Earl (Gus) Tryon

Earl (Gus) Tryon has influenced the forest industry in West Virginia for more than 40 years. Dr. Tryon's primary contributions to industry has been his long research career providing information for improved management of Appalachian hardwood forests and his influence in teaching for more than three decades. His students became the professional foresters charged with the management of West Virginia's forest resources. His research includes over 100 publications, authored or co-authored, dealing with silviculture, forest ecology and forest management.

He was active in professional activities in forest industries by serving on the West Virginia Christmas Tree Growers Association, Research Committee, U.S. Forest Service Technical Committee and American Pulpwood Association Education Committee. He also served on the Timber Management Research Planning Committee for the Northeast which included the Fernow Experimental Forest. He was a member of the West Virginia Academy of Science and the Northeastern Forest Soils Conference for several years. Colleagues recognized his leadership qualities by electing him chairman of the Allegheny Section of the Society of American Foresters in the mid 1960s.

Dr. Tyron was recognized by his peers nationally through his achievement of Fellow rank in the Society of American Foresters. Academic honors included the Gamma Sigma Delta Senior Faculty Certificate of Merit, Sigma Xi Chapter President, and Gamma Sigma Delta Chairman. Perhaps the most appreciated, was the student dedication in the yearbook, The Cruiser, in 1961 and again in 1978.

Dr. Tyron still found time to be an active citizen in the Morgantown community by serving as a deacon in the Presbyterian Church, and a member of the troop committee of the Boy Scouts of America. Throughout his career Dr. Tyron had a profound influence on forestry in West Virginia and the Appalachians through the instruction of hundreds of students in his classroom and many more professionals through an examination of his research findings.