



## Janaki R. R. Alavalapati

Professor and Head  
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Janaki R. R. Alavalapati was appointed as head of the **Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation** in August 2008. Before coming to Virginia Tech, he was a professor of resource economics and policy in the School of Forest Resources and Conservation at the University of Florida. As a 2007-08 Jefferson Science Fellow, he served as a senior advisor for International Energy Affairs at the U.S. Department of State. He also served as a forest officer in Andhra Pradesh, India, and a resource economist at the Canadian Forest Service, Edmonton, Alberta.

As department head, Alavalapati is providing vision and leadership to advance the learning, discovery, and engagement mission of the Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation. In order to position the department to harness emerging opportunities, he successfully guided the department's name change, the addition of an undergraduate major in environmental resources management, curriculum reforms, the development of transfer guidelines for two-year forestry community colleges, the institution of forestry graduate symposium series, and joint faculty recruitment in urban forestry and forest hydrology.

Alavalapati's research focuses on exploring market solutions to forest resources, environment, and energy problems at local, national, and international levels. He has written over 75 refereed journal articles, 22 book chapters, and seven edited books/journals. He served as an associate editor of the journals *Forest Science* and *Canadian Journal*

*of Forest Research*, as an editorial board member of *Agroforestry Systems*, and as the chair of the Economics, Policy, and Law Working Group of the Society of American Foresters. Currently, he serves on the editorial board of *Forest Policy and Economics* and as a deputy coordinator for the Social and Economic Aspects of Forestry Unit of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO). He serves on the board of directors of the Virginia Forestry Association, as the bioenergy theme leader for the Southern Forests Future Project, and as a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Canada Mountain Pine Beetle Research Project. Alavalapati was a consultant to Forest Management Trust and Chemonics, Inc., and the International Institute for Environment and Development.

Alavalapati has a B.S. in biological science and M.Sc. degrees in both botany and forestry from universities in India, as well as an M.S. in rural sociology and a Ph.D. in forest resource economics from the University of Alberta. His awards and honors include the Indian Forester Prize, Canadian International Development Agency Fellowship, University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Graduate Teacher/Advisor of 2003-04, Stephen Spurr Award by the Florida Division of the Society of American Foresters, University of Florida Research Foundation Professorship, and IUFRO's Scientific Achievement Award.

Alavalapati and his wife, Renuka, live in Blacksburg, Va. Their grown sons, Kishore and Rahul, live in Austin, Texas, and New York City, N.Y., respectively.

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