Letter from the President

I am truly pleased to wrap up another highly successful semester for the GSA. This past fall, we went above and beyond to make the Department, University, and State a better place. The GSA hosted, and had a great time at, the first ever departmental fall picnic. Our Social Events Planner, Luke Dodd, did an awesome job organizing the event! One of our most notable accomplishments was the initiation of an Invited Speakers Seminar Series, which begins this spring. A sub-committee of students, including Dave Unger, Matt Weand, and Zeb Weese, lead the way, and their efforts are especially appreciated. Despite terrible weather and horrendous flooding, GSA members Zeb Weese, Wade Ulrey, and Luke Dodd ventured to Natural Bridge State Park and worked to eradicate invasive species. These guys are truly dedicated scientists! A little closer to home, other members, Sarah Hall and Jake Royse, headed up a battle to prevent the planting of nuisance winter creeper from along Huguelet. Go Sarah and Jake, and thanks to Darryl and Steve for their support! We’re also creating a poster of graduate students for display in TPC, thanks to the hard work of Sarah Hall and Andrea Schuhmann, and developing a GSA webpage, thanks to Erin Barding and Matt Weand.

We've managed to accomplish a lot and still have a good time amongst a hectic background of class work, field work, lab work, and everything else that makes being grad students so relaxing. I hope everyone had a safe, peaceful, and happy winter holiday, and has returned refreshed and ready to take on a new semester. The spring promises to be filled with fun and excitement. Officer elections were held the first week of classes, and I’m pleased to announce we’ve elected a whole new crew. Thanks to all the outgoing officers for their hardwork and commitment, and best of luck to those incoming. Mark your calendars for February 13, 2007, when nationally renowned author of A Forest Journey, John Perlin, will visit our Department and give a lecture for the seminar series. I’m so proud of all the GSA participants and the overall success of the organization. We can only expect bigger and better things to come!

-Heather Alexander
Outgoing Forestry GSA President
Fall Picnic a Success!
by Heather Alexander

Despite the wet weather, the 1\textsuperscript{st} annual fall picnic hosted by the GSA turned out a pleasant number of hungry participants. Thanks to a donation by Millie Hamilton, and the grilling expertise of Luke Dodd, the finest burgers and brats were served hot and fresh all day. In the potluck tradition, side dishes scored highly and included green bean salad, hot beans, taco dip, chickpeas and tomatoes, veggie lasagna, potato salad, and veggie stew. Desserts were no disappointment either… rice krispy treats, cupcakes, cookies, and brownies galore! In between eating, picnic attendees livened up the day with rounds of disc golf, Frisbee, horseshoes, and soccer. Thanks to Dr. Bullard, the Department, and all who participated for their support. We especially want to thank Luke Dodd for heading up an awesome event! We’ll be picnicking again come next fall, and we hope to see you there.

Getting Real Credit for Being a TA
by Chris Reeves

Ever wanted to get credits for being a TA? A new course offered in the Forestry Department will allow graduate students to do that. The course will be taught for the first time this spring and is being taught as a one hour FOR 770 course with the subtitle University Teaching in Forestry. The course must be taken at the same time you are being a TA and will augment what you are already doing as a TA. There will be hardly any additional work from what you will be expected to do as a TA. The majority of grade is based simply on your regular TA duties. Before the course starts the instructor and the TA will be required to sign a learning contract for the class that will detail exactly what the expectations
Getting Real Credit for Being a TA (from page 2)

are for the TA and the instructor. The course will be taught every semester and eventually might be a requirement for graduate students. It is too late to register this semester to take the course, but if anyone still needs to complete their required teaching assistantship, I would suggest that you enroll in this course the semester you plan on being a TA to get real credit that appears on your transcript! If you have any questions about the class, just contact me (e-mail: cdreev2@uky.edu) or Dr. Wagner for information.

New Forestry Students:
A quick introduction to a few of the new graduate student faces in our department.

by Megan Poulette

Heather Clark
- MS, Arthur Lab
- Undergraduate: BS Forestry, University of Kentucky
- Area of interest: Invasive plant species.
- Research: Effects of remnant forest systems on establishment of Amur honeysuckle and other exotic invasive plant species.
- Hometown: Baltimore, MD
- Favorite tree and/or animal: Shagbark Hickory, White Oak, Blackgum
- Most interesting previous job: Horse guide in Tennessee.
- Fun fact: Has a three year old son and enjoys climbing.
- Where you would like to be in 10 years: Working for the federal government dealing with the introduction of foreign plants into the US. Nine months out of the year in the Hawaii office and three months in the North Carolina office!

Joe Guthrie
- MS, Maehr Lab
- Hometown: New Castle, KY
- Favorite tree and/or animal: Bur Oak, Black Bear, American Badger
- Most interesting previous job: Played professional American football in Austria in 2003.
- Fun fact: Made everyone call him “Conan” at the age of five.
- Where you would like to be in 10 years: Finished with a Ph.D., living in New Castle with a solid job, buying up land, and raising a family and a garden.

Rebekah Jensen
- MS, Maehr Lab
- Undergraduate: BA Biology, University of Montanta (04); BA English, W. Washington University (98)
- Hometown: Montana
- Area of interest: Impact of roads and other human developments on wildlife.
- Research: Influence of highways on the movements of black bears in Kentucky.
- Favorite tree and/or animal: Western Larch, Grizzly Bear, Montane Vole
- Most interesting previous job: Field tech measuring ecosystem-level effects of spotted knapweed biocontrols. Vegetation work, trapping deer mice, playing with spiders in the prairies of western Montana.
- Fun fact: Has had two spinal taps and far prefers childbirth.
- Where you would like to be in 10 years: Living in a small cabin on 40 acres along the Rocky Mountain front doing wildlife work, writing, and mothering then unavoidably adolescent son Zack.

Christopher Reeves
- MS, Stringer Lab
- Undergraduate: BS Forestry, University of Kentucky
- Area of interest: Almost all things forestry related.
- Research: Water quality impacts by forest harvesting operations.
- Hometown: Lexington, KY
- Favorite tree and/or animal: Bur Oak
- Most interesting previous job: Statewide survey of Kentucky closed logging jobs (all 120 counties) including stays in almost all the state parks.
- Fun fact: Got married at Treasure Island in Vegas this past May.
- Where you would like to be in 10 years: Teaching silviculture/forest measurements, doing financial analysis for a Timber Investment Management Organization, or writing management plans for KY landowners.

Continued on page 4
William Wellman

- MS, Barnes Lab
- Undergraduate: Environmental Horticulture Operations, University of Florida
- Area of interest: Exotic invasive plants and their control and management.
- Research: Chemically controlling Japanese Spiraea in Big South Fork National River and Recreational Area.
- Hometown: Tampa, FL
- Favorite tree and/or animal: Live Oak, Foxtail Palm
- Most interesting previous job: Resource management at Audubon’s Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary: exotic species control, woodstork monitoring, rare plant monitoring, prescribed burns, and eluding gators.
- Fun fact: Enjoys fishing for bull sharks and hammerheads.
- Where you would like to be in 10 years: On a long vacation.

**Forestry Department Seminars – Spring 2007**

All seminars in TP Cooper room 109 from 12 noon-1 pm (unless otherwise indicated)

Jan 18 - Darryl Cremeans, Dave Maehr, Doug McLaren, John Cox, Songlin Fei, and Chris Barton

“Geo-Spatial Technologies Overview”

Jan 25 - Heather Clark, M.S. Thesis Research Proposal:

“The Invasion of Exotic Plant Species in Remnant Bluegrass Forest Systems”

Feb 1 - Chris Reeves, M.S. Thesis Research Proposal:

“Effectiveness of Improved Skid Trail Headwater Stream Crossings” &

Will Wellman, M.S. Thesis Research Proposal:

“Chemical Control of Japanese Spiraea in Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area”

Feb 8 - Joe Guthrie, M.S. Thesis Research Proposal:

“Functional Connectivity for the Black Bear in South-Central Florida” &

Rebekah Jensen, M.S. Thesis Research Proposal:

“Will Highways Limit the Colonization Potential of the Black Bear in Kentucky?”

Feb 13 - John Perlin (Author, Lecturer, and Consultant, Solar Energy and Forest Preservation)

**Invited Seminar:** “A Forest Journey: The Story of Wood and Civilization”

(*Tuesday, 3:30 pm in W. T. Young Library Auditorium; reception to follow*)

Feb 22 - Jyh-Min Chiang (Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Environmental & Plant Biology, Ohio University)

**Invited Seminar:** “Assessing the Impacts of Anthropogenic Disturbance on NPP in Forested Ecosystems: Merging Field Measurements and Model Simulations”

Mar 8 - Scott Brodbeck, M.S. Exit Seminar:

“Property Taxation, Forest Fragmentation and Development in Kentucky Watersheds”

Mar 22 - Todd Hutchinson (Research Ecologist, USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Research Station, Delaware, OH)

**Invited Seminar:** Title TBA

Apr 5 - Adam Michels, M.S. Exit Seminar:

“Low Compaction Reclamation Techniques and the Economic Potential of Surface Mined Areas for Tree Production”

Apr 12 - Wade Ulrey, M.S. Exit Seminar:

“Ecology and Conservation of a Small Black Bear Population in South-Central Florida”

Apr 19 - Dave Unger, Ph.D. Exit Seminar:

“Resource Selection of a Recolonizing Black Bear Population”

Apr 26 - Zeb Weese, M.S. Exit Seminar:

“Dormant Season Control of the Exotic Invasive Vine *Lonicera japonica*”

May 3 - Sarah Hall, M.S. Exit Seminar:

“An Assessment of Soil Seed Banks as Restoration Tools on Surface-Mined Lands”