



UNIVERSIDAD POLITÉCNICA DE MADRID
ESCUELA TÉCNICA SUPERIOR DE INGENIEROS DE MONTES



Conference of Deans and Directors of European Forestry Faculties and Schools (ConDDEFFS)

Silva Network Annual Conference

**Antonio Notario Gómez
Fernando García Robredo
November 5, 2009**

Introduction

Antonio Notario Gómez, Director of the
“Escuela Técnica Superior de Ingenieros de Montes de Madrid”

Good morning. Please allow me to apologize for addressing you in Spanish. I will just say a few words and Fernando will go on in English.

First of all, I would like to thank Prof. Siegfried Lewark for his kind invitation to attend this meeting and have the opportunity to present the ConDDEFFS. I really appreciate the letter he sent to me five months ago holding out his hand and offering the co-operation of SILVA Network.

ConDDEFFS has been designed as an answer to a growing concern among the Forestry Academic Community. Despite the tremendous importance of forests to the environment, society and economic well-being, the Forestry profession is not receiving the recognition it deserves.

Introduction

Antonio Notario Gómez

It is the responsibility of the Forestry Academic Institutions to mold and train the next generation of foresters, but:

- In many countries there has been a decline in students entering the forest sector
- The community of forest sector educators is also fragmented at the European level

It is necessary to encourage co-operation and to improve the quality of forestry education and research among the European Forestry Faculties and Schools, considering matters of common interest, articulating the needs of these institutions and influencing public opinion and legislation for the improvement and advancement of forestry higher education.

Fernando will give you the details of the initiative. Thank you.

Outline of the presentation

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Objectives

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Partners

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Constituent meeting

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Actions under way

5

Cooperation with SILVA Network

Objectives

Purpose and Role of the Conference

Mission Statement

Objectives

Purpose and role of the Conference

Conference objectives (1/3)

1. To exchange information on programmes, resources and means of the participant institutions so that cooperation actions can be established from that knowledge.
2. To identify the common problems forest education and research must face, analysing them in the present context, and foreseeing possible future scenarios. In particular, to learn from the experience gathered in different countries in the course of adaptation to the “Bologna Process” in order to safeguard the long-term quality of forestry education in Europe.

Objectives

Purpose and role of the Conference

Conference objectives (2/3)

3. To investigate possible solutions to the problems that may emerge and identify lines of action.
4. To specify projects from the lines of action and build a programme of short and medium term activities.
5. To present the problems identified and the solutions proposed to the institutions in charge of forest and environment policies, both at the national and European level, and to the main companies in the forest sector.

Objectives

Purpose and role of the Conference

Conference objectives (3/3)

6. To disseminate the Conference position on different topics to society with the aim of building public conscience about the importance of forestry education for the sustainability of the forest sector in Europe and in the rest of the world.
7. In summary, to foster cooperation among the participant institutions to strengthen forestry education in Europe.

Objectives

Mission statement

Approved at the meeting held on May 29, 2009

1. To work towards a common set of academic and professional competences for the forestry and forest engineering curricula in Europe .
2. To identify and promote mobility pathways between the participating forestry and forest engineering curricula (with the ultimate goal of establishing durable and sustainable links between research teams).
3. To establish a EU recognized network (possibly through a COST proposal) focused on forestry and forest engineering pedagogy at a strategic and operational level.

Objectives

Mission statement

Approved at the meeting held on May 29, 2009

4. To act as brokerage network for multi-institutional educational and research proposals to the European Commission.
5. To influence the direction of EU research funding relevant to the forestry sector.
6. To present a common public relations front to national or international organizations.

Partners

Partners

Country



Austria



Belgium



Czech Republic

Institution

- University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences (Vienna)
- Faculty of Bioscience Engineering, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
- Faculté des Sciences Agronomiques de Gembloux
- Faculty of Forestry and Wood Sciences, Czech University of Life Sciences (Prague)
- Faculty of Forestry and Wood Technology, Mendel University of Agriculture and Forestry (Brno)

Partners

Country



Estonia



Germany



Greece



Hungary

Institution

- Institute of Forestry and Rural Engineering, Estonian University of Life Sciences
- Faculty of Forest and Environmental Sciences, University of Freiburg
- Faculty of Forest Sciences and Forest Ecology, University of Göttingen
- Department of Forestry and Natural Environment Management at Drama
- Faculty of Forestry in Sopron, University of Western Hungary

Partners

Country



Italy



Latvia



Lithuania



Poland

Institution

- Faculty of Agriculture, University of Padova
 - Forestry Faculty, Latvia Agriculture University
 - Faculty of Forestry and Ecology, Lithuanian University of Agriculture
- Faculties of Forestry of:
- University of Agriculture in Krakow
 - Poznan University of Life Sciences
 - Warsaw Agricultural University

Partners

Country



Portugal



Rep. of Srpska



Romania



Russia

Institution

- Department of Forestry, College of Agriculture, Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra
- Faculty of Forestry, University of Banja Luka
- Faculty of Silviculture and Forest Engineering, University of Transilvania at Braşov
- Forestry Faculty, Moscow State Forestry University

Partners

Country



Serbia



Slovakia



Slovenia



Spain

Institution

- Faculty of Forestry, University of Belgrade
- Faculty of Forestry, Technical University in Zvolen
- Biotechnical Faculty, Department of Forestry, University of Ljubljana
- School of Forest Engineering, Technical University of Madrid
- School of Forestry and Agricultural Engineering, University of Córdoba
- School of Engineering at Lugo, University of Santiago de Compostela

Partners

Country

 Spain

 United Kingdom

 Bulgaria

Institution

- School of Agricultural Engineering, University of Valladolid
- Faculty of Science and Arts, Catholic University of Ávila
- National School of Forestry, Faculty of Science and Natural Resource, University of Cumbria
- Faculty of Forestry, University of Forestry at Sofia

Partners

Country



Greece



Ukraine

Institution

- Department of Forestry & Natural Environment, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
- Ukrainian National Forestry University, Lviv

Constituent meeting

Agenda

Final resolution

Constituent meeting (May 28-30, 2009)

Agenda

May 28

Arrival and welcome dinner



Constituent meeting (May 28-30, 2009)

Agenda

May 28

Arrival and welcome dinner



Constituent meeting (May 28-30, 2009)

Agenda

May 29

Opening



Constituent meeting (May 28-30, 2009)

Agenda

May 29

Morning session



- Purpose and role of the Conference
- Discussion
- Presentation of proposed bylaws
- Discussion



- A mission statement is needed

Constituent meeting (May 28-30, 2009)

Agenda

May 29

Afternoon session

- Further discussion
- Main decisions:
 - Official establishment of the ConDDEFFS
 - Approval of the mission statement
 - Members of the Steering Committee
 - Next meeting (place and date)



Constituent meeting (May 28-30, 2009)

Agenda

May 30

Field trip



Constituent meeting (May 28-30, 2009)

Agenda

May 30

Field trip



Constituent meeting (May 28-30, 2009)

Final resolution

Main decisions

1. To establish the “Conference of Deans and Directors of European Forestry Faculties and Schools (ConDDEFES)”
2. To approve the proposed bylaws of the Conference, including the establishment of a Steering Committee (composed of three individuals) as the main executive conference authority, able to co-ordinate the work of future meetings, which will take place at least once a year in a host European country.
3. To approve the “Mission Statement” of the Conference.

Constituent meeting (May 28-30, 2009)

Final resolution

Main decisions

4. To approve the members of the Steering Committee until the 2010 meeting:



Antonio
Notario

Host of 2009 meeting



Ioan
Abrudan

Host of 2010 meeting



Vilém
Podrázský

Host of 2011 meeting

STEERING COMMITTEE

- There must be a Conference support body or Secretariat, responsible for gathering, preparing and distributing documents and information.
- The next ConDDEFSS meeting will be held in Braşov, Romania, from 14 to 17 of October 2010.

Actions under way

Cost proposal

Actions under way

Exchanging information and building a community

Web page of the Conference

<http://www.unitbv.ro/silvic/deans.html>

Questionnaires

Standard form

They gather information on:

- Study programs
- Management position of graduates
- Funding system
- Socrates/Erasmus partners
- Programs/courses in English
- Political issues

COST Proposal

- Objectives and deliverables
- Work program

Potential Cooperation with SILVA Network

Cooperation with SILVA Network

Potential actions for mutual support

Information exchange

- Information exchange on programmes, resources and means of the member institutions

Curriculum development

- Design of a common set of academic and professional standards for the forestry curricula in Europe

Student's & staff mobility

- Promotion of mobility pathways between the participating forestry curricula

“ If you want to be incrementally better, be competitive. If you want to be exponentially better, be cooperative”.

Unknown source

“ We must, indeed, all hang together or, most assuredly, we shall all hang separately”.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

fernando.garcia.robredo@upm.es