2016 - 2017 OLC Foundation Scholarship Recipients

**Seth Eades** is currently enrolled in the Oregon State University College of Forestry and is pursuing a dual degree in forestry engineering and civil engineering. He hopes to find employment in the timber industry after graduation.

“The timber industry is full of people and organizations willing to invest in the next generation,” Eades said. “I am truly indebted to all of you,” he continued. “The timber industry is my life, and my heritage. It is my plan to put what I am learning now into practice, improving and strengthening the industry that I hope will also be my legacy.”

Eades said he was grateful for receiving a scholarship from the Oregon Logging Conference Foundation. He described it as a “godsend” in terms of paying for his education. “College is not cheap, and were it not for the generosity of the OLC and other organizations, it would be well-nigh impossible to attend without going uncomfortably into debt,” Eades said.

Quoting Winston Churchill who once said “We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give,” Eades said, “I have much to owe to those following the latter part of that statement. I plan to study, work, and pray as hard as I am able that I might someday be able to give back to the people and the industry that has given me so much.”

**Preston Green** will start graduate school this fall at Oregon State University, pursuing two degrees: a Master of Science and an MBA. “Being accepted into the graduate school is a product of the time I was able to spend building my resume and professional status, of which the OLC Foundation’s support has played a key role,” Green said.

He added, “I have been able to travel to different parts of the world and represent Pacific Northwest forestry to our counterparts on different continents, work with some of the best timber companies in the world, and further hone my passion for this industry because of the freedom that donors make possible.”

Green plans to work in the private forestry sector as an engineer or member of a marketing team buying or selling stumpage. His long term plans include working in management and putting his MBA to work.

“The support from the OLC Foundation was crucial during my undergraduate studies and will remain a key to my success during graduate studies,” Green said. He also said the OLC Foundation support “demonstrates the teamwork and cooperation necessary for the future of forestry.”

**Alessandra Hossley** is entering her final year at Oregon State University’s College of Forestry and is interested in pursuing a Master’s Degree to study landslides in forestry. “I will be getting my master’s of science in geotechnical engineering, which will be the link between my forest engineering and civil engineering degrees,” Hossley said.

She said her goal is to apply her engineering skills in forestry to prevent and restore landslides. “None of this would have been possible without the support and financial assistance from the Oregon Logging Conference Foundation scholarship,” Hossley said.

She mentioned that she has been awarded OLC Foundation scholarships since her freshman year in college, and is “so thankful for the Foundation scholarship committee and all those who support it. I wouldn’t have been able to earn my college degree without it,” she said.
**Renee Pitts** is a student studying forestry at University of Idaho and comes from a multi-generation logging family. “Growing up around multiple generations of loggers sparked my interest in forestry at a young age,” Pitts said. “Many of my childhood memories have revolved around watching my uncle and grandfather at various logging sites, and I wouldn’t have it any other way,” she said.

Pitts said deciding to further her education at the University of Idaho has been one of the best decisions she’s made, and she added that receiving the OLC Foundation scholarship has been a big help. “Being an out-of-state student and taking 16 – 20 credits each semester was very stressful financially,” she said. “Receiving this scholarship for these past two years has allowed me to focus more on my schooling instead of constantly worrying over paying tuition and fees.”

Pitts has worked summer internships with Sierra Pacific Industries, Weyerhaeuser, and MPc Sales. “Working for these three companies has greatly opened my eyes to my choice of career path after graduation,” she said. “Because of foundations like the OLC, I am able to graduate from the U of I this fall with a BA in Forest Resources and a minor in Forest Operations,” Pitts said.

**Robin Wortman** is pursuing a career in forestry at Oregon State University and is a previous recipient of an OLC Foundation scholarship.

Wortman said she grew up in a military family and spent a lot of time camping and hiking. “In high school I took a trip to Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument in Arizona that inspired me to take the forestry classes offered at my high school,” Wortman said. “After two years of hiking, working outdoors, and competing in logging sports, I decided that I wanted to go into forestry in college and for a career,” she said.

**Bryson Bossley** is enrolled in the diesel technology program at Linn-Benton Community College. After completing his first year, he is planning to graduate next year with an Associates of Applied Science degree.

“By awarding me the Oregon Logging Conference scholarship you have lightened my financial burden which allows me to focus more on the most important aspects of school learning,” Bossley said. “Your generosity has inspired me to help others and give back to the community,” he added. “I hope one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals just as you have helped me,” he said.

Bossley said he comes from a family of dedicated individuals who have taught him about hard work and dedication. “They encouraged me to pursue my goals and attend college,” he said, “This scholarship is very important to me in pursuing the goals I have set forth,” he added, “and thanks to this award, I am one step closer.”
Robert Clayton is a full-time student in the Bachelor of Applied Science for Diesel Technology in Centralia, Washington. He has a 3.9 GPA. Clayton also works at Papé Machinery in Tacoma, Washington “furthering my career in the heavy equipment/diesel industry.”

He expressed his appreciation to the OLC Foundation for the scholarship which he said contributes to his educational success. “I am grateful and do not take for granted my opportunity to pursue my education,” Clayton said. “Receiving the OLC Foundation scholarship will make my goals much easier to obtain and will substantially lessen the financial burden on my family. (The) OLC Foundation has reaffirmed my dreams are possible,” he continued, “and (this) generosity is appreciated and accepted with extreme honor.”

Isaac Donaldson will be attending Southwestern University where he is planning to take drafting and fabrication classes to earn his welding certification. He is also planning to attend Umpqua Community College to earn his commercial driver’s license. “Receiving the Oregon Logging Conference Foundation scholarship will put me one step closer to becoming a welder,” Donaldson said.

For the last several years, Donaldson has been working with a local fabricator and has had the opportunity to work on various types of equipment including yarders, off-road dump trucks, and logging trucks.

“Eventually I hope to open my own fabrication and equipment repair business where I will no doubt work on plenty of logging equipment,” Donaldson said. “It’s hard to say where the winding road of life will actually take me but I am confident that a welding certification, a commercial driver’s license, and general mechanical knowledge will always be a valuable skill set,” he added.

Donaldson said he has always had an interest in building and repairing all types of equipment. “Phrases like ‘can’t be fixed,’ ‘beyond repair,’ and ‘will never run again’ have always been my favorite words to hear,” Donaldson said. “When I discovered welding, I knew that was what I wanted to do as a career,” he added, “(and) I would like to thank the Oregon Logging Conference for helping me achieve my dream.”

Austin Grimes decided to pursue a career in forestry after he went to work at a plywood mill during the summer after graduating from high school. He was working to save money for college and became fascinated by the process of turning a renewable resource into a commodity.

He attended and graduating from Umpqua Community College with an Associate of Arts Oregon Transfer Degree. He then transferred to Oregon State University and began working on his Bachelor of Science in Forest Engineering and is now in his final year. Grimes will graduate from OSU in June 2017.

He has worked summer internships in the timber industry and is currently on a six month internship with Lone Rock Timber. Grimes said, “I have had the opportunity to work on a cable-side, help with road layout projects, and perform boundary surveys. This has solidified my choice in selecting a major that I know will hold an exciting and challenging career.”

He said without the support of the Oregon Logging Conference Foundation scholarship program and other supporters in the industry he would not be able to achieve his educational goal. “I am so thankful to be selected as a recipient for this year’s scholarship,” Grimes said. “I am very excited to join the industry and put my engineering skills to work,” he added.
Cole Hansen is a Political Science/Forestry major at Oregon State University. In his family, he is a third generation student at OSU.

“I come from a long line of loggers, mill owners and landowners,” Hansen said. “In my family, forestry isn’t just a business, but a tradition that goes back several generations,” he added.

He said his interest in forestry is because Oregon is his home. “As an Oregonian I want to make sure we protect our state’s economy and industries like lumber that make it strong.” He said he is very aware of how many livelihoods depend on the industry, and “I am interested in exploring law as it relates to forestry in order to better protect rural communities, landowners, and the timber industry.”

And he added, “The Oregon Logging Conference Foundation Scholarship is helping me to do just that.”

Kolton Mahr is entering his senior year at Oregon State University, studying forest engineering and civil engineering. Mahr has big plans for September this year, when he will travel to Warsaw, Poland, to attend the 49th Annual International Symposium on Forest Mechanization. “This symposium will greatly benefit my education as well as my early career as a forester,” Mahr said. He will use his scholarship from the OLC Foundation to help cover the costs of this trip. The symposium invites international industry leaders to present research on forest engineering matters.

Mahr has spent two summers working as an engineering intern for a forestry company, and is entering his senior year at OSU pursuing a dual degree in forest engineering and civil engineering. His scholarship from the Oregon Logging Conference Foundation will also help pay tuition, fees, and for textbooks.

Saying he finds it difficult to truly express his gratefulness for receiving an OLC Foundation scholarship Mahr said, “I would like to thank everyone involved at OLC for their contribution to not only myself but to all other recipients past, present, and future. Every dollar helps foster the next generation of foresters who are ambitious to keep our forests and our industry alive and prosperous,” he added.

Trevor Sartnurak is pursuing a double major in forest engineering and civil engineering at Oregon State University. He plans to use his scholarship from the OLC Foundation to pay for tuition. “As a result of their generosity,” he said referring to the OLCF, “the financial burden placed on me to pursue my education will be reduced, which will allow me to focus on classes and homework.”

Sartnurak plans to apply for forestry internships during summer months, to learn different skills and career paths. “After finishing college, I plan to enter the forestry industry and attain my Professional Engineer’s license for both of my degrees,” he said.

“The OLC is helping me achieve my goals of becoming a professional engineer and gaining more experiences before graduating,” Sartnurak said. “I look forward to continuing my studies at Oregon State University with the support of the OLC Foundation,” he added.
When Justin Wolfe joined the Sweet Home High School Forestry Club, it became perfectly clear that he would not be in an office job for his career. During the four years he was involved with the Forestry Club he met many people, expanded his options, and many doors were opened.

He also attended many Oregon Logging Conferences and had an opportunity to meet new people. “In my meetings of new people within the Conference, I have seen the joy of people within the industry,” Wolfe said, “and felt that I would be elated to have the same feelings as these people, as well as encourage somebody into a path, as I have been.”

Wolfe said his educational pursuits have not been without struggles, but credited the OLC and others with providing him the encouragement and assistance to persevere. “The long-term goal I have set can be credited to many; pointing out my parents, a few mentors, and the unforgettable Oregon Logging Conference/Equipment Show,” Wolfe said.