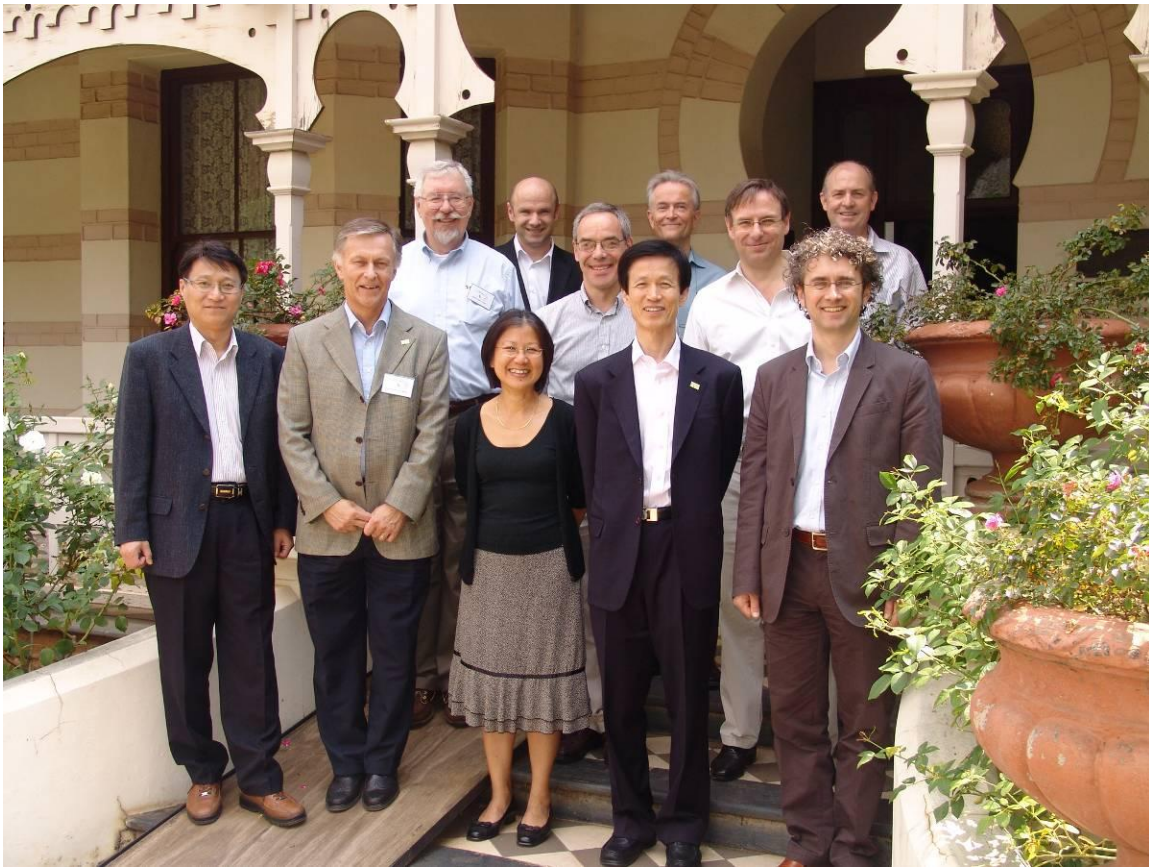


INTERNATIONAL UNION OF FORESTRY RESEARCH ORGANISATIONS (IUFRO) MANAGEMENT MEETS IN SOUTH AFRICA

During April 2009, FABI had the privilege of hosting the Management Committee of the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations (IUFRO). IUFRO is one of the world's oldest scientific organizations, well into its second Century, now representing more than 15 000 forest researchers worldwide. With its strong forestry focus, FABI staff and students were delighted to be able to meet and entertain the leaders of IUFRO and to gain from some of their vast international experience.

The management committee of IUFRO that visited FABI included Dr. Don Koo Lee (President of IUFRO based in Korea), Prof. Risto Seppala (IUFRO past president from Finland), the two vice presidents (Prof. John Innes and Prof. Niels Ehlers Koch from Canada and Denmark respectively), Dr. Su See Lee (general member of the IUFRO Board from Malaysia), Dr. John Parotta (Chair of the IUFRO 2010 World Congress organizing committee), Dr. Peter Mayer (Executive Director), Mr. Alexander Buck (Deputy Director from IUFRO Head Office in Vienna), Dr. Richard Guldin (representing the IUFRO Review Panel from the USA) and Dr. Park (Chair of the 2010 Congress organizing Committee from Korea Forest Research Institute). Prof Mike Wingfield, Director of FABI who also serves on the IUFRO Board and Management Committee, was the local host.



Top Row l-r. Dr Richard Guldin, Mr Alexander Buck, Dr. John Parotta, Prof. John Innes and Prof Mike Wingfield

Bottom Row l-r Dr Park, Prof. Niels-Elers Koch, Dr Su See Lee, Prof. Don Lee and Dr Peter Mayer

The first part of the IUFRO Management Committee's visit included two days of formal meetings at FABI. As a side event, FABI students and staff enjoyed a seminar dedicated to better understanding IUFRO and its many projects and programmes throughout the world. After completing their business at FABI, the IUFRO Management Committee proceeded to Cape Town where they met with the staff of the University of Stellenbosch's Department of Forestry, a lively event that was dedicated to sharing ideas and knowledge. This was followed by two days of visits to various sites on the Cape Peninsula where the group had the opportunity to learn of activities in the area related to forestry and forestry research.



University of Stellenbosch's Department of Forestry



Visit to Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens



Dinner at Moyo's Restaurant near Stellenbosch



Looking at the biological control of Port Jackson in the Cape