

Laura Robinson Lhotka, Ph.D.

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Forestry, School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, Auburn University	2006
M.S., Rural Sociology, College of Agriculture, Auburn University	2001
B.S., Environmental Science, College of Engineering, Auburn University	1998

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of Kentucky - Lexington, KY

Academic Coordinator, Department of Forestry	2010-Present
Adjunct Instructor, Department of Forestry	2012-Present
Post-Doctoral Scholar, Department of Forestry	2007-2010

Auburn University - Auburn, AL

Research Associate II, School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences	2003-2007
Graduate Research Assistant, School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences	2002-2003
Graduate Research Assistant, Rural Sociology	2000-2001

Delta Air Lines, Inc. - Atlanta, GA

Senior Analyst, Environmental Services Department	1998-1999
Cooperative Education, Environmental Services Department	1995-1997

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

Deutsch, W., **L. Lhotka**, and S. Ruiz-Córdova. 2009. Group Dynamics and Resource Availability of a Long-Term Volunteer Water Monitoring Program. *Society and Natural Resources*. Vol. 22, no. 7: 1-13.

Lhotka, L. R., C. Bailey, and M. R. Dubois. 2008. Ideologically Structured Information Exchange Among Environmental Groups. *Rural Sociology*. Vol. 73, no. 2: 230-249.

Robinson, L., M. Dubois, and C. Bailey. 2005. County Level Extension Programming: Continuity and Change in the Alabama Cooperative Extension System. *Journal of Extension*. Vol. 43, no. 1.

Howze, G., **L. J. Robinson**, and J. F. Norton. 2003. Historical Analysis of Timber Dependency in Alabama. *Southern Rural Sociology*. Vol. 19, no. 2:1-39.

Norton, J. F., G. Howze, and **L. Robinson**. 2003. Regional Comparisons of Timber Dependency: The Northwest and the Southeast. *Southern Rural Sociology*. Vol. 19, no. 2: 40-59.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Robinson, L. J.** 2006. Information Exchange Among Environmental Groups in Alabama and Romania. PhD diss., Auburn Univ.
- Dubois, M. R., T. J. Straka, S. D. Crim, and **L. J. Robinson**. 2003. Costs and Cost Trends for Forestry Practices in the South. *Forest Landowner*. Vol. 62, no. 2: 3-9.
- Robinson, L. J.** 2001. Examination of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System's County Level Programming. Masters Thesis, Auburn Univ.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- Bullard, S. and **L. Lhotka**. NAUFRP, the New Green Economy, and Developing Leaders. American Forest and Paper Association 2009 Deans' Tour. Amelia Island, FL - Jan. 2009 (Presented by S. Bullard)
- Robinson, L.** and C. Bailey. Resource Dependency and Rural Development in Alabama. Annual Rural Sociological Society Meeting. Santa Clara, CA - Aug. 2007
- Robinson, L.** and W. Deutsch. Life Cycle of a Volunteer Water Monitoring Program and Implications for Credibility... a Case from Alabama. USDA-CSREES National Water Quality Conference. Savannah, GA - Jan. 2007
- Robinson, L.** Information Exchange among Environmental Groups in Alabama. Annual Rural Sociological Society Meeting. Louisville, KY - Aug. 2006
- Robinson, L.,** C. Bailey, and M. Dubois. Information Exchange among Environmental Nonprofits in Vrancea County, Romania. Annual Rural Sociological Society Meeting. Tampa, FL - Aug. 2005

OTHER RESEARCH PROJECTS

Scoping Analysis for The White Oak Partnership. Working with faculty and Extension personnel to develop and implement a stakeholder survey to understand the strengths, weaknesses, threats, and opportunities associated with sustaining white oak resources. C. Niman, W. Thomas, J. Stringer, T. Ochuodho, L. Lhotka. 2017.

Collaborative Efforts in Southern Forestry Recruiting: A Summary of Forestry and Natural Resource Majors in the Southern U.S. Responsible for survey design, conducting focus groups, administering the survey, data analysis, and final report. L. Lhotka, M. Fly, K. Belli, S. Bullard. 2007-2011.

Alabama Water Watch. Conducted a program analysis of Alabama Water Watch to examine how human and financial resources impact a statewide water monitoring program. L. Lhotka, W. Deutsch, S. Ruiz-Córdova. 2006-2007.

Romania Forestry Project. Assisted three Romanian forest landowner associations to develop campaign awareness programs about environmentally sound forest practices. Worked with local governments and communities on forestry issues and established ties with both the public and private forestry sector at the local and national level. Communicated with the World Bank to discuss project and issues facing private forest landowners in

Romania. Attended the World Bank Forest Development Project Launch for Romanian NGOs, forest landowners, and key government officials. Responsible for progress reports and final reports. Coordinated travel and logistics for research team. L. Lhotka, K. Reid, M. Dubois, K. McNabb. 2002-2004.

EXTRAMURAL FUNDING

Thomas, B. and **L. Lhotka**. 2017. Enhancing Volunteer Program Delivery: A Case Study of the Kentucky Master Woodland Stewards Program. Rainforest Alliance, Inc. \$3,000.

Bullard, S., and **L. Lhotka**. 2008-2009. Collaborative Efforts in Southern Forestry Recruiting. USDA Forest Service, Contract, \$10,000. Lhotka PI as of June 2009.

Deutsch, W., W. Owsley, L. Yokel, and M. Ramos-Escobedo. 2008-2011. Fostering Environmental Stewardship of the Gulf of Mexico: A Trans-Boundary Network of Water Education and Monitoring for Animal Producers, Classrooms and Community Volunteers. Environmental Protection Agency Gulf of Mexico Program Office Grant, \$299,999. (Subaward to Lhotka for \$10,000.)

Bullard, S., D. Cremeans, S. Fei, J. Lhotka, and **L. Lhotka**. 2008-2010. Reviving Traditional Forestry with HP Technology. 2008 Hewlett-Packard Technology for Teaching Higher Education Award, \$77,000. L. Lhotka as co-PI.

PROPOSALS SUBMITTED (NOT FUNDED)

A Comprehensive Recruitment and Retention Assessment System for Forest Resource Programs. (2013). USDA Higher Education Challenge Grant. D. Hodges, M. Fly, G. Blank, P. Stephens Williams, L. Lhotka. Subaward for UK (\$97,759) Total amount requested \$596,989. [not funded]

A Comprehensive Recruitment and Retention Assessment System for Forest Resource Programs. (2012). USDA Higher Education Challenge Grant. K. Belli, M. Fly, G. Blank, P. Stephens Williams, L. Lhotka. Subaward for UK \$122,644 (\$97,519 Federal and \$25,124 matching). [not funded]

A Comprehensive Recruitment and Retention Assessment System for Forest Resource Programs. USDA Higher Education Challenge Grant. K. Belli, M. Fly, G. Blank, P. Stephens Williams, L. Lhotka. (2011). \$565,330. (Subaward for UK - \$111,864; (\$89,408 Federal and \$22,456 matching) [Not funded]

ATTENDANCE AT PROFESSIONAL AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

Kentucky-Tennessee Society of American Foresters Meeting, Buchanan, TN Jan. 25-26, 2018

10th Biennial Conference on University Education in Natural Resource, Auburn, AL, March 13-15, 2013

The Future of Diversity in Our Disciplines and Careers: Natural Resources and the Environment, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA, June 19-21, 2013

Ecosystem Services: Marketing Environmental Solutions, Charlottesville, VA, March 12-13, 2009

HP Technology for Teaching Worldwide Higher Education Conference, San Diego, CA, February 22-24, 2009

Southern Forest Programs Recruiting Meeting, Knoxville, TN, March 27, 2008

CSREES, USDA Integrated Competitive Programs Grantsmanship Workshop, Memphis, TN, March 10-11, 2008

Annual Rural Sociological Society Meeting, Santa Clara, CA, August 2-5, 2007

USDA-CSREES National Water Conference – Research, Extension and Education for Water Quality and Water Quantity, Savannah, GA, January 28-February 1, 2007

Annual Rural Sociological Society Meeting, Louisville, KY, August 10-13, 2006

Annual Rural Sociological Society Meeting, Tampa, FL, August 9-12, 2005

TEACHING

FOR 255 Forest Fire (formerly FOR 355 Forest Fire Control and Use) (1 credit hour) - spring 2015, spring 2016, spring 2017, spring 2018

FOR 285 Communication and Professional Development in Forestry and Natural Resources I (formerly GEN 300 Communication and Professional Development in Forestry) (1 credit hour) – Co-taught fall 2012, spring 2014, spring 2015, fall 2016, fall 2017

FOR 286 Communication and Professional Development in Forestry and Natural Resources II (1 credit hour) – spring 2017 (co-taught), spring 2018

FOR 400 Human Dimensions of Forestry and Natural Resources (3 credit hour) – fall 2016, fall 2017 (co-taught)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Global Thinking Academy

2016-2017

The Global Thinking Academy is a multi-university, multi-disciplinary project designed to help faculty engage students in critical thinking about complex issues. This project focuses on food security and climate change. As a Global Thinking Fellow, completed a series of online learning modules in fall 2016 in preparation for a group trip to Belize in March 2017. During the trip to Belize, we will meet with various organizations to discuss climate change and food security. The lessons learned from participating in the Global Thinking Academy will be applied to the FOR

400 Human Dimensions of Forestry and Natural Resources course.

Faculty Fellow for Presentation U

2016

The Faculty Fellows program involves working with a group of experts to ‘integrate innovative multimodal communication instruction and assignments’ into the FOR 400 Human Dimensions of Forestry and Natural Resources course. The Faculty Fellows program occurred Spring 2016 and Fall 2016.

SERVICE

Advisor to the UK Forestry Graduate Student Association 2016-Present

Advisor to the UK Student Chapter of the Society of American Foresters 2014-2015

Worked with CAFE faculty, staff, and state agencies to plan, coordinate, and implement the

- 3rd Conference on Invasion Biology, Ecology and Management, Lexington, KY, April 3, 2013
- Joint Meeting of the 2nd Kentucky Invasive Species Conference and the 13th Annual Southeast Exotic Pest Plant Council Conference, Lexington, KY, May 3-5, 2011
- Invasive Species Conference, Lexington, KY, December 12-13, 2008

AWARDS AND HONORS

International Scholars Program Award (\$5,000) - College of Agriculture, Auburn University, 2005

Graduate Research Award (\$3,555) - Graduate School, Auburn University, 2005