

# SWST Newsletter

SOCIETY OF WOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
November/December 2004

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## SWST Snapshot

<b>SWST Membership</b>	<b>Nov. 2004</b>
Full members	295
Student members	65
Retired members	50
Affiliate members	4
Delinquent members	39
Fellows	2

<b>Wood And Fiber Science Journal</b>	<b>Jan. 2005</b>
Subscribers	235
Delinquent Subscribers	31
Number of articles in 37(1)	12
<b><i>Currently in the pipeline</i></b>	
Ready for typesetting	30
Under revision by authors	23
Under review	17
Rejected	2



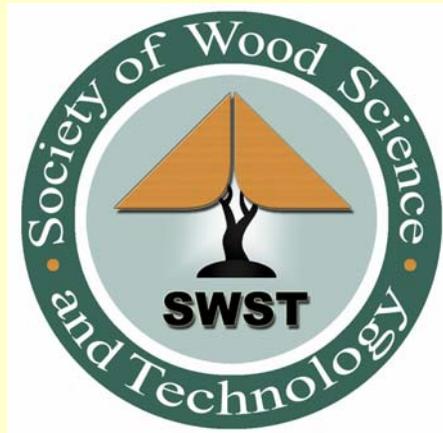
Rado Gazo, *Editor*

<b>Financial</b>	<b>Nov. 2004</b>
Cash & Bank Accounts	\$103,200.77
Investments	\$57,917.97
Liabilities	\$697

<b>Web Page</b>	<b>Nov. 2004</b>
Number of unique visitors	873
Number of new visitors	614
Gigabytes transferred	.66
More data:	
<a href="http://www.swst.org/nettracker/reports/">http://www.swst.org/nettracker/reports/</a>	

## NEWS

**New SWST Logo** was approved at the Fall Board meeting.



**New Research Initiatives committee** has been established. Read more about it in the [Research Initiatives](#) section below.

**Responsiveness to member survey.** Discussion at the SWST Fall Board meeting in San Diego during the joint FPS/SWST luncheon prompted me to note that some information on SWST's response to our latest member survey has been reported to our membership in March/April newsletter <http://www.swst.org/news/04mar/nlmar04.pdf>. Some of the items highlighted in the newsletter are ongoing. I feel that our board and committees have been very responsive to the action items gleaned from the survey, resulting in 1) significant cost savings in publication of WFS; 2) important steps toward a more active role for SWST in advocating for research funding, first through last year's ad hoc NRI committee, and ongoing with implementation of a new Research Initiatives Committee; 3) Healthy dialogue between the Exec Directors and VPs of SWST and FPS on an ongoing basis as we seek to better define our unique roles and synergistic relationship; and 4) Changes in our annual meeting format to better serve our members. This has not been without growing pains, but I am hopeful that the REALLY new format to be implemented in Quebec City will be well received. Certainly, there is more to do, but I truly feel that we are moving ahead with some tangible and meaningful response to our members' input. -- Douglas D. Stokke, Past President.

Forest Products Lab's **Ted Laufenberg and Jerry Winandy** (RWU4706) Engineered Biocomposites have recently developed a new "Stabilized Engineered Wood Fiber" for use on playgrounds which meets national criteria for energy-absorption to avoid childhood head-impact injuries while also helping to enhance wheelchair and walker-accessibility. The SEWF product has been field tested at FPL and at two State Parks in Wisconsin. Additional tests are now underway in Maryland and California. The product is also being tested for use in accessible recreational trails and to enhance erosion-resistance of recreational trails. This new product has been co-developed with the US Access Board (a White House agency) charged with helping meet and improve accessibility under the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

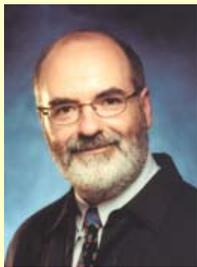
Information is available at:

[http://www.fpl.fs.fed.us/notices/playground\\_materials/playground\\_materials.html](http://www.fpl.fs.fed.us/notices/playground_materials/playground_materials.html)

The research and modeling of **John Hunt and Hongmei Gu** (RWU4706) to develop a new wood composite called "3D Engineered Fiberboard" as a product capable of adding value to small-diameter, hazardous fuel timber (under the National Fire Plan research program) was a highlighted in a featured article in the July 2004 issue of "Mechanical Engineering", the technical journal of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

**On Nov 17, 2004**, the Forest Products Laboratory in Madison hosted Kathleen Clarke, Director of the Bureau of Land Management, US Dept. of Interior to discuss how FPL research could help BLM and FS land-managers address problems with encroachment of exotic-invasive species in arid Western ecosystems. FPL's RWU4706 Engineered Biocomposites, lead by Drs. Craig Clemons and Jerry Winandy, presented a demonstration of research using two problematic invasive species, salt-cedar (*Tamarisk* spp.) and one-seed juniper, as feedstocks for extruded wood-plastic siding as one possible way to help BLM and FS address problems with exotic-invasive species.

**Industrial Chair on Engineered Wood Products for Structural and Appearance Applications, University of Laval, Quebec.** At the heart of the Chair concept lays a customer-centered scheme of integration. The starting point of everything is the understanding of the attributes desired by the end user of wood products, in the analysis of existing business processes as well as of innovative ones, in order to ensure that the customer is the driving force of business development. Servicing customer and business processes, the functions of product and process development should be found, that would enable the reengineering of the whole approach of the wood products industries. In order to develop these concepts, we intend to develop three main research axes within the Chair. The first axis is about the design of innovative products taking advantage of alternative wood materials through the approach of wood engineering. The second axis touches on the development of new and improved production processes aiming at improved productivity, flexibility, taking advantage of technologies such as CNC, optics, automation and optimization. The third axis, in addition to technology, touches on the development of new business models and it based on the concept of the networked organizations taking advantages of information and communication technologies and their powerful capabilities in order to put forward niche and differentiation strategies. Those three axes will be treated across three fields: Structural products; Appearance products; and Composite panels.



Dr. Robert Beauregard is senior chair holder of CIBISA at the Department of Wood and Forest Sciences of the Université Laval. His area of expertise is the modelling of manufacturing systems for the forest industries. He develops comprehensive approaches to the design of business models taking into account the interactions between the wood resource, process development and innovative products for better business performance. Currently, Robert Beauregard supervises a team of nine Ph.D. students, seven M.Sc. students and one research professional, not to mention courses and research opportunities to undergraduate students. In 1995-97, he was research scientist with the New Zealand Forest

Research Institute. From 1997 to 2000, he worked at the Eastern Laboratory of Forintek Canada Corp. where he was instrumental in the creation of the Department for Value Added Wood Products. Robert Beauregard is a director of the Canadian Institute of Forestry. He has been for many years a member of the Society of Wood Science and Technology as well as of the Forest Products Society. He maintains collaborations with scientists across Canada, in the U.S., Sweden and Chile.



Dr. Alexander Salenikovich is the junior chair holder of CIBISA at the Department of Wood and Forest Sciences of the Université Laval. His area of expertise is timber engineering, including testing, modeling, analysis, and design of wood structures. He is focused on development and improvement of high-wind and seismic design methods for wood-frame structures. Furthermore, he is interested in research of mechanical connections for timber structures and furniture, in improvement of prefabricated housing systems, and in the development of wood engineered composites and structures. Currently, Alexander Salenikovich supervises three doctoral students, one master's, one postdoctoral student and he is responsible for two undergraduate courses in timber engineering. Alexander Salenikovich was appointed at the department in August 2003 after finishing his doctoral studies at Virginia Polytechnic and State University and post-doctoral education at the Mississippi State University. Previously, he graduated with the diploma of Civil Engineer from Vyatka State University in Russia. Alexander Salenikovich is a member of the Society of Wood Science and Technology, the Forest Products Society and the American Society for Testing and Materials. He is cooperating with numerous researchers in Canada and the United States.

### **IUFRO Executive Board Meeting in Seoul, South Korea, October 10-17, 2005 – Howard Rosen**

I just returned from the Executive Board Meeting and have important information about the World and other changes in IUFRO. Attendance was 45 people from 19 countries and I represented Division 5.

### **XXII World Congress in Brisbane, Australia, August 8-13, 2005**

- Most sessions are in place, but there may be room for a few more if some sessions do not fill with speakers.
- Posters will be included in Parallel and Division/Inter-divisional sessions, but not associated with sub-plenary sessions. Plenty of room exists for posters; there is no limit to poster acceptance as of now. The poster will be setup in the halls of the Brisbane Conference and Exhibition Center near the room of the oral presentations.
- Time allotted for Business Meetings is 30 minutes in the evening and technical presentations are not supposed to be given then.
- Over 1800 presentations have been requested, so we should have a good attendance at the meeting.
- The 2010 XXIII World Congress will be held in Seoul, South Korea.

### **New Officers important to Division 5:**

- Professor Don Koo Lee, South Korea
- Dr. Niels Koch, Vice President for Science
- Professor John Innes, Canada, Vice President for Policy
- Division 5-
  - Cathy Wang, Taiwan, Coordinator
  - Mahabala Bhat, India, Deputy
  - Chris Risbrudt, USA, Deputy
  - One more Deputy to be decided
- Missing officers must be designated as soon as possible
- Web pages should also be updated as soon as possible
- Replace officers that have been in office more than two terms (10 years) by the Congress in August, 2005

An International Symposium on Forest Research and Education was held on October 12, 2004 during the Executive Board Meeting. Nineteen speakers talked about the state of research and education in different parts of the world. The talks were compiled in a Symposium Series and will be available on the Web and through the Korea Forest Research Institute.

As you can see, we were well fed in Seoul, but I did have trouble sitting with my legs crossed. Pictured is Björn Hånell from Sweden, myself, Jagmohan Maini from Canada, Jeff Burley (nearly hidden) from England, Risto Seppälä from Finland, and Alexander Buck from Austria.



Howard N. Rosen  
IUFRO Division 5  
Acting Division 5 Coordinator

### **Industry Skills Standards Project Awarded to Architectural Woodwork Institute**

**Princeton, WV** – The USDA Forest Service is pleased to announce the selection of the Architectural Woodwork Institute (AWI) of Reston, VA to be the recipient of a Cooperative Agreement funding the assessment of the potential for developing and implementing National Wood Manufacturing Industry Skills Standards.

According to Al Steele, Interim Director of the USDA Forest Service's Wood Education and Resource Center "this project was initiated as a result of meetings held with industry representatives and woodworking educators concerned about the long term competitiveness of the wood industry. Other industries which have developed skills standards report significant improvements in their ability to better target recruitment and training efforts. If skills standards can be developed and accepted by the woodworking community, overall skill levels in the workplace and the efficiency and effectiveness of woodworker training can be markedly improved."

As part of this project, AWI will actively engage leaders from woodworking industries, equipment manufacturing, and woodworker education to review past skills standards development efforts, develop a model or framework for what should be contained in skills standards, and develop a plan for how a skills standards program would be organized, operated, funded, and governed. The final assessment report sent to the Forest Service will include letters of support from key leaders representing the woodworking community. In collaboration with key partners, the Forest Service will use the results of this assessment to evaluate the potential for a successful National Wood Manufacturing Industry Skills Standards program. Relying on a number of factors, especially the level and extent of support amongst industry and other members of the community, the Forest Service will determine if an appropriate federal role exists to fund the actual development of National Wood Manufacturing Industry Skills Standards and initial efforts to organize, operate, and govern the program

“AWI is thrilled to have been selected to lead this assessment effort,” stated Kirsten Ingham, AWI President. “While AWI members would clearly benefit from the development of skills standards, we intend to ensure that everyone with an interest in skills standards has a place at the table. While wood manufacturing industries and those that support us are diverse, we all share a common interest in making certain that our operations are safe, cost effective and run by qualified employees.”

Architectural Woodwork Institute (AWI) has been a leader in the woodworking industry for over fifty years. During this time it has developed strong relationships with key representatives in the industry and the reputation for strong technical competency.

“We awarded the cooperative agreement to AWI based on the quality of their proposal. The Institute is well known for its extensive technical, operational, managerial and educational experience. But most importantly AWI is known for getting the job done, regardless of how challenging the task” Steele said.

**Nightmare on the Appalachian Trail.** (Dobbin McNatt) On the trail in GA and NC there were bears; rattlesnakes in TN, copperheads and more bears in VA and PA. I climbed down cliffs in PA and CT, and even came face-to-face with a bear in NJ, but none of these were cause for alarm. Then this past summer there were the yellow jackets in NH.

I started out from Hanover, NH early on July 5 with Keith Kraus, a dentist from Philadelphia. I planned to reach the end of the trail at the top of Mt. Katahdin in ME in August. I didn't even make it to the first shelter for the night. About mid morning I walked over a yellow jacket nest and was stung at least 6 times. Having been stung numerous times before without any reaction, I simply brushed them off and kept going. Within a half hour I started feeling dizzy and passed out shortly afterward. Keith called 911 on his cell phone and I spent the rest of the day in the hospital. Luckily we were near a road and less than 8 mi. from the hospital. I was so upset after all this that I simply took the evening bus back to Boston. I spent a few days with my son and family and then flew home. Will I ever get to Mt. Katahdin? I don't know. Maybe at age 67 I should just stick to my less hazardous activities, bicycle racing and soccer.

## RESEARCH INITIATIVES COMMITTEE

### ***NEW SWST STANDING COMMITTEE!!!***

An ad hoc subcommittee of the SWST Policy and Critical Issues Committee 2003-2004 was charged to identify a mechanism for input into the USDA NRI program. Based on recommendations in a National Research Council (NRC) report, the NRI has moved toward a priority setting process to allocate funds by issue, not research category (please refer to W&FS editorial, July 2004, for additional background).

As a result, the Critical Issues Committee conducted an email query of 35 key University, Federal and Industry wood research entities in early 2004, held an open strategy meeting in San Antonio, TX on March 12, 2004, and developed 5 major wood research issues or themes of national importance (BioEnergy, Green Mfg., Nanoscale Science, Housing, & Competitiveness). Recommendations to the SWST board included developing a plan for SWST involvement in national research initiatives, and creating an SWST structure for ongoing activities.

Accordingly, a new SWST committee, entitled the **RESEARCH INITIATIVES COMMITTEE**, has been proposed and approved by the Board as the appropriate structure for ongoing activities. The Committee is currently organized as follows:

Chair:	Mike Wolcott		04-06
Vice-Chair:	Chuck Ray		04-06
Past-Chair:	Not applicable – 1-year term		04-05
Members:	Bill Boehner		04-06
	Ted Wegner		04-06
	Tim Rials		04-06
<i>1-Year Ad hoc Appointments (as necessary)</i>			
	Doug Stokke		04-05
<hr/>			
<i>Ex officio</i>	Steve Shaler	Chair, Critical Issues Com.	04-06
	Audrey Zink-Sharp	Board Liaison	04-05

***Selection*** - Attempts will be made to balance this committee with representatives from industry, universities, and federal agencies. Provisions allow for the Executive Board to appoint one or more ad hoc members to 1-year appointments should additional expertise be required to pursue opportunities that may arise.

### **Responsibilities:**

1. Liaison for the wood research community to relevant Federal funding agencies (ensure adequate wood research panel members & mgrs. by maintaining and supplying ad-hoc reviewer databases)
2. Communicate funding issues and opportunities to SWST members
3. Develop and implement more effective mechanisms to lobby a research agenda for the profession/science
4. Explore funding for wood research beyond the USDA/NRI
5. Provide leadership in developing research priorities in relevant research arenas.

Additional information regarding this committee will be forthcoming.

At this time, the Research Initiatives Committee is pursuing opportunities that are emerging in BIOBASED PRODUCTS and NANOTECHNOLOGY research for the forest products industry (please see the separate announcements in this issue of the newsletter) while organizing to better address additional national research issues as they arise.

## **BIOBASED PRODUCTS**

### **USDA NRI RFA has Prominent Emphasis on Wood Research:**

The fiscal year (FY) 2005 U.S. Department of Agriculture, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service National Research Initiative Request for Applications (USDA CSREES NRI RFA) includes program area 71.2, *Biobased Products and Bioenergy Production Research* (hereafter, *Biobased Products*). This program area has grown essentially from a merger of the former Non-food Characterization, Processes, and Products Program (renamed in FY 04 as Biobased Products) with the Improved Utilization of Wood and Wood Fiber Program (program 73.0). During the development of the FY 05 RFA, CSREES sought stakeholder input into the FY 05 program. SWST took a proactive approach by tasking an *ad hoc* subcommittee of the Policy and Critical Issues Committee to develop means to provide input into this process. While it is recognized that final RFA language is the responsibility of the CSREES staff, it is important to note the prominence of wood-related research in the current RFA. This prominence may be due, at least in part, to the efforts of SWST members to provide substantive stakeholder input into the research priority setting process of the NRI program. Toward this end, the SWST board has recently approved the formation of a new Research Initiatives standing committee (see separate article in this issue of the newsletter). The Executive Board sees this type of activity as crucial for the continuing success of the wood research community.

Reproduced below is the exact language of the FY 2005 call for proposals in Biobased Products (see full text of the RFA at [http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/pdfs/05\\_nri.pdf](http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/pdfs/05_nri.pdf)). The underlined text draws attention to the wood-related language in the RFA. It must be noted that in addition to providing stakeholder input into these types of programs, members of our Society and profession must be actively engaged in 1) Submission of quality proposals to the program; 2) Participation as *Ad Hoc* proposal reviewers; and 3) Participation as Peer Review Panel members and as Panel Managers.

71.2 Biobased Products and Bioenergy Production Research Investigators are encouraged to contact the National Program Leader, Chavonda Jacobs-Young at 202-401-6188 or [cjacobs@csrees.usda.gov](mailto:cjacobs@csrees.usda.gov) regarding questions of research topic suitability. Grants for this program will not exceed \$500,000 (including indirect costs) for project periods of 3-4 years. The total amount of support available for this program will be approximately \$5.4 million. Program Deadline: Applications must be received by 5:00 P.M., Eastern Time, January 14, 2005.

Agricultural commodities, including forestry derived biomass, provide raw materials for the production of numerous industrial and consumer products such as enzymes, textile fibers, coatings, paper and packaging materials, construction materials and composites, personal care products and pharmaceuticals. In addition, agricultural biomass is a plentiful source of fuels that can lessen U.S. dependence on foreign energy supplies. Use of agricultural biomaterials for fuels or products provides a renewable alternative to petroleum-based feedstocks along with the potential for reduced emissions and by-products and improved biodegradability of end products. Federal policy supports greater use of biobased products and research on biomass processing and conversion. This program supports fulfillment of Executive Order 13134 (Developing and Promoting Biobased Products and Bioenergy, available at <http://www.bioproducts-bioenergy.gov/about/eo13134.asp>), which calls for a tripling of U.S. use of biobased and bioenergy products by 2010 and the Biomass Research and Development Act of 2000 (available at [http://www.bioproducts-bioenergy.gov/about/bio\\_act.asp](http://www.bioproducts-bioenergy.gov/about/bio_act.asp)), which promotes research and development leading to the production of biobased industrial products.

Also, the program supports the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 that seeks to reduce forest wildfires through the creation of healthy forests by the thinning of undergrowth and trees in nearly 20 million acres of federal lands (see <http://www.usda.gov/news/releases/2003/12/healthyforest2003.htm> for more information on this legislation). Value-added uses for these forest thinnings and other wood based materials must be identified. This program encourages research on critical barriers to enhancing the utilization of wood and wood fiber for the production of value-added products. Research projects supported in 2005 will focus on the conversion of biobased materials into value-added industrial products and biofuels. The overarching areas of interest include characterizing feedstock to improve conversion efficiency, improving/developing catalyst to improve conversion efficiency and improving/designing more efficient processes/reactors for biomass conversion.

Proposals are sought which apply to the following topics:

1. Biobased industrial and consumer products Knowledge is needed in the areas of: (a) fundamental studies of biomass structures/properties to enhance product quality and processing characteristics; (b) physical, chemical, and biological modifications of feedstock to aid in the development of high-value products; (c) improved production technology/engineering, including separation, extraction, and solid wood engineering; (d) biochemical and chemical catalysis and improved methods for measuring and controlling process parameters; and (e) innovative non-food uses for improved utilization of co-products and agricultural and forestry residuals.
2. Biofuels research Applications will be considered for fundamental and mission-linked

research relating to the conversion of biomass material to alcohol fuels and biodiesel. The scope of the program includes pretreatment and conversion steps that limit the technical and economic efficiency of the biological production of fuels from agricultural and forest biomass.

This program area emphasizes the biological (including microbiological) processes central to the conversion process, including physiological, biochemical, and genetic factors. Biodiesel research is limited to feedstock improvement related to biodiesel properties and to conversion technology. Engine performance testing and emissions characterization will not be supported. During the review process, applications that address these program priorities will be given higher priority for funding. Research and integrated projects that address topics of great importance and are of exceptional merit that have not been listed as priorities will be reviewed and may be funded within the limits of the program budget. If a project is funded, beginning in the second year of funding, at least one member of the project team will be required to attend annual investigator meetings. Reasonable travel expenses may be claimed as part of the project budget.

### **NANOTECHNOLOGY IN THE FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY**

Nanotechnology continues to represent an important opportunity to dramatically advance the performance of existing wood products, and provide the basis for further innovation in the industry. As always, financial support for research is a major challenge; however, with the leadership of the Forest Products Laboratory (Ted Wegner) and the American Forest & Paper Association (Lori Perine) new opportunities are in sight. There are several important elements of the National Nanotechnology Initiative that are currently moving forward, including:

- (1) The National Science Foundation has invited a presentation to report outcomes from the recent workshop on “*Nanotechnology in the Forest Products Industry*” that was held Oct. 17-19, 2004 at the National Conference Center in Lansdowne, Virginia. The presentation will be made by Chris Risbrudt (Director, Forest Products Laboratory) to the Nanoscale Science, Engineering, and Technology subcommittee at NSF on January 11 in Washington, D.C. Representatives from SWST, as well as other organizations, will participate in the meeting.
  
- (2) A proposal is currently being developed to sponsor a follow-on nanotechnology workshop for Spring, 2005. No details on the date or location are available at the moment. It is important to note that recent conversations with NSF have been very positive, as they are particularly interested in identifying applications for nanotechnology and appear to be excited by the fundamental science that is being advanced by the forest products industry. A primary outcome of this follow-on workshop is expected to be the framework for a solicitation to be made in FY'06. It's hard not to get excited by the promise of this new research direction.

More information will follow as it becomes available.

In addition, the 2005 SWST Annual Meeting – Sunday Morning Session, June 19, 2005 in

Quebec City, Quebec, Canada, will be entitled “*Nanotechnology for the Forest Products Industry.*” The program is designed to communicate research funding opportunities within the National Nanotechnology Initiative to SWST members and other wood industry researchers. This program seeks to educate and mobilize SWST members toward a vision for forest industry research within the National Nanotechnology Initiative. Goals of the program include: discussing federal funding opportunities for forest industry research within the National Nanotechnology Initiative (includes, NSF, DOE, and USDA); moving toward a consensus and overall vision for nanotechnology research in the forest products industry; and fostering cooperation and collaboration between the pulp & paper and solid wood/composite research communities to speak with a single voice on this subject. Additional details will follow.

## CONFERENCES

**IUFRO Division 5 Conference** which will be held in 2007 or 2008 is accepting bids to our next venue. Please review the bidding rules that we decided at the last Division 5 Meeting in Rotorua, New Zealand for our next Congress. So far, Taiwan, has expressed a strong interest in holding the meeting. Proposals are due by February 2, 2005 to: Howard Rosen, Acting IUFRO Division 5 Coordinator, [hrosen@fs.fed.us](mailto:hrosen@fs.fed.us)

**Proceedings** of the 2nd International Conference of the European Society of Wood Mechanics (ESWM), Stockholm 2003 meeting, are available for purchase of 50 Euro + postage from Lennart Salmen. Contact Lennart at [lennart.salmen@stfi.se](mailto:lennart.salmen@stfi.se). For more information on ESWM, see <http://www.eswm.net/eswm.html>. Table of Contents for the proceedings is available at <http://www.eswm.net/ESWMStockholm.pdf>. Proceedings of the 3rd conference held this year at Villa Real, Portugal, will soon be available. Check the website for updates.

**Call for papers, Bioenergy in Wood Industry 2005.** 12<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> September 2005 in connection with the International Bioenergy and Wood Exhibition in Jyväskylä, Finland.  
<http://www.finbioenergy.fi/bioenergy2005>

### Topics:

- Strategies, Politics, Legislation Tools and Implementation Issues: possibilities to support the EU-targets, Kyoto Protocol, national targets and free energy markets, security of energy supply
- Bioenergy Markets and Business: international bioenergy markets, financial instruments, green certificates and emission trading, price competitiveness, management systems
- Fuel Production in Sawlog Production: production, pre-treatment, procurement, transport and logistics
- Wood Industry Fuel: potentials, quantities, measurements methods, qualities and properties
- By-product refining: Pellets, briquettes and pyrolysis oil etc. production and use
- Combustion and boiler systems: technologies and systems for wood industries
- Combined Heat and Power Production (CHP): power plants, small scale technologies and systems for CHP production

- Environmental Technologies: flue gas cleaning, ash handling and recycling, sustainable development
- The different topics covers R&D results, demonstrations, cases, equipments, services and good practices

**Design of Code Conforming Decks and Inspection of Existing Decks**, February 1-2, 2005 in Tampa, FL. For information, visit: [http://www.deckexpo.com/success\\_seminar.html](http://www.deckexpo.com/success_seminar.html)

### **Hardwood Workshop at Louisiana Tech**

The Louisiana Tech University School of Forestry's 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Hardwood Log, Lumber, and Tree Grading Workshop is scheduled for March 15-18, 2005. This workshop is designed to present a working knowledge of the NHLA hardwood lumber grading rules and the USDA Forest Service log grading system and its relationship to lumber grades and product utilization. In addition to earning **24 CFE credits** (Category I), attendees will learn to recognize external defect indicators and their importance in hardwood logs, as well as the basics of grading hardwood lumber. The application of log grading to standing timber will also be covered. The course is designed to assist those involved in the hardwood lumber industry (mill owners, sawyers, edger operators, inspectors, sales and office personnel), those involved in timber management (forestry technicians, foresters, refuge managers, and private landowners), and other interested persons. The registration fee is \$450 per person. Further information can be obtained from Dr. Mark D. Gibson, Workshop Coordinator, by calling 318-257-4985, sending an email to [mgibson@latech.edu](mailto:mgibson@latech.edu), or writing to the School of Forestry, Louisiana Tech University, PO Box 10138, Ruston, LA 71272-0045.

### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**DEAN-- COLLEGE OF FOREST RESOURCES AND DIRECTOR-- FOREST AND WILDLIFE RESEARCH CENTER, MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY.** Applications and nominations are invited for the position of Dean of the College of Forest Resources/Director of the Forest and Wildlife Research Center at Mississippi State University. Candidates for the position must hold an earned doctorate, with at least one degree in forestry, forest products, wildlife, fisheries or a closely related natural resource field; possess appropriate academic and administrative experience; and have a professional background and credentials appropriate for tenure and rank of professor in one of the departments of the College of Forest Resources. The position will become available July 1, 2005. Review of applications will begin January 17, 2005 and continue until the position is filled. Application must be made online.

<http://www.jobs.msstate.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=170739> (Refer to Requisition Number 1265). Applicants should submit curriculum vitae; a letter of interest which addresses qualifications; and the name and address, phone number, and e-mail address of at least five references. Nominations and inquiries are welcome and should be sent to: Lynn Reinschmiedt, Chair, Search Committee, College of Forest Resources and Forest and Wildlife Research Center, Mississippi State University, Box 9760, Mississippi State, MS 39762. Phone 662-325-2110. Fax 662-325-8580.

Mississippi State University is an AA/EOE Employer.  
Women, ethnic minorities, and persons with  
disabilities are encouraged to apply.

**RICHARDSON CHAIR IN WOOD SCIENCE AND FOREST PRODUCTS.** Department of Wood Science & Engineering, Oregon State University. 12-month, full-time tenured appointment as Professor. Chair appointment is for five-year term with reappointment possible. Applicants are sought with disciplinary and experience credentials in any area of science, business, or engineering closely allied with wood science or technology. The Chair will be expected to build and lead a research and graduate education program that will strategically add to or complement current Department programs, and to contribute to the instruction and outreach missions. Service activities to Dept., College, University and profession are also expected. Applicants must: have a PhD, or equivalent, in wood science, forest products, or an allied field of science, engineering or business with significant experience related to forest products or wood science; be recognized as a leading scholar in their discipline nationally and internationally; have experience and scholarly credentials appropriate to Professor rank; demonstrated ability to build, manage and financially support successful programs; have strong interpersonal and communications skills. Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. Applications will be reviewed beginning January 31, 2005, and accepted until position is filled. To apply, submit a resume and request that three letters of recommendation be sent to Dr. Michael Milota, Chair of Search Committee, Department of Wood Science & Engineering, 119 Richardson Hall, Oregon State University, Corvallis OR 97331-5751. Electronic submission preferred. For information call (541)-737-4210 or e-mail Mike.Milota@oregonstate.edu. Full position announcement may be seen at <http://woodscience.oregonstate.edu>. *OSU is an AA/EEO employer and has a policy of being responsive to dual career needs.*

**Assistant Professor  
Department of Bio-based Products  
College of Natural Resources  
University of Minnesota**

**Position:** The Department of Bio-based Products is searching for a suitable candidate to fill a faculty position in materials science and engineering related to wood and other bio-based materials and composites. The position is a nine-month, 100% time, tenure-track appointment at the rank of assistant professor. Full-time summer contracts are available for up to three years to establish research program.

**Date Available:** May 1, 2005

**Qualifications:** Required: Ph.D. in materials science, materials engineering, mechanical engineering, civil engineering, structural engineering, wood science and engineering or related disciplines with demonstrated experience/background in bio-based composites. Ph.D. must be obtained by date of appointment

Successful candidate is expected to excel in teaching, research and outreach and contribute to the overall success and mission of our department, college and university.

**Responsibilities:**     Teaching: Teaching responsibilities include undergraduate and graduate level courses in Bio-based Products selected from wood and fiber science, statics, mechanics and structural design, composites engineering and related courses.

Research: Successful candidate is expected to establish a productive program of fundamental and applied research, with a preferred focus on bio-based composites including wood and other bio-based materials.

**Salary and Rank:**     Position will be filled at tenure-track rank of assistant professor with a nine month, 100% time appointment. Salary is commensurate with qualifications and experience.

**Inquiry and Application:** Resume and cover letter, 2-3 page summary of teaching plans, research plans and experience and names and addresses of three references. Initial screening will begin November 15<sup>th</sup>. The position will be open until filled. Official academic transcripts also should be included or requested with application.

Please send your application and inquiry to:

Dr. Steve Severtson  
Chair, Search and Screening Committee  
Department of Bio-based Products  
104 Kaufert Laboratory, 2004 Folwell Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55108  
ph: (612) 625 5265; fax: (612) 625 6286  
e-mail: sever018@umn.edu  
<http://www.cnr.umn.edu/BP>

The University of Minnesota is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to its programs, facilities and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status or sexual orientation.

**Assistant Professor**  
**Department of Bio-based Products**  
**College of Natural Resources**  
**University of Minnesota**

**Position:**     The Department of Bio-based Products is searching for a suitable candidate to fill a faculty position in Bio-based Products Engineering. The position is a nine-month, 100% time, tenure-track appointment at the rank of assistant professor.

Full-time summer contracts are available for up to three years to establish research program.

**Date Available:** May 1, 2005

**Qualifications:** Required: Ph.D. in chemical engineering, bio-chemical engineering, bio-renewable resources engineering or related disciplines with demonstrated experience/background in bio-based products related research including materials, chemicals and energy from renewable bio-resources. Ph.D. must be obtained by date of appointment. Successful candidate is expected to excel in teaching, research and outreach and contribute to the overall success and mission of our department, college and university.

**Responsibilities:** Teaching: Teaching responsibilities include undergraduate and graduate level courses in Bio-based Products including Bio-based Products Engineering, Process and Product Design and other related courses

Research: Successful candidate is expected to establish a productive program of fundamental and applied research, with a preferred focus on bio-based products including materials, chemicals and energy from renewable bio-resources.

**Salary and Rank:** Position will be filled at tenure-track rank of assistant professor with a nine-month, 100% time appointment. Salary is commensurate with qualifications and experience.

**Inquiry and Application:** Resume and cover letter, 2-3 page summary of teaching plans, research plans and experience and names and addresses of three references. Interviews will begin no later than January 1, 2005. The position will be open until filled. Official academic transcripts also should be included or requested with application.

Please send your application and inquiry to:

Dr. Steve Severtson  
Chair, Search and Screening Committee  
Department of Bio-based Products  
104 Kaufert Laboratory, 2004 Folwell Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55108  
ph: (612) 625 5265; fax: (612) 625 6286  
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orientation.

**Assistant Professor**  
**Department of Bio-based Products, College of Natural Resources**  
**University of Minnesota**

**Position:** The Department of Bio-based Products is searching for a suitable candidate to fill a faculty position in Industrial Ecology/Life Cycle Analysis/Corporate Environmental Management. The position is a nine-month, 100% time, tenure-track appointment at the rank of assistant professor. Full-time summer contracts are available for up to three years to establish research program.

**Date Available:** May 1, 2005

**Qualifications:** Required: Ph.D. in environmental science, environmental engineering, management or related disciplines with demonstrated experience/background in industrial ecology, corporate environmental management, life cycle analysis. Ph.D. must be obtained by date of appointment. Successful candidate is expected to excel in teaching, research and outreach and contribute to the overall success and mission of our department, college and university.

**Responsibilities:** Teaching: Teaching responsibilities include undergraduate and graduate level courses in the collaborative, interdisciplinary program between the College of Natural Resources (CNR) and the Carlson School of Management (CSOM) on Corporate Environmental Management (CEM). Courses include life cycle analysis, environmental management, environmental regulatory compliance and supporting courses in our Bio-based Products programs.

Research: Successful candidate is expected to establish a productive program of fundamental and applied research, with a preferred focus on industrial ecology, corporate environmental management and in line with the overall goals of the department and the college.

**Salary and Rank:** Position will be filled at tenure-track rank of assistant professor with a nine-month, 100% time appointment. Salary is commensurate with qualifications and experience.

**Inquiry and Application:** Resume and cover letter, 2-3 page summary of teaching plans, research plans and experience and names and addresses of three references. Interviews will begin no later than January 1, 2005. The position will be open until filled. Official academic transcripts also should be included or requested with application.

Please send your application and inquiry to:  
Dr. Tim Smith

Chair, Search and Screening Committee  
Department of Bio-based Products  
222 Kaufert Laboratory, 2004 Folwell Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55108  
ph: (612) 624 6755; fax: (612) 625 6286  
e-mail: [timsmith@umn.edu](mailto:timsmith@umn.edu)  
<http://www.cnr.umn.edu/BP>

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## STUDENT PROFILE



### **Lucía Morales, NC State University, Raleigh**

I have a BS in Forestry from the Universidad del Valle de Guatemala. It is a 5 year program with a thesis. I did my thesis on the extraction of resin from sweetgum.

After my undergraduate studies, I worked two years for a Costa Rican company named Tecnomaderas, S.A. selling woodworking machinery for the wood industry in Central America. I was in charge of the office in Guatemala and took care of the promotion, sale forecast, sales, after sales service and contact with suppliers such as Weinig, Homag, SCM and Leitz.

I started my Master's in Wood Science at NC State University this fall. I am here with a Fulbright Scholarship. My research project is a marketing plan for solid and tri-ply hardwood panels.

## NOTES FROM THE BOARD MEETING

### **SWST Fall Board Meeting – October 30, 2004**

- **2005 Annual Convention – New Name and New Format:**

8:30 – 11:30 – Two technical sessions

*“Nanotechnology for the Forest Products Industry”*  
*“Session on Wood Physics and Drying”*

11:30-1:00 – Annual Meeting, Awards, Lunch

1:00-4:00 – Two technical sessions

*“Understanding Standing Timber Properties to Improve Wood Quality”*  
*“Wood Modification”*

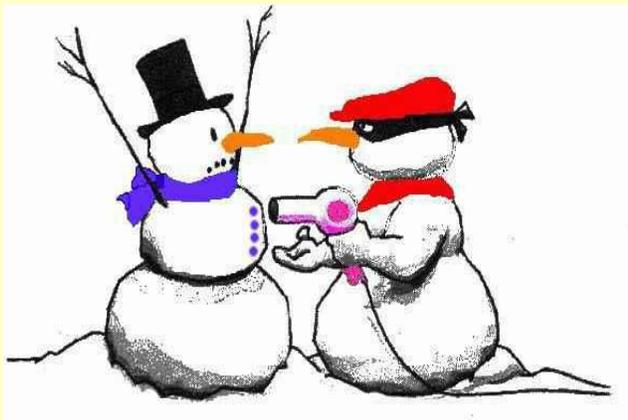
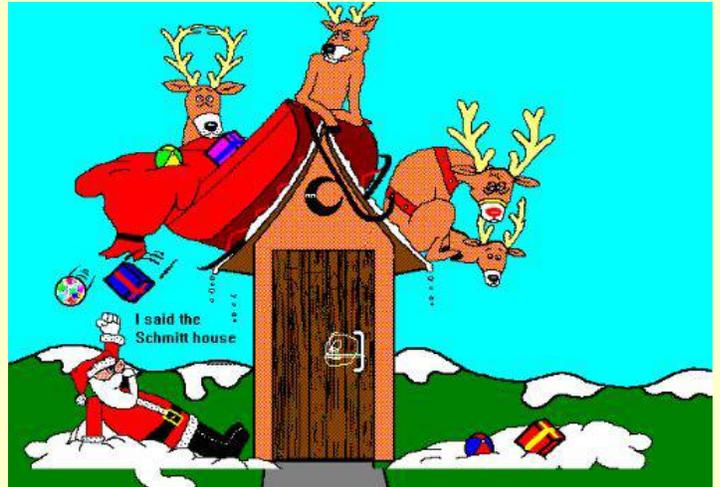
4:00-5:30 – Fundamental disciplines posters and Student Poster Competition

5:30-6:30 – Committee meetings

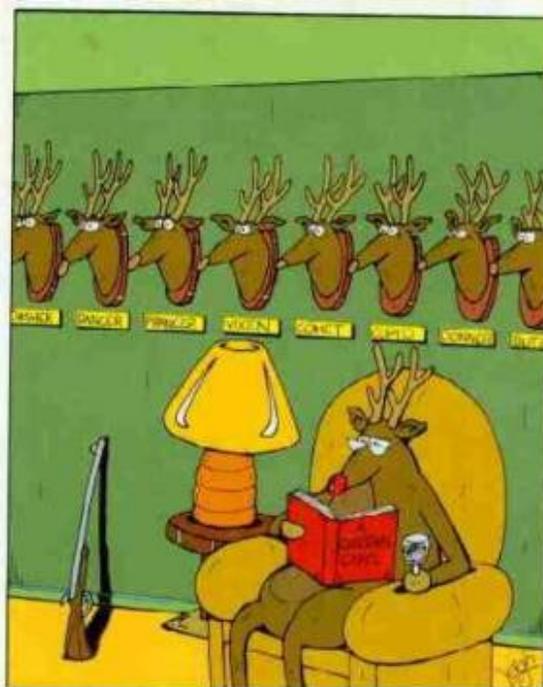
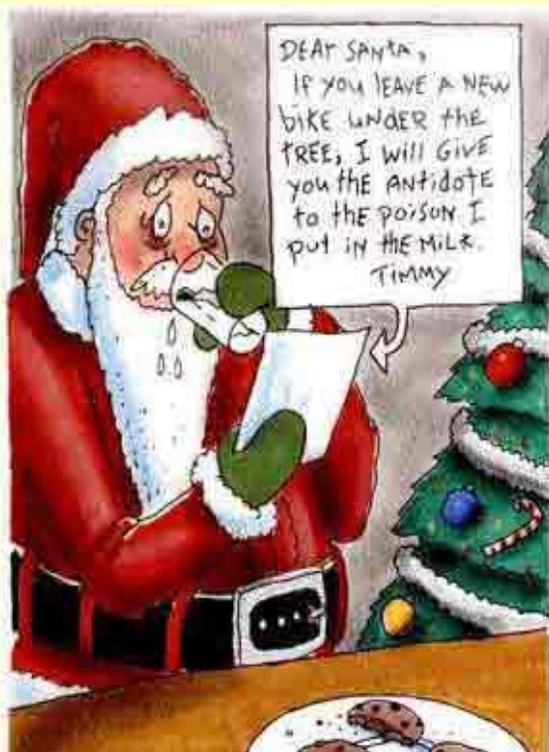
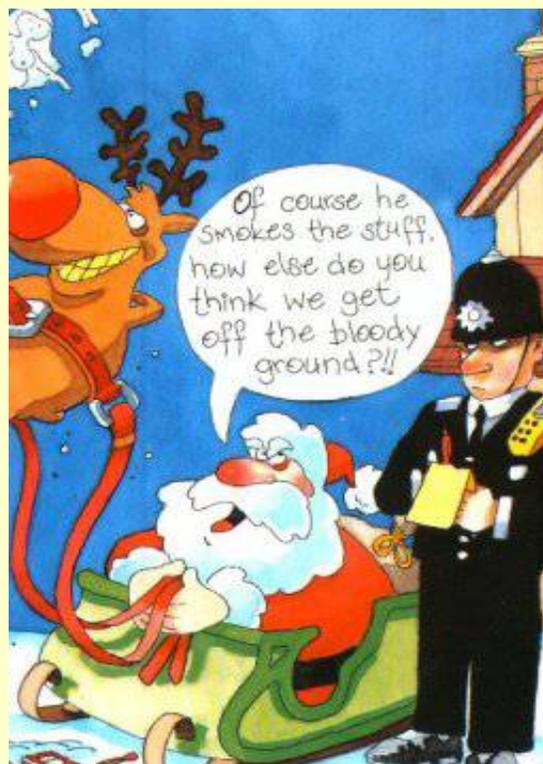
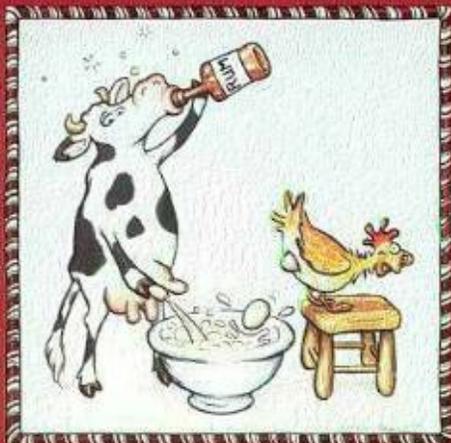
6:30-8:00 – Joint SWST/FPS Host Reception

- **Student Poster Competition** – Takes place from 4:00 to 5:30 as a part of the technical forum. There will be no oral presentation. The amounts are \$500 for first, \$250 for second, and \$125 for third. Awards will be presented at 5:30 in the technical forum area.
- **Wood and Fiber Science** – Volume 36 had a total of 644 pages. We currently have 86 manuscripts in various stages. We hope to increase the number of pages for Volume 37 to help reduce the waiting period for authors from submission to print.
- **All manuscripts need to be electronic**, in Word format, when they are submitted to the editor.
- **New typesetter and printer** – Sheridan Press, beginning with the July 2005 issue.
- **PDF's** - Dan Dolan, Audrey Zink-Sharp, Todd Shupe, and Rado Gazo will work with Jeff Morrell to get all the papers in W&FS from the beginning in pdf format.
- **The Committee Handbook** has been mailed to Committee Chairs.
- **Accreditation Committee** – Yearly report forms will be sent to accredited schools. Three accreditation visits are schedule for 2005 – Virginia Tech on February 13-16; North Carolina State in March; University of Idaho for week of April 18.
- **Ad Hoc SWST/FPS** - The results of the Past Presidents' Survey were discussed. 50 past presidents of both societies were surveyed, and 34 were returned. This will be summarized in the Newsletter.
- **New Committee on Research Priorities** - The committee shall be responsible for representing the society and its members at the national level on research issues and funding opportunities that may benefit from a wood research perspective. The committee itself may identify and pursue critical areas or may respond to a request for input from within the membership of the Society.
- **Proceedings** – Cellulosic Cell Wall proceedings should be out by June 2005. 2004 Annual Meeting Proceedings will be compiled and be made available electronically.
- **Slovakia proceedings** – There is a summary of the conference available at the SWST Executive Office. They may want to publish individual papers in Wood and Fiber Science.
- **Other Business:** President Zink-Sharp would like to investigate ways to increase member services this year.
- **Spring Board Meeting** – To be held on April 2 in Savannah, Georgia.

DOUG'S AMMUSEMENTS CORNER



# The History of EGGNOG



All of the other reindeer used to laugh and call him names.

## ABOUT SWST

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.

Items for the Newsletter may be sent to Rado Gazo, at: [gazo@purdue.edu](mailto:gazo@purdue.edu)

The Society of Wood Science and Technology 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.

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### *Society of Wood Science and Technology*

President:	Audrey Zink-Sharp
Past President:	Douglas Stokke
President Elect:	Paul Smith
Vice President:	Doug Gardner
Executive Director:	Vicki L. Herian
Directors:	Dan Dolan (2005)
	Jeff Morrell (2005)
	Robert Beauregard (2006)
	Jerry Winandy (2006)

### *Wood and Fiber Science*

Editor:	Geza Ifju
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Editorial Assistant:	Carol B. Ovens

### *SWST Newsletter*

Editor:	Rado Gazo
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