



February 2012

**Candidates for Election to the  
School of Forest Resources Alumni Group  
Board of Directors**

*The School of Forest Resources Alumni Group Board of Directors includes 12 at-large members who are elected to serve a three-year term and who may serve a second consecutive term if re-elected. The terms of four at-large members expire in spring 2012.*

*Below are brief biosketches, in alphabetical order, of six candidates running for election to the board. Incumbents are noted with an asterisk (\*).*

*Vote online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SFRAlumniBoard2012> or print the ballot and mail it to Ellen Manno, 114 Forest Resources Bldg., University Park, PA 16802.*

*Vote for no more than four candidates. **Ballots must be received by March 9, 2012.***

**Tracey L. Coulter (2001a FORT, 2003 FORSC, 2005g FOR R) \***

“From an early age, I knew I wanted to be a ‘naturalist.’ But I got sidetracked in that process. Although I grew up in central Michigan, my family was transferred to Switzerland, where I graduated from The American International School of Zurich. After three years of study at Miami University (Ohio), I left college for married life and Camp LeJeune, North Carolina.

“Almost three decades later, and after a career in purchasing and materials management, I read about the Forest Technology program at Mont Alto and determined that now was the time to complete my education. Having made the decision, the plan unfolded. In 2001, I completed my A.S. in Forest Technology and moved to State College to pursue a B.S. in Forest Science, Forest Biology option. During my college career, both of my daughters were married and my first grandchild was born. In December 2005, I graduated with an M.S. in Forest Resources.

“I completed three internships with the Pennsylvania DCNR Bureau of Forestry and was hired as a Forest Program Specialist in 2004. I currently serve as Watershed and Reforestation Coordinator in the Rural and Community Forestry Section. In addition, I am the DCNR representative to the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation and have been a member of that organization since 1993. I am active in the sustainable agriculture community and working to strengthen the relationships among sustainable agriculture, sustainable forestry, and healthy watersheds.”

**Warren E. “Ed” Frayer (1961 FOR)**

“After completing the B.S. in Forestry at Penn State in 1961, I earned a master of Forestry (1962) and doctorate in Forestry (1965) at Yale, both in biometrics/computer science. I worked as a research forester and mathematical statistician for the U.S. Forest Service until 1967 and then moved to academia. I spent 17 years at Colorado State University, interrupted by one year (1975-76) with the Forest Service in Washington, DC. The last eight years at Colorado State I was head of the Department of Forest and Wood Sciences. In 1984 I became dean of the School of Forestry and Wood Products at Michigan Technological University and retired in 2000.

“My retirement in Florida has included time teaching as an adjunct math faculty member at two local colleges, and I have also worked for the U.S. Census Bureau. I am a member of SAF and assisted in establishing the first SAF Student Chapter in 1970; I was elected SAF Fellow in 1996. I chair the local chapter of Ducks Unlimited and serve on the board of directors of the Harbor Hills Homewoners Assoc. (600 families). I am a trustee at Lady Lake Methodist Church. My wife Mei and I live in Gainesville, Florida.”

**David J. Gustafson (2000 FORSC)**

“I spent the first year of my undergraduate program at Penn State Mont Alto and graduated with a B.S. in Forest Science in 2000. My professional career began as a forester with Weaber, Inc. in Lebanon, PA, where I worked until September 2001. In August 2002 I was hired as a forester with the Pennsylvania DCNR Forest Inventory and Analysis Section, and then in August 2003 became a forester with the Pennsylvania Game Commission in the Northwest Region. In August 2005 I was promoted to forest program specialist and helped start the commissions Forest Inventory and Analysis Section. In August 2007 I took on the responsibilities of chief forester of the Pennsylvania Game Commission.

“I joined the Pennsylvania Army National Guard in 1997. I was deployed for Hurricane Katrina, August - November 2005. I served during Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq from September 2008 until October 2009.

“I am a member of many organizations including the Society of American Foresters, the Pennsylvania Forestry Association, and Tau Phi Delta. I am an avid outdoorsman and enjoy turkey hunting, bear hunting, archery hunting for whitetails, and fly fishing. In 2010, I was honored as a School of Forest Resources Outstanding Recent Alum.

“My wife Christine (1999 RPTM) and I currently live near Loysville in Perry County, Pennsylvania, with our daughter Rebekah.”

**Derald J. Hay (2003 FORSC, 2007g FOR R and J.D. Law)**

“I completed a B.S. in Forest Science in 2003, and was the first student to complete a joint M.S. in Forest Resources and J.D. from Penn State Dickinson School of Law in 2007. I am an attorney with Fox Rothschild LLP, a 400-lawyer law firm based in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. My legal practice primarily consists of providing advice to help businesses develop management programs to ensure compliance with the current and evolving environmental regulations.

“As a member of the Society of American Foresters Committee on Accreditation, I have stayed close to my forestry roots. I am developing relationships with forest land managers and forest owners in providing legal advice and support using his unique legal and forestry background to create innovative solutions to land management issues. My experience has put me in a position to evaluate and respond to cutting-edge legal issues related to natural resources in a rapidly changing regulatory environment.”

**Joseph T. “Tom” Kearse (1975 FORSC)**

“I began my Penn State education at Mont Alto, graduated with a B.S. in Forest Science in 1975, and am a brother of Tau Phi Delta. I am president of Kohl Building Products and KBP Services, Inc. in Reading, Pennsylvania. I serve on the boards of the National Association of Home Builders, the Pennsylvania Builders Association, and the Berks County Conservancy; I was chairman of the conservancy board 2006-07. I am a trustee for the Pennsylvania Committee for Affordable Housing. In 2004 I was honored as a Penn State Mont Alto Centennial Fellow. Born in Wellsboro, PA., I now reside in Wyomissing with my wife Deborah (B.S. Education, 1973); we have three children—Christa ('05, Economics), Joseph Jr., and Amy.

**Nicholas P. Lylo (1989 FORSC)**

“After graduating from Wellsboro Area High School in 1983, I served in the U.S. Army from 1983-1985 with the 25th Infantry Division. Following my military service, I attended Penn State, graduating in 1989 with a B.S. degree in Forest Science. Right out of college I worked for a season with the USFS on the Allegheny National Forest and briefly in the forest industry as a consulting and procurement forester.

“ In 1991 I was hired by the Pennsylvania DCNR Bureau of Forestry and have since worked as a forester on the Bald Eagle and Wyoming Forest Districts, in the central office as a silviculture specialist, as assistant district forester for the Lackawanna District, and as district forester for the Lackawanna and Delaware Forest Districts. Currently I am the district forester for the Lackawanna Forest District.

“I live in Wilkes Barre, PA, with my wife Mary Jane and enjoy my free time with family, friends, and outdoor activities. I am a member of the SAF, Pinchot Chapter and with the local anthracite mining historical society.”

**Richard E. Vrboncic (1980 FORSC) \***

“I am currently employed as the co-manager of the McDonald Office (West Pittsburgh) for the Bartlett Tree Expert Company. I am an International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist and served as the chapter president for the Pennsylvania/Delaware Chapter of the ISA in 2010 and 2011.

“I graduated from Penn State with a bachelor’s degree in Forest Science in 1980. I owned a small tree care company for 12 years before selling the operation to Bartlett Tree Experts in 1997. My current duties include diagnostic field work, managing client accounts, office operations, and employee recruiting.

“I have been a board member of the School of Forest Resources Alumni Board for one term (three years).

“I reside in Bridgeville, Pennsylvania with my wife. We have one son who is currently working toward a degree in engineering.”