



AREA President's Message 1

Urban Tree Growth—
An International Meeting and
Research Symposium 2

AREA Session—Water Scarcity
and the Urban Forest..... 3

Reflections of My Trip to the ISA
Annual Conference in Australia 4

Call for Presentations 5

TREE Fund Updates 6

Professional Opportunities 6



AREA Executive Committee

President	Kamran Abdollahi
President-Elect	Angela Hewitt
Vice President	Gregory Dahle
Secretary/Treasurer	Eric Wiseman
Past President	Rich Hauer

President's Message

Dear AREA Members:

The Arboricultural Research and Education Academy (AREA) is established to provide an organization which will encourage communication and coordination among scientists and educators working in arboriculture and urban forestry through physical, biological, ecological, and the sociological sciences. AREA supports the efforts of faculty, students, and researchers, and it coordinates the educational program at the ISA Annual Conference.



As the new president of the Academy, I am fully committed to support activities and initiatives that would fulfill the goals and objectives of AREA. I urge you to become more involved and participate in the activities supported by AREA.

I would like to acknowledge the tremendous dedication and leadership of AREA's past president, Dr. Rich Hauer. We achieved several noteworthy milestones last year:

- ✓ Completed AREA Policies and Procedures
- ✓ Hosted annual elections electronically
- ✓ Formalized relationship with the ISA Science & Research Committee
- ✓ Supported research symposia (Tree Biomechanics and Urban Tree Growth)
- ✓ Supported students (All ISA student members are now AREA members, and we provided six student travel grants to present research)

Thanks to our dedicated secretary and treasurer, Dr. Eric Wiseman, we have achieved a well-monitored accounting system and budgetary accountability. In addition, the ISA leadership team and staff members have been assisting AREA by their timely communications and organizational support. We will continue our mutual collaboration, strengthening the well-established channels of communication and planning protocols.

I welcome the new AREA Executive Committee members, Dr. Angela Hewitt (President-Elect) and Dr. Gregory Dahle (Vice-President). The new leadership team has already begun planning for the next year and implementing the remaining initiatives that were set in the past.

Please continue supporting arboricultural & urban forestry research and education.

Sincerely,

Kamran K. Abdollahi, Ph.D.

Urban Tree Growth – An International Meeting and Research Symposium



*Bryant C. Scharenbroch, Ph.D.
Urban Soil Scientist
The Morton Arboretum
Lisle, Illinois, USA*

The International Society of Arboriculture, Urban Tree Growth & Longevity Working Group, and The Morton Arboretum held a two-day symposium on September 12-13, 2011 at The Morton Arboretum. This meeting brought together internationally renowned researchers and practitioners to discuss the current state of knowledge concerning urban tree growth and longevity (UTG&L). The conference was attended by 200 people from five countries and twenty-one U.S. states.

The program featured oral and poster presentations in four topic areas. Topic 1 included presentations on “Descriptive Studies of Tree Growth, Longevity and Mortality” by Greg McPherson and Paula Peper (USDA–Forest Service), Chris Martin (Arizona State University), Robert Fahey and Marlin Bowles (The Morton Arboretum), Lara Roman (University of California–Berkeley), Bryant Scharenbroch (The Morton Arboretum), and Julia Bartens (University of California–Davis). Ed Gilman (University of Florida), Ed Mulrean (Arid Zone Trees), Matthew Stephens (New York City Parks Department), and Henrik Sjöman (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences) presented in Topic 2, “Roles of Tree Production and Sales on Tree Growth and Longevity.” Topic 3 was “Roles of Site Design and Tree Selection on Tree Growth and Longevity,” and presentations were given by Susan Day (Virginia Tech), Tom Smiley (Bartlett Tree Research), Alan Siewert and Stephanie Miller (Ohio Department of Natural Resources), and Jason Grabosky (Rutgers University). James Clark (HortScience, Inc.), Alessandro Pestalozza (Monza Dendrotec), Alessio Fini (University of Florence), Gary Watson (The Morton Arboretum), and Nina Bassuk (Cornell University) presented in Topic 4, “Roles of Tree and Site Management on Tree Growth and Longevity.”

The second day of the meeting featured a facilitated roundtable discussion. The intent was to foster interaction and build a research agenda for the UTG&L Working Group. Research priorities were identified, discussed, and voted upon in each topic area. Following the roundtable discussion and conference synopsis, the UTG&L Working Group met and elected its officers: Greg McPherson (Chair), Bryant Scharenbroch (Vice Chair), and Lara Roman (Secretary).

Many of the papers from the conference are being submitted for publication in a special issue on Urban Tree Growth & Longevity in the journal *Arboriculture & Urban Forestry*. More information on the meeting or UTG&L Working Group is at: <http://www.masslaboratory.org/urbantreegrowth.htm>.

Photographs from the conference can be viewed at: <http://gallery.me.com/rightexposure#101159>.

We recognize and thank the conference sponsors: International Society of Arboriculture, United States Department of Agriculture – Forest Service, The Morton Arboretum, Arboricultural Research & Education Academy, Tree Research & Education Endowment Fund, Davey Tree, Bartlett Tree Experts, Utility Arborist Association, Kramer Tree Specialists, and Illinois Arborist Association.

AREA Session – Water Scarcity and the Urban Forest ISA Annual Conference 2011, Parramatta, Australia

*By Richard Hauer, Associate Professor of Urban Forestry
College of Natural Resources, University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point*

What is the best way to minimize the impacts of prolonged moisture stress in the urban forest? Perhaps you could hire Sheryl Crow to draft a song, “All I Want to Do Is Stop the Drought.” I suspect that won’t work, but it’s a neat idea anyway. A better way is to use plant science and urban forest management to drive the process. About this time last year, a proposal was developed to craft a symposium around climate change and the urban forest for the AREA session at the ISA annual conference in Australia. Specifically, the topic was: how to grow the urban forest in a water-scarce environment. The idea was over 10 years in the making, from a continued below-average precipitation that left Australia in a decade of drought.

Dr. Greg McPherson was the brain child behind the idea, with many great presenters and facilitators. In fact, the symposium idea was an approach to tailor research and management applications and deliver this through the AREA session. The model worked extremely well, with over 100 people in attendance on a Wednesday afternoon. From my collective history, this was a well-populated audience. Robert Prince served as the moderator, in conjunction with Larry Costello and Nelda Matheny as conveners. A Grade-A class of presenters and panelists—including Jason Beringer, Tim Fletcher, Perrine Hamel, Roger Kjelgren, Peter May, Gregory Moore, and Ian Shears—delivered timely outcomes of their research of plants in a dry environment and ways to capture and store water for urban green infrastructure.

Ironically, record rainfall events coincided with the drought symposium. A running joke was, “Wherever it is dry, host this symposium as a cure for the drought.” Even with the recent rains, what is evident is: compared to historical patterns, climate change is seriously impacting the Australian continent. The symposium brought to light the severity of the change, ways to adapt, and arboricultural and urban forestry approaches undertaken to grow the urban forest into the future.

NEED CEUS?

LISTEN TO ISA'S  SERIES

Sample one of our **Science of Arboriculture** podcasts, which are 40-minute, in-depth presentations by prominent industry professionals in tree care business and research. **CEU quizzes are available for purchase (listen first to the free podcast).** Most *Science of Arboriculture* podcast quizzes can be applied to the Science domain requirement for Board Certified Master Arborists. www.isa-arbor.com/podcast/ArborPod

 **International Society of Arboriculture**
www.isa-arbor.com • p. 217.355.9411 • f. 217.355.9516

Reflections of My Trip to the ISA Annual Conference in Australia

Vanessa A. Ferchaud

*Southern University, Urban Forestry Program,
Baton Rouge, Louisiana*

My name is Vanessa Ferchaud, and I am a Ph.D. candidate in the Urban Forestry Program at Southern University and A&M College, located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. I am also a student member of the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA). My research examines the “Localization and Identification of UV-B Absorbing Compounds in Selected Southern Broadleaf Tree Species,” and I will graduate with my doctoral degree in fall 2011.

This past July, I was able to travel “down under” to the continent of Australia to attend the 2011 ISA Annual Conference and Tree Climbing Championship. I submitted a research abstract and was awarded a student travel grant, which enabled me to give a presentation during the ISA Conference in Parramatta, Greater Western Sydney (GWS). The entire experience of attending the conference and participating as a speaker was very enlightening and exhilarating. I was able to witness other speakers giving critical and useful information about trees and tree projects in their localities. I visited the trade show and viewed new, innovative equipment that may have fostered new research projects for the future in my field of expertise. Through networking, I was able to meet other scientists and discuss possible collaboration on research projects in the future. It was interesting to attend my first International Tree Climbing Championship, where I observed professional techniques in tree climbing. Watching the women’s and men’s competitors use precision methods to move around to the designated points in the tree was fascinating.

Visiting the attractions in and around Parramatta and in Sydney was wonderful. It was nice to visit places in person that I have seen on television or read about, like Sydney’s Opera House and Harbor, Parramatta’s Riverfront, and Featherdale Wildlife Park.

All of this would not have been possible if I hadn’t submitted my research abstract to ISA. The organization afforded me the opportunity of a lifetime—to attend its conference on another continent. AREA considered my research as an enlightening tool for arborists and scientists that can help broaden their knowledge on how trees interact with UV-B radiation and its detrimental effects on trees. I learned a very important message from the conference: people from other countries and continents have the same problems with trees as we do here in the United States. Poor pruning, old age, wind throw from storms, UV radiation, harsh weather conditions, and diseased and displaced roots are just a few of these common problems.

I would like to thank ISA again for making this ultimate trip possible by giving me the opportunity to apply, to be accepted, and to receive a \$500 travel grant scholarship from AREA, a complimentary student registration and a speaker’s stipend from ISA as a conference speaker. In addition, I would like to thank my advisor, Dr. Yadong Qi, Professor of Urban Forestry, for supporting the rest of my travel through a USDA NIFA-fund UV-B research project. All of the above helped make my trip to Australia a memorable and rewarding experience.



Vanessa Ferchaud presenting at the 2011 AREA session in Parramatta, Australia



CALL FOR AREA PRESENTATIONS 88TH ISA ANNUAL CONFERENCE PORTLAND, OREGON, USA AUGUST 11-15, 2012



ISA's annual International Conference and Trade Show is the world's premier gathering of arboricultural professionals. Practicing arborists and urban foresters come together with top researchers and educators to learn the latest in research, technology, and innovations in arboriculture and urban forestry.

As part of the ISA Conference, the Arboricultural Research and Education Academy (AREA) hosts one day of research presentations as well as poster displays throughout the conference. Proposals for research presentations and poster displays are now being accepted for the 2012 Conference in Portland, Oregon, USA.

Proposals will be evaluated based upon overall quality, appropriateness and timeliness of topic, well-defined focus, practical application of material, and the topic's interest to a diverse audience.

Proposals should include:

- **Title** (A precise and concise description of the work performed and results obtained)
- **Byline**
- **Presentation type** (15-minute student summary, 30- or 60-minute research presentation, or poster)
- **Abstract** (for evaluation and publication in *Arboriculture & Urban Forestry*)
 - o 250-word maximum
 - o Include justification for the study, objectives, and a concise summary of significant data, major findings and conclusions
- **Summary** (condensed abstract for promotional materials; 100 words max)
- **Biography for Presenting Author(s)** (1-2 paragraphs)

Speakers are eligible for a conference registration waiver and a speaker's stipend based upon the length of presentation (15-minute student summary, or 30- or 60-minute research presentation).

Poster presenters are eligible for a discounted conference registration and a reimbursement of \$100 US to help offset the costs of printing and presenting. ISA will provide each poster presenter with a display board and mounting materials. Posters will be displayed from Sunday, August 12, to Wednesday, August 15. A question-and-answer session will be held on Monday, August 13, from 2:00 to 3:00 PM; participation in this Q-and-A session is required of all poster presenters.

All proposals must be sent to the AREA- ISA staff liaison, Rachel Leibowitz, Ph.D., by DECEMBER 1, 2011, at: rleibowitz@isa-arbor.com. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Proposals will be evaluated within two weeks of the final deadline. Notifications will be made shortly thereafter.

TREE Fund Updates

TREE FUND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

The TREE Fund offers scholarships for undergraduate students who aspire to careers in arboriculture, urban forestry and related fields. Scholarship opportunities include:



Robert Felix Memorial Scholarships

Established by the Tree Care Industry Association (TCIA) through the former National Arborist Foundation, these scholarships are funded by annual gifts from TCIA and members. Up to four (4) scholarships of \$3,000 each are given annually to college students studying arboriculture, urban forestry or related fields with the intention of entering arboriculture. Applications and reference letters are due by April 1 of each year. Apply Online.

John Wright Memorial Scholarship

The \$2,000 John Wright Memorial Scholarship is available to high school seniors and returning college students pursuing careers related to arboriculture. Established in 2008 by Wright Tree Service of Des Moines, IA, the award was created to help undergraduate students attend college without accumulating burdensome debt. Deadline for applications is May 15 of each year. Apply Online.

[Contact the TREE Fund](#) with questions about scholarships and the application process.

[View an archive of previous scholarship recipients.](#)

Professional Opportunities

VIRGINIA TECH ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR URBAN FORESTRY FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Virginia Tech's College of Natural Resources and Environment <http://www.cnre.vt.edu> is currently accepting applications for graduate and undergraduate fellowships and scholarships in urban forestry offered by two prominent conservation organizations

Garden Club of America

Zone VI of the Garden Club of America (GCA) is pleased to announce the call for applications for its 2012 Urban Forestry Fellowships.

The GCA strives to stimulate the knowledge and love of gardening, to share the advantages of association by means of educational meetings, conferences, correspondence and publications, and to restore, improve, and protect the quality of the environment through educational programs and action in the fields of conservation and civic improvement.

In 2012, multiple fellowships in the amount of \$4,000 each will be awarded to graduate or advanced undergraduate students studying urban forestry, environmental studies, horticulture, forestry, and related courses of study with a special interest in the urban forest.

With these fellowships, the GCA seeks to fulfill their goal of advancing our knowledge of urban forests and increasing the number of scientists in the field of urban forestry. GCA has a history of interest in the health of the urban forest and would like to support young scientists in their undergraduate and graduate studies in this field. The study areas of interest are far reaching, including urban forest management and planning as well as tree biology issues that will move urban forest science forward.

Details on fellowship eligibility and the application process are available at <http://urbanforestry.frec.vt.edu/scholarship/index.htm>. Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee at Virginia Tech composed of urban forestry educators, scientists, and professionals. The committee identifies meritorious applicants and nominates them for the fellowships, which are then awarded by the GCA. The application **deadline is January 31, 2012**.

If you have any questions concerning the award application or eligibility requirements, please contact: gcaurbanforestry@vt.edu.

Trees Virginia

The Virginia Urban Forest Council, known as Trees Virginia <http://treesvirginia.org/joomla/>, is offering scholarships to enhance the ranks of future urban forestry professionals by providing financial assistance to students studying urban forestry and related curricula at Virginia colleges. Trees Virginia has awarded over \$25,000 in scholarships since 2008.

Four scholarships totaling \$4000 will be awarded to applicants who best demonstrate financial need, academic excellence, and a clear commitment to a career in urban forestry, distributed as follows:

- * One \$1,500 scholarship for a graduate student enrolled at a Virginia four-year college;
- * One \$1,000 scholarship for an undergraduate student enrolled at a Virginia four-year college; and
- * Two \$750 scholarships for undergraduate students enrolled at a Virginia community or technical college.

Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee appointed by the board of directors of Trees Virginia.

* For application forms, eligibility requirements, and instructions, visit the Trees Virginia Scholarships in Urban Forestry website <http://urbanforestry.frec.vt.edu/scholarship/indexTreesVA.html>. For more information, email <mailto:marborist@vt.edu> the selection committee. The application **deadline is Dec. 21, 2011**.

GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIP IN TREE BIOMECHANICS

An assistantship is available for a graduate (M.S.) student to study tree development and biomechanics, particularly how juvenile branch or stem wood is modified during its transition to mature wood. Research will be conducted at West Virginia University, Division of Forestry & Natural Resources, in Morgantown, West Virginia, preferably beginning in the Fall 2012 semester. If interested, please contact Greg Dahle at gregory.dahle@mail.wvu.edu.

RESEARCH ARBORIST

The Morton Arboretum invites nominations and applications for a full-time Arboriculture Researcher, to conduct applied research and green industry outreach focused on the care and management of urban trees.

The Arboriculture Scientist will establish an internationally recognized arboriculture research program. Research topics may include tree risk assessment, biomechanics, plant health care, stress management, pruning responses, wound reaction, nutrition, and/or related subjects. Expectations include publishing in scientific, professional, and popular journals; obtaining extramural funding sufficient to support a high level of productivity; interacting with green industry professionals; supervising the Plant Health Care program; contributing toward management of Arboretum landscape trees; and collaborating with other scientists within and outside of the Arboretum. The Arboriculture Scientist will work especially closely with Arboretum researchers in plant pathology, entomology, root system biology, soil science, plant improvement and urban forestry. Academic teaching, advising, and adjunct faculty status opportunities are available at area universities.

Qualifications: Ph.D. in arboriculture, urban forestry, or related area; familiarity with regional challenges to urban trees and their management, and a demonstrated ability to communicate with industry professionals and other scientists; strong background in experimental design and statistical analytical methods and software;

International Society of Arboriculture certification and experience in the tree care industry are highly desired.

Review of applications will begin December 15, 2011, and will continue until the position is filled. Applicants should send a letter of application, curriculum vitae, statements of research and related interests and experience, and contact information for three references to: The Morton Arboretum, Human Resources, 4100 Illinois Route 53, Lisle, IL 60532 or jobs@mortonarb.org. For further information or to nominate candidates, please contact Dr. Gary Watson, Head of Research, at 630-719-2415 or gwatson@mortonarb.org.

The Morton Arboretum is a 1,700-acre public botanical garden, featuring one of the world's most diverse collections of woody plants, over 900 acres of natural areas, a comprehensive research library, modern laboratories and herbarium, and outreach education for professional and public audiences. Research at the Arboretum has focused throughout its 85-year history on finding practical solutions to the challenges of maintaining healthy natural areas and developed landscapes, and on communicating results to the research community, practicing professionals and the general public. See www.mortonarb.org. Equal Opportunity Employer.

ARBORICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACADEMY (AREA)

2012 ISA CONFERENCE STUDENT TRAVEL GRANTS

The Arboricultural Research and Education Academy (AREA) recognizes the importance of scientific and industry meetings as an educational and networking opportunity for student arborists. Furthermore, AREA realizes that travel to professional meetings can place a significant burden on budding tree care professionals coping with tuition payments, student fees, and reduced income.

To facilitate growth of future professionals (and ultimately, the profession as a whole), AREA has established a competitive travel grant program for all students interested in attending the 2012 International Society of Arboriculture Conference in Portland, Oregon, USA.

Six (6) \$500 (USD) grants will be awarded to the top applicants in an effort to offset travel costs and leverage additional travel funding from advisers, departments, and other entities. Grants will be awarded as reimbursements after the conference to successful candidates who are able to attend the event.

An electronic copy of the grant proposal request should be prepared by the student and e-mailed to the AREA-ISA staff liaison, rluibowitz@isa-arbor.com, by **December 1, 2011**.

All successful applicants will receive a complimentary ticket to the AREA Annual Business Luncheon on Tuesday, August 14, 2012 at 11:00 am to 12:30 pm. Those students in attendance will be encouraged to briefly describe their conference experience as part of the business meeting.

NOTIFICATION OF AWARDS: The AREA Executive committee will review the travel proposals within two weeks of the submission deadline. Notifications will be sent to all applicants shortly thereafter.

Application Requirements:

1. Complete the application cover sheet (see below).

2. Include Brief Statement of Interest: Please include a brief statement of interest (1-page maximum) that includes: 1) a brief biography; 2) a short justification detailing your merits as student in the tree care profession; and 3) a brief explanation of how attending the ISA conference will benefit you academically and professionally.

Students presenting research orally or as posters (submitted prior to this December 1, 2011, deadline) may include an abstract on a second page.

7. Submit a letter of support from your faculty adviser.

Application Cover Sheet
Arboricultural Research and Education Academy
2012 ISA Conference Student Travel Grants

APPLICATION DATE: _____

SUBMITTED BY: _____

Address: (school) (permanent; payments will be mailed AFTER the conference)

Phone: _____

Phone: _____

UNIVERSITY: _____

DEPARTMENT & COLLEGE: _____

STATUS: ___ Freshman ___ Sophomore ___ Junior ___ Senior ___ Graduate

Signatures:

Applicant _____

Faculty Adviser _____

Typed Faculty Name _____

URBAN & COMMUNITY FORESTRY

Extension Assistant Professor

Department Of Environmental Conservation and UMASS-Extension

University Of Massachusetts-Amherst &

Massachusetts Department of Conservation & Recreation

The Urban Forestry & Arboriculture program in the Department of Environmental Conservation at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst is seeking applications for a full-time, 12 month, non-tenure track appointment as Extension Assistant Professor in ***Urban & Community Forestry***. The appointment for this position is 20% Teaching, 20% Research and 60% Extension/Service & Outreach. The successful candidate will develop and implement an integrated teaching, research and extension agenda including: engaging university faculty, industry and government partners in identifying, conducting and funding urban forestry research, education and extension/outreach. The focus of this position is urban & community forestry, and professional experience (including certification) in the field is highly desirable. The successful candidate will have academic expertise in one or more of the following fields: tree benefits, tree growth, tree planting, tree risk assessment, urban forest management, human dimensions. The candidate should have demonstrated communication skills including the ability to transfer knowledge and technology from the research lab into practice. An M.S. degree is required. A Ph.D. or other terminal degree is preferred. The Urban Forestry & Arboriculture program in the Department of Environmental Conservation emphasizes collaboration between faculty, students, staff, and partners in industry and government. We share a fundamental commitment to teach and serve a diverse student body, professional practitioners, and the broader public. A more detailed description of the position can be found at <http://eco.umass.edu/>.

To Apply: Earliest start date is April 1, 2012. Review of applications begins January 17, 2012. Search will continue until the position is filled. Applicants should submit a curriculum vitae; a statement of their philosophy of extension, teaching and research; and full contact information for three references to:

Brian Kane, Chair
Urban & Community Forestry Search Committee
Dept. of Environmental Conservation
160 Holdsworth Way
Univ. of Massachusetts
Amherst, MA 01003
413-545-6637, bkane@eco.umass.edu

The University is part of the 5-College Consortium in the Pioneer Valley of Western Massachusetts—2 hours from Boston and 3 hours from New York City. Social, cultural and recreational amenities abound in this beautiful part of New England.

The University provides an intellectual environment committed to providing academic excellence and diversity including mentoring programs for faculty. The College and the Department are committed to increasing the diversity of the faculty, student body and the curriculum. The University of Massachusetts is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Women and members of minority groups are encouraged to apply.