

Curriculum Vitae

2020

Burnell C. Fischer, Ph.D., CF

November

Clinical Professor Emeritus of Public and Environmental Affairs

Senior Research Fellow, The Vincent and Elinor Ostrom Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis

Affiliated Faculty and Former Director, Ostrom Workshop

O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA)

Indiana University (IUB)

513 N. Park Avenue

Bloomington IN 47408

bufische@indiana.edu

Bloomington Urban Forestry Research Group (BUFRG) at <https://urbanforestry.indiana.edu/>

Employment:

2015-2020 Clinical Professor Emeritus and Adjunct Professor, IUB O'Neill SPEA

2014 Interim Director, Ostrom Workshop IUB

2012-14 Co-Director, Ostrom Workshop, IUB

2005-15 Clinical Professor, SPEA, IUB

2005-2020 Affiliated Faculty, Ostrom Workshop, IUB

2008-2014 Affiliated Faculty, CIPEC, IUB

2008-2011 Director, Undergraduate Programs, SPEA, IUB

1990-2005 State Forester & Director Division of Forestry, Indiana DNR

1988-1997 Professor and Extension Forester, Department of Forestry and Natural Resources (FNR),
Purdue University, (on-leave of absence 1990-1997); Adjunct 1997-2013

1985-1989 Co-Coordinator Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant Program, Purdue University

1978-1988 Extension Coordinator, FNR, Purdue University

1981-1988 Associate Professor and Extension Forester, FNR, Purdue University

1977-1981 Assistant Professor and Extension Forester, FNR, Purdue University

1974-1977 Assistant Professor of Forestry, Department of Forestry and Wildlife Management,
University of Massachusetts-Amherst

Education:

BSF (1969), MSF - Silviculture (1971), Ph.D. - Silviculture (1974) Purdue University

Ph.D. Thesis "Measuring and Modeling Light Energy in a Small Forest Opening"

Publications (2004 to present):

Cheng, Y Farmer, J., Dickinson, S., Robeson, S., **Fischer, BC**, Reynolds, H. (to be submitted to Applied Geography).
Preparing Urban Green Spaces for Climate Change: Evidence from U.S. Municipal Park Departments.

Moxley DJ, **Fischer BC**. (2020). Exploring the ecological legacy of redlining maps used by the Home Owner's Loan Corporation in Indianapolis: 80 years later. *Journal of Public and Environmental Affairs*. 1(1). 8 pages.

Reynolds, H.L., Brandt, L., **Fischer, B.C.** et al. (2019). Implications of climate change for managing urban green infrastructure: an Indiana, US case study. *Climatic Change* (2019) doi:10.1007/s10584-019-02617-0

Hauer RJ, Timilsina N, Vogt J, **Fischer BC**, Wirtz Z, Peterson W. (2018). A volunteer and partnership baseline for municipal forestry activity in the United States. *A&UF*, 44(2):87-100.

Reynolds, H, Brandt, L, Widhalm, M, Fei, S, **Fischer, BC**, Hardiman, B, Moxley, DJ, Sandweiss, D, Speer, J, Dukes, JD. (2018). Maintaining Indiana's Urban Green Spaces: A Report from the Indiana Climate Change Impacts Assessment. Purdue Climate Change Research Center, Purdue University. West Lafayette, Indiana. 9p.

Watkins SL, Vogt JM, Mincey SK, **Fischer BC**, Bergmann RA, Widney SE, Westphal L, Sweeney S. (2018). Does collaborative tree planting between nonprofit groups improve neighborhood community capacity? *Cities*. 74: 83-99. DOI 10: 1016/j.cities.2017.11.006.

Fischer BC (2017) Defining urban ecology and connection to urban forestry. *Indiana Arborist Newsletter* (Winter) 14-15. This article was also reprinted in *Agricultural Research and Technology, Open Access Journal* ISSN 2471-6774 *Opinion* Vol 2(4)1p DOI:10.19080/ARTOAJ.2017.04.555637

Roberts JR, Moxley DJ, Blumenthal N, **Fischer BC** (2017) The great disconnect between urban ecologists and foresters. *Indiana Arborist Newsletter* (Spring), 10.

Roberts JR, Moxley DJ, Blumenthal N, **Fischer BC** (2017) Bridging the gap between urban ecology and urban forest management. *Indiana Arborist Newsletter* (Summer) 12-13.

Vogt JM, **Fischer BC**, Hauer RJ (2016; *article published online 11 August 2015*) **Urban forestry and arboriculture as interdisciplinary environmental science: Importance and incorporation of other disciplines.** *Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences*, 6(2):371-386. DOI: 10.1007/s13412-015-0309-x. <http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s13412-015-0309-x>

Widney SE, **Fischer BC**, Vogt J (2016) **Tree mortality undercuts ability of tree-planting programs to provide benefits: Results of a three-city study.** *Forests*, 7(3): 65. DOI: 10.3390/f7030065. <http://www.mdpi.com/1999-4907/7/3/65/html> (Special issue on “Urban and Peri-urban Forest Diversity and Ecosystem Services.”)

Vogt JM, Watkins SL, Widney SE, **Fischer BC** (2015) Comparing trees across cities and over time: The need to standardize at-tree planting data. *Arborist News* 24(6): 27-31.

Vogt JM, Hauer RJ, **Fischer BC** (2015) The costs of maintaining and not maintaining the urban forest: A review of the urban forestry and arboriculture literature. *Arboriculture & Urban Forestry* 41(6): 293-323. <http://auf.isa-arbor.com/articles.asp?JournalID=1&VolumeID=41&IssueID=6>

Hauer RJ, Vogt JM, **Fischer BC** (2015) Growing arboriculture and urban forestry: One student at a time. *Arborist News* 24(5): 68-71. <http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s13412-015-0309-x>

Vogt JM, Epstein G, Mincey SK, **Fischer BC**, McCord P (2015) Putting the “E” in SES: Unpacking the ecology in the social-ecological systems framework. *Ecology & Society* 20(1): 55. <http://www.ecologyandsociety.org/vol20/iss1/art55/>
Product of the Integrating Ecology with the Social-Ecological Systems Framework Working Group of The Vincent & Elinor Ostrom Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis

Hauer RJ, Vogt JM, **Fischer BC** (2015) What is the cost of not maintaining the urban forest? *Arborist News* 24(1): 12-17.

Vogt JM, Watkins SL, Mincey SK, Patterson M, **Fischer BC** (2015) Explaining planted-tree survival and growth in urban neighborhoods: A study of recently-planted trees in Indianapolis. *Landscape & Urban Planning* 136: 130-143. DOI: 10.1016/j.landurbplan.2014.11.021. <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0169204614002898>

Farmer, JR, Meretsky VJ, Knapp D, Chancellor C, **Fischer BC** (2015) Why agree to a conservation easement? Understanding the decision of conservation easement granting. *Landscape & Urban Planning* 138:11-19.

Ruseva TB, Evans T, **Fischer BC** (2015) Can incentives make a difference? Assessing the effects of policy tools for encouraging tree-planting on private lands. *Environmental Management* 155, 162-170. oi:10.1016/j.jenvman.2015.03.026

Ruseva TB, Evans T, **Fischer BC** (2014) Variations in the social networks of forest owners: The effect of management activity, resource professionals, and ownership size. *Small-scale Forestry* 13(3): 377-395.

Vogt, JM, **Fischer BC** (2014) A protocol for citizen science monitoring of recently-planted Urban Trees. *Cities and the Environment (CATE)*, 7(2):4. 26p. <http://digitalcommons.1mu.edu/cate/vol7/iss2/4>

This article was also be reprinted in the following compendium:

Vogt JM, **Fischer BC** (2017) A protocol for citizen science monitoring of urban trees. In: Blum J (ed.), *Urban Forests: Ecosystem Services and Management*, CRC Press, a division of Taylor and Francis.

Cox M, **Fischer BC**, Mincey SK, Ruseva TB, S Tomas-Villamayor S (2013) Evaluating the USFS State & Private Forestry Redesign Program: A first look at policy implications. *Ecological Economics* 85:35-42.

Epstein G, Vogt JM, Mincey SK, Cox M, **Fischer BC** (2013) Missing ecology: Integrating ecological perspective with the social-ecological systems framework. *International Journal of the Commons*, 7(2) 432-453. Awarded the 2013 Ostrom Memorial Award for Most Innovative Paper in IJC.

Mincey SK, Hutten M, **Fischer BC**, Evans T, Stewart S, Vogt JM (2013) Structuring institutional analysis for urban ecosystems: A key to sustainable urban forest management. *Urban Ecosystems*, 16:553-571.

Mincey SK, **Fischer BC** (2013) Solutions for sustainable urban forest governance and management. *IUB SPEA Insights*, 4p.

Ruseva TB, **Fischer BC** (2013) Public-private interactions in the conservation of private forests in the United States. In E.S. Brondizio & E.F. Moran (Eds.) *Human Environment Interactions: Current and Future Directions*, Newark, NJ, Springer, pp141-164.

Schmitt-Harsh M, Mincey SK, Patterson M, **Fischer BC**, Evans T (2013) Private residential urban forest structure and carbon storage in moderate-sized urban area in the Midwest United States. *Urban Forests & Urban Greening* 12(4) 454-463.

Coleman EA, **Fischer BC**, Kershaw JA (2012) Using stocking guides to take stock of forest institutions. *Society and Natural Resources* 25:2009-15.

Ruseva TB, **B.C. Fischer BC** (2012) The shared stewardship and leadership of our private forests: Insights from forest landowners' personal networks. In D.R. Gallagher (Ed.), *Environmental Leadership: A Reference Handbook*, Thousand Oaks CA, Sage. pp 673-681.

Farmer JR, Knapp D, Meretsky VJ, Chancellor C, **Fischer BC** (2011) Motivations influencing the adoption of conservation easements. *Conservation Biology* 25(4): 827-834.

Farmer JR, Chancellor C, **Fischer BC** (2011) Space to romp and roam: How open space and natural areas may impact land conservation behavior. *Natural Areas Journal* 31(3):340-348.

Farmer JR, Chancellor C, **Fischer BC** (2011) Motivations for using conservation easements as a land protection mechanism: a mixed methods analysis. *Natural Areas Journal*, 31(1), 80-87.

Auer M, Richards K, Seesholtz D, **Fischer B**, Freitag C, Grice J (2011) The U.S. Forest Service and Its Responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act: A Work Design Problem. *Public Organization Review* DOI 10.1007/s11115-010-0115-6, p.135-153.

Fleischman FD, Boenning K, Garcia-Lopez GA, Mincey SK, Schmitt-Harsh M, Deadlow K, Lopez MC, Basurto X, **Fischer BC**, Ostrom EO (2010). Disturbance, response and persistence in self-organized forested communities: Analysis of robustness and resilience in five communities in Southern Indiana. *Ecology and Society* 15(4): 9, 21p.
[online] URL <http://www.ecologyandsociety.org/vol15/iss4/art9/>

Tucker CM, Agrawal A, **B.C. Fischer BC** (2010) The International Resources and Institutions Research Program: An Elinor Ostrom Creation. *Transnational Corporations Review* 2(2):79-83.

Fischer BC, Ruseva TB (2010) What is happening in and outside America's private woodlands. (Invited Response to: Coufal JE, Wiedemann C, Gleason M, What's happening in the woods). *J. Forestry* 108(6):304-306.

Mincey SK, **Fischer BC** (2009) The Woodland Campus: A historic walking tour of Indiana University-Bloomington.

IU-B School of Public and Environmental Affairs (1st ed.) 20p.

Morrissey RC, Gauthier MM, Kershaw JA, Jacobs DF, Seifert JR, **Fischer BC** (2009) Grapevine dynamics in association with manual tending, physiography, and host tree associations in temperate deciduous forests. *Forest Ecology & Management* 257:1839-1846.

Morrissey RC, Gauthier MM, Kershaw JA, Jacobs DF, **Fischer BC**, Seifert JR (2008) Grapevine dynamics after manual tending of juvenile stands on the Hoosier National Forest, Indiana. In: Jacobs DF. and Michler CH eds., Proc of the 16th Central Hardwood Forest Conf; 2008 April 8-9, West Lafayette, IN. USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station Gen. Tech. Rep. NRS-P-24.

Morrissey RC, Jacobs DF, Seifert JR, **Fischer BC**, Kershaw JA (2008) Competitive success of natural oak regeneration in clearcuts during the stem exclusion state. *Canadian Journal of Forest Research*, 38:1419-1430.

Fischer BC (2006) Forest management in the upland central hardwoods: a suggested status report. *The Indiana Forester*, pp 2-3

Fischer BC (2005) State trends in Forest/Wildlife Issues - An Indiana Division of Forestry Perspective. Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service Bulletin, FNR – 258. p. 11.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION *Denotes undergraduate coauthor

Fischer BC, Widney SE, Vogt JM, Farmer JR (In preparation) The roles of environmental nonprofits in delivering tree planting and lake monitoring services for government agencies.

Vogt JM, **Fischer BC**, *Couvillion WH (In preparation) Exploring the relationship between the urban forestry and community sustainability programs of Tree City USA municipalities in Indiana. To be submitted to *Cities and the Environment*.

Vogt JM, **Fischer BC**, Mincey SK, Watkins SL, Westphal L (In preparation) Co-managing the urban forest commons: A comparative assessment of five nonprofit tree-planting programs. To be submitted to *International Journal of the Commons*.

Vogt JM, Hauer RJ, **Fischer BC** (In preparation) What can civil engineering, crop pest management, and public policy analysis teach arborists and urban foresters about the costs of not maintaining trees? To be submitted to *Arboriculture & Urban Forestry* (under contract with the International Society of Arboriculture).

REPORTS & WHITE PAPERS *Denotes undergraduate coauthor

Widney S, **Fischer BC**, Mincey SK, Vogt JM, Watkins SL, Bergmann R, Westphal L (2015 Feb) Forest ReLeaf of Missouri Planted Tree Re-Inventory Report: Survival, Condition, and Benefits of Recently Planted Trees. Bloomington, IN: Bloomington Urban Forest Research Group at the Center for the Study of Institutions, Population and Environmental Change, Indiana University. 15 pp. <http://www.indiana.edu/~cipec/research/Forest%20ReLeaf%20of%20MO%20Planted%20Tree%20Re-Inventory%20Report.pdf> Brochure also available: <http://www.indiana.edu/~cipec/research/Forest%20ReLeaf%20of%20MO%20Brochure.pdf>

Widney S, **Fischer BC**, Mincey SK, Vogt JM, Watkins SL, Bergmann R, Westphal L (2015 Feb) The Greening of Detroit Planted Tree Re-Inventory Report: Survival, Condition, and Benefits of Recently Planted Trees. Bloomington, IN: Bloomington Urban Forest Research Group at the Center for the Study of Institutions, Population and Environmental Change, Indiana University. 15 pp. <http://www.indiana.edu/~cipec/research/Greening%20of%20Detroit%20Planted%20Tree%20Re-Inventory%20Report.pdf> Brochure also available: <http://www.indiana.edu/~cipec/research/Greening%20of%20Detroit%20Brochure.pdf>

Widney S, **Fischer BC**, Mincey SK, Vogt JM, Watkins SL, Bergmann R, Westphal L (2015 Feb) Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, Inc. Planted Tree Re-Inventory Report: Survival, Condition, and Benefits of Recently Planted Trees. Bloomington, IN: Bloomington Urban Forest Research Group at the Center for the Study of Institutions, Population and Environmental Change, Indiana University. 15 pp. <http://www.indiana.edu/~cipec/research/Keep%20Indy%20Beautiful%20Planted%20Tree%20Re-Inventory%20Report.pdf>

Brochure also available: <http://www.indiana.edu/~cipec/research/Keep%20Indy%20Beautiful%20Brochure.pdf>

Widney S, **Fischer BC**, Mincey SK, Vogt JM, Watkins SL, Bergmann R, Westphal L (2015 Feb) Pennsylvania Horticultural Society Planted Tree Re-Inventory Report: Survival, Condition, and Benefits of Recently Planted Trees. Bloomington, IN: Bloomington Urban Forest Research Group at the Center for the Study of Institutions, Population and Environmental Change, Indiana University. 15 pp. <http://www.indiana.edu/~cipec/research/Penn%20Horticultural%20Society%20Planted%20Tree%20Re-Inventory%20Report.pdf>

Brochure also available: <http://www.indiana.edu/~cipec/research/Penn%20Horticultural%20Society%20Brochure.pdf>

Widney S, **Fischer BC**, Mincey SK, Vogt JM, Watkins SL, Bergmann R, Westphal L (2015 Feb) Trees Atlanta Planted Tree Re-Inventory Report: Survival, Condition, and Benefits of Recently Planted Trees. Bloomington, IN: Bloomington Urban Forest Research Group at the Center for the Study of Institutions, Population and Environmental Change, Indiana University. 15 pp. <http://www.indiana.edu/~cipec/research/Trees%20Atlanta%20Planted%20Tree%20Re-Inventory%20Report.pdf>

Brochure also available: <http://www.indiana.edu/~cipec/research/Trees%20Atlanta%20Brochure.pdf>

Vogt JM, Mincey SK, **Fischer BC**, Patterson M (2014) Planted Tree Re-Inventory Protocol, Version 1.1. Bloomington, IN: Bloomington Urban Forest Research Group at the Center for the Study of Institutions, Population and Environmental Change, Indiana University. 96 pp. http://www.indiana.edu/~cipec/research/bufrg_protocol.php.

Vogt JM, Mincey SK, **Fischer BC**, Patterson M (2013) Planted Tree Re-Inventory Protocol, Version 1.0. Bloomington, IN: Bloomington Urban Forest Research Group at the Center for the Study of Institutions, Population and Environmental Change, Indiana University. 93 pp. http://www.indiana.edu/~cipec/research/bufrg_protocol.php.

Vogt JM, **Fischer BC** (2012) Exploring the relationship between the urban forestry and community sustainability programs of Tree City USA municipalities in Indiana. Bloomington Urban Forestry Research Group White Paper, November 2012.

Fischer BC, *McClain K, Mincey SK, Myers N, Vogt JM (2012) City of Bloomington Public Tree Inventory - 2012. 18 pp. http://www.indiana.edu/~cipec/research/bufrg_pub_Bton%20Neighb%20Report_12-27-12.pdf.

Richards K, Seesholtz D, Freitag C, Auer M, Barbour J, **Fischer BC**, McCardle G (2009) Contrast in NEPA: Approaches by the U.S. Forest Service Region 1 and Region 6 – a pilot study. A report to USDA U.S. Forest Service, Washington Office

Richards K, Seesholtz D, Grice J, Auer M, Barbour J, **Fischer BC**, Freitag C, McCardle G (2007) Internal organization and external contracting for the NEPA process: Lessons from new institutional economics and strategic organization design. A white paper prepared for the USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station. 49p.

Fischer BC, Steinhoff M, Mincey SK, Dye L (2007) The 2007 Bloomington Street Tree Report: An Analysis of Demographics and Ecosystem Services. Bloomington Urban Forestry Report 01-07. 30 pp. Available at <http://bloomington.in.gov/media/media/application/pdf/2337.pdf>.

Indiana University (2005-present) – Grants and Service Contracts

Ostrom Workshop Faculty Research Grant “Delineation of Urban SES’s”, PI Fischer BC, 2015-16.

USFS Northern Research Station “Evaluating the impacts for neighborhoods from nonprofit urban forestry” PI’s Fischer BC, Westphal L, Collaborators Vogt JM, Mincey SK, Watkins SL, Bergmann R, 2013-19, \$35,000.

Office of Sustainability, IUB, Graduate Student Sustainability Research Development Grant “Evaluating the Social Outcomes of Neighborhood Urban Tree Planting: Does Tree Planting Improve Neighborhood Sustainability?” PI Vogt, JM, Faculty Mentor Fischer BC, 2013-14, \$5,000.

USFS NUCFAC “Trees and People, A Two Way Street: A Research Program to Assess the Direct and Indirect Effects of Urban

Tree Planting Programs in the Face of Climate Change” PI Fischer BC, Collaborators Vogt JM, Mincey SK, Watkins SL. 2012-15, \$173,206 (plus \$188,365 in matching funds).

Office of Sustainability, IUB “Developing an Urban Site Index (USI) for Sustainable Tree Planting Programs” PI Fischer BC, Co-PI’s Vogt JM, Patterson M, 2012, \$9,885

City of Bloomington, IN “Bloomington Urban Tree Inventory Priority Projects”, 2012, PI Fischer BC, \$4,000

IDNR, Div of For Community & Urban Forestry Program “Comparing the Success of Volunteer-Planted and City-planted Trees: Testing the Generalizability of Young Tree Re-Inventory Protocol in Bloomington, IN”, PI’s Fischer BC, Vogt JM. 2012, \$4,590

International Society of Arboriculture “Comprehensive Literature Review of Costs of Not Maintaining Trees” PI’s Fischer BC, Vogt JM, Hauer R, 2012-13, \$15,000

Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, Inc/Efroymsen Fund “Sustainable Urban Forest Management: Predicting Tree Success in Indianapolis NeighborWoods” PI’s Fischer BC, Vogt JM, Mincey SK, 2011-13, \$17,500

Office of Sustainability, IUB “The Impact of Institutional Mechanisms on Sustainable Urban Development” PI Fischer BC, Co PI’s S.K. Mincey SK, Schmitt-Harsh M, Thureau R, 2011-12, \$15,000

IUB-SPEA Research Seed Grant “Green Carbon: Developing Local Institutional Architecture for REDD+.” PI’s Fischer BC, Ostrom EO, McGinnis M, Co-PI’s Agrawal A, Holahan R, Kashwan P, 2010-11, \$20,000

IUB-SPEA Research Seed Grant “Comparing the Design and Outcomes of Competitive Funding Programs in Federal Natural Resource Agencies” PI’s Fernandez S, Fischer BC, Co-PI’s Cox M, Mincey SK, Ruseva TB, Villamayor S, 2010-11, \$20,000.

City of Bloomington, IN “Urban Forestry Resources and Institutions (UFRI) Pilot Project” PI’s Fischer BC, Mincey SK, 2009-10, \$3,000

Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Community and Urban Forestry Program “Urban Forestry Resources and Institutions (UFRI) Pilot Project” PI’s Fischer BC, Mincey SK, 2009-10, \$3,000

IU-B Center for Research in Environmental Science (CRES) “The Influence of Institutional Dynamics on Urban Tree Canopy in Bloomington, Indiana: A New Approach for Spatial Analysis of Sustained Urban Forests” PI Evans T, Co-PI’s Fischer BC, Mincey SK, Thureau R, 2009-10, \$18,700.

US Forest Service State & Private Forestry, Washington Office “Evaluation of the State & Private Forestry Redesign Program” PI Fischer BC, Co-PI’s Cox M, Mincey SK, Ruseva TB, Villamayor-Tomas S, 2009-10, \$49,999

IU-B SPEA, Sustainability Research Seed Grant “Studying Sustainability of Urban Social-Ecological Systems through the Urban Forest: Development of the Urban Forest Resources and Institutions (UFRI) system” PI’s Fischer BC, Mincey SK, Thureau R, 2009-10, \$10,000.

Indiana University Freshman Learning Project Fellowship. PI Fischer BC, 2008, \$2,000.

Indiana University Active Learning Grant “Developing a Campus Field Experience for E162 Environment and People” PI’s Fischer BC, Corbin S, 2007-08, \$1,500.

Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry Urban Forest Conservation Fund, Special Grant “Establishing an Urban Forestry Course at IU SPEA Bloomington.” PI Fischer BC, 2006-07, \$9,475.

City of Bloomington, IN, Parks and Recreation Department “Urban Forestry Internships”, PI Fischer BC, 2006-07, \$7,000.

Awards and Honors:

National Defense Education Act Fellowship, 1969-73

Society of American Foresters Technology Transfer and Extension Award, 1985
Co-chair Indiana Governor's Conference on the Environment, 1994
Indiana Society of American Foresters Meritorious Service Award, 1996
Society of American Foresters Certified Forester, 1997-Present
Society of American Foresters Fellow, 1998
Purdue University Distinguished Agricultural Alumni Award, 2003
Indiana Arborist Association Distinguished Service Award, 2004
National Association of State Foresters, dedicated the "NASF Burney Fischer Current Achievement in Urban Forestry Award," 2006-2011
Indiana Urban Forest Council – Government Entity Award for Promoting Urban Forestry to IUB-SPEA for the Development of an Urban Forest Management Course, 2007
SPEA Undergraduate Teaching Award, 2008
Indiana University Freshman Learning Project Fellow, 2008
IUB Office of Sustainability, Inaugural Research Award to Bloomington Urban Forestry Group (BUFRG) at CIPEC (Fischer is leader and PI), 2012
Frederick Law Olmsted Award, Arbor Day Foundation, 2013
Ostrom Memorial Award for Most Innovative Paper, International Journal of the Commons, 2013
Indiana Urban Forest Council – Outstanding Lifetime Achievement Award in promoting the principles of urban forestry in Indiana, 2014
Senior Research Fellow, Ostrom Workshop, 2014-present
IUB Bicentennial Medal, 2020

Endowments Created (with Barbara L. Fischer)

Purdue University Department of Forestry and Natural Resources - Fischer Forestry Fund (2004)
Millikin University - Burnell and Ermell Fischer Athletic Enhancement Fund (2008)
Purdue Northwest University – Mike Laleaff Athletics Endowment (2017)
Indiana University O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs - Fischer Faculty Fellow (2018)