A Message from the Dean

Since its founding, the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies has been at the forefront of bringing the best science to resource management, tackling environmental challenges with scholarship and creating leaders. Today we continue to build on this rich legacy by providing world-leading research, teaching, and public engagement that aim to create a more sustainable world. Graduates of our programs have become leaders all over the world in guiding environmental decisions.

Now in its second century, the School still addresses forest science and management, but also a broad range of issues related to the health of the planet and human-environment interactions. At the heart of our mission are our academic programs, which provide a balance of interdisciplinary breadth, focused areas of study, and professional skills development. Our academic programs, along with our strong relationships with schools and programs across Yale and around the world, enable our students to understand the scale of today's challenges and to become leaders in addressing them.

Our alumni – 4,900 and counting – are tackling the increasingly complex environmental, social, and economic challenges of the twenty-first century in all corners of the world. They work in NGOs, government, business, academia, law, public health, and communications. They also maintain vital connections to the School; the F&ES alumni network provides valuable mentorship and support to our students as they prepare for their own professional challenges.

In 2017, the School unveiled an ambitious new Strategic Plan that has brought renewed focus on our shared mission and outlined priorities for the next five years. Among the plan's critical goals are a new curricular structure that will launch in the fall of 2018; increased programs and hiring to address environmental equity and diversity issues; a new emphasis on research and training in environmental communication; and expanded interdisciplinary research. I'm pleased to say we're already making exciting strides.

The challenges we face require ever greater levels of innovative scholarship and leadership. Together we will work to broaden and deepen the School's impact, provide global leadership on the range of issues we address, and promote an inclusive community both at our School and across the greater environmental field.

Our vision statement says it all: we aim to provide knowledge and leadership for a sustainable future. We invite you to be a part of this work.

Ingrid C. Burke
Carl W. Knobloch, Jr. Dean
School of Forestry & Environmental Studies