with many foresters.

John’s inquisitive mind took him into many areas in which he had an influence on foresters and forestry. Perhaps the first was his address to the Institute in Nelson, about the time he took up a post as Director of the Joint Centre for Environmental Studies (JCES) (Canterbury and Lincoln), in 1978, having been for 14 years Planning Officer with Tussoc Grasslands and Mountain Lands Institute (TGMLI). In this address, of which no copy seems to have survived but which has been remembered, he challenged the profession to recognise that, however it may have historically seen itself, it was no longer capable of generating all the answers to the problems and challenges of forest management. New disciplines and new skills were being developed with which foresters must come to terms or be overwhelmed. In retrospect it must be said that the profession was very nearly overwhelmed.

His academic reputation rested on a piece of hydrological research conducted for his doctorate, in which he showed that contrary to the received wisdom of the day it was the riparian zone which was most influential in determining rates and quantities of sediment loss, and subsequent erosion. This work had a major effect on the development of soil conservation policies and practices in mountain lands.

At a time (1972) before such integrated studies became common, John conducted a comprehensive study of land use and recreation in the Waimakariri Basin. The language and concepts of landscape, recreation and multiple use in the final work would not be out of place were they published today.

John’s most lasting legacy will be the cohorts of students who passed through the Centre for Resource Management, formed when TGMLI and JCES merged in 1982, with John as the founding Director. Here he made his life’s work, developing and running a vibrant research and teaching centre which quickly gained a national and international reputation in integrated environmental management. John’s interest in the connections between disciplines led him to explore the possibility of integrating the teaching of forestry into the Lincoln Campus and to teach it as a component of a broad undergraduate resource management degree with opportunities for specialisation.

In this he was not completely successful – and time alone will tell whether in this failed forestry will have been better off.

John’s students now occupy positions of influence in many fields of endeavour, but particularly in the fields of land use policy and practice. Some departments of Lincoln have been known for their adherence to the so-called Chicago School of economic thinking in which the sum of pursuit of the individual benefit is presumed to optimise the benefit to society. This was not John’s way, and not the way of his students, although he was never loathe to let them examine that particular philosophy. They will be found exerting a moderating influence in their professions, imposing control over the untrammelled operation of the market in the interests of the environment, future generations and the less fortunate of today’s generation, whether as farmers, foresters, planners or policy makers in central and local government. The Resource Management Act is in large measure a monument to John, teacher, leader, adviser and friend of a generation.

One former student said “… I entered his course a Canadian living in New Zealand and left a New Zealander born in Canada”.

No more significant tribute could be paid.

John Holloway, FNZIF.

Nelson in late April had glorious weather. Quite how the 66th AGM of the Institute attracted about 100 members indoors for the afternoon, I am not sure.

First up it was proposed to have theRotorua Section stage the ‘95 AGM and Conference in Taupo with a theme of Technology and Research in the Forest Industry. That decided, we agreed to hold the ‘96 AGM somewhere in Australia in conjunction with a joint ANZIF Conference.

Council Reports

Our President, Peter Olsen, gave due credit to the outgoing Council – Lisa Langer, Jolyon Manning, Laurie Halkett, Rob Van Rossen and temporary treasurer Peter Casey – and managed to get in a comment about the Working Groups working harder in future – admittedly not in those words, but it was clear that the progress made by the previous Council would solidify this term. The new Council members are Colin O’Loughlin, Tim Thorpe, Josie Boland (Secretary), Steve Croskey (Treasurer) and Harold Corbett. Sub-level reviews always seem to bring debate, and this year was no exception. An increase of $10 for full and associate members and $6 for students was nevertheless agreed on as a measure to help offset the diminishing accumulated funds.

Membership Survey

The working groups reported, giving statistics, summaries and recommendations, and this was generally well received by the membership. As expected, the results of the Membership Survey attracted some discussion when the issue of member registration ... are we foresters or forestry professionals, what is the point of registering, who qualifies why yet another qualification? was discussed. John Galbraith directed us through a congenial discussion until Bruce Manley took the floor to discuss changing the Consultants Recognition Scheme to a Registration Scheme.

Forest Sustainability

Then the topic of Exotic and Indigenous Forest Sustainability and the RMA was discussed. This certainly attracted debate, with a motion to continue monitoring stocking, utilisation and harvest statistics; as recommended by Graham Whyte, having several amendments before being accepted by the floor. It was felt that the Institute should continue to conduct a critical appraisal of NEFD Statistics and suggest the introduction of improved methodology. The Institute should also press for better reporting of the rate of harvest and the pattern of utilisation, as recommended in last year’s working group report, and it should encourage the formulation and introduction of Standards for routinely reporting the quantity and maturity of forest resources.

Open Forum

Finally, the open forum brought discussion on the press, fire insurance, tourism, the increasing political profile of forestry, taxation and economic policy. And may we please hear more from the local sections?

Josie Boland

Secretary