

SWST Newsletter

September-October 2001

SOCIETY OF WOOD
SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY

SWST

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Editor's Note

Dear Readers:

The world is a much different place since I last communicated with you. My life has definitely been impacted by the events of Sept 11. On September 10, I was driving down the New Jersey



Turnpike, with it is view of the Manhattan skyline, heading for a Conference to present a paper with Doug Stokke. Little did I or anyone envision what would happen on Sept. 11. Our conference was cut short, and it was eerie to see the smoke emanating from the WTC from our hotel window. Doug Stokke had to drive from the Conference back to Iowa. Shane O'Neill and I made a wide detour around NYC on the way back to Maine. Later in that same week, I had a trip to London that was cancelled. I hope and pray that the next time I write things might return to a semblance of normalcy. God Bless America!

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Gardner

Constitution Changes

Constitution and Bylaws Election Results

The ballots were returned on the changes in the Constitution and Bylaws. There were 58 "yes" and 2 "no". The changes are in effect and a new Constitution and Bylaws is available in hard copy by request to the Executive Office at One Gifford Pinchot Drive, Madison, WI 53705, via the website at www.swst.org/constitution.html, or via email by request to the Executive Office at vicki@swst.org

Short Courses

February 4-14, 2002: **53rd Annual Lumber and Building Materials Short Course**, Department of Wood & Paper Science, University of Minnesota, St. Paul. For more information go to www.cnr.umn.edu/WPS/exten/exsc.html or contact Jim Bowyer at (612) 624-4292, or jbowyer@cnr.umn.edu.

23rd Annual WOOD IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOP
January 15 – 18, 2002
University of Massachusetts Amherst

INSTRUCTOR: DR. R. BRUCE HOADLEY, Professor of Wood Science, Department of Natural Resources Conservation

COST: Anticipated: \$395.00 (includes four-day workshop, registration fee, instructional materials, coffee breaks and gala class dinner)

Dr. R. Bruce Hoadley offers this unique workshop in wood identification. Although there are no prerequisites, this is a hands-on, fast-paced workshop. The workshop covers preparation of samples, hand lens identification of hardwoods, and introduction to microscopic identification of softwoods. Approaches and methods appropriate to the identification of wood in historic objects are also covered. Persons who complete this course will be familiar with techniques necessary to identify a representative group of woods commonly found in American decorative art objects.

Class size is limited to 20 persons. Registrations are accepted in the order in which they are received. To receive more information of registration materials contact:

Program Coordinators Office
Continuing Education Building
University of Massachusetts
358 North Pleasant Street
Amherst, MA 01003-9296
(413) 545-2484
goodchild@admin.umass.edu

Conferences and Events

ScanTech 2001

The Wood Machining Institute in cooperation with the Forest Products Society and International Union of Forest Research Organizations welcomes you to attend back-to-back conferences, ScanTech 2001: The Ninth International Conference on Scanning Technology and Process Optimization for the Wood Industry, Nov. 5-6, 2001 and SawTech 2001: The Seventh International Conference for Sawing Technology, Nov. 8-9, 2001, at the Holiday Inn Seattle International Airport in Seattle, WA.

ScanTech 2001 will emphasize the latest developments in log scanning using industrial Computed Tomography (CT) for internal defect detection, 3D log scanning on the headrig carriages for optimizing log breakdown, methods to improve lumber edging and trimming decisions, and automated grading. Through case studies speakers will present their point of view about selection and start up of scanning systems and methods to evaluate scanning and process optimization system performance.

SawTech 2001 will provide a comprehensive view on the sawmill economy; profiling capability in shape sawing systems; yield capability of sawing machines; new approaches to optimizing band saw feed rate; stainless and conventional alloy steel saw blades; advances in saw tooth tipping materials and approaches for reducing circular saw guide wear. Other topics include the effect of side clearance on guided saw cutting accuracy, super critical speed sawing and safety in the sawmilling industry.

Please see the following site or the attached file for conference agendas, registration information and registration form.

www.woodmachining.com/conferences

The 13th International Symposium on Nondestructive Testing of Wood
19-21 August 2002
University of California, Berkeley Campus, California, USA

The Symposium will include technical paper presentations, posters, and manufacturers' exhibits. As with previous symposia in this series, it will address the broadest application of technologies in the NDT/NDE assessment of wood and wood-based materials, from the forest, during manufacturing, and in end use. After the symposium, there will be an optional Open House at the UC Forest Products Laboratory.

Prospective authors for papers or posters are encouraged to submit an abstract of no more than 250 words for review and consideration by the Program Committee. The deadline for submission is 15 December 2001. Multiple papers/posters by

COMMITTEE SIGN-UP FORM

I would like to sign up to serve on the following committee(s): (Please indicate your first, second and third choice.)

Accreditation	_____
Education	_____
George Marra Award	_____
International Relations	_____
Membership	_____
Policy and Critical Issues	_____
Public Liaison	_____
Publication Policy	_____
Visiting Scientist Program	_____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____

Fax _____

Email _____

Please Return to: Society of Wood Science and Technology
One Gifford Pinchot Drive
Madison, WI 53705
FAX: 608-231-9592 Email: vicki@swst.org

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authors is discouraged. The venue is the Alumni House on the Berkeley Campus, just minutes from major hotels. Since the Symposium will not be at a hotel, registrants are advised to book rooms early.

The weather in August at Berkeley is typically very comfortable, with an average high of 21°C (70 °F) with virtually no rain. Berkeley is close to two major international airports, Oakland and San Francisco. Oakland is much smaller and more convenient for surface connections to Berkeley. There will be reduced registration fees for those from developing countries (as defined by IUFRO) and for students.

Please contact Crystal.Henle@ucop.edu by e-mail to indicate:

IUFRO Symposium Wood Structure and Properties 2002

Symposium will be organized on the occasion of the 195th anniversary of the establishment of forestry education in Slovakia and the 50th anniversary of the College of Forestry and Wood Technology in Zvolen, the predecessor of the Technical University in Zvolen.

Organizers

The Faculty of Wood Sciences of the Technical University, Zvolen
IUFRO Unit 5.01.00 Wood quality

Venue

Hotel Bystrá, Bystrá, The Low Tatras, Slovakia
September 1-3, 2002

The Symposium hall is equipped with data, slide and overhead projectors. The Faculty of Wood Sciences and Technology of the Technical University in Zvolen has been carrying out research in the area of wood structure and properties. The first Symposium Wood Structure and Properties started in 1990 in Zvolen and from this time such symposiums are organized every fourth years. The aim of this Symposium will be mostly aimed at the present of the latest knowledge about the structure and properties of wood from the point if its rational utilization as a raw material of the 21th century and trying to mark out further strategy of research as well.

Main Topics

- 1) Wood structure
- 2) Wood physics
- 3) Wood mechanics
- 4) Testing of wood properties
- 5) Properties of wood in relation to its processing

Invited presentations and Call for papers and posters

Papers will be selected for each block of the main topics

based on the abstracts submitted with registration. Poster session is planned with about 20 posters. Presented papers will be peer-reviewed and proceedings will be published in early 2003. To maintain this time schedule it is expected to deliver the summary of the presentation by March 31, 2002, and the manuscript by June 15, 2002.

Conference language

The official conference language will be English. No translation will be provided.

Social Events

Opening Reception

Sunday, September 1, 2002

Included in the registration fee

Good-bye Dinner

Tuesday, September 3, 2002

Post-symposium excursion

Wednesday, September 4, 2002

According to interest of the participants is possible to visit the Technical University in Zvolen.

Symposium fee

Symposium fee will be 240 USD. It will cover the participation in the Symposium, participation in the Opening Reception and Good-bye Dinner. It does not include the accommodation. Reduced conference fee for students 150 USD.

Accommodation

Accommodation will be organized in the Hotel Bystrá. The prices include breakfasts, lunches and dinners. Single room 30 USD and double room 20 USD per one night and person

All days food on Monday and Thursday will be served in the hotel where the guests will be accommodated. Special wishes (e. g. vegetarian, diet) will be respected.

Symposium location

The Symposium will be organized in the Low Tatras. The hotel Bystrá is located at the foot of the Low Tatras, under south slopes of Chopok massif near to the resort of Tale. The hotel and its attractive surroundings are predestined to have a holiday all the year round. In winter months skiing opportunities are offered by the resorts Ski Centre Tale and Myto under Dumbier mountain with artificial snowing-up, ski tow Bystra near to the hotel, and ski resort Chopok-South. In summer, alpine hiking attracts, horse-riding possibility, Bystrianska jaskyna – a

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**SWST Visiting Scientist Program
"Request To Participate Form"
(Please print, fill out and return to address below)**

Host Institution: _____

Address: _____

Host Contact Member: _____

Title: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Visiting Scientist Request (in order of preference):

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Special Objectives or Considerations of Visit:

IN ADDITION TO PROVIDING MEALS, LODGING, AND LOCAL TRANSPORTATION, WOULD YOU LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARD THE COST OF THE VISIT OR PROGRAM? IF SO, PLEASE INDICATE THE AMOUNT.

\$ _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please return to:

Visiting Scientist Program
Society of Wood Science and Technology
One Gifford Pinchot Drive
Madison, WI 53705
PHONE: 608-231-9347
FAX: 608-231-9592
E-mail: vicki@swst.org

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cave with speleotherapy, golf course, bicycle tourism.

Links

Technical University in Zvolen <http://www.tuzvo.sk/~mamon/KND/index.htm>

Hotel Bystrá <http://www.hotelbystra.sk/>

News

forestsource.com

Your complete source from harvesting through value added wood products manufacturing and marketing, forestsource.com is the most regionally complete, one stop source of reliable forest industry information for North America. Sections with Directories, current News, and Business Centre with market information, newsletters and much more are designed to help your company profit from quick and easy access and exposure to the Internet.

Howard Rosen Receives Gottschalk Award

Howard Rosen received the 2001 Gottschalk Award at the Forest Products Society Annual Meeting in Baltimore. The Gottschalk Award recognizes and honors exceptional service to FPS. Howard has had a long history of dedicated service to FPS and SWST. Since joining FPS in 1970 he has held numerous positions and served in many capacities including: Section Officer in two sections, Chair and service on six Administrative and Award Committees, Chair of six TIGs and Coordinator for two Divisions. Howard has long fostered cooperation between FPS and other organizations including SWST, IUFRO, AICHE, the International Academy of Wood Science, and the Renewable Natural Resources Foundation.

Support Material Needed for African University

Mazuba Fabian Malambo, lecturer at Copperbelt University in Africa is soliciting help in establishing linkages with other Universities teaching wood science and technology, and also in obtaining reference materials. They have recently established a Wood Science and Wood Utilization program at Copperbelt University. Mazuba can be reached at

Copperbelt University
School of Forestry and Wood Science
P.O. Box 21692
Kitwe, Zambia
Africa

Email fmalambo@cbu.ac.zm

SWST Visiting Scientist Program

The Society of Wood Science and Technology invites you to participate in the SWST Visiting Scientist Program as a "host Institution". Please fill out a "Request to Participate Form" and send it to the Executive Office. You may also request a list of available visiting scientists from the Executive Office at the address below.

The procedure to participate as a host institution is as follows:

1. Fill out the request to participate form and return to the address on the bottom of the form. In selecting a Visiting Scientist, please consider the cost associated with cross-country travel since the Program has a limited budget. Note that the form has a convenient entry in which you can offer to contribute the Visiting Scientist Program to permit us to cover more visits.
2. The request will be reviewed by the Visiting Scientist Program Committee, who will contact both the institution and the Visiting Scientist. This is a very important step, since we are many times able to coordinate multiple visits by the same Scientist.
3. Once the visit has been approved, the institution and scientist will be asked to arrange the details of the visit (dates, subject, etc).
4. The host institutions are to provide lodging, meals, and local transportation for the Visiting Scientist. The normal visit is one to two days. The host institution will also be expected to arrange for appropriate "PR" to maximize the value of the visit.
5. Following the visit, the requesting member at the host institution will be asked to provide a report on the visit. This will be published in the bimonthly SWST Newsletter. The Visiting Scientist Program will reimburse the scientist for travel expenses.

The SWST Visiting Scientist list includes only SWST members in good standing. If you are interested in a visit by someone not listed, please be sure to note that on the request form. Since the Program is supported through SWST member dues, the policy is to approve visits by SWST members only.

If you have any special programs or questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. Please reply to:

Visiting Scientist Program
Society of Wood Science and Technology
One Gifford Pinchot Drive
Madison, WI 53705
PHONE: 608-231-9347
FAX: 608-231-9592
E-mail: vicki@swst.org

Guidelines: International Professional Visiting Scientist

The Society of Wood Science and Technology (SWST) is providing international travel grants for the professional growth of two members each calendar year.

These grants are to enhance the members' international perspective and networking with scientists, technologists, and engineers from other countries that are so vital to the success of SWST in the future. Successful candidates are also to bring colleagues from their home country into the networks they establish.

Amount: \$2000 for each grant to help cover travel expenses (maximum of 2 grants per year).

Qualifications: The applicant must be a SWST voting member in good standing for at least the past three years. Preference will be given to applicants with limited international experience.

Requirements: Each successful member is to visit foreign laboratories, industrial firms, and academic institutions as outlined in their proposal. The visits are to be from 2-4 weeks. At the conclusion of the trip, a report is to be filed with SWST noting the visits, addresses of all contacted, and information obtained. The contacts are to be publicized for the use of other SWST members.

Proposals are to be submitted to the SWST Executive Director, SWST, One Gifford Pinchot Drive, Madison, WI 53705, by January 15 of each year.

Proposals are to include an itinerary which lists in detail places and people to visit and how these visits will enhance the proposer's professional career and SWST.

Specific mention has to be made on what is expected to be learned at each visit and how this information will be shared with the SWST membership.

Further, plans must be submitted on how to foster the new network of scientific and technical exchange.

The applicant's resume must be part of the proposal as well as a proposed budget

Time Requirements: The visits are to take place within 18 months of the time the awards are given. The awards will be announced at the Annual Meeting of the SWST held in June.

Status of Accreditation Committee Activities

From: Tom McLain, Chair SWST Accreditation Committee

This is a both an update of activities and a summary of some challenges on the horizon

1) I have not been able to bring closure to the SAF/SWST Memorandum of Understanding. This spells out the details of our relationship with SAF for joint site visits. You may remember I reported last year that there is no basis for our connection with SAF except convenience of the accredited program leaders. SWST is the accrediting authority, not SAF. SAF has not been responsive to my proposed revisions to our current MOU for a variety of reasons. I assume that I can get this finalized at some point, but there may be some significant costs associated with this lashup that will cause us to look at it again.

2) The Executive Board affirmed the central role of accreditation standards to SWST as a professional association and tasked the Accreditation Committee with revising our standards. It has been over 15 years since our standards document saw significant revision, except for periodic tweaking the prescriptive formula. There are a number of changes that need to be implemented including 5-year review procedures.

The Accreditation Committee and Executive Board generally agrees with the need to restructure our standards away from a prescriptive basis and toward a process that identifies core competencies and evidence of successful learning. The drivers for this are: a) most, if not all, regional accrediting organizations (that accredit universities) are moving to requiring institutions demonstrate student learning as a future criteria, b) the SAF Accreditation Task Force chaired by Larry Tombaugh of NCSU recommended that SAF move from a prescriptive standard to an outcomes-base, and c) that competencies-based assessment may allow currently unaccredited institutions to seek accreditation using non-traditional approaches, or give accredited programs greater curricular flexibility. These actions suggest that SWST accredited programs will respond to university pressure to do business differently and that our standards that have been historically joined-at-the-hip with SAF standards may eventually be out of step. Developing new standards for SWST accreditation will be a significant effort and I have slowly been adding names to my list of potential workers for this task. My goal is to have one member from each of the accredited programs.

3) I have so far chosen a path of following SAF's lead because of our historical ties and the current way we conduct joint site visits. That has really slowed the revisions down (along with unusual competing demands on my time) and may have been a tactical mistake. Here's why.

The Tombaugh Committee released its report a little over a year ago. They recommended moving to an outcomes base that specifies what students should know, not what courses they should take. It appears that those recommendations will be accepted but not everybody is on board as yet. Perry Brown, the Dean at Montana and NAPFSC president, tells me that several schools would like to move toward certification (like some wildlife programs) and get out of accreditation altogether. Others are looking for a streamlined accreditation process and others are wedded to status quo. Apparently no consensus has emerged on outcomes and performance measures. A Sept workshop in Denver (canceled) was to work out those kinks. Looks like that will be on the agenda for a NR education conference at NCSU in March.

Confounding progress here was that SAF National, acting on one of the Tombaugh recommendations, significantly increased the fees associated with the site visit and instituted a large annual fee to maintain accreditation status (an increase from \$100 to \$2000 annually). Apparently, SAF felt like the accreditation program should pay for itself (and a national staff). The NAPFSC schools (most of the 4-year accredited pool) went ballistic and instituted a moratorium on accreditation fees. (Continued on page 8)

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torium against sending any money to SAF. This conflict has consumed the past year and isn't over yet. However, the two organizations just worked out a temporary compromise that will keep things moving until a permanent solution can be approved in October 2002.

SAF and NAPFSC formed a joint working group to address the cost issues and revise the SAF Accreditation Handbook. The second issue was to have been a focus of the canceled Denver meeting. I have a call in to Don DeHayes at UVermont to learn about their progress outside that meeting. This Committee will draft procedures that will then be reviewed before approval. So all in all it is likely to be awhile longer before we will have a model from SAF-a timeline is uncertain, but approval is at least a year away and implementation will then be phased, I suspect..

4) One key question for SWST is how important is it to maintain a parallel set of accreditation standards and procedures with SAF? Remember that there is no longer any other functional linkage with SAF since we independently handle the 5 year review. Having just gone through the process I have mixed feelings:

- it is convenient to have Dean staff prepare materials used in self-examination documents for both reviews. That may or may not happen at OSU if SWST did a solo review that was held well in advance of SAF.. If the reviews were separate, but in the same year, then this issue would be moot.
- it is convenient from a hosting perspective to have the two reviews take place at same time. All the disruption is concentrated and the college as a whole shares the pain. On the other hand we might get more attention from upper administration with separate reviews.
- I suspect that it is convenient for the SWST team to have a joint committee write the review report-that may be offset by having more people who need to have input and review.
- I don't think that our President and Provost could distinguish between SWST and SAF-even our Dean was inconsistent with keeping the two activities distinct. This was exacerbated by a joint review report. This may suggest that the SWST accreditation impact was muted-I can't judge whether that is important.

5) **So here are the questions---- For Accredited Program Leaders-**

a) What is your opinion on the desirability of maintaining a linkage with SAF for 10 year review activities?
 b) Has your university recently moved to some form of learning assessment that has caused you to significantly change the way you evaluate the effectiveness of your curriculum and teaching? If so, would you please send me information on your process (or a URL address that explains it). If not, do you see that on the horizon?
 c) What concerns do you have about moving toward competencies-assessment based standards?

6) In the meantime, the SWST standards need to be revised. That revision could be substantial and take 12-18 months if we opted to implement outcomes measures. Or, if we deferred on the outcomes measures until the SAF dust settled, then the current revisions might only take a 3-4 months, say by June 2002 to be safe.

Humor

Smart Investing

Just a point of interest.

If you bought \$1000 worth of Nortel stock one year ago, it would now be worth \$49.

If you bought \$1000 worth of Miller Lite (the beer, not the stock) one year ago, drank all the beer, and traded in the cans for the nickel deposit, you would have \$79.

The **SWST Newsletter** is published six times a year by the Society of Wood Science and Technology, One Gifford Pinchot Drive, Madison, WI 53705, USA.

Phone: (608) 231-9347

Web site: <http://www.swst.org>

Fax: (608) 231-9592

E-mail: Doug_Gardner@apollo.umenfa.maine.edu or vicki@swst.org

SWST is a technical and professional organization for scientists and engineers working in academia, government, consulting and the forest-products industries and is dedicated to providing education and expertise regarding better ways to use and produce wood products

Items for the newsletter may be sent to Doug Gardner, at the above Society address.

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Geza Ifju

Editorial Assistant:

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Newsletter Editor:

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