

## SCHOOL OF FORESTRY

## Visit launches French exchange

**Dr. Euan Mason** recently traveled to Bordeaux, France, where he lectured to students at ENITAB, an agricultural and forestry university. He reports that the integration of silviculture and discounted cash flow analysis was apparently quite surprising to the students. The visit was funded by the French Government and is the beginning of an on-going series of exchanges between ENITAB and the School of Forestry.

Visitors to the School since the last issue include **Keith Raymond** of Fletcher Challenge (Visiting Industry Fellow), **Prof. David South** from Auburn University (Canterbury Visiting Fellow), and **Prof. Jerry Vanclay** from Southern Cross University (inaugural Erskine Fellow). Their presence and interactions with both students and staff certainly enrich the academic life of the School and we are very fortunate to have these connections.

Congratulations to the all graduands who were capped at this year's graduation ceremony. It was good to meet the 32 students from last year who attended the ceremony, and discuss the variety of occupations they are now in. Special congratulations to **John Eckford** who received the Schlich Award as the top student from last year, to **Sheree Voyce** who was awarded the University Prize for Forestry, to **Jackie Egan** who received the award for the most innovative Dissertation, and to **David McCutcheon** who was awarded the M.R. Jacobs prize for the highest achievement in Year 3 Silviculture.

In early May, the School hosted graduates from the year 1977, who held a 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary reunion. Organisers **Rob Miller**, **Ket Bradshaw** and **Steve Croskery** planned a weekend that was enjoyable for all.



*Sunday morning roll call for School of Forestry 1977 graduates at their 25th Anniversary reunion (Photo: Rob Miller).*

Well done, Forestry '77. We are hoping that other years will think about similar events in the future.

## NELSON-MARLBOROUGH INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

### Second years progressing

During the first term, the second year students at Richmond Campus completed the higher-level units in forest inventory, growth modelling and silviculture and are about to complete their Establishment Plan using a number of cutover sites in Golden Downs forest. They are required to plan and budget for the establishment of Radiata pine, Douglas fir and a small area of special purpose species, covering land preparation, pest control, planting, releasing and fertilising. They recently completed a field trip to local farm forestry sites to look at the performance of special purpose species and were exposed to the enthusiasm and expertise of local specialists such as Ross Higgins, Bevan Walker and Eric Appleton.

## LINCOLN UNIVERSITY

### Post-grad valuation course offered

**Hugh Bigsby** is offering an off-campus post-graduate subject in Forest Valuation this semester. Using a combination of web-based material, printed readings and seminars, the subject is designed for people working full time and away from campus. Students work on their own and then meet for seminars at intervals during

the course to discuss topics with the lecturer. After a trial last year with students in Auckland to test the subject delivery, this term there are groups in Auckland and Rotorua. The subject will be offered again in the first semester of 2003 and can be applied to a post-graduate degree at Lincoln University.

**Hugh Bigsby** and **Mark Bloomberg** accompanied a group of final year students to Sarawak for a field tour in April. As in the previous two visits, the tour is at the invitation of the Sarawak Timber Association. The tour provides an opportunity for students to visit and experience the forest industry in Asia, and to experience Asian culture and food. This type of experience will be important given New Zealand's growing dependence on Asian markets.