

Minutes of the Forestry SIG Annual Meeting
Banff Centre, Banff, AB, Canada
May 31st, 2016

1) Welcome, Minute of Silence, and Meeting Objectives.

Taraneh Sowlati, on behalf of Claudia Cambero, president of the Forestry Special Interest Group (FSIG), opened the meeting by welcoming attendants. The meeting was initiated with a minute of silence in memory of Prof. Eldon Gunn, distinguished member of the FSIG, who passed away on February 11, 2016. Taraneh provided an overview of the meeting agenda (sent to all FSIG members prior to the meeting through the Google Group and by email) and asked if there were any additions. The agenda was motioned and seconded.

2) Approval of 2015 Annual Meeting Minutes

Taraneh asked if there were comments or questions related to the Minutes of the 2015 Annual Meeting that were sent to all members through the Google Group and by email prior to the meeting. There were no comments or questions and the minutes are approved unanimously, seconded by Jean-François Audy, previous president of the FSIG.

3) Review of FSIG activities May 2015-May 2016

Taraneh reviewed the FSIG activities since the last annual meeting held during the 2015 CORS Conference:

- 2016 OR in forestry cluster:

Taraneh Sowlati and Claudia Cambero co-chaired the cluster. This year program included 8 regular sessions composed of three presentations. In addition, the cluster included 2 special sessions:

- o David Martel Student Paper Prize in Forestry (DMSPPF) Special Session. The three finalists of the 2016 DMSPPF were: Amine Amrous, Rezvan Rafiei, Tasseda Boukherroub. Taraneh encouraged students to submit their papers and participate in the next year edition of the competition.
- o Eldon Gunn Special Session: This session was focussed the main contributions of Prof. Eldon Gunn to Strategic Forest Planning, chaired by Evelyn Richards.

- FSIG Communications:

- o Taraneh enlisted the previous communications of the FSIG through the CORS bulletin and through the Google Group during the period May 2015-May 2016, including the communications related to the FSIG letter to CORS Council regarding funding for DMSPPF finalists.
- o Jean-Francois Audy encouraged FSIG members to write notes and publish them in the CORS bulletins. He acknowledged that as result of the letter to CORS, banquet tickets were provided to students. He also encouraged students to submit papers to the next DMSPPF competition.

- INFOR Special Issue on Forestry Applications:

- o Taraneh gave an update on the INFOR Special Issue submitted by editor Gregory Paradis: The editorial process was completed and six accepted papers were submitted to INFOR Editors-in-Chief. These papers are under copyediting processes and are scheduled to appear in INFOR Volume 54 (2016), Issue 3 (June-July).
- o Jean-Francois mentioned that the aim of the FSIG is to make one special issue of INFOR every two years, thus, it is expected that there will be another special issue by the next FSIG Annual Meeting.

- Taraneh commented that the review process should be faster and David Martell explained that in the next special issue, the review process will be much faster since they have a new system with Taylor and Francis. Previously, this infrastructure was not ready. Jean-Francois Audy explained that some people accepted to review the submitted papers but they didn't participate.
- Review of 2016 FSIG members.
 - Taraneh presented the list of emails of FSIG members provided by CORS. She invited attendees to make sure their emails were in the list, and, if not, to contact the FSIG president Claudia Cambero at claudia.cambero@gmail.com in order to receive communications relevant to FSIG members such as the presentation and the minutes of the FSIG annual meeting.

4) New FSIG Website

Taraneh explained that the new website for CORS is up and running and has space for SIG sections. She invited all FSIG members to submit relevant materials to FSIG president Claudia Cambero. Jean-Francois Audy invited students to assist with the development and managing of the website. David Martell suggested posting announcements with the names of members who have passed defenses. Jean-Francois Audy suggested posting recruitment activities and historical information about the FSIG such as previous presentations.

5) Other topics

Taraneh reminded the attendees that the next annual meeting of the FSIG will be during the next CORS Annual General Meeting on July 17-21, 2017 in Quebec City. During that meeting, the next president for the FSIG for the period 2017-2019 will be selected. She encouraged people to participate as chairs, or contribute with presentations.

Jean-Francois Audy thanked the cluster co-chairs Taraneh Sowlati and Claudia Cambero for their work for the 2016 OR in Forestry Cluster and the FSIG activities.

Mustapha Ouhimmou reminded the attendees that the Value Chain Optimization network finalized its activities, and introduced a new network that will be announced in April 2017.

Taraneh thanked the contributions of all the presenters and session chairs of the OR in Forestry Cluster 2016 and adjourned the meeting at 6:31pm.