To: Faculty, Staff and Students, School of Forest Resources
Re: Alumni Event on Saturday, November 7, 2009

From: Tom Hinckley, Interim Director

For those who were present, you can bear-witness to the nature of this event. For those who were not present, I will share my observations and those of others. Finally, I thank those who made this a very worthwhile event.

Over the last four years, the Annual Alumni Event has been held in four different locations with two very different venue styles. For 2006, it was held in the faculty club; 2007 was in the Don James Center (Centennial Celebration), 2008 was at Ivar’s; and 2009 was at the Center for Urban Horticulture. For three of the years, 2006 – 2008, there was an initial reception followed by a sit-down dinner. For this year, the Alumni Planning Committee decided to change the format, avoid the high costs of a sit-down dinner, and increase the opportunity for intensive and extensive interaction, both with participants as well as with information about the School. NHS, the Commons, and Merrill Hall were open, and participants had a chance to see labs in Merrill, visit the Hyde Herbarium and Miller Library, and see posters and other displays featuring teaching, outreach, and research programs in the School. Great wine and beer, outstanding food, and a jazz band created an informal atmosphere that encouraged interaction. As stated by two alums:

“I thought the live jazz and the casual atmosphere made it feel much more like a celebratory event. Not to mention the great awardees and great presenters. Fantastic!”

“So I need to just say it was one of the best ever. Live music is always a winner. The food was great and the venue.... superb!!!! ...and I was in awe of the award winners. What champions!”

Award winners for 2009 were:

- Honored Alumnus: Dr. Gary Hartshorn (’72)
• Honorary Alumnus: Professor Gordon Bradley
• Excellence in Teaching Award: Professor Darlene Zabowski
• Distinguished Achievement Award: Mr. Toby Atterbury

It was great to see faculty, staff and students from the School – the alumni appreciate knowing that you are interested in them and they also appreciate the chance of hearing from you about the School.

All of this could not have been possible without the support of the following:

Alumni Awards Committee headed by Ann Forest Burns

Alumni Board: Bob Alverts, Jack Blanchard, Ann Forest Burns, Dale Cole, Bob Dick, Ara Erickson, Tom Friberg, Bill Fuller, Tom Hanson, Ben Harrison, Dick Hopkins, Jack Krystad, Larry Maechler, Elaine O'neil, Alan Randall, Alicia Robbins, Peter Schiess, Doug St. John, Mark Swanson, and Matt Weintraub

Alumni Event Committee: Ara Erickson, Tom Hanson, and Matt Weintraub with support from the Advancement Team of Caroline Rosevear and Ramona Hickey.

Award presenters: Alan Randall, Bruce Bare, Matt Weintraub, and Bob Alverts

Center for Urban Horticulture (UWBG): Sponsored the event and staffed the Herbarium, Laboratories, and Library during the event: Sandra Lier, Interim Director, Jon Bakker, Fred Hoyt, Soo Kim, Sarah Reichard, and Brian Thompson.

Jazz band: arranged and sponsored by Ara Erickson.

Again, thank you.