



Photo by Paul Frankson.

## **MURRAY F. BUELL AWARD**

### **Jacqueline E. Mohan**

Murray F. Buell ascribed great importance to the participation of students at meetings and to excellence in the presentation of papers. To honor his dedication to the Ecological Society of America and to the younger generation of ecologists, this award is presented to a student for the outstanding oral paper presented at the Society's Annual Meeting.

The winner of the Murray F. Buell Award in 2002 is Jacqueline E. Mohan for her paper, "Do evolutionary legacies impact ecosystem functioning? Genetic variation in decomposition responses to atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>," which is based on her doctoral research at Duke University under the supervision of James S. Clark and William H. Schlesinger. The Buell judges noted that Jackie tested a new concept using an outstanding experimental design that involved both laboratory and field tests. She examined how four levels of CO<sub>2</sub>, representing Pleistocene through future atmospheric conditions, affected the tissue chemistry and decomposition of red maple foliage from different families, populations, and provenances. Jackie presented the ideas very clearly and considered alternative hypotheses. She did a good job of drawing out the broader conclusions and implications of her work. Jackie gave a very good presentation; she was confident and clear in her delivery and in responding to questions from the audience. Jackie received her M.E.M. from Duke in 1993 and her B.S. from the University of Chicago in 1991. She joined Fakhri Bazzaz's laboratory at Harvard as a postdoctoral associate in October 2002.

*Buell Award Selection Committee: Karen Clancy (Chair), Judith Bronstein, Paul Marino, Cynthia Paszkowski, Christopher Sacchi, William Tonn, J. Alan Yeakley*