

National Association of University Forest Resources Programs

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2. Organization
3. Activities and Accomplishments
4. Challenges and Future Directions

<http://www.naufrp.org/>



NAUFRP

National Association of University Forest Resources Programs

Overview

What is NAUFRP?

- An association that represents 77 universities that have programs devoted to forests and natural resources.

Mission

- To promote long-term investments in university-based education, research, and engagement programs that advance the health, productivity and sustainability of our nation's forest resources for the well being of all.



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Overview

Background

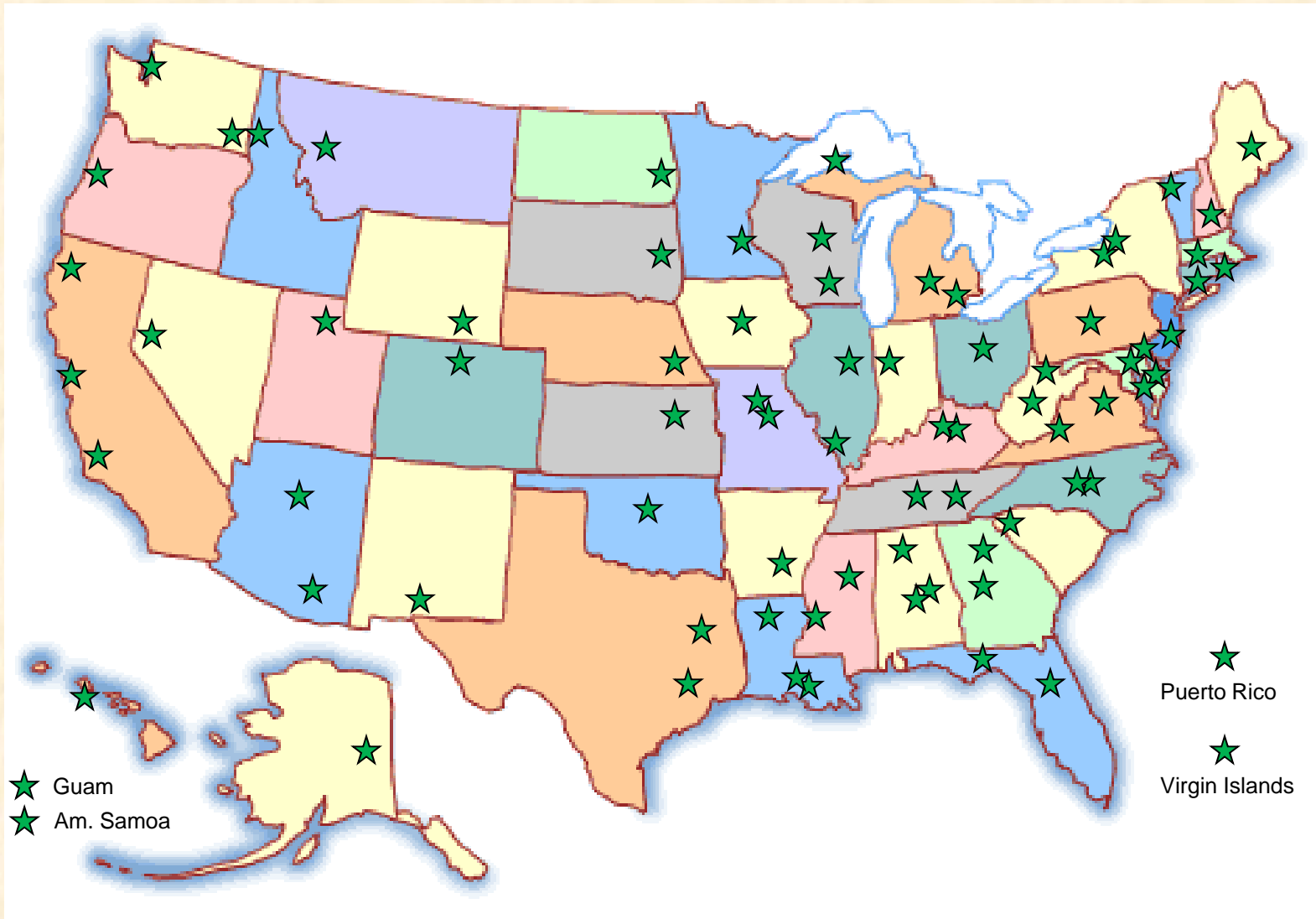
- Formed in 1981 as a 501(c) (3)
- Annual budget of approximately \$125,000, generated from membership dues and grants. Used for:
 - Government relations and executive liaison (~65%)
 - Association activities and operations (~25%)
 - Membership on the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities (APLU) Budget Advocacy Committee (BAC) and other organizations (4%)
 - Special projects (~6%)



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Where we are ...



Organizational Structure

National Officers

- President
- Past President
- President Elect
- Secretary/Treasurer

Regional Chairs

- North Central
- Northeastern
- Southern
- Western

National Committee Chairs

- Policy
- Education
- Research
- Extension
- Diversity
- International

Executive Committee

- National Officers
- National Committee Chairs
- Regional Chairs
- 1890's ARD Director
- At-large Appointees



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Activities and Accomplishments: Policy

1. Promote Federal Appropriations: M-S, AFRI, RREA

- Membership on the APLU Board of Agriculture Assembly
 - Cornerstone
- 30-40 Hill visits each year
- Occasional visits with OMB staff
- Deans' Congressional Receptions: 2007, 2008, 2013
- Coordination with partners for consistent requests



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2013 Dean's Reception On the Hill





Joint NAUFRP-NAUFWP Hill Visits



Activities and Accomplishments: Policy

2. Advocate for NAUFRP's and Partners' National Agendas

- Influence national legislation: Farm Bill, climate, carbon, bioenergy, forest health
- Partner in alliances, e.g., Forests in the Farm Bill Coalition,
- Sign as NAUFRP on advocacy letters to Congress and Executive Branch, ~ 10 letters per year
- Serve as Chair of the Forestry section of APLU's Board of Natural Resources (BNR is equivalent to APLU's Board of Ag)
 - Chair of BNR 2009-2010 (Hopper)
 - Vice-chair of APLU's Commission for Environment, Food and Energy (Hopper)
- **Role in BNR Natural Resources Roadmap**
 - Hal Salwasser, Tim White; NAUFRP authors and reviewers
 - Sustainability, Water, Climate Change, Agriculture, Energy, Education

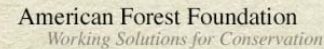


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Activities and Accomplishments: Policy

3. Foster Communication and Collaboration with Partners



Activities and Accomplishments: Education

1. “Keathley Report” 2003-2004

2. Annual Discussions with and Input to SAF

- Needs and changes in accreditation, e.g., Terrestrial Ecosystem Management

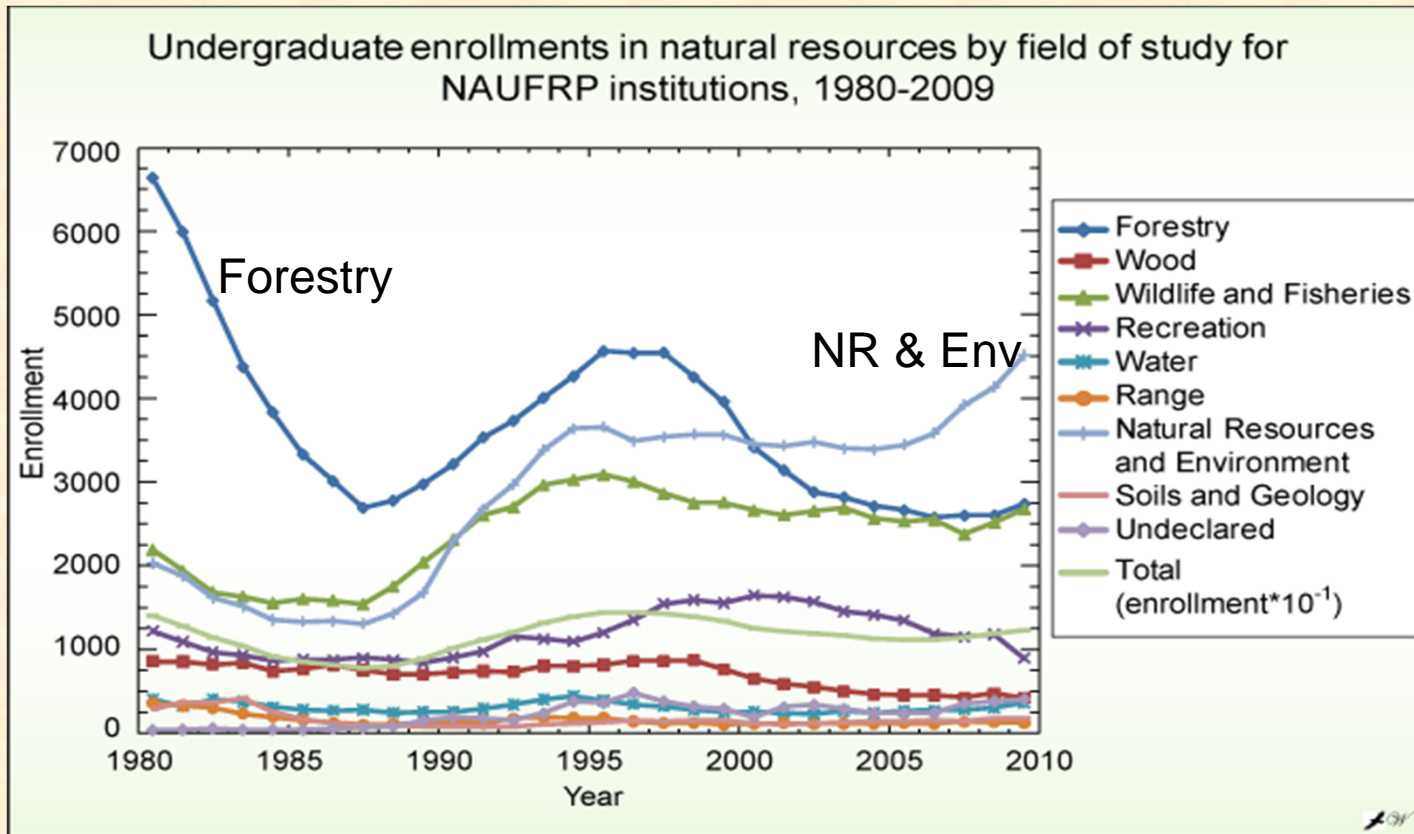
3. NAUFRP Participation in Education-Related Meetings

- UENR keynote, sessions, workshop, individual presentations
- Va. Tech Conference on Workforce Diversity in Natural Resources
- IUFRO World Congress, Regional Meetings

4. BNR Roadmap, Education Chapter (Sharik)

Activities and Accomplishments: Education

5. National and Regional Enrollment Data (Sharik)



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Activities and Accomplishments: Education

6. Undergraduate Education Task Force (Layton et al.)

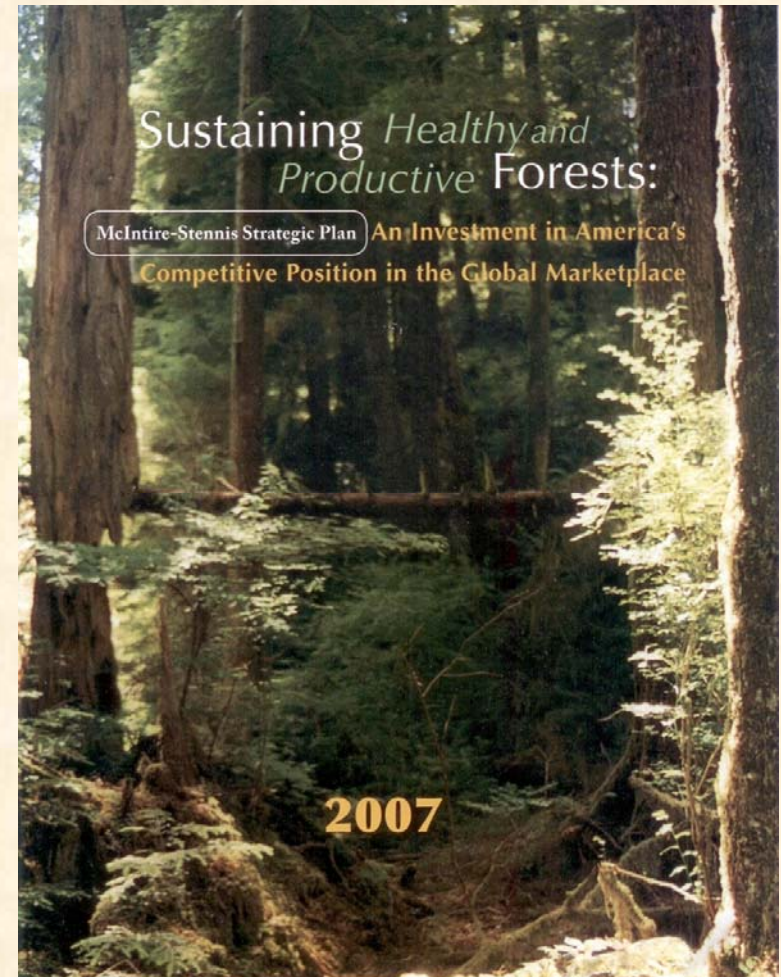
- With NIFA \$, developed a comprehensive plan for enhancing UG education in natural resources (approved by Ex Comm March 2011)
- Working discussion covering best practices and innovative ideas in:



Activities and Accomplishments: Research

1. National Summit (2006): *Forest Research for the 21st Century*

- Identified national priorities for research and graduate education
- Resulted in National Strategic Plan for Research
- Well known by NPLs at NIFA who mentioned that RFAs were impacted in 2009 and beyond
- Does it need to be revisited?



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Recent Accomplishments: Research

2. Promoting Forestry Research in AFRI

- Senate sub-committee language specifying “forest resources” should receive 10% of NRI (now AFRI) funding
 - Historically running at 2 to 3%
- So, NAUFRP mounted a multi-faceted campaign to promote “forest resources” in AFRI
 - Two visits each year by a 3-person team to NPLs and AFRI leaders
 - Searchable database of faculty willing to serve on review panels:
 - 280 faculty enrolled; of 154 responding to survey, 37 were asked to serve in either 2012 or 2013
 - 9 served in 2012; 10 served in 2013
 - An NPL said: *“This is a very, very useful resource. We have our own database here, but yours is much easier to use”.*
 - Direct encouragement to faculty to submit quality proposals
 - Success stories of awarded grants posted on NAUFRP website



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Competitive Grant Success Stories

****Get the Acrobat reader here****

Biobased Products and Bioenergy Production Research

Development and Characterization of Novel Soy-Based Adhesives for Bonding Wood
Morphology Based Modeling of Micro-Mechanics and Failure Mechanism in Bio-Materials with Polymer Matrices
Nano-Cellulose-Reinforced PLA for Polyolefin Replacement
Structural Composite from Modified Wood

Managed Ecosystems

Multi-Criteria Optimization to Evaluate and Sell Forest Ecosystem Services
Quantifying Trade-Offs Between Biodiversity Conservation and Timber Production in Intensively Managed Forests

Plant Breeding and Education

Advanced Pine Breeding through Association Genetics and Biotechnology

Plant Feedstock Genomics for Bioenergy

Mechanism of Carbon Partitioning Regulation by cp13 in the Bioenergy Woody Crop Poplar

Soil Processes

The Influence of Genetic Improvement and Fertilization on the Soil Organic Matter Dynamics of Loblolly Pine Forests

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Activities and Accomplishments: Research

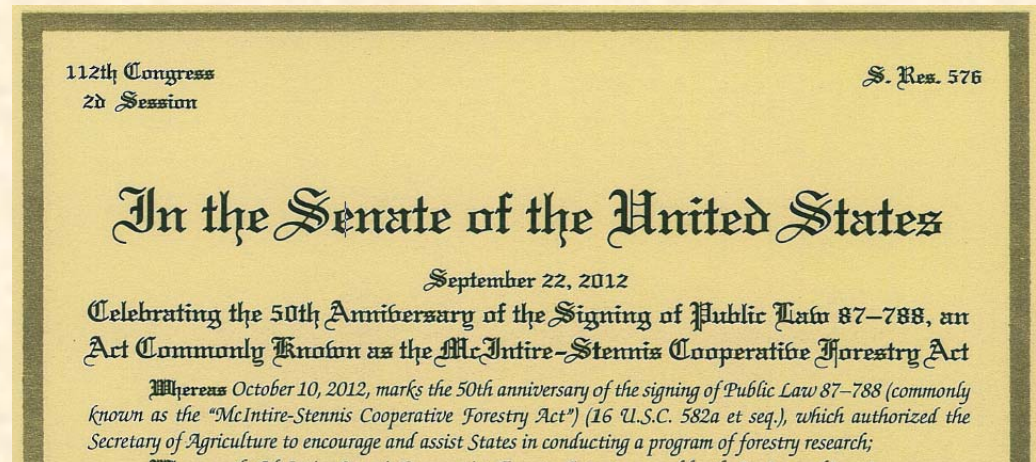
3. Advocating for Increase in McIntire-Stennis Funding

- Campaign to recognize and celebrate the 50th year anniversary of the M-S program • Article • Video • National and local activities (DVD and print materials distributed nationally in September) • Senate Resolution

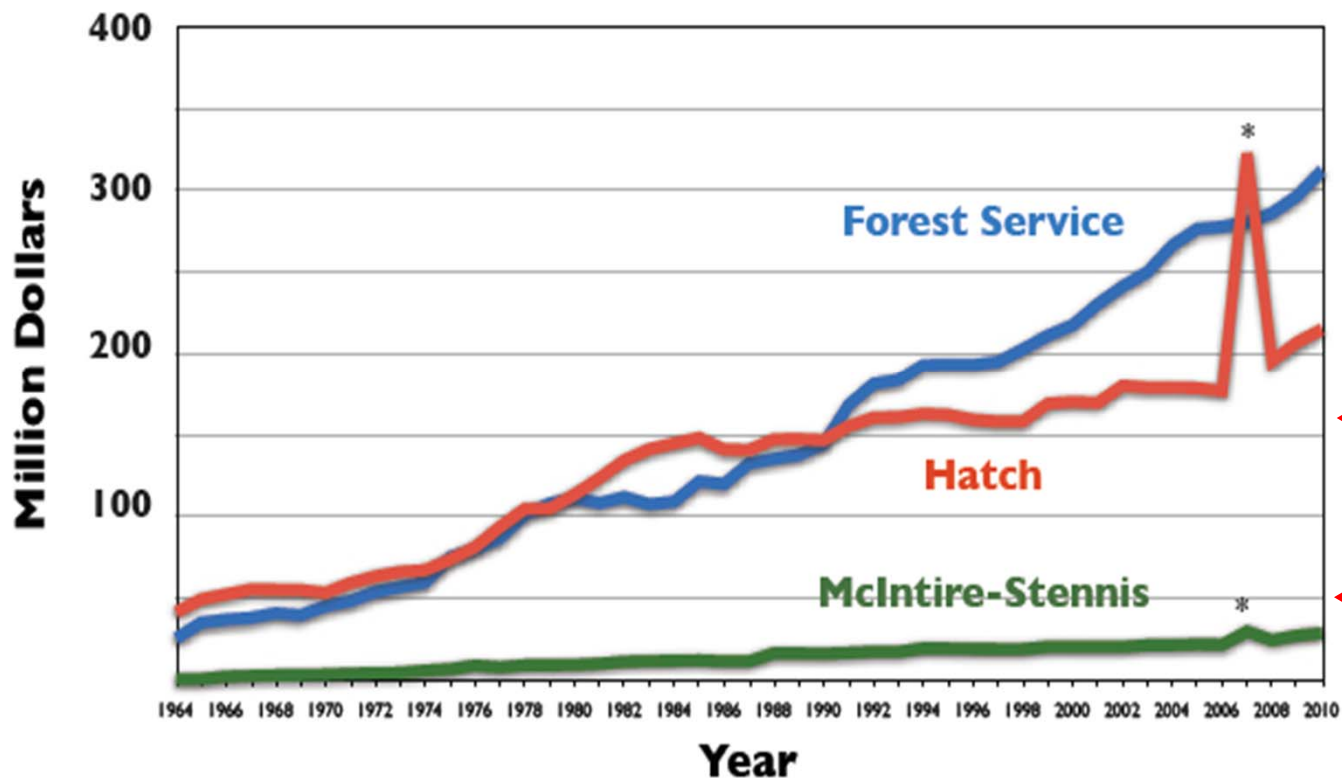


A 'Driving Force' in Developing the Nation's Forests: The McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Research Program

Bullard, Brown, Blanche, Brinker, Thompson (2011)



- Original M-S legislation authorizes funding at 50% the amount appropriated for Federal forestry research conducted directly by USDA; yet, M-S funding has lagged way behind (currently about 19% authorized level)
- Letter from FRAC to Secretary of Agriculture (August 2012) states “We recommend increasing McIntire-Stennis funding and allocating \$50 million under the existing formula arrangement, as recommended by the NAUFRP.”



Bullard, Brinker, Brown, Blanche, and Thompson, 2011 (May JoF)

Activities and Accomplishments: Research

4. Represented on current AFRI Review Committee being conducted by the National Research Council (Belli)

- Independent assessment of the AFRI program, including the quality and value of research funded by the program and the prospects for its success in meeting established goals and outcomes
- Final report due in early 2014

Activities and Accomplishments: Extension/Engagement

1. NAUFRP Extension Strategic Plan

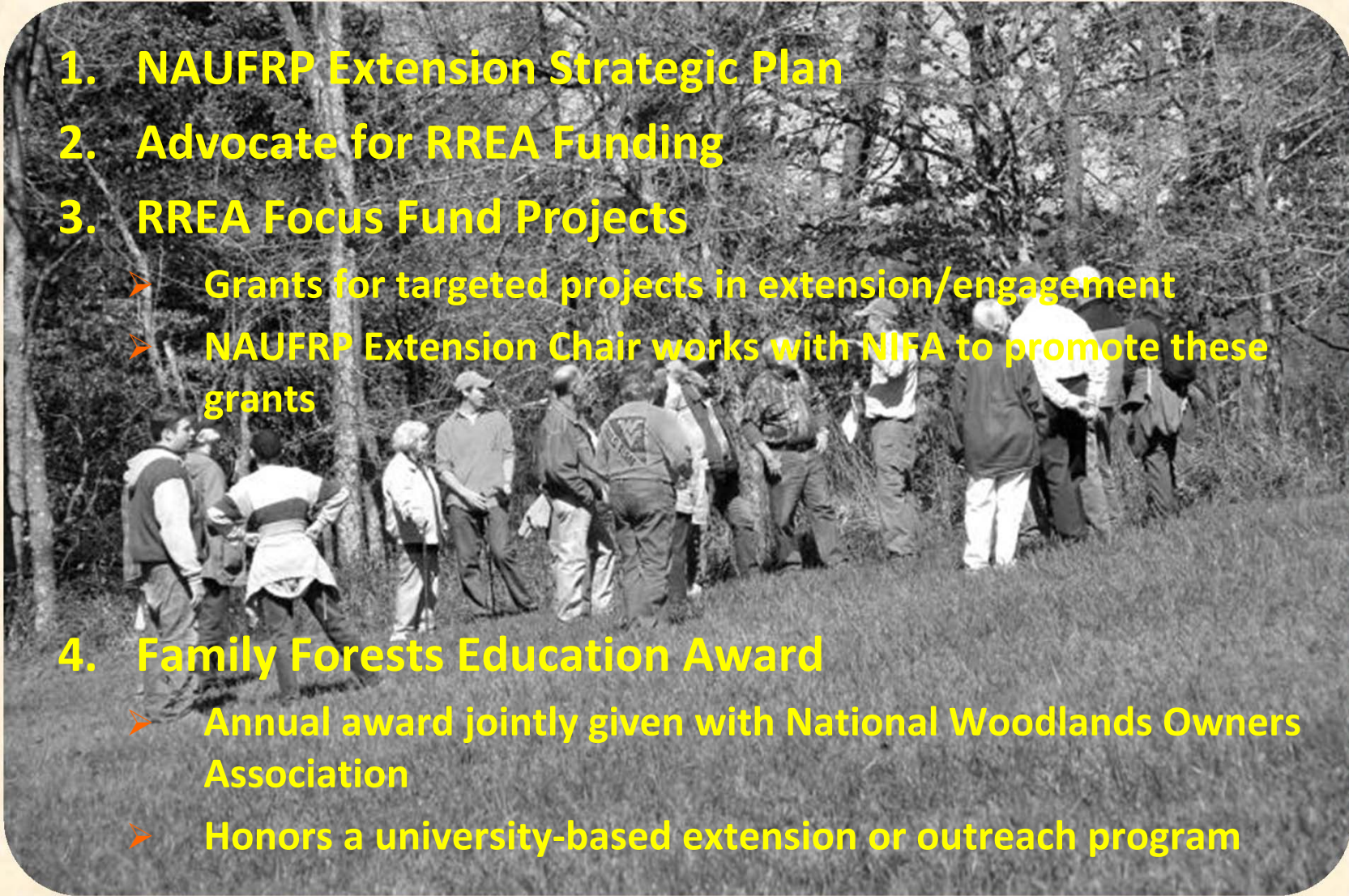
2. Advocate for RREA Funding

3. RREA Focus Fund Projects

- Grants for targeted projects in extension/engagement
- NAUFRP Extension Chair works with NIFA to promote these grants

4. Family Forests Education Award

- Annual award jointly given with National Woodlands Owners Association
- Honors a university-based extension or outreach program



Family Forests Education Award, 2010

Joe McNeel, John Houghton and Keith Argow
Woodland Leadership Program, UW-SP



Activities and Accomplishments: Diversity

1. Diversity Summits

- NAUFRP sponsored two diversity workshops with many partners: Edmonton (2005) & Orlando (2009)

2. Diversity Sessions

- UENR, Va. Tech Conference

3. 1890 Institutions

- 2008 Farm Bill, 1890s eligible for M-S funding
- NAUFRP reaching out to engage in our organization
- Agreement on dues



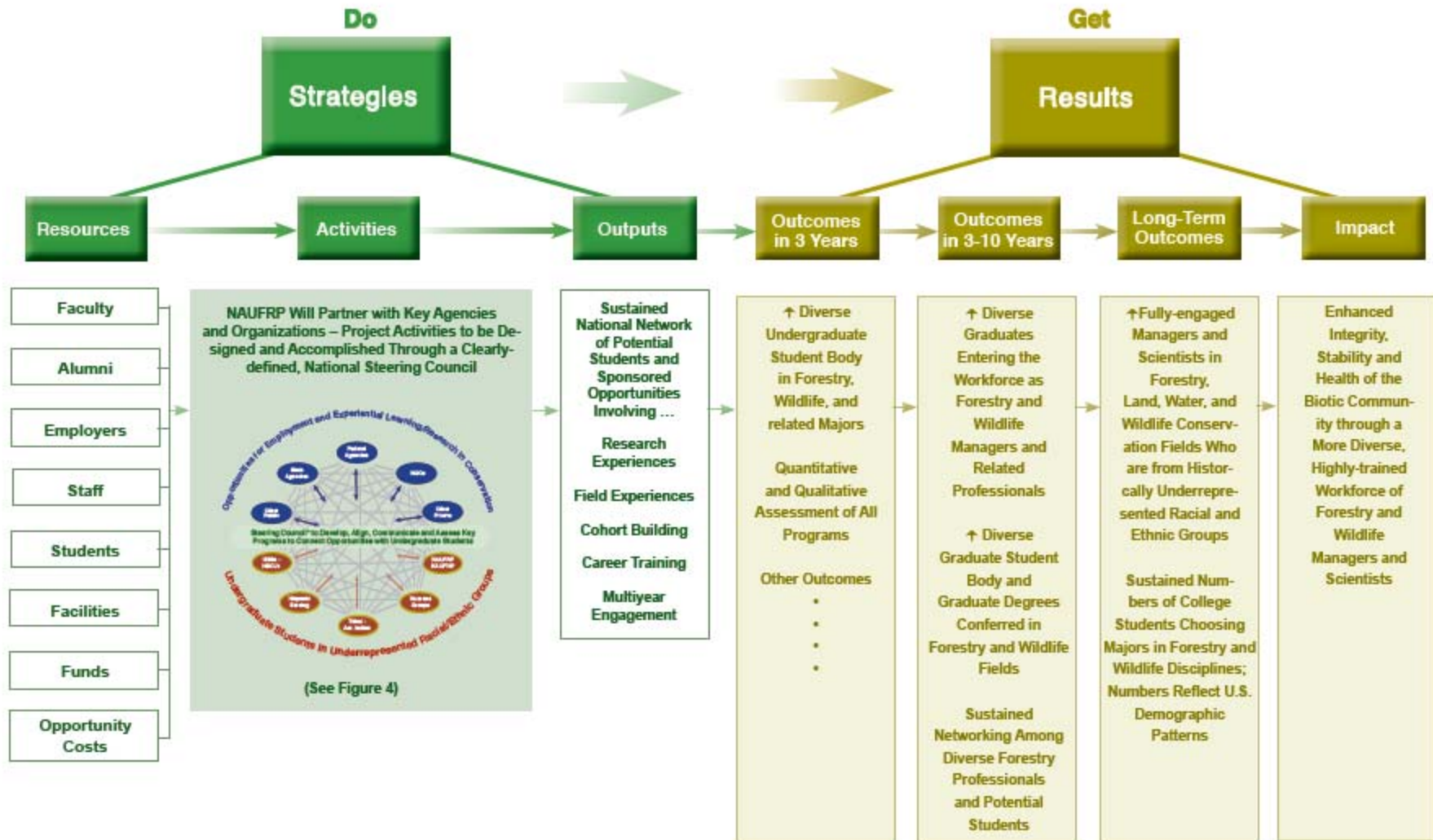
4. Diversity Logic Model/Meeting



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Figure 3. Diversity Program Logic Model "Mark Up"



National Association of University Forest Resources Programs Diversity Committee

Activities and Accomplishments: International

1. IUFRO

- NAUFRP holds the US seat on the IUFRO International Council
- **NAUFRP is a co-sponsor with the USFS of the 2014 World Congress**
 - NAUFRP representation on four planning committees
- NAUFRP participation in IUFRO Latin American Congress, June 12-15, 2013, San Jose, Costa Rica
 - Terry Sharik's enrollment data, other presentations

2. Outreach to International Forestry Students Association (IFSA)



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Activities and Accomplishments: Regional Committees

1. Regional Meetings

- Once or twice each year to discuss regional efforts

2. Regional “Comparative Data” Surveys

- Started in South, 1992, and in West, 2004; standardized in 2009. Annually tracks: enrollment, grad stipends, faculty FTEs, and salaries
- NE and NC regions initiated surveys in 2009

3. Regional Engagement with Partners

- Southern Region meets with NASF, FLA, others

4. Regional Recruiting Efforts

- UT/UK led a major effort to bring recruiters together at a 2008 workshop in Knoxville. Actions: regional survey, clearinghouse website, analyses of effective methods



**NAUFRP meeting, July 13, 2011, Spokane, Washington
Photo taken at Priest River Experimental Forest**

Activities and Accomplishments: General Communications

Foster Communication and Collaboration with Each Other

- Chance to get to know colleagues from around the U.S.
- Chance to learn about other programs
- NAUFRP maintains a national listserv for:
 - National news (NIFA, USFS, etc.)
 - Faculty positions
 - Graduate assistantships
 - General communication
- NAUFRP website

Challenges

1. Declining federal, state, and university budgets
2. Reorganization of forestry units within university organizational structures
3. Continuing enrollment shifts from forestry to natural resource management, wildlife, environmental science, etc.

Future Directions

Education: Implement Undergraduate Education Strategy.

Create opportunities in recruitment, curriculum development, learning styles, distance learning, graduation and employment rates, outcomes assessment.

Research: Promote M-S funding and increased competitive funding through AFRI; BNR Natural Resources Road Map; Realign Research Priorities?

Outreach: Implement Extension Strategic Plan. Advocate for RREA and partners to reward university extension/engagement programs.

Future Directions

International: IUFRO World Congress 2014. FRNR Education Globally

Diversity: Continue to collaborate to increase faculty, student, and workforce diversity

Partnerships: Strengthen wherever feasible, including internationally



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