VISION
The Warnell School seeks to advance its position as a global leader in each of its natural resource disciplines as measured by the productivity and impacts of its teaching, research and outreach programs.

MISSION
To prepare leaders in the management and sustainable use of natural resources, to discover ways to conserve and better use the earth’s natural resources and to effectively deliver current research-based information to natural resources professionals and the public.

STRATEGIC PLAN
2016 – 2025

The University of Georgia
Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources
180 E. Green Street • Athens, GA 30602-2152
706.542.2686 • warnell.uga.edu
I. Building on Excellence in Undergraduate Education
- Strengthen the quality and reputation of the Bachelor of Science in Forest Resources program by maintaining a professional curriculum with the flexibility to address changes in natural resource management disciplines
- Enhance professional development opportunities for students
- Evaluate opportunities for academic program expansion
- Maintain and increase the quality of Warnell students
- Increase the diversity of Warnell School students to better reflect the demographics of Georgia
- Increase pre-professional and professional enrollment to match Warnell’s capacity for undergraduate instruction in terms of advising, lectures, laboratories and field trips

II. Enhancing Graduate and Professional Programs
- Continue to attract high quality students to match Warnell’s capacity for teaching and mentoring at the graduate and professional levels

III. Increasing Productivity in Proven and Emerging Areas of Research
- Maintain or increase amount of high quality/high impact research
- Increase collaborative research among all disciplines in the Warnell School to take advantage of synergies for competitive funding opportunities
- Increase extramural grants for research

IV. Serving the Citizens of Georgia, the Southeast, and the Nation
- Be recognized nationally as a provider of expertise to natural resource landowners and managers in the Southeast
- Increase the visibility and productivity of Warnell Service and Outreach programming
- Increase the visibility and recognition of the Warnell Continuing Education program

V. Improving Faculty and Staff Recognition, Retention, and Development
- Increase gender, racial and ethnic diversity of faculty and staff
- Enhance faculty and staff teamwork
- Enhance faculty and staff recognition
- Regularly review faculty and staff needs in key functions
- Provide adequate faculty/professional support
- Maintain competitive compensation through multiple funding sources, including fundraising, grants and collaborations, and consider alternative resources

VI. Improving and Maintaining Facilities and Infrastructure
- Develop space plan to better serve students, conduct research and outreach, and to attract and retain quality faculty
- Establish a system to annually evaluate computing and instructional technology needs

VII. Improving Stewardship of Natural Resources and Advancing Campus Sustainability
- Maximize sustainable financial returns from School-managed forest lands while strategically integrating the needs for research, teaching and conservation

VIII. Increasing Engagement of Warnell Alumni and Supporters
- Increase alumni involvement in the School
- Increase representation and involvement from alumni and young alumni boards
- Enthusiastically encourage all Warnell supporters to attend alumni and other School events and provide opportunities for non-alumni with interests in Warnell programs to participate, contribute and provide input

IX. Securing Funds Needed to Fulfil Mission
- Increase annual giving
- Expand the Warnell School’s endowments for faculty chairs, fellowships, undergraduate scholarships and graduate assistantships
- Secure capital funding to enhance the learning environment
- Engage faculty in giving

X. Improving Communications
- Enhance external communications to ensure that Warnell is recognized as the global leader in each of its natural resource disciplines
- Enhance internal communications to improve communication among disciplines and among faculty and staff within the Warnell School

We are committed to be world-class in all we do in teaching, research and outreach activities related to the conservation and management of our natural resources. Our programs emphasize the understanding of managed ecosystems throughout Georgia and the world.

Several hundred of our constituents provided insight in the development of this strategic plan which outlines our priorities for 2016 through 2025. This is a dynamic plan. I look forward to your suggestions on how we can achieve these goals and be even more relevant and effective.

We must build on our current strengths and seek to leverage the strengths of our many partners and the advantages of the region where we are located. We can serve the globe, but we must serve Georgia first.

Sincerely,

W. Dale Greene
Dean