Fall02.pdf>

Summary of Giving to CNR for FY 03: (does not include grants)

Total Gifts:	732
Total Donors:	628
Total Dollars Raised In Gifts (excluding pledges)	\$265,182.33

Status of CNR Accounts in UWSP Foundation (as of June 1, 2003)

Total number of accounts	107
Endowed	42
Non-endowed (spendable)	65
Balance – Endowed	\$2,171,483.93
Balance – Non-endowed	\$556,839.66
Total Balance	\$2,728,323.59

Other notable activities and accomplishments

- Faculty book publications:
 - Michael Dombek: *From Conquest to Conservation: Our Public Lands Legacy* (co-authored by Chris Wood and Jack Williams)
 - Michael Gross & Ron Zimmerman: *Interpretive Centers: The History, Design and Development of Nature and Visitor Centers*
 - Lowell Klessig (Emeritus): *Woodland Visions – Appreciating and Managing Forests for Scenic Beauty*
 - Robert Rogers: *The Ecology and Silviculture of Oaks*
 - Neil Payne (Emeritus): *More Wildlife On Your Land*
- Patent:
 - Bryant Browne, associate professor of soils, sought a U.S. patent for a device that measures multiple dissolved gases in both surface and ground water.

Goals for 2003-2004

1. **CNR Student-Centered Excellence:** Develop and implement additional means to recognize and celebrate CNR undergraduate teaching and learning.
2. **Curriculum and program priorities:** a) Implement CNR academic program assessment plan; b) Develop and implement plans considering recommendations from program reviews to strengthen and integrate the Paper Science program.
3. **CNR facility priorities:** a) Conduct GEM building site identification process and procure federal and private funds for GEM program advancement; b) Evaluate CWES operations, develop appropriate plans, and implement appropriate actions.