The American Chestnut Foundation

2010 Connecticut Chapter TACF®

Annual Meeting - Saturday March 6that Trinity College, Hartford, CT

Meeting Agenda

9:30am Opening Reception (McCook Hall)
10:00am Introduction and speakers
12:00pm CT-TACF Annual Meeting
12:00pm Lunch (Mather Hall)

Additional Events

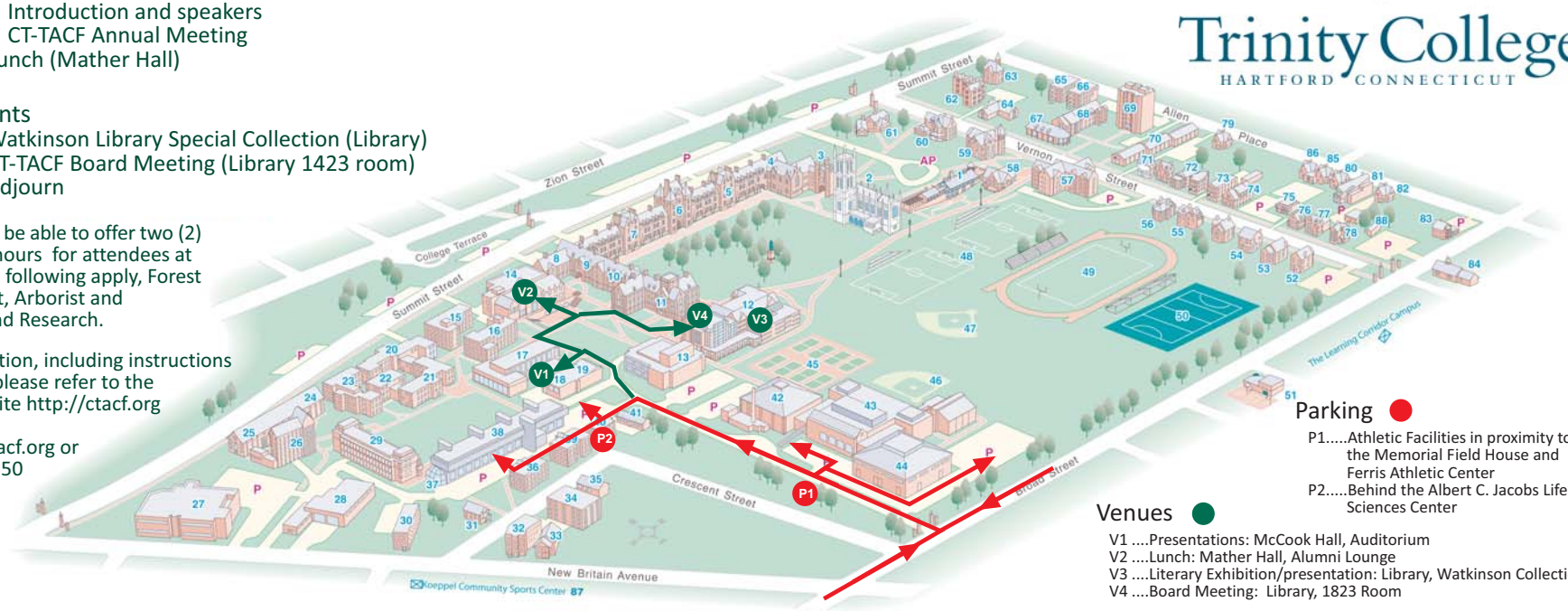
1:30pm Watkinson Library Special Collection (Library)
2:00pm CT-TACF Board Meeting (Library 1423 room)
4:00pm Adjourn

We are pleased to be able to offer two (2) CT DEP licensing hours for attendees at this meeting. The following apply, Forest Pest Management, Arborist and Demonstration and Research.

For more information, including instructions for reservations, please refer to the CT Chapter web-site http://ctacf.org

RSVP at kendra@acf.org or 802.951.6771 x1350

Trinity College
HARTFORD CONNECTICUT



Parking

P1.....Athletic Facilities in proximity to the Memorial Field House and Ferris Athletic Center
P2.....Behind the Albert C. Jacobs Life Sciences Center

Venues

V1 ....Presentations: McCook Hall, Auditorium
V2 ....Lunch: Mather Hall, Alumni Lounge
V3 ....Literary Exhibition/presentation: Library, Watkinson Collection
V4 ....Board Meeting: Library, 1823 Room

Topic: Accelerating Restoration of American Chestnut Through Genomics

Dr. Tom Kubisiak spends a lot of his time in a world that's invisible to most of us -- the double-stranded, DNA world of genes and chromosomes. A geneticist based at the SRS Southern Institute of Forest Genetics in Saucier, MS, Kubisiak is a master at using small snippets of DNA called genetic markers to tease out variations among individuals -- whether they're trees or the pathogens that infect them. He has worked with The American Chestnut Foundation on just about every aspect of their restoration program, from charting the genetic diversity of the American chestnut trees still living to helping map the genome of the chestnut blight fungus. Most of his research for TACF has had immediate practical application -- a rarity in the world of genetic research.

Dr. Kubisiak is a member of the **Fagaceae Genome Project** (Funded by the National Science Foundation) and a member of the **Forest Health Initiative** (funded by The U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities, U.S. Forest Service, and Duke Energy), and has been an active long-term participant in the **USDA CREES Regional Research Project NE-1033** "Biological Improvement of Chestnut Through Technologies that Address Management of the Species, its Pathogens, and Pests." Tom earned a Ph.D. in Forestry (Forest Genetics) at Louisiana State University in 1994.

Topic: What About Chestnut Pleases the Taste Buds of Insects?

Just how tasty is chestnut -- and do they all taste the same? That's a question **Dr. Lynne Rieske-Kinney** spends time pondering -- and let's just say it's not nuts that interest her most! An entomologist from the University of Kentucky, Professor Rieske-Kinney spends her time getting to the bottom of what pleases the taste buds of insects feeding on chestnut.

What Dr. Rieske-Kinney has found is that not all chestnuts -- or insects -- are equal. For instance, trees resistant to blight may be tastier to generalist insect herbivores, and compounds produced by the plant for defense against herbivores differ between chestnut species and chestnut tissue. Plant signaling compounds alter the production of these defenses, and can also alter development of herbivores specializing on chestnut, such as the Asian chestnut gall wasp and their natural enemies.

Dr. Rieske-Kinney will share her research into how plant signaling compounds and the differential primary and secondary chemical metabolites produced by chestnuts of different genetic origin, impact susceptibility to herbivores. Her research has broad implications for the success of the American chestnut reforestation efforts we're beginning with the new blight resistant trees from TACF.

Dr. Lynne Rieske-Kinney is Professor of Forest Entomology at the University of Kentucky Department of Entomology in Lexington, KY. She has been an active long-term participant in the **USDA CREES Regional Research Project NE-1033.** Lynne earned her PhD in 1995 at the University of Wisconsin.