

South American Connection

The School's connections with South America are growing. Pictured below are postgraduates Isabel Loza-Balbuena, Monica Heberling, Mariana Cattaneo (all of Uruguay), Nerida Theinhardt (Argentina), Arturo Bascunan (Chile), Professor Roger Sands, and Jose Gil-Juscamaíta (Peru). Four more postgraduates from South America are due to arrive at the School next year.



Prof. Roger Sands will be strengthening the School's ties with South America this year, through an Erskine Fellowship grant which will see him visit Chile, Brazil, Uruguay, and Argentina. Roger will visit Universities and research organisations during his 5-week stay.

One of our South American postgraduates, **Isabel Loza-Balbuena** of Uruguay, has been granted a New Zealand Bioenergy study award, which will allow her to undertake PhD research into the carbon balance of the forestry sector and fossil fuel substitution in New Zealand and Uruguay. Different forestry and climate change policies affecting the profitability of the forest industry in each country will also be investigated.

Dr. Joe Landsberg, a Canberra-based consultant specialising in the physiological modelling of forest stands, is visiting the School for three months on an Erskine Fellowship grant. Joe will be interacting with Drs. Mason, Manley and Woollons, as well as Prof. Sands, and will be lecturing to postgraduates while he is here.

Another Erskine visitor, **Prof. Jiang Xiaomei**, a specialist in wood quality and wood properties from the Chinese Academy of Forestry in Beijing, China, is visiting the School for four weeks to lecture in Wood Science and carry out research with Prof. John Walker and Prof. Brian Butterfield from Plant and Microbial Sciences.

Brett Gilmore, a graduate of the School and now the Environmental and Technical Advisor for Pan Pac's Forest Division in Napier, was a recent **Visiting Industry Fellow** to the School. **Kevin Cooney**, another graduate of the School and now Planning and Valuation Manager for Fletcher Challenge Forests also completed his stay as

Visiting Industry Fellow. Both Brett and Kevin gave lectures and seminars and interacted with students and staff. The feedback from students to the Visiting Industry Fellow scheme has been very positive.

Dr. Rob Douglas recently completed a new postgraduate course on Low Volume Roads. The course was offered in block format, making it possible for off-campus consultants and company personnel to participate.

Dr. Hamish Cochrane has been awarded a University of Canterbury research grant of \$75,000 to investigate habitat use of introduced animals posing a biosecurity threat in their new environment.

Management Case Study, the 'rite-of-passage' for final year forestry students, concluded successfully. The client for 2002 was **Henry Martin**, Strategy and Planning Manager for CHH Forest Resources. Students worked as consultants and, through their analyses and reports, provided input into the Alternate Species Review being undertaken by CHH Forest Resources.

It's a sure sign that the School has "matured" when graduates of 25 years or more get together for a reunion. The class of '72 recently got together near Nelson, and the class of 1975 is planning to meet at the School at ANZAC weekend next year for their 27th reunion. Other years are encouraged to do likewise.

LINCOLN UNIVERSITY

New postgraduate degree offered

Advanced-level education for managers in the forestry industry is being offered by Lincoln University through the addition of a new specialisation to its Master of Professional Studies degree. Lincoln's MProf Studs was launched almost three years ago and, unlike a standard MBA, looks beyond the sphere of business and management disciplines by offering industry-specific professional development.

The programme is designed for those who prefer not to commit to full-time study or to an on-campus lecture schedule. Students work extramurally with a comprehensive set of course material, backed up by periodic face-to-face tutorial sessions in the main centres.

To obtain the Master of Professional Studies degree students complete four 600-level papers, usually one per semester, from a pool of generic business management papers plus two specialist papers and a two-paper dissertation.

Two subjects will be offered within the forestry stream, Forest Utilisation and Forest Valuation

Further details about this subject and the Professional Masters Programme generally are available via www.lincoln.ac.nz/profmast