



501 College Street
Cuthbert, Georgia 39840
Contact: Sheri Michaels
Director of Communications and Marketing
Phone: (229) 732-5928 | sherimichaels@andrewcollege.edu
Website: www.andrewcollege.edu | Twitter: @AndrewCollege

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

November 8, 2017

Andrew College announces approval of Timber Management degree program

CUTHBERT, GA. –Andrew College received official notification on October 30 from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) that the agency has granted their request to begin an associate degree program in timber management.

Andrew College President Dr. Linda Buchanan said that the college is extremely pleased to receive approval and that students are now being accepted for January 2018 enrollment. She said that she is happy that the college will be adding another regionally relevant degree program to its curriculum.

Dr. Umesh Chaudhari heads up the Timber Management program that is designed to train students to perform technical aspects of forest management and perform various woodland operations. The course curriculum requires theoretical knowledge as well as hours of field practice; therefore, students will learn fundamentals of timber management inside the classroom and in the woods. The program's emphasis is on commercial timber production and its management; however, due to the interdisciplinary nature of the program, students will gain ample experience and training in the areas of forestry, natural resources conservation and management, wildlife sciences and forest business.

Dr. Chaudhari said, "Georgia is a leading state in the southeastern United States in total timber production and provides immense value to citizens throughout the state in the form of ecosystem services, such as clean air and water, wildlife habitat, aesthetics, and carbon storage which combats climate change. Georgia's forest based industries create hundreds of thousands of jobs and inject more than \$32 billion in the state's economy. It only makes sense for Andrew College to begin a Timber Management program to complement the state's second largest industry."

Dr. Chaudhari said he is grateful to local non-industrial private forest landowners and industrial landowners who are providing access to their forested lands for classes and labs in the upcoming semesters. He said he is currently communicating with various timber investment organizations, consulting forestry companies, and local non-governmental organizations for collaborative works and internship opportunities which will be offered to Andrew's timber management students.

Upon graduation, students can choose either a professional career in the timber industry or continue their education towards a bachelor's degree.

For more information on Andrew College's Timber Management program, call Dr. Umesh Chaudhari at 229-732-5997 or email umeshchaudhari@andrewcollege.edu

Photo caption

Umesh Chaudhari, assistant professor of timber management at Andrew College is shown at work as he measures a tree.

#####

Established in 1854, Andrew College is related to The United Methodist Church and is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. Situated in the rural southwest Georgia community of Cuthbert, Andrew College offers the Associate of Art, Associate of Music, Associate of Nursing and Associate of Science degrees as well as the new B.S. in Business Administration degree.