

**Profile of  
Richard J. Hauer**  
**Professor of Forestry, College of Natural Resources, University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point**  
**2017 Regents Teaching Excellence Individual Award Recipient**

**Highlights from nomination materials:**

- Ph.D. Forestry, University of Minnesota; M.S. Tree Biology/Urban Forest Health, University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign; B.S. Urban Forestry/Botany, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point; A.A.S. Horticulture Technology, University of Minnesota-Waseca.
- Creates interactive learning environments—his woody plant identification and use course, for example, is taught completely outdoors—and pioneered a tool that calculates the economics behind emerald ash borer management, which evolved from a research question by one of his undergraduate students and developed into an innovative simulator to train students in urban forest decision making.
- Effectively incorporates service learning, a high-impact practice, through his capstone Urban Forest course; during his tenure, students in this course have developed forest and resource management plans for 12 local communities too small to have their own municipal forester.
- Co-adviser to the Student Society of Arboriculture since 2003.
- Faculty mentor to students in Neale Hall, one of two campus learning communities, since 2006.
- Personally mentored several student undergraduate research projects, leading to three peer-reviewed papers.
- Academic adviser to 30 to 35 students, meeting at least twice annually.
- Faculty chair and adviser to the CNR Student Research Symposium since 2003; student participation has nearly tripled in that time (over 1,000 students and 800 oral talks and posters presented to date).
- Spoke to and educated over 5,000 professional learners through over 285 professional presentations since 1995.
- Co-author of the 2015 textbook *Urban Forestry Planning and Managing Urban Greenspaces* (3<sup>rd</sup> edition).
- Select awards and honors: UWSP Excellence in Teaching, Scholarship, and Service Award (2016); CNR Student Award for Outstanding Teacher (2013); CNR Faculty Award for Outstanding Teacher (2012); University Excellence in Teaching Award (2012).

**In Richard Hauer’s own words:**

- “I firmly believe in getting my students actively involved in the classroom and my continued efforts and strong presence in service and scholarship have enhanced my efforts and opportunities in and outside the classroom. In fact, I believe to become an excellent teacher you must actively serve your profession and add to the professional body of work through scholarship. I personally know my dedication to service and scholarship makes me the best educator I can be in the classroom.”

**In the words of colleagues:**

- “Rich has a long history of outstanding work at UW-Stevens Point, from his days as an award-winning undergraduate student in the 1990s to his returning to join our College of Natural Resources as [assistant] professor of urban forestry in 2005....Simply put, UW-Stevens Point’s forestry program is among the strongest in the nation thanks in no small part to the teaching excellence of Dr. Richard Hauer.” —*Greg Summers, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, UW-Stevens Point*
- “Rich has his students complete an Urban Forest Management Plan for communities that are too small to have their own municipal forester. This provides an unbelievable learning experience for our students, but also an opportunity for small communities to better address their urban tree resource: truly a win-win.” —*Michael Demchik, Professor of Forestry, College of Natural Resources, UW-Stevens Point*