

# SPEAKER BIOS

## 20/15 FORESTRY SUMMIT

### **Edgar Arias, Ph.D.**

Edgar Arias is Forest Products Marketing Specialist with the South Carolina Forestry Commission. He received a B.S. in Industrial Production Engineering from Costa Rica Institute of Technology in 2002, an M.B.A also from Costa Rica Tech in 2006, and a PhD. in Forestry and Forest Products from Virginia Tech in 2014. His doctoral research addressed the exports of American wood products to Asia and Western Europe. The focus of Edgar's work is on increasing demand for the state's forest resources through market research, product promotion through trade shows and missions, and improving the flow of market information. Edgar is originally from Costa Rica and currently resides in Columbia, SC with his wife Marcela and daughter Veronica.



### **Cam Crawford**

Cam Crawford is the president and CEO of the South Carolina Forestry Association. In this position, he represents 2,500 members on issues affecting the management, utilization and conservation of the state's forest resources. Prior to joining the Forestry Association in 2011, Cam served as the executive director of the SC Civil Justice Coalition for 8 years. Early in his career, he served in numerous public positions at the federal, state and local level. Cam graduated from the University of South Carolina in 1987 with a B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies and he received a Master of Arts degree in Management from Webster University in 1994. He resides in Chapin with his wife Betsy. The Crawford's have two children, Libby and Cameron.



### **Scott Danskin**

Scott Danskin is Forest Resource Analyst for the South Carolina Forestry Commission. He has been with the agency since 2008, and his current duties include wood basket analyses, annual forest resource assessments, maintaining statewide industry directories, and Timber Product Output (TPO) mill surveys. Scott received his B.S. & M.S. degrees in forestry from Southern Illinois University. Prior to his current position, Scott worked with the agency's State Forest System for 6 years in harvest planning. Scott is originally from Zambia in southern Africa, and currently resides in Columbia with his wife and 2 children.



### **David Hughes, Ph.D.**

David Hughes is Professor and Greever Endowed Chair in Agribusiness Development at the University of Tennessee. The objective of the Greever Chair is to establish a nationally recognized program that enhances agribusiness development in Tennessee and the Nation. Prior to joining UT, David was employed by Clemson University as a professor in Agricultural Economics. David received his B.A and Masters from Clemson and his Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from Washington State University. David is an Invited Team Member on a U.S. D.A. Agricultural Marketing Service committee. He was recognized as a Clemson University Service Alliance Faculty Fellow and he has served on the editorial board of two economic publications.



## Gene Kodama

Gene Kodama has been the South Carolina State Forester since January 1, 2008. As the agency head, he works with a nine-member board appointed by the Governor to set South Carolina Forestry Commission policy and manage agency activities. Gene came to the Forestry Commission with three decades of professional experience in forest industry. He held managerial positions with Westvaco Corporation in wood procurement and land management. He served as CEO of Forest Technology Group, a subsidiary of MeadWestvaco. Gene has a B.S. and M.S. in Forestry from Clemson University and served on its Board of Visitors and is on the Forestry Department and Public Services Advisory Boards. He is the Chair-elect of the USDA's Forestry Research Advisory Council and participated in the White House Rural Council Workshop "Building with Wood: Jobs and the Environment." He was chosen to receive the SAF Gifford Pinchot Medal in May of 2015.



## Pat Layton, Ph.D.

Pat Layton is Director of the Wood Utilization + Design Institute and a professor of Forestry at Clemson University. Pat is the former Director of the School of Agricultural, Forest, and Environmental Sciences at Clemson University. She came to Clemson in 1999 as the Chair of the Department of Forest Resources. Prior to joining academia, Pat worked in forest industry as Senior Director with the American Forest & Paper Association and a manager with Scott Paper Company. She played a vital role in the development of the American Forest & Paper Association's Sustainable Forestry Initiative Program. While at Scott Paper, Dr. Layton served as the forest policy and technical lead on all company international forestry investments. Pat is a native of South Carolina and has forestry degrees from Clemson, Texas A&M, and the University of Florida. She resides with her husband Rick in the Clemson area.



## Mac Lupold

Mac Lupold is a forest product consultant with Lupold Consulting out of Camden, SC. He specializes in forest product mill audits and studies analyzing product mix, wood cost and woodbasket analyses for his clients. Prior to forming his own consulting company, Mac worked in forest industry for Holly Hill Lumber Company, Federal Paperboard and International Paper Company. He graduated from North Carolina State University with a degree in Forest Management in 1959. Mac is widely regarded as an expert in forest resource analysis and he has received the SC Forestry Association's Flory Award and NC State's Outstanding Natural Resource Alumnus recognition. He has served as Chairman of the SCFA Board of Directors, President of the National Particleboard Association and Chairman of the NC Forestry Foundation.



## Mark Vitner

Mark Vitner is a managing director and senior economist at Wells Fargo, responsible for tracking U.S. and regional economic trends. Based in Charlotte, he also writes for the company's Monthly Economic Outlook report, the Weekly Economic & Financial Commentary, and provides regular updates on the housing markets, commercial real estate, regional economies and inflation. Mark joined Wachovia (then First Union) in 1993. Before that, he spent nine years as an economist for Barnett Banks in Florida. Mark's commentary has been featured in the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Bloomberg, and many other publications. Originally from Atlanta, Mark earned his B.B.A. in economics from the University of Georgia, an M.B.A. from the University of North Florida, and has completed further graduate work in economics at the University of Florida. He also completed the National Association of Business Economics Advanced Training in Economics program at Carnegie Mellon University. Mark serves as a distinguished lecturer at the University of Georgia, chair of the Economic Advisory Council for the California Chamber of Commerce, and a member of the Joint Advisory Board of Economists for the Commonwealth of Virginia.

