

"The Something Extra"

Since its formal establishment in 1906, the School of Forestry at Oregon State University has received basic, and for the most part, continuing support from the State of Oregon. Although the allowable budget has at times been somewhat less than requested or desired, legislatively approved funding has provided for continuation of basic forestry programs. This, of itself, is recognition of forestry education as a necessary part of the program^s offered at the University and worthy of support in a state largely dependent on its forests. But it is primarily due to the vision, dedication and philanthropy of friends of the School that it is recognized for its fine reputation in forestry education today.

Gifts to the School from foundations, private industry, associations, conferences and individuals have been substantial in number and varied in character. The deeding of forest lands to the School has been one of the most significant factors contributing to its success. The McDonald and Dunn Forests, the Spaulding and Blodgett Tracts--all have provided a base for furthering forestry education and research at OSU. It is largely due to the availability of these lands as outdoor laboratories that no summer camp is required of OSU forestry students. The short time-lapse between theory-discussion and field application serves to reinforce the educational experience where outdoor laboratories are in close proximity to the School. In addition, income from the forests has made possible the partial funding of faculty in the areas of forest pathology, forest entomology, and forest soils.

The School of Forestry Self-Learning Center, covered in detail elsewhere in this publication, has been effective in the improvement of education in the School. Through its considerable help, the Hill Family Foundation of St. Paul, Minnesota,

has been responsible for the establishment of the Center as well as supporting a visiting professorship program, providing staff development grants, undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships.

The sponsoring of visiting forestry professors from Switzerland, Sweden, West Germany, Finland, Wales and Japan, as well as prominent American forestry educators, has provided the basis for an interchange of information on an international scale which would not have otherwise been possible. Faculty of the School who desire to upgrade their teaching or research programs through participation in off-campus or out-of-state continuing education, but who may be financially unable to do so, can receive help through staff development grants.

Financial aid to forestry students through scholarships, fellowships and loans has increased considerably during the past 25 to 30 years. In 1952, there were three undergraduate scholarships available to OSU forestry students for a total of \$1,100. Graduate fellowships fared but little better. During the past 10 years, scholarships totaling \$350,650 have provided help to 451 undergraduate forestry students. In the last seven years, fellowships for 111 graduate students have been awarded from gifts totaling \$192,740. These awards, in recognition of high academic achievement, provide incentive and help the School attract and retain top students. Through the help of one philanthropic alumnus, a fund has been established to provide modest loans on a limited basis for forestry students in periodic financial difficulty. These loans are repayable as soon as feasible after graduation, without interest and over an unspecified period of time relating to the student's ability to repay. Although there is but a moral obligation for the student to make restitution, there have only been two defaults over a period of 15 years.

In an effort to encourage student participation in professional meetings of the Society of American Foresters and the Western Forestry and Conservation Association, a memorial fund in honor of a former alumnus has been established which pays part of food, lodging, and transportation costs of those students attending. In addition, SAF members who are employees of a number of industrial forestry organizations have made possible student-member work days on their respective company lands. Projects including timber stand improvement, slash disposal, bud-capping, or tree planting have been undertaken with the company contributing to the SAF chapter treasury the equivalent of wages or salary which would normally be paid to the worker. These funds are used to defray costs of meals and other financial requirements of students who wish to attend various chapter and section functions. Also, the Willamette Valley Section of the Forest Products Research Society funds a considerable portion of meal costs for forest products students attending their meetings.

Peavy Hall, as we know it today, would not exist in its present form were it not for timely financial support of alumni. At a time when state funds were virtually dried up and there was little expectation of help in the foreseeable future, gifts from concerned alumni assured completion of the building according to plan and within the predetermined time period. Without some very substantial financial aid at this point, construction of Peavy Hall would have been delayed at least one year and it would have been one-fifth smaller in size. As it is, it is one of the best equipped, spacious, and usable educational buildings on the OSU campus and is recognized as one of the top forestry educational facilities in the nation.

Fernhopper alumni have also contributed to the School in other ways. They have provided employment for forestry students which has not only helped students pay

for their education, but has also added to the students' practical educational experience. Alumni have participated as cooperators with the School in research, continuing education and forestry extension. They have served with dedication on advisory committees and boards providing needed input and direction to a number of the School's programs.

What makes a good school great? Its "The Something Extra" that makes the difference!