Weyerhaeuser Giving Fund invests in forestry program

Coos Bay, OR – The Weyerhaeuser Giving Fund is awarding a $10,000 grant to Southwestern Oregon Community College in support of the Forestry/Natural Resources Degree program. This is the second year the organization has invested in Southwestern, joining with other foundations and private companies to fully fund the program’s two-year start up.

“Weyerhaeuser has now provided $20,000 overall. This is a significant grant that, along with other contributions, has allowed us to reach our goal of raising $160,000 to support the new Forestry program,” said Foundation Chairman Mark Wall.

The Forestry Degree program is currently in its second year with strong enrollment and is expected to be financially self-sustaining going forward. This year, Southwestern added a second program component that allows students to pursue a two-year transfer Natural Resources Degree with a watershed restoration emphasis.

Students who complete these two-year degrees at Southwestern will be ready for entry-level jobs or can transfer as juniors to the Oregon State University Pro School of Forestry or Natural Resources bachelor’s degree programs.

“Foresters are in high demand today and this program provides an opportunity for our local students to pursue exciting and rewarding careers,” Wall said. “I would encourage anyone considering a career in forestry or natural resources to check out this new and exciting program at Southwestern.”

The SWOCC Foundation supports the college through promotion of philanthropy to improve people’s lives – socially, culturally, economically and educationally – through Friendraising and Fundraising.

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Southwestern Oregon Community College is an equal opportunity employer and educator.