In this issue:

3 Alumni News and Outreach

5 Family Ties: Bob and Ferdinand Lundberg

8 The Diversity of the Great Smoky Mountains

9 Kurt and Maria Pregitzer Head Off to Their Next Great Adventure

10 Three Honor Academy Members Pass Away

Calendar of Events

Alumni Reunion
August 2–4

SFRES reunion event: All-Class Lunch at Pilgrim River Steakhouse
August 4

The Wildlife Society Annual Conference in Tucson, Arizona
September 22–26

SAF National Convention, in Portland, Oregon
October 23–27

The pitcher plant (Sarracenia purpurea) is commonly found in bogs throughout the Copper Country.
Greetings Alumni and Friends!

Albert Szent-Gyorgyi, who won the Nobel Prize in Physiology in 1937, said, “Discovery consists of seeing what everybody has seen and thinking what nobody has thought.” This statement embodies how we offer our education at Michigan Tech. In the past fifty years, there has been so much information developed in our field; yet, choosing the subjects to cover in courses can be challenging because we want students to see “what everybody has seen,” and also want them to “discover what nobody has thought.”

So how do we do this? By first teaching students the theoretical foundations: forest succession, soils, forest productivity, wood anatomy, tree physiology, population dynamics, genetics, mammalogy, growth and yield, and economics and finance, to name a few. We then reinforce making them “see” the forests and experience the forests and organisms, both plants and animals, in their natural habitats. Most of you know that seeing and experiencing how our natural and managed world functions not only reinforces what is learned in the classroom but also opens a student’s eyes to what still needs to be discovered.

New technologies, such as global positioning systems, advanced geographic information systems, advanced models, and biotechnologies, to name a few, reinforce the foundation. This helps students visualize information in creative ways.

Yet, new discoveries and issues are coming over the horizon everyday. As teachers we are constantly assessing the information we provide to students to determine if it will prepare them for their future.

But our approaches are not just about the base knowledge and new knowledge we are sharing with them, but also about how we capture their minds, so that their learning experiences can be at the highest level with the fast-paced world of the internet and the quick responses expected of today’s students, our approach to how and what we deliver in our classes is changing; it has to be engaging.

Global issues are key to their future, and while we still provide our students with knowledge of the inner workings of forest ecosystems and populations, we are expanding their learning experiences to the next level of information in order for them to solve societal issues.

As summer approaches and our students go off to work, gaining life experiences in their field, raising funds for college, and becoming contributing citizens of society, we look forward to new ways of nurturing our students’ learning abilities to capture their minds.

This newsletter emphasizes the quality education we are offering and what I would love to hear from you about what we should be teaching our students and what you think our students need to know for the future. We will continue to provide the highest quality education for discovering!

Margaret R. Gale, Dean

Create the Future through Planned Giving

by Stacy Cotev, Director of Development and Outreach

When most people hear Michigan Tech’s mission, “We prepare students to create the future,” they think that it inspires our current and future students to be active participants in developing their careers. However, Tech’s mission also applies to alumni and friends. They also have the opportunity to create the future by including the School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science in their estate planning.

There are many forms of giving that allow the donor to shape the future of the School, even after life. All gifts can be designated for general operations or be tied to specific programs. Below are some of the more common types of planned giving.

A bequest is the simplest form of charitable gift. It designates an asset, amount of money, or part of an estate to the School.

Retirement assets from 401(k) plans or other retirement plans can be transferred to the School at death.

A Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust (CRAT) allows donors to collect a percentage of the annual income from the trust for the rest of their lives. At the end of the donor’s lifetime, the remainder of the trust is given to the School.

The Charitable Remainder Unitrust (CRUT) is similar to the CRAT, but instead of receiving a percentage of the income, the donor is paid a fixed dollar amount each year until his or her death. The remainder of the trust is then given to the School.

A Charitable Lead Trust (CLT) provides for the School as well as the donor’s heirs. The School uses the income from the CLT for a designated period of time, and when the term is complete, the assets are transferred back to the donor or to heirs.

Recent Funding

Assistant Professor Victor Busov received the second increment of a two-year award of $19,179 from the Consortium for Plant Biotechnology Research, Inc., for his project “Modification of Giberellin Metabolism to Enhance Productivity, Wood Quality, and Biosafety.”

Assistant Professor David Dumroese received $43,000 from a total of $106,000 from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for “Measuring the Value of Fish and Wildlife Habitat Restoration on Northern Wisconsin Lakes: The Wisconsin Lakeshore Restoration Project.”

Visiting Assistant Professor Rodney Chinner received $17,500 from the USDA Forest Service, San Juan National Forest, for a thirty-four-month project, “Developing Methods for Restoring Fens in the San Juan National Forest, Colorado.”

In the News

“Ground-Breaking Lab,” an article on the Sitzron at the USDA Forest Service Forestry Science Lab, appeared in the December edition of The Scientist. Written by Ivan Oransky, it features Professor Kurt Pregitzer and USDA Forest Service ecologist Alex Friend, who oversees the microtome. More information can be found at www.forest.mtu.edu/news.

Andrew Storer, a PhD graduate, and Erik Lilleskov, a research ecologist at the USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station in Houghton, have received a grant from the US Department of Agriculture to study the effect of red wiggler earthworms on ecosystem functionality, forest health, and biodiversity in northern hardwood and hemlock forests. A link to the Tech Today article can be found at www.forest.mtu.edu/news.

“Green Menace: Invasive Plant Species Can Damage Local Ecosystems,” an article on invasive species in the Copper Country, appeared in the Daily Mining Journal on April 7. The article features Linda Nagel, assistant professor of silviculture. A link to the article can be found at www.forest.mtu.edu/news.

Andrei Storer

In September, a soil quality group met in Musconat Lake, this case with “Tech Ties” was snapped enjoying a good time. Afterward: From left to right are Bob (Paipa) Dumroese (MS 1998), Rob Dumroese (1994), Niklas Dumroese, Professor Marty Jurgenson, and Joanne Tracey (1994, MS 2001). Niklas is wearing his MTU sweatshirt like a good future Husky.

In November 2006, Tom GabV (1957) caught the largest Wisconsin musky reported since 1989. The musky weighed 1 pounds, 2 ounces. Tom is pictured here with the whopper.

Bruce Lindsay (1979) visited the School recently. He has moved to York, Maine, and will be getting married this fall. His daughter, Katie, will be a junior at Grand Valley State University, and the other two daughters, Kate who will be a junior at Grand Valley State University, and the other two daughters, Kate who will be a junior at Grand Valley State University, and the other two daughters, Katie who will be a junior at Grand Valley State University, and the other two daughters, Katie who will be a junior at Grand Valley State University, and the other two daughters, Katie who will be a junior at Grand Valley State University.

In September, a soil quality group met in Musconat Lake, this case with “Tech Ties” was snapped enjoying a good time. Afterward: From left to right are Bob (Paipa) Dumroese (MS 1998), Rob Dumroese (1994), Niklas Dumroese, Professor Marty Jurgenson, and Joanne Tracey (1994, MS 2001). Niklas is wearing his MTU sweatshirt like a good future Husky.
Be Part of Your School’s Success

We’d love to hear from you!
Please enclose the latest news about yourself (new additions to your family, marriage, a new job, promotion, etc.). Or drop us a line at www.forest.mtu.edu/alumni/update.

Awards and Recognition continued from page 3

Michigan Tech Forestry PhD Program Ranked Fourth in the US

Michigan Tech’s forestry doctoral program is among the top ten in the nation. The School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science ranked fourth in the US based on scholarly productivity, a measure of research activity. Academic Analytics developed the rankings by analyzing 2005 data on faculty publications, which it compiles in its Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index.

“We’re very pleased with the results of the study,” said David Reed, vice president for research. “However, I’m not completely surprised. The forestry faculty are exceptionally productive, and they deserve this recognition.”

“We have worked very hard to create an intense and exciting scholarly atmosphere that significantly influences all our educational programs,” said Peg Gale, dean of the School. “But most of all, we have a very creative group of faculty, staff, and student scholars, and we are extremely proud that their scholarly efforts are being recognized nationally.” More information can be found at www.forest.mtu.edu/news.

Professor Kamosky Receives Honorary Doctorate

David F. Kamosky, professor of forest genetics and biotechnology, received an honorary doctorate in December from the University of Tartu, in Estonia.

“This was a real honor,” said Kamosky. “Probably the highlight of the trip was meeting Estonia’s President Veijo Tommis, who attended the ceremony, and chatting with him about his visit here earlier the same week with President Bush.”

The ceremony was held as part of the university’s anniversary celebration. Founded in 1632, the university has strengths in ecology and biology. Several scientists from the university have collaborated in his research on the effects of elevated carbon dioxide and ozone on forest trees. “I have had continuous collaboration with the University of Tartu faculty for equipment needed in the research, and we have collaborated in his research on the effects of elevated carbon dioxide and ozone on forest trees.”

“We have worked very hard to create an intense and exciting scholarly atmosphere that significantly influences all our educational programs,” said Peg Gale, dean of the School. “But most of all, we have a very creative group of faculty, staff, and student scholars, and we are extremely proud that their scholarly efforts are being recognized nationally.” More information can be found at www.forest.mtu.edu/news.

Fond Memories of Tech

By Bob Lundberg, Class of 1975

Bob and Ferdinand Lundberg were destined to be foresters; the industry is in their blood.

These brothers are from Trout Creek, Michigan, where most of their immediate family were involved in the forestry industry. Bob and Ferdinand's father was a logger, their mother worked at the USFS tree nursery in Watersmeet, and their uncles were lumber grinders and log-truck drivers. Their grandparents had a small dairy farm.

While they both earned forestry degrees from Michigan Tech, and their lives sometimes took parallel paths, the Lundberg brothers ultimately settled into very different careers, illustrating the value and flexibility of their Tech forestry education.

From Forester to Engineer

By Ferdinand Lundberg, Class of 1969

In my youth, summers consisted of hand-peeling aspen, working the hay field, and hand-hilling cows. Dairy farming was quickly crossed off my list of future occupations.

I graduated from Trout Creek High School in 1961. TCHS had fewer than sixty students, and it had a pretty good basketball team, which won a couple state class E championships. I warmed the pines. (continued on page 6)

From Forester to Engineer

By Ferdinand Lundberg, Class of 1969

In my youth, summers consisted of hand-peeling aspen, working the hay field, and hand-hilling cows. Dairy farming was quickly crossed off my list of future occupations.

I graduated from Trout Creek High School in 1961. TCHS had fewer than sixty students, and it had a pretty good basketball team, which won a couple state class E championships. I warmed the pines. (continued on page 6)

Dean Peg Gale visits Bob Lundberg at SSCS’s southern procurement operation.

Michigan Tech Forestry PhD Program Ranked Fourth in the US

Michigan Tech’s forestry doctoral program is among the top ten in the nation. The School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science ranked fourth in the US based on scholarly productivity, a measure of research activity. Academic Analytics developed the rankings by analyzing 2005 data on faculty publications, which it compiles in its Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index.

“We’re very pleased with the results of the study,” said David Reed, vice president for research. “However, I’m not completely surprised. The forestry faculty are exceptionally productive, and they deserve this recognition.”

“We have worked very hard to create an intense and exciting scholarly atmosphere that significantly influences all our educational programs,” said Peg Gale, dean of the School. “But most of all, we have a very creative group of faculty, staff, and student scholars, and we are extremely proud that their scholarly efforts are being recognized nationally.” More information can be found at www.forest.mtu.edu/news.

Professor Kamosky Receives Honorary Doctorate

David F. Kamosky, professor of forest genetics and biotechnology, received an honorary doctorate in December from the University of Tartu, in Estonia.

“This was a real honor,” said Kamosky. “Probably the highlight of the trip was meeting Estonia’s President Veijo Tommis, who attended the ceremony, and chatting with him about his visit here earlier the same week with President Bush.”

The ceremony was held as part of the university’s anniversary celebration. Founded in 1632, the university has strengths in ecology and biology. Several scientists from the university have collaborated in his research on the effects of elevated carbon dioxide and ozone on forest trees. “I have had continuous collaboration with the University of Tartu faculty for equipment needed in the research, and we have collaborated in his research on the effects of elevated carbon dioxide and ozone on forest trees.”

“We have worked very hard to create an intense and exciting scholarly atmosphere that significantly influences all our educational programs,” said Peg Gale, dean of the School. “But most of all, we have a very creative group of faculty, staff, and student scholars, and we are extremely proud that their scholarly efforts are being recognized nationally.” More information can be found at www.forest.mtu.edu/news.

Fond Memories of Tech

By Bob Lundberg, Class of 1975

Bob and Ferdinand Lundberg were destined to be foresters; the industry is in their blood.

These brothers are from Trout Creek, Michigan, where most of their immediate family were involved in the forestry industry. Bob and Ferdinand's father was a logger, their mother worked at the USFS tree nursery in Watersmeet, and their uncles were lumber grinders and log-truck drivers. Their grandparents had a small dairy farm.

While they both earned forestry degrees from Michigan Tech, and their lives sometimes took parallel paths, the Lundberg brothers ultimately settled into very different careers, illustrating the value and flexibility of their Tech forestry education.

From Forester to Engineer

By Ferdinand Lundberg, Class of 1969

In my youth, summers consisted of hand-peeling aspen, working the hay field, and hand-hilling cows. Dairy farming was quickly crossed off my list of future occupations.

I graduated from Trout Creek High School in 1961. TCHS had fewer than sixty students, and it had a pretty good basketball team, which won a couple state class E championships. I warmed the pines. (continued on page 6)
I attended Gogebic Community College before transferring to Tech. Tech was willing to accept students from small, unaccredited Upper Peninsula schools, which gave many farm boys opportunities for good careers.

I spent the summer of 1965 in summer camp at Alberta. Hammer Steinhilb and his wife, Charlie, were the chaperones. To protect the innocent, I will limit my comments to only mentioning George’s, “The Working Man’s Bar.”

I was mostly self-sUPPORTING, working with my dad in the woods and skidding logs with a horse to earn money. I had to take a quarter off every now and then to replenish the bank account. My time off got the attention of the US Draft Board. I served in Vietnam as a surveyor for field artillery and am still serving as a member of the American Legion, where I have held the position of committee chairman at the state level.

Service in the military allowed me to come back with a monthly check from Uncle Sam, and I restarted at Tech in 1968. I was a charter member of the Vets’ Club, which created the unofficial rule of no tests on Tuesdays. Club meetings were on Monday nights at the old Kresge department store. I think it is nice to be back in natural resource management. I often comment that I just loved all those old yearbooks now online; Glenn and Marty in the ‘70s are rearing some very cool threads. The yearbooks are at www.forest.mtu.edu/yearbook.

My goals? Get back to full-time retirement. Some of my hobbies are amateur radio (I love Morse code), horses (I attend ten or twelve tournaments a year), gardening (I make open tomatoes before the Fourth of July), trout fishing, deer hunting, walking in the woods, and woodworking. My goals? Get back to full-time retirement. I enjoy sitting around, telling stories, and just being with friends.

Reunite at Reunion
Alumni Reunion is a wonderful time to reunite with classmates and reminisce about your time at Michigan Tech. This year’s event is scheduled for August 2-4. Make plans to attend. The University will be honoring the Golden “M” Club (all classes that have previously celebrated their fiftieth reunion), the classes of 1957, 1967, 1977, 1982, 1987, and 1997. There is no coincidence that the best week of the summer is also the week of Michigan Tech’s annual Alumni Reunion. The School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science is always anxious to welcome back our graduates and friends during this time.

This year, on Saturday, August 4, the School will be welcoming at the Silver Dragon Steakhouse, in Houghton. We will be honoring the classes of 1982 and 1957, who will be celebrating their twenty-fifth and fiftieth reunions. We will also hold our Honor Academy induction and present the 2007 Outstanding Alumni Award.

We hope that you can attend. You can get more information by going to www.forest.mtu.edu/alumni/reunion. To see the entire University’s activities, go to www.alumni.mtu.edu/alumni/reunion.
In the Field

The Diversity of the Great Smoky Mountains

Chris Webster’s interests are as diverse as the populations and communities he studies. An assistant professor of quantitative ecology at the School, Webster is interested in disturbance ecology and the relationships between diversity, productivity, and stability in natural and human-altered systems. A few years back, Chris’s interests and a little luck collided, vaulting him into the rain-drenched valleys of Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

It started when he received a Faculty Scholarship Grant in his first year at Michigan Tech. The grant supported a trip to the park to meet with researchers and brainstorm about potential collaborations. That visit spawned two graduate student projects and five peer-reviewed papers (three others are in review), not to mention some exciting adventures in research for Chris and his students. But first, what is so extraordinary about this natural laboratory?

At 815 square miles, Great Smoky Mountains National Park is one of the largest protected areas in the eastern United States and the most-visited national park. It is also among the most ecologically diverse places on earth, with over 10,000 known species of plants and animals living within its boundaries. The park contains one of the largest blocks of temperate old-growth forest in North America, as well as a mosaic of historic human land use that predated the creation of the park. This backdrop of disturbance and diversity has provided an ideal environment for some of Chris’s current research.

One of his first studies in cooperation with National Park Service researchers was on the long-term consequences of deer overabundance on forest plant communities in Cades Cove, which contains a mosaic of old fields and woodlots. With no hunting, no predators, and an abundant food supply, the deer population exploded and at its peak reached approximately 112 deer per square mile. The research team has gained great insights into how plant communities respond to both intense and chronic grazing. One of the more interesting findings involves a diminutive trillium species seldom seen outside of the southern Appalachians, Catesby’s trillium (Trillum catesbaei).

The team noted that one of the few trillium species still found in the Cove was Catesby’s trillium. Deer relish all trilliums, and while the large colonies of several species noted by the park’s first naturalist were gone, this species seemed to be holding its own. This observation prompted a study of the age structure of Catesby’s trillium. The team found that the plant was able to hang on by flowering when smaller and at a younger age under chronic browsing than in undisturbed populations. Unfortunately, this plasticity may only serve as a stalling tactic, since, in other trillium species, researchers have continued to track and do research, as well as administer the department.

Within the same College, Maria will be the coordinator of student affairs and outreach. In her new position, she will be working full time. Having summers off is just one of the things she’ll miss. She will also miss the small-town life and the awesome beauty of the Tennessee mountains.

Kurt says he too will miss the area, but mostly in the summer. He said, “In summer, I’ll miss the long days and beautiful evenings along the Portage.” He joked, “In April, I’ll miss pushing a full grocery cart through a foot of snow in the parking lot.”

Both Kurt and Maria are excited about the new location offers. The Sierras, Lake Tahoe, and the Great Basin will be great to explore. The alpine skiing around Lake Tahoe is world-class. The weather is really nice in Reno: sunny and warm, but not too hot, with low humidity. And there is lots of city life that you won’t find in any other place. The College offers great restaurants, entertainment (shows, theater, exhibitions), and sixty-five flights a day.

Kurt sums it up by saying, “I’m excited to learn about a new set of ecosystems.” Also, “Life is short. Have fun and follow your instincts!”

Maria commented, “I’ve learned a lot. The School has a great program, and I will look forward to hearing about all the future successes of the alumni and faculty.”

Around the World

By Christopher J. Hoeft, Class of 2004

After graduating with a BS in Applied Ecology and Environmental Sciences, I took a job with Praxair Inc., running a gas chromatograph and performing leak detection on oil refinery pipelines and storage tanks.

In September 2005, I took a position with Ecology and Environmental Inc., a Pollution Protection Agency working on environmental remediation in New Orleans after hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The job was hectic, and the work changed from minute to minute. It ranged from retrieving and categorizing barrels of industrial chemicals orphaned by local companies or offshore oil rigs, to remediation of contaminated areas, to managing emergency response stations. I was immensely dedicated to the project for the seven months I was in New Orleans, not once leaving the city.

In March 2006 I took a position with the Department of Defense on military installations in Kuwait. I’m currently working in the Middle East as an environmental compliance specialist. Primarily, I perform audits to ensure that the US military complies with its own environmental guarantees. As you can see, I fell into the industrial side of environmental work, but I still find much of my ecology degree surprisingly applicable. In addition to my current compliance/audit work, I have designed and implemented a remediation project for soil contaminated by petroleum products and a composting project using leftover green and brown matter from the dining facilities as a nutrient source for microorganisms, which speeds up remediation. I have also aided in air and water quality assessments, such as studies on how US military bases affect the local flora and fauna.

The School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science has a great program, and I will look forward to hearing about all the future successes of the alumni and faculty.”

By Ismail Akad, MS, PhD 2001

Dr. Ismail Akad gained great insights into how plant communities respond to both intense and chronic grazing. One of the more interesting findings involves a diminutive trillium species seldom seen outside of the southern Appalachians, Catesby’s trillium (Trillum catesbaei).

The team noted that one of the few trillium species still found in the Cove was Catesby’s trillium. Deer relish all trilliums, and while the large colonies of several species noted by the park’s first naturalist were gone, this species seemed to be holding its own. This observation prompted a study of the age structure of Catesby’s trillium. The team found that the plant was able to hang on by flowering when smaller and at a younger age under chronic browsing than in undisturbed populations. Unfortunately, this plasticity may only serve as a stalling tactic, since, in other trillium species, researchers have continued to track and do research, as well as administer the department.

Within the same College, Maria will be the coordinator of student affairs and outreach. In her new position, she will be working full time. Having summers off is just one of the things she’ll miss. She will also miss the small-town life and the awesome beauty of the Tennessee mountains.

Kurt says he too will miss the area, but mostly in the summer. He said, “In summer, I’ll miss the long days and beautiful evenings along the Portage.” He joked, “In April, I’ll miss pushing a full grocery cart through a foot of snow in the parking lot.”

Both Kurt and Maria are excited about the new location offers. The Sierras, Lake Tahoe, and the Great Basin will be great to explore. The alpine skiing around Lake Tahoe is world-class. The weather is really nice in Reno: sunny and warm, but not too hot, with low humidity. And there is lots of city life that you won’t find in any other place. The College offers great restaurants, entertainment (shows, theater, exhibitions), and sixty-five flights a day.

Kurt sums it up by saying, “I’m excited to learn about a new set of ecosystems.” Also, “Life is short. Have fun and follow your instincts!”

Maria commented, “I’ve learned a lot. The School has a great program, and I will look forward to hearing about all the future successes of the alumni and faculty.”
Spring Banquet

The School’s annual spring banquet was held in April, honoring our seniors, alumni, and friends. Senior Brandon Bal, who chairs the student chapter of the Society of American Foresters/Forestry Club, emceed the evening.

Two Outstanding Senior Awards were presented, to Brandon Bal (Forestry) and Molly Cypher (Applied Ecology and Environmental Sciences). Brandon also won the School’s Student Leadership Award. On behalf of Xi Sigma Pi, the School’s honor fraternity, Forester Maria Janowiak made several award presentations. Assistant Professor Robert Freese received the School’s Distinguished Teaching Award. Director of Development and Outreach Stacy Cote received the Distinguished Staff Award, and graduate student Lacey Mason was given the Graduate Student Teaching Award.

Several student awards were presented for outstanding work during the academic year. Brandon Bal, Rob Benson, Robin Conkin, Marcy Erickson, and Chad Fortin were named the Capstone Student of the Year for their work on the The Little Gliot River Tract. Tim Gebuhr was named Capstone Student of the Year. Visiting Assistant Professor Rod Chimner presented the Wetland Assessment Team Member of the Year Award to Elsa Jensen for her work in wetland ecology.

Students Get a New Advisor and Lecturer

Matt Weeg has joined the School’s teaching staff as a lecturer and undergraduate advisor. Matt will be teaching Forest Management of North America in the fall and Freshman Seminar in the spring. He is currently teaching physiological psychology and will also advise first-year students and mentor the learning community students.

Matt came from the University of Idaho, where he got his BS in Biology. He received his PhD in Neurobiology and Behavior from Cornell University.

Welcome Two New Faces

Chris Swanston has joined the Belwood Ecosystem Processes unit at the US Forest Service Lab in Houghton as a research ecologist and will participate in the Northern Institute for Applied Carbon Science and our School.

Chris uses radiocarbon isotope analysis and organic matter fractionation methods to characterize the processes controlling organic carbon dynamics in forest soils. Soil carbon is fundamental to forest productivity and structure, strongly influencing soil fertility, water storage and yield, and resistance to erosion and compaction. Soil carbon also plays a large role in global fluxes of carbon dioxide (two-thirds of forest carbon is in soils).

Chris received a BS in Forest Ecology and Soils from Humboldt State University, California, and an MS and PhD in Forest Science from Oregon State University. After a short postdoc with the INRA Forest Biogeochemistry Unit in Nancy, France, he settled into the Center for Accelerator Mass Spectrometry at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, California. Chris arrived in Houghton with his wife, Liz Grotton, who also studies forest ecology (but aboveground). Chris and Liz enjoy spending time outdoors skiing, bicycling, and kayaking (snowblowing has been a new experience) and are enjoying the community and surroundings of Houghton.

Three Honor Academy Members Pass Away

The School has recently suffered the loss of three members of its Honor Academy. They were also former faculty members and an Outstanding Alumnus.

Charles “Chuck” Hein graduated with a bachelor’s degree in forestry in 1953, and in 1973 he received his MS in Forestry, also from Michigan Tech. He taught forestry and surveying at Tech for twenty-three years and served as acting head of the School in 1981. He played a key role in the surveying program and was surveying coordinator in the School of Technology. Chuck was inducted into the School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science’s Honor Academy in 1996. Chuck passed away on January 17.

John “Jack” Hornick graduated in 1950 with a BS in Forestry. Jack’s career as a forester included over thirty years with the US Department of Agriculture in Washington, DC, from 1957 until his retirement. In his retirement, Jack was an active advocate for the Albert Village Museum and Sawmill at the Ford Center. In 2000, Jack was named the School’s Outstanding Alumnus, and in 2001, he was inducted into the School’s Honor Academy. Jack passed away on March 5.

After earning BS and MS degrees in Forestry in 1944 and 1947 from the University of Michigan, James “Jim” Meteer Sr. came to Michigan Tech in 1965 as a professor of forest research and forestry at the Ford Center. He moved to the main campus in 1980, where he helped establish the School’s first microcomputer teaching lab. He earned professor emeritus status in 1984, and in 1998 he was named to the School’s Honor Academy. Jim passed away on March 6.

“I feel these losses deeply,” said Dean Peg Gale. “All three of these gentle men were an integral part of the School. They are of the generation that melded our traditional forestry education with the integrated programs we enjoy today.”

Go to www.forest.mtu.edu/news for a link to more information.

2007 Summer Undergraduate Research Fellows Named

Four students from the School were awarded Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowships by Michigan Tech’s vice president for research. The fellowships provide up to $2,800 to support the recipient’s work with a faculty mentor. Fifty undergraduates applied, and those from the School were among the twenty-three who received awards.

They include the following:

• Chad Fortin, “Measuring Arthropod Densities,” with Associate Professor David Flaspohler
• Elsa Jensen, “Ecophysiological Conditions of a BetulaGe Ciruelosal Dune and Sclavia Wetland,” with Visiting Assistant Professor Rodney Chimner
• Stuart Kramer, “Social Effects of Lignocellulosis Biofuel Production in the Upper Midwest,” with Associate Professor Kathleen Halvorsen
• Sarah Molitoris, “Undersory Plant Diversity in Relation to Legacy Trees in Aspen Forests,” with Assistant Professor Christopher Webster