

**Thomas Maness** is professor of Conservation Economics and Policy in the Department of Forest Resources Management at the University of British Columbia. He teaches undergraduate courses in forest & conservation economics and forest modeling, as well as a graduate course in modeling techniques for forestry. His research interest is in developing innovative forest policies and practices to balance the production of traditional forest products with society's expanding need for ecosystem services, energy, and climate mitigation. He has developed strategic planning models that allow stakeholders to conduct scenario analysis and better understand the pressure points, constraints and opportunities.

During the 1980's he worked in various capacities with Weyerhaeuser Company at their Corporate Headquarters in Tacoma, WA. His specialty was the development of operational analysis models for the evaluation of large scale capital investment projects. In 1989, he earned a PhD in Forest Economics from the University of Washington, and in 1990 joined the Faculty of Forestry at UBC.

In 1994 he founded the Canadian National Centre of Excellence in Advanced Wood Processing, a research and outreach centre designed to improve the competitiveness of the secondary wood processing industry in Canada, and served as Director until 1999. He worked closely with Dean Clark Binkley and Department Heads to raise \$21.5 million from government and industry to establish the center and fund five new permanent faculty positions. He also raised over \$2 million in new equipment donations from industry. He led the faculty's effort to design a completely new undergraduate program, which in 2002 won the Yves Landry Foundation Award for the most innovative Canadian university-level manufacturing technology program. As director he managed a \$1 million annual budget and built a research, education and outreach center from the ground up, including recruiting and mentoring new faculty, and hiring all staff.

In 2004 Thomas founded the BC Forum on Forest Economics and Policy, a research and extension center aimed at helping to develop a strategic vision for the future competitiveness of the BC forest sector. Over the past 4 years the forum has served as a focal point for public awareness of forest policy in BC by publishing synthesis papers, conducting stakeholder focus groups, and holding seminars on important topics.

Most recently Thomas worked as a Senior Policy Analyst with the US Forest Service in Washington DC. He has written briefing papers on climate mitigation and wood energy policy.

Thomas has traveled extensively in South America and has provided assistance with curriculum development at the University of Bio-Bio and the University of Concepcion, in Concepcion Chile. In 2000, he worked closely with Dean Thomas Galloway at Georgia Tech University to develop the College of Architecture's highly successful Advanced Wood Processing Laboratory.

He lives in Vancouver Canada and enjoys guitar picking, hiking, rock climbing, canyoneering and fly-fishing.

## **Education**

West Virginia University,  
B.S.F. Forest Resources Management  
Magna Cum Laude, 1979

Virginia Polytechnic Institute  
M.Sc. Industrial Forestry Operations, 1981

University of Washington  
Ph.D. Forest Economics, 1989