

TELFORD RURAL POLYTECHNIC

Course emphasises practical

Telford Rural Polytechnic as New Zealand's foremost provider of land based education, has for over 30 years provided excellent vocational training in land based industries for students at its campus in Balclutha, South Otago. Telford's Certificate in Forestry is a 34-week course that covers all aspects of forestry production, from land preparation, planting, silviculture, forestry health through to harvesting and log extraction.

Now in its sixth year, the Telford Certificate in Forestry has an exceptionally high employment rate for its graduates. On average over 90 per cent of the students who graduate the course have found employment in the forestry sector. For 1999, two Certificate in Forestry courses are running, with a third planned for later in the year. The focus of the course, as with all courses at Telford, is on developing the practical skills and abilities of the students. Students on average spend four days a week out in forests, under the watchful eye of their tutors.

For the last six years Laurie Milne has overseen the development of and is now Head Tutor for all the forestry courses run at Telford. Laurie is a registered forestry industry trainer/assessor with the Logging and Forest Industry Training Board. Laurie has a strong belief in a learning process that links industry and education. Like Laurie, Telford's other forestry tutor, Graeme Moodie is also a registered forestry trainer/assessor and also holds a National Certificate in Harvesting. Together, they bring a wealth of ability and experience to the forestry courses at Telford.

Telford First For Forestry

Telford Rural Polytechnic offers you the opportunity to study forestry by correspondence *without leaving home*

Our certificate-level course (made up of NZQA Unit Standards) brings the best of Telford to you, and can be started at any time.

DON'T DELAY ~ PHONE TODAY

0800 TELFORD 8353673



TELFORD
Rural Polytechnic

Te Whare Wanaka O Puerua
Balclutha ~ South Otago

CANTERBURY SCHOOL OF FORESTRY

Honour for Lindsay Poole

Lindsay Poole, C.B.E., has added to his list of honours by being conferred an Honorary Doctor of Science from the University of Canterbury in the 1999 Graduation Ceremony. Lindsay has had a long and distinguished career, graduating B.(For.)Sc. in 1930, obtaining an M.Sc. in Botany, and becoming Director of the Botany Division, DSIR, Assistant Director then Director-General of the New Zealand Forest Service from 196 - 71, and Chair of the Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Council from 1971 - 78. Lindsay Poole was President of the Ecological Society and the Institute of Foresters, and in 1959 he became a Fellow of the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture, and in 1962 a Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand. In 1972 he was made an Honorary Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Foresters in Britain. Lindsay's friends and colleagues gathered for a celebratory dinner at the School of Forestry on the eve of the Graduation Ceremony to congratulate Lindsay.

Chris Goodwin, a Year 4 B.For.Sc. student, has been elected as the first President of the Canterbury University Chapter of the Golden Key Honour Society. The Golden Key Honour Society, an internationally recognised non-profit academic honours organisation, was founded in 1977 on the principles of scholarship, service and recognition. Membership, which is by invitation only, is based purely on academic merit, and is limited to the top 15 per cent of bachelor's degree students who have completed at least one year of university study. Well done Chris!

Staff of the School recently presented a 4-day workshop on Forestry for employees of Carter Holt Harvey in Auckland, the third such workshop aimed at company employees who do not have a forestry background.

The School held a one-day workshop on Maori issues recently, with the aim of becoming more sensitive to Maori issues in the teaching of the B.For.Sc., and to more effectively provide students with the necessary tools to work in an industry with a strong Maori component.

Dr. Robert Douglas, visitor to the School from the University of New Brunswick, presented the latest in The Dean's Lecture Series. Dr. Douglas, a geotechnics and roading engineer, spoke on "Roading and Transportation Research in Eastern Canada: How to Walk Softly and Carry a Big Load of Logs".

LINCOLN UNIVERSITY

Lincoln University News

Mark Bloomberg has joined Lincoln University to teach part-time for the 1999 academic year. Mark will be teaching into silviculture courses, replacing Scott Chang who has gone to North Carolina. Mark is a Christchurch-based forestry consultant and brings a wealth of practical experience into his teaching.

With three research forests within 5 km of campus, Lincoln students are able to make use of a valuable resource for undergraduate courses and research. The forests include a coppicing trial adjacent to the campus, and two agroforestry trials nearby.

Although graduates are still finding employment, albeit in a tough market, first year numbers are half of what they were a year ago. Since this trend seems to be echoed at other tertiary institutions around New Zealand one begins to wonder about the message of opportunity, or the lack thereof, that is being conveyed to prospective entrants to forestry.

Hugh Bigsby

WAIARIKI INSTITUTE OF
TECHNOLOGY

Graduates finding work

Twenty three students completed the National Diploma in Forestry (Forest Management) at the Faculty of Forestry, Waiariki Institute of Technology, in 1998, and graduated in Rotorua in March 1999. Of the 23 graduates, 21 have found positions in the forest industry in New Zealand, one is going overseas and one has decided on a change in direction - moving to a training programme to become a veterinary science nurse. The forestry positions taken up by the Diploma holders include jobs with forestry consultants, with key suppliers of forest harvesting and silvicultural contracts, with Forest Research, and as contractors themselves.

The class included two women. The top graduate, and the recipient of the Fletcher Challenge Forests prize for excellence, was Robert Calder, who is now working in Masterton in forestry consulting.

Last year, there was the biggest intake ever into the Diploma programme: 42 students. This year, the Faculty felt the impact of the downturn in forestry, with 26 students in the Year 1 class.

Dr Margriet Theron
Dean of Forestry and Technology
Waiariki Institute of Technology

Certification in New Zealand

Sir,

In his "International Perspectives" (43.3) Hugh Bigsby makes the point that "Certification activity in New Zealand to date seems to have been largely driven by forest owners in anticipation of demand for certified products, or by environmental organisations as part of a wider agenda".

"Anticipation" is a mild word for what happened in Southland ("New Information 44/3). There may not have been written contracts but Craigpine was very sure that the demand would eventuate as described by their Chinese customer, and as I hear, it did.

To my knowledge New Zealand environmental organisations played no part in the arrival of FSC down here, though some were asked to participate in the process of assessment and did so. The only one with a local section, Forest and Bird, did not seek the opinion of its local members but required that the comment form be sent to its Head Office in Wellington, where it remains, unanswered.

As a result of Craigpine's success a wider interest in FSC certification is spreading south of Dunedin, helped along by the rather distinctive properties of the local radiata timber. In other respects the driving force is not always clear. Opinions range from the best thing since sliced bread to a waste of time, often with people talking about selling the same products into the same countries. It seems you either like it or you don't.

There is also, amongst the larger companies, a group view that companies looking for FSC certification have somehow let the side down badly. There is much snorting and heavy breathing down the phone, and widespread local rumour of pressure from "Head Office" on their southern subsidiary to drop the whole thing.

John Purey-Cust

Forestry Taxation under Labour

Sir,

It is hard to tell whether Hamish Levack (February 1999) is mischievous or merely careless in referring to Labour's announced tax policy.

He describes the foreshadowed increase in the top marginal rate as if it will apply to all the personal income of those with annual incomes exceeding \$60,000 a year, whereas the truth is that the increase will apply only to that part of income that exceeds \$60,000.

The difference, for an individual with net taxable income of \$80,000, is the difference between an additional \$4,800 (the Levack version) and \$1,200 (the truth). This increase, incidentally, almost exactly matches the tax cut these relatively well-to-do individuals received last July.

Mr Levack bemoans the fact that some of the tending costs incurred by these a typically prosperous farmers in producing this future forest income will only have been deducted from income tax payable at the rate of 33%. If he was of more cheerful disposition, he might instead have celebrated the realisation that some of the major establishment costs of most woodlots harvested over the next decade or so will have been deducted at the rate of 66% (the top marginal income tax rate under the Muldoon National Government).

Finally, Mr Levack raises the old bogey of death duties, and their potential disincentive impact on forestry investment.

Farm foresters should not be alarmed. Labour has publicly undertaken not to reintroduce estate duties or any broadly applicable capital taxes during our first three year term of office, and to clearly spell out any significant later tax reform plans prior to the election preceding their introduction.

Hon Jim Sutton
Labour Spokesperson on Forestry
and lifelong farm forester