Research Support Faculty Committee Presentation to the FEC
February 6, 2015

College of Forestry

- **Professor, instructor**: 36%
- **RSF**: 21%
- **Emeritus**: 11%
- **Other**: 22%
- **Extension**: 5%
- **Staff**: 5%

Wood Science & Engineering

- **Professor, instructor**: 49%
- **Emeritus**: 14%
- **RSF**: 11%
- **Other**: 17%
- **Staff**: 9%
- **Extension**: 0%

Forest Engineering, Resources & Management

- **Professor, instructor**: 45%
- **Emeritus**: 19%
- **RSF**: 19%
- **Other**: 3%
- **Staff**: 4%
- **Extension**: 10%

Forest Ecosystems & Society

- **Professor, instructor**: 30%
- **Emeritus**: 7%
- **RSF**: 23%
- **Other**: 30%
- **Staff**: 5%
- **Extension**: 5%

RSF includes Research Associates, Faculty Research Assistants, Professional Faculty (research) and Postdoc scholars.

‘Other’ category includes courtesy, affiliate, and other faculty.
Roles of Research Support Faculty

Research support faculty are responsible for critical behind the scenes tasks in support of research, teaching, outreach and extension.
Roles of Research Support Faculty

- The duties and activities of RSF cover a broad spectrum in applied and basic research, project and program development and management, administration, and service to the Department, College and University.
- Tenure of employment among these ranks ranges from less than a year to more than 20 years.
Results from the Survey of RSF Fall 2014

Survey respondents

Number of RSF

Department

FERM  FES  WSE

Years in position

0  5  10  15  20  25

Publication categories

1-5  6-10  11-15  16-20  21+

# of RSF

Peer-reviewed  Non-peer reviewed

Supervision and support (# of people)

1-5  6-10  11-15  16-20  50-55

Supervision  Support
Concerns of Research Support Faculty

• Lack of job security/expectations
  – Short notice for reductions in FTE or nonrenewal of contract

• Limited access to professional development and career advancement opportunities

• Minimal connection to each other and wider college community

• Exclusion from decision making
Future Goals of RSF Committee

• Provide institutional support for non-teaching career positions in research to attract and retain world-class research associates and assistants

• Provide institutional support for orientation, mentoring and professional development for all research support faculty

• View research support faculty as assets for recruiting top-tier tenured faculty and ensuring student success
Outcome of FEC presentation

• Dean Maness asked the RSF Committee to develop a proposal outlining specific actions the administration could take to support the career development of the RSF community.

• On February 17th, Research Support Faculty members will meet with Dean Maness and Steve Tesch to continue this discussion.