NZIF announces Forester of the Year

The New Zealand Institute of Forestry Inc (NZIF) 2007 Forester of the Year is Professor Bruce Manley. Professor Manley is currently Head of the School of Forestry at the University of Canterbury, where he has been since 1999.

Professor Manley’s selection as the Forester of the Year recognises his leadership and excellence in forestry, and his commitment and contribution to the profession of forestry over the last 31 years. Prior to taking up his present role, Professor Manley had a distinguished research career at the New Zealand Forest Research Institute in Rotorua, where he lead research teams in resource evaluation and planning, and value chain optimisation. He is actively involved in international research, and has been Deputy Chair of the IUFRO Working Group on Large Scale Forest Inventory and Scenario Modelling since 1996.

The award is in the form of a carving, to be held by the recipient for a year, which contrasts the mighty native forests of old with the more uniform exotic forests of the present.

In announcing the award, NZIF President Jaquetta (Ket) Bradshaw highlighted his contribution to the NZIF.

“Bruce has undertaken a number of roles for NZIF, including Councillor, Registration Board Chairman, Journal Editor and he remains Convenor of the Valuation Working Party. His contribution to the Institute was acknowledged when he was made a Fellow in 2000, and this further award is richly deserved.”

President’s Journal comments August 2007

Newsletter in transition

It’s a great relief to report that we have secured the future of the weekly NZ Institute of Forestry Newsletter. Thanks to an anonymous donor and matching donations ($8,500) from a number of members, funding is assured for 2007/2008. We have increased the subscriptions in the 2008/2009 financial year to cover these costs in the future.

Sarah Forder, a recent graduate from the University of Queensland, is the new editor. We are indebted to Andrew for taking the newsletter this far and now working to ensure there is a smooth transition with this new arrangement. Thanks also to the anonymous donor who has made this all possible.

ANZIF Conference 2007 Coffs Harbour, New South Wales

Our combined conference with the Institute of Foresters of Australia was well run, enjoyable and informative. Morgan Williams gave a provocative keynote address and my opening address on climate change and the Kyoto Protocol was well received. Addresses by the Federal Minister of Forests, Senator Eric Abetz and a local sawmiller demonstrated that forests are an election issue and the parties are polarized. There was much anti–environmentalist talk reminiscent of NZ two decades ago. The Australian forestry students made it clear they wanted to breakdown these barriers and start to work alongside the environmental and green groups.

NZIF members made up just under 20% of the 300 plus attendees. It was a good opportunity to catch up with many of our Australian NZIF members. We also discussed working more closely with the IFA on valuation standards and Continuing Professional Development.

From my point of view it was great to be amongst a number of female foresters. We arranged a joint breakfast and our recommendations from a joint Gender and Forestry presentation at the Plenary Session were accepted. One of the first steps will be a combined Women in Forestry newsletter.

To the 2007 NZIF Award Student scholarship winners, congratulations:

- Undergraduate NZIF Award (with support from FITEC) awarded to Amanda Farrell and Erin Poulson both in the 2nd year of their Bachelor in Forestry Science degrees
- Frank Hutchinson Postgraduate award to Justin Morgenroth, a Ph. D student at the Canterbury School of Forestry
- Mary Sutherland Scholarship awarded to Robert Saranglao, who is studying for a National Diploma in Forest Management at Wairiki.

Jaquetta (Ket) Bradshaw