

FOREST VEGETATION MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

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DR. ROBERT F. POWERS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

OBJECTIVE AND CRITERIA

OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Dr. Robert F. Powers Memorial Scholarship (scholarship) is to recognize significant contributions to active forest management through application of soil and forest science by presenting a variable scholarship amount to a masters or Ph.D. student whose research and career focus is on active forest management issues, similar to the historical research conducted by Dr. Robert F. Powers.

REQUIREMENTS

- a) Student must be currently enrolled in either a masters or Ph.D. level program by an accredited university.
- b) Student must have a clearly defined research emphasis that is in line with their masters or Ph.D. thesis.
- c) The Students objectives must be similar in nature to research interests pursued by Dr. Robert F. Powers during his career.
- d) The student's research should be applicable to active forest management.
- e) Topics of interest may include but are not limited to: vegetation management, forest soils, insect and disease research, growth and yield, forest ecology, etc. as they apply to active forest management.
- f) Student must submit in writing:
 - 1) A summary of their research work including the objective, hypotheses, application to modern forestry, and preliminary results if any.
 - 2) A current resume.
 - 3) A brief cover letter stating why the student deserves the scholarship, the applicability of their work to active forest management, and a statement of career objectives and future goals.

g) The student must also submit to an interview with the awards committee in person, via video conference or conference call whichever is most practical, although some type of face to face method is preferred.

h) The student must also make a presentation of their work at Forest Vegetation Management Conference when the scholarship is presented. The 2020 Conference is scheduled for January 14-16, 2020 in Anderson, CA. Travel expenses and lodging to the event will be compensated by the FVMC.

The scholarship may, but not necessarily be awarded annually. If no applications are deemed acceptable by the awards committee, the funds may be rolled over to the following year or until a suitable candidate is found. For this reason, the scholarship amount may be variable from year to year. **The 2020 scholarship award amount is \$3,000.**

The scholarship committee is made up of members of the Forest Vegetation Management Conference appointed by the conference chair. The committee shall consist of five members, including an awards committee chair. New committee members may be added to the committee by the conference chair upon exit of existing committee members. Initial committee members for 2019-20 will be: Ed Fredrickson-Chair, Jeff Webster, Scott Carnegie, Mark Gray, and Dave Young.

Application deadline is October 30, 2019 by 5 pm PST. All interested parties, submit a digital application to:

Kathleen Burr
fvmc1979@gmail.com

For more information about the conference please visit www.fvmc.org or contact Kathleen at the above email address.

Nondiscriminatory Statement: The Forest Vegetation Management Conference prohibits discrimination against or harassment of any person by the FVMC or its representatives on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, physical or mental disability, medical condition (cancer-related or genetic characteristics), ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship, or status as a covered veteran (special disabled veteran, Vietnam-era veteran or any other veteran who served on active duty during a war or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized). This Policy is intended to be consistent with the provisions of applicable State and Federal laws.

Dr. Robert F. Powers



Dr. Robert F. Powers passed away November 1st, in Redding, California. He was born in Los Angeles, October 1st, 1939 to James and Grace Powers. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Quin and his mother and step-father, Grace and Francis Murphy. He is survived by his wife, of 52 years, Ann. A memorial is being planned.

Robert F. Powers (Bob) had a long distinguished career with the United States Forest Service. After graduating from the first graduating class at Enterprise High School in Redding, California, he began his higher education at Humboldt State College where he received his Bachelor of Science degree in forestry in 1966. He began his illustrious career with the US Forest Service at Redding Silviculture Laboratory (a research unit of the Pacific Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, US Forest Service). During his early years with the Silviculture Laboratory, Bob entered the post graduate phase of his education and attended the University of California in Berkeley. It was there that he earned his Ph.D. degree with a focus on physiological forest ecology in 1981.

He was very active in initiating many long-term field studies during career. These studies have helped to provide the scientific basis for forest management practices throughout California and the western United States. He was particularly proud of his leadership and efforts to establish the National Long-term Site Productivity research effort in 1986. This cutting edge national research effort has resulted in the installation of the research design on over 70 sites all focused on maintaining and enhancing forest site productivity in the United States. Research results are already provided some key insights on forest soil productivity and will continue to provide scientific and management data for the next 100 years.

He eventually progressed to Senior Scientist and Team Leader of the Redding Silviculture Laboratory in 2000. He retired in 2008 following 40 years of research on silvicultural and soil-site research with approximately 150 publications. He was awarded an Emeritus Research Forester designation at the Pacific Southwest Research Station, USDA Forest Service after his retirement.

Dr. Powers was an excellent speaker and sought after at many forestry and soils conference in California, the United States and throughout the world. He traveled to many countries including Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Chile and China. He also was the one of co-founders of the California Forest Soils Council in 1981. He was an active supporter and frequent speaker and contributor to the organization and efforts of California Forest Vegetation Management Conference for the past 37 years.

He was an Affiliate Professor at the Oregon State University and a Co-director of the Sierra-Cascade Intensive Forest Management Research Cooperative. Additionally, he was a Visiting Scientist at the NZ Forest Research Institution in 1989; a Visiting Scientist at the CSIRO, Australia, in 1988. He has served as an editor for the Forest Ecology and Management (1992-present) and for the Soil Science Society of America Journal (1981-1987). Moreover, he was appointed as a Fellow at the Soil Science Society of America in 1994. He was granted the National Silviculture Award by the US Forest Service in 1997; National Land Stewardship Award in 1990; S.A. Wilde Distinguished Lecturer in 2007; Starker Distinguished Lectureship in 2007; L.W. Schatz Inaugural Lecturer in 2004. He was honored as a Distinguished Alumni from Humboldt State University in 2010.

In addition to all of his professional accomplishments, Bob was an avid fly fisherman and was quoted as once saying, "I was a fly fisherman long before Norman Maclean's A River Runs through It." He loved to fish many of the famous fly fishing locations whenever his travels throughout the United States and the world would permit. He was also an avid supporter of the San Francisco 49ers and a virtual encyclopedia of professional baseball focused on the period his formative years. He will be missed by many and his research legacy will continue. Bob had a soft side and he will be especially missed by the feline population of Dunsuir. His concern for the down trodden is reflected in his care for feral cats that wandered into his home at Dunsuir, California. Every cat in the neighborhood found food and shelter there.

He will be greatly missed.