



Research Agenda for the Future

B. Bruce Bare, Dean
College of Forest Resources
February 25, 2005

Presented at CFR Graduate student Symposium



College Mission

- Study and investigate the functionality and sustainability of natural resource systems
- Natural and managed environments
- Interdisciplinary approach across multiple scales of urban and wild land landscapes
- Generate and disseminate information through our teaching, research and outreach programs



Our Academic Programs

- Stress key principles and processes that explain the behavior and interaction of biotic and social systems along gradients from highly to minimally impacted terrestrial ecosystems
- Focus on the interaction between nature and humans with a synthesis of scientific knowledge related to natural resources and environmental sustainability



Our Research Programs

- Emphasize the functionality and sustainability of complex natural resource and environmental systems featuring:
 - Integration
 - Interdisciplinarity
 - Collaboration (on and off campus)
 - Team-approach
 - Multiple scales
 - Gradient from urban to rural ecosystems



Possible Research Mission

- To discover and understand ecosystem processes, develop new approaches for the use and protection of natural resources and environmental services, and understand human behavior and decisions about natural resources

Source: Don DeHayes, President, NAPFSC



Suggested Research Themes

- Ecosystem Structure and Function
- Social and Human Systems
- Technology



Three Suggested Research Themes

1. Ecosystem Structure and Function

- Productivity
- Health
- Function
- Management

Suggested Research Themes

2. Social and Human Systems

- Environmental valuation
- System integration (population, ecosystem, and socio-economic)
- Natural and human system interactions (land use, watershed planning, open space, and parks)
- Communication and negotiation

Suggested Research Themes

3. Technology

- Bio-technology
- Sustainable energy production (energy from biomass)
- Sustainable products and low impact processes
- Information and communication technology
- Satellite and remote imagery



Today's Symposium

- Gives our graduate students a chance to present their research
- Respond to questions and engage in discussion
- Will lead to a better understanding of the research activities throughout the College