



# Action in Agroforestry

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Michael Gold and Hyelee Won, editors

## Center for Agroforestry Awards Two Online Graduate Certificates - Spring Semester, 2016.

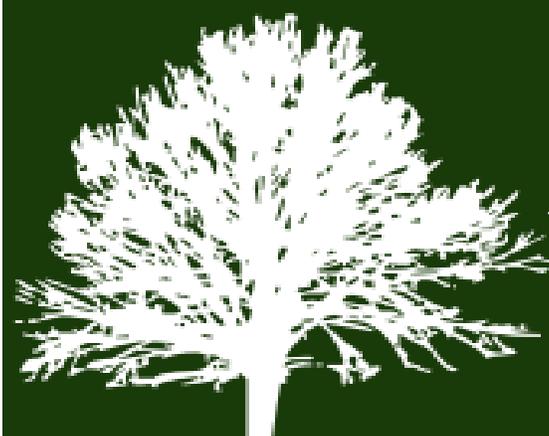
Two working professionals, with very diverse backgrounds, completed their online graduate certificates in agroforestry at the close of the Spring Semester, 2016.

**Cathy Watson.** Advisor: Dr. Jose. Cathy is the chief of program development at the World Agroforestry Centre in Nairobi. Before joining ICRAF in November 2012, she founded and ran two NGOs in Uganda - Straight Talk Foundation and Mvule Trust. She was made a senior Ashoka fellow for social entrepreneurship in 2006. She has also been a foreign correspondent, working for The Guardian and the BBC, among others. A graduate in biology and Latin American Studies from Princeton, she has almost 30 years of work experience in Africa with a focus on trees, youth, HIV, families, and communication for social change. She writes pieces on agroforestry at: <http://blog.worldagroforestry.org/index.php/author/cathy-watson>

**Eriks Brolis.** Advisor: Dr. Gold. Eriks is a builder, renewable energy expert and permaculturalist from Washington, DC. He moved to Colorado in 2005 to promote distributed scale renewable energy as Co-Owner of Namaste Solar and was elected the President of the Board for the Colorado Solar Energy Industries Association where he promoted policies to support the nascent industry. While living and working in arid Colorado he discovered the power of permaculture principles and his love of sustainable agriculture. This passion culminated in a major career shift, which he embarked upon in 2011. Since that time, Eriks has worked in various capacities as a consultant and educator supporting efforts to empower smallholder farmers to grow and harvest resources more efficiently. His work has taken him from rice paddies in Cambodia, to vineyards in Germany, to smallholder farms in rural Uganda, and beyond. For the last 3 years, he and his wife, Linda, have lived and cultivated their urban farm and the [www.UrbanFarmPlans.com](http://www.UrbanFarmPlans.com) demonstration site in Brookland, Washington, DC.

### KUDOS

B. Mohan Kumar, currently a Visiting Professor with UMCA, is a leading researcher in agroforestry. In 2015, Dr. Kumar joined Nalanda University (Rajgir, Bihar, India) as Professor and Acting Dean, School of Ecology and Environment Studies. He holds a Ph.D. in Agronomy from the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi. He was a post-doctoral fellow at Utah State University, Logan, Utah. Dr. Kumar worked for over thirty-five years at Kerala Agricultural University, where he occupied various positions including that of the Associate Dean and Head of the College of Forestry. He also spent three years in the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi as the Assistant Director General for Agronomy, Agroforestry and Climate Change. In addition, Dr. Kumar has held various shorter international assignments in the USA, Japan, UK, France, and Indonesia.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Agroforestry in Action Webinar**

July 20, 2016 - 11 am

*Agroforestry for food: new research on multifunctional woody polyculture systems.* Assoc. Prof. Sarah Taylor Lovell, University of Illinois. **To register:** go to [agroforestryinaction.org](http://agroforestryinaction.org)

### **4th Annual Agroforestry Academy**

July 25-29, 2016

Columbia, Mo.

#### **Registration is closed for 2016.**

Limited scholarships available for military veterans.

#### **For more information:**

<http://www.centerforagroforestry.org/academy/2016/RegistrationBrochure.pdf>

### **Walnut Council Annual Meeting**

July 31-August 3

Lawrenceburg, Indiana

**Details:** <http://www.walnutcouncil.org/annual-meeting/>

### **Ecosystem Services of Cover Crops**

August 3, 2016

Salisbury, MO

Registration ends July 27, 2016

**Contact:** Caroline Todd -- [toddc@missouri.edu](mailto:toddc@missouri.edu) or 573-884-2874

## OTHER NEWS

### **Dr. Zhen Cai**

In May, 2016, UMCA Economist Dr. Zhen Cai, visited the School of Economics and Management (SEM), within Beijing Forestry University, Beijing, China. While there she presented lectures on forest management and agroforestry economics for graduate students and faculty members. Dr. Cai also presented a series of eight lectures to a group of graduate students under the Asia-Pacific Network for Sustainable Forest Management and Rehabilitation (APFNet) Scholarship Program. The students, who came from Cambodia, Nepal, Myanmar, Peru, Finland, and Inner Mongolia, studied agroforestry economics and decision methods for forest resource management.

Dr. Cai also met with the Director of the Forestry Economics and Development Research Center, in the Chinese State Forestry Administration, to discuss potential collaboration on the introduction of pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*) into China.

### **Welcome, Eli Roberts!**

Eli is a forester and recent graduate of the Yale School of Forestry, New Haven, CT. He is excited about the ways that ecological forest management and agroforestry practices can complement each other and improve people's ability to make a living from the land. His specific interests include: forest conversions to silvopasture, farmer/forester information networks, woody perennial fodder shrubs, gourmet mushroom cultivation, and timber marking. Following his summer work with UMCA, he plans to return to the Northeast and work to promote active management of trees in farmland and forests. He hopes that his many chestnut and pawpaw seeds will have germinated by the time he gets home.