

## Annual Conference

# New Horizons, New Challenges in Tropical Conservation and Development

February 21 – 23, 2002

J. Wayne Reitz Union

University of Florida

Gainesville, Florida

### Organizers

Tropical Conservation and Development Program

Dr. Marianne Schmink, Director

Hannah Covert, Coordinator

### Overview

The Tropical Conservation and Development Program (TCD) at the Center for Latin American Studies hosts this conference to convene leading TCD alumni and colleagues to discuss ***New Horizons, New Challenges in Tropical Conservation and Development*** on Thursday, February 21 – Saturday, February 23. In presentations by invited speakers and through group discussion the conference will draw upon the collective experience of an exceptionally talented group of people. Attendees will describe their vision of the coming decades, taking note of emerging scientific and policy issues, new methodological approaches, and the changing socioeconomic, political and environmental realities in Latin America and elsewhere.

The conference takes place as the TCD program is institutionalized at the University of Florida through creation of a new interdisciplinary graduate program involving participation by fourteen academic units. In recognition of TCD's ongoing contribution, the Ford Foundation made a \$2M gift in 2000 to endow the basic program, matched by another \$2M from the State of Florida. Holding the conference celebrates these important steps, by taking stock of shared accomplishments and by considering what the future may bring.

This gathering promises to be as intellectually insightful for participants as it will be strategically productive for TCD, to stay abreast of developments at the forefront of the field. It will also provide a unique opportunity for the new generation of TCD students and faculty shaping the direction of the program, as they interact with conference participants.

On the Monday and Tuesday following the TCD conference, the University of Florida's School of Forest Resources and Conservation and the Forest Management Trust will host a tropical forestry conference, "Working Forests in the Tropics: Conservation through Sustainable Management", February 25 and 26, 2002. More information on this conference is available at <http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/tropics/index.html>.

## Conference Focus

Each day of the TCD conference has a specific theme that will guide presentations and discussions. On Friday, we will concentrate on emerging priorities and challenges in tropical conservation and development. On Saturday, we will focus on strategies for further action. The following questions provide a framework for the conference:

### Emerging Priorities and Challenges in Tropical Conservation and Development

What have been the key historical trends in tropical conservation and development over the past two decades, and how can we expect these trends to evolve during the next two decades? What have been the most important paradigm shifts and methodological innovations in the field of tropical conservation and development during the past two decades? Given the dynamic socioeconomic, political, and environmental realities in Latin America and elsewhere, what are the emerging priorities for further advancement of tropical conservation and development? What are the most critical challenges and needs on the horizon facing donors, international NGOs, local NGOs, governments and universities?

### Strategies for Future Action

What are the theoretical, methodological and practical responses needed to effectively address these challenges? What kind of training, research, interventions and institutional arrangements will be required to meet future challenges? What strategies and steps can the TCD program, and its network of alumni and colleagues, take to meet future tropical conservation and development challenges?

## Program

Note: All sessions are to be held in the J. Wayne Reitz Union except as noted.

### Thursday, February 21

7:00 – 9:00                    **Opening Address and Reception**  
Steve Sanderson, Wildlife Conservation Society  
Keene Faculty Center

### Friday, February 22

9:00 – 9:10                    **Welcome**  
Charles Wood, Center for Latin American Studies

9:10 – 9:30                    **Opening Remarks**  
Marianne Schmink, Tropical Conservation and Development Program

### **Emerging Priorities and Challenges in Tropical Conservation and Development**

9:30 – 10:30                    **Invited Speakers**  
Kent Redford, Wildlife Conservation Society  
Claudio Padua, Instituto de Pesquisas Ecologicas  
Avecita Chicchón, John D. & Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

10:30 – 10:45	BREAK
11:00 – 11:45	Panel Response Sondra Wentzel, Gesellschaft fur Technische Zusammenarbeit Luis Suárez, EcoCiencia Francis “Jack” Putz, University of Florida
11:45 – 12:30	Plenary Discussion
12:45 – 1:45	LUNCH
2:00 – 2:10	Summary of Morning’s Presentations
2:10 – 3:10	Small Group Discussions
3:10 – 3:30	BREAK
3:30 – 4:15	Group Presentations
4:15 – 5:00	Plenary Discussion
5:00 – 7:00	<b>Student Poster Session &amp; Reception</b> Keene Faculty Center

[Click here for details on the Student Poster Session.](#)

## **Saturday, February 23**

### **Strategies for Future Action**

9:00 – 9:10	Introduction
9:10 – 10:10	Invited Speakers Gustavo Fonseca, Conservation International Cristina Espinosa, IUCN, The World Conservation Union Lisa Naughton, University of Wisconsin-Madison
10:10 – 10:30	BREAK
10:45 – 11:30	Panel Response Richard Bodmer, University of Kent (to be confirmed) Rodrigo Medellin, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico Amanda Stronza, Stanford University
11:30 – 12:15	Plenary Discussion
12:30 – 1:30	LUNCH

1:30 – 1:40	Summary of Morning Session
1:40 – 2:40	Small Group Discussions
2:40 – 3:00	BREAK
3:00 – 3:45	Group Presentations
3:45 – 4:30	Plenary Discussion
4:30 – 5:15	<b>Closing Remarks</b> Marianne Schmink, Tropical Conservation and Development Program
9:00 – 1:00	<b>Closing Celebration</b> University Centre Hotel

### **Registration Information**

There is no fee for attending the conference. However, all conference participants (including students) are required to register. Click [here](#) to access the registration form. The deadline to register is February 1, 2002.

Lunch on February 22 and 23 is free to registered participants. If you do not register for the conference, but would still like to attend lunch, you can purchase tickets for \$10 each during the conference.

### **Lodging Information**

The University Centre Hotel, located at 1535 SW Archer Road in Gainesville, is offering a special group rate of \$69.00 per night (plus 9% tax) to conference attendees. Please contact the hotel directly by phone or fax to make your reservation; phone: 352-371-3333 or 800-824-5637 and fax: 352-371-3712. When doing so, be sure to inform the receptionist that you are a TCD Conference participant. **To qualify for the special rate, reservations must be made prior to January 24, 2002.** After the deadline, the group rate and guestroom availability are no longer guaranteed.

The Gainesville Regional Airport is located just north of Gainesville. The University Centre Hotel provides shuttle service to and from the airport 24 hours per day. Shuttle reservations are required and can be made with the hotel's front desk. Additional airports within a 2-3 hour drive of the University of Florida are located in Jacksonville, Orlando, and Tampa.

The J. Wayne Reitz Union, where the conference will be held, is approximately a 10-15 minute walk from the University Centre Hotel.