



Two presidents: Lee Myung-Bak, Republic of Korea and Niels Elers Koch, IUFRO make the front page of a Korean newspaper, shown by SNS secretary Katrine Hahn Kristensen. Photo: Mats Hannerz

World's forest researchers chaired by Scandinavian

A new president of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) was elected at the IUFRO World Congress in Seoul, August 2010. The president for the next four years will be Professor Niels Elers Koch, director of Forest & Landscape, Denmark.

In his inaugural speech, Niels Elers Koch described the first IUFRO World Congress he attended in 1976, in Oslo, Norway, as a life-changing experience that linked him to a worldwide network of top researchers in his field, people who would later become priceless assets for his career.

“I shall work so that all forest researchers in the world get the same excellent opportunities that I got through IUFRO”, he said.

The new board, including the president, was announced on the



last day of the six-day congress, which brought together almost 3,000 delegates from all over the world.

At the same time, the next venue for the congress was revealed. Forest researchers can look forward to meeting in Salt Lake City, USA, in 2014.

Professor Koch succeeds Professor Don Koo Lee from Korea, who had held the position of president since the last IUFRO World Congress, in Brisbane in 2005.

About IUFRO

IUFRO is “the” global network for forest science cooperation. It unites more than 15,000 scientists from almost 700 Member Organizations in over 110 countries, who cooperate in IUFRO on a voluntary basis.

IUFRO was founded in 1892 as the International Union of Forest Experiment Stations by three members (from Germany, Austria and Switzerland). The union grew rapidly after World War I, and changed its name to the current.

The headquarter is in Vienna.

About the congress

The IUFRO World Congress is held every 4–5 years. This year's congress in Seoul was the 23rd.

Countries represented: 92

Registered participants: 2,675, of whom 878 were from the Republic of Korea

Number of oral presentations in technical sessions: 916

Number of posters presented: 1,054

25 years in the service of forest science

The 25th anniversary of Scandinavian Journal of Forest Research was celebrated at a jubilee seminar at the IUFRO World Congress in Seoul on August 24th. More than 60 researchers, colleagues and friends of the journal showed up to celebrate its birthday.

Niels Elers Koch, SNS board member and President-elect of IUFRO, opened the seminar entitled “25 years in the service of forest research” and welcomed the four invited speakers to take a look at the past and future from a forest research perspective (see below).

Before wrapping up the event, editor Mats Hannerz announced the winner of the SJFR 25 years Jubilee Award for the most cited author (see next page).

The event was organized in co-operation with The Nordic Forest Research Co-operation Committee (SNS) and kindly sponsored by the publisher Taylor & Francis.

/ *Katrine Hahn Kristensen*



*Above: Attendants at the seminar.
Photo: IUFRO Below: The four keynote-speakers, from left: Ronald McRoberts, Tomas Nordfjell, Lena Gustafsson and Pasi Puttonen.
Photo: Katrine Hahn Kristensen*



25 years of ...

...forest inventory research

Dr. **Ronald McRoberts** from the U.S. Forest Service presented a motivational talk on the technical and statistical developments in remote sensing for producing forest inventories.

McRoberts pointed out that the measurement of forest inventory plots is becoming increasingly expensive and there is a growing need for inexpensive solutions.

Twenty-five years ago, inventories were generally only produced for boreal and temperate forests, but today climate change and carbon accounting concerns require inventories for tropical forests in developing countries.

...forest technology research

Professor **Tomas Nordfjell** from SLU, Sweden illustrated the development of forest technology research, with special focus on cut-to-length harvesting techniques. Work between 1985 and 2010 was characterized by the development of long-lasting products but also by greatly improved ergonomic standards, more advanced hydraulics, and superior computer systems.

The important fact now is that all biomass from a tree has a substantial value and we can therefore expect to see harvesting heads that remove the main part of the stump.

...nature conservation research

Professor **Lena Gustafsson**, SLU, Sweden, provided a timeline illustrating the change in approaches, topics and species studied. She envisioned a change towards multidisciplinary, metacommunity ecology and landscape genetics; a change towards the research topics of restoration, ecosystem functions and services and climate change; and a change from studying highly specific species groups towards a wide overview of all species.

As an example of a new conservation measure, she described tree retention, which is a form of off-reserve conservation, leaving and creating the structures associated with natural forests.

...silvicultural research

Professor **Pasi Puttonen**, Metla, Finland, described past advances in nursery and plant propagation techniques, as well as improvements in stand care and seedling establishment.

Sustainable forest management has become a particular issue requiring societal processes to be taken into account.

Professor Puttonen forecasts an increasing need for multidisciplinary research, integrating technology, economics and silviculture.

He also predicted that there will be more work for fewer scientists, and the need to synthesize new results and experiences continuously.

Scandinavian Journal of Forest Research Jubilee Award to Erik Naeset



The Award winner,
Professor Erik Naeset. Photo: Håkon Sparre.

The winner of the Jubilee Award, established to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Scandinavian Journal of Forest Research, was Professor Erik Naeset from the Norwegian University of Life Sciences.

The award was presented during the jubilee seminar at the IUFRO World Congress in Seoul, by editor Mats Hannerz, who described the background to the award's inception: Publication of an article is much more than ticking off a completed study or adding a new item to a CV. The main purpose should instead be to disseminate ones ideas and findings to a broader audience, who can use them, criticize them, and elaborate on them.

An indication of the scientific impact of an article is how often it has been cited. Scandinavian Journal of Forest Research wants to honour and encourage authors who write articles which are read and cited by their colleagues.

And the winner is...

The jubilee award is given to an author who has been successful in this sense. We chose to look at the total

citations over the period 2001–2009 to find the most cited author and the most cited article. We found the same person in both categories.

The author published 26 peer-reviewed articles in Scandinavian Journal of Forest Research during the period 1995–2009. Three of them were among the top-10 cited articles over the period 2001–2009, in competition with over 500 cited articles. The total citations to the author's articles in SJFR amount to over 430.

The top-cited article, which has been cited 94 times until 2009, was: *Naeset, E. (2004). Practical large scale forest stand inventory using a small footprint airborne scanning laser. Scand. J. For. Res. 19, 164-179.*

About the winner

Erik Naeset is professor at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences. Professor Naeset has been in the forefront of laser-based forest research for over a decade. His research interest varies widely as evidenced by his numerous publications. As described by one of his colleagues: 'He is a well-cited author because he does meticulous, well-planned, thoughtful research that he presents in clear, concise, well-written manuscripts. Because he addresses timely topics, because he's a forward thinker who is broadly familiar with most of the work done by other researchers, and takes the time to build on their results, he will, without doubt, continue to be a leader in the forestry LIDAR community at a time of significant change and opportunity.'

Professor Naeset was formerly an active member of the editorial board of the journal, and has been eager to sharpen its scientific impact over the time.



Forest Research in the North – on the web

The fact sheets about forest research organizations in the Nordic and Baltic countries, first issued in 2005, have been revised. A brochure introduces the main actors in forest research in each of the countries, and also provides brief facts about their forests. The brochure can be downloaded from the SNS website, www.nordicforestresearch.org

Arboretum becomes therapy garden

Part of the Forest & Landscape arboretum in Hørsholm will be used as the first research-based therapy garden in Denmark. The idea of a therapy garden is to cure people with mainly stress-induced problems. The therapy garden will cover about one hectare, and will be located in the North-American part of the arboretum. The garden is part of an extensive research project on nature and health that is being conducted by the University of Copenhagen.

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New website for forest tree breeding

skogplantebredling.no is a joint marketing portal for the The Norwegian Forest Seed Center and the Norwegian Forest and Landscape Institute. The website is arranged as a large seasonal wheel, showing the current status of the trees, and thematic overviews designed in the form of small electronic books.

Read more: www.skogplantebredling.no

25 years of monitoring forest health

Air pollution is still a threat to forest health in central Europe, although the deposition of sulphur has decreased over recent decades. Monitoring is the key to following changes over time: for forest health as well as for the status of the soil and water. Climate change and increased utilization of bioenergy are other incentives for continuing to monitor systematically.

Dr Martin Lorenz from the Institute for World Forestry in Germany presented the monitoring work by ICP Forests at the IUFRO World Congress in Seoul, August 2010. ICP Forests (*International Co-operative Programme on Assessment and Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Forests*) established its large-scale grid of monitoring plots across Europe in 1986. The work has therefore been on-going for 25 years.

In the beginning, the focus was on leaf and needle loss. The monitoring plots were later complemented with more intensive monitoring plots, intended to measure air pollution, soil conditions, tree nutrition and tree growth, as well as recording crown conditions.

Data are collected by 41 countries in a total of 5,000 plots throughout Europe. The more intensive monitoring is conducted on 800 plots.



Dr. Martin Lorenz presented the network of monitoring in Europe. Photo: Mats Hannerz.

Results show, for example, that sulphur loads are still critically high in a quarter of the plots, and critical loads for nitrogen are exceeded in more than 65% of the plots, particularly those in Central Europe.

Air pollution and nutrient enrichment resulting from the deposition of nitrogen are threats to vegetation diversity and the functioning of forest ecosystems. The effects of climate change can also be traced and predicted with the aid of the monitoring data.

ICP Forests was launched as part of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). Monitoring has been co-financed by the EU.

Read more: www.icp-forests.org



Forester new leader at WWF Sweden

Håkan Wirtén, Forest Director at the Swedish Forest Agency, has been appointed Secretary General of WWF Sweden. He succeeds Lasse Gustavsson, who has become the Executive Conservation Director at WWF International in Gland, Switzerland.

“Håkan has the skills needed to further develop and strengthen WWF's activities and internal organization, both in Sweden and internationally”, says Björn Häggglund, chairman of WWF Sweden.

“I'm delighted to join the team at WWF Sweden. As the leading environmental and conservation organization, WWF will play a key role in building a sustainable society in harmony with nature – both in Sweden and in the rest of the world”, says Håkan Wirtén.

Håkan Wirtén is a long standing board member of SNS.

Source: www.wwf.se

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More info about SNS:

www.nordicforestresearch.org

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- short
- relevant to the Journal
- interesting for the readers.

Examples: comments on papers published in the Journal, views on ongoing research, trends in research policy, opinions about forestry practice etc.

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