



The Official Newsletter  
of  
The Society of Wood Science and Technology  
•January-February 2013•

In this issue (please click on the link):

**News**

[From the Editor](#)

[Looking for a job?](#)

[World Wood Day Event in Tanzania,  
Africa on 21 March 2013](#)

**Meetings/Conferences**

[The 67th FPS International Convention  
and 56th SWST International Convention  
on June 9-11, 2013](#)

[World Wood Day Event in Tanzania,  
Africa on 21 March 2013](#)

[The Future of Diversity in Our Discipline  
and Careers: Natural Resources and the  
Environment June 19-21, 2013](#)

[International Conference "Wood Science  
and Engineering in the Third Millennium"  
– ICWSE 2013 Nov. 7-9th](#)

[18th International Nondestructive Testing  
and Evaluation of Wood Symposium](#)

[International Conference on Wood  
Adhesives](#)

[International Wood Composites  
Symposium](#)

[2nd International Conference on  
Structural Health Assessment of Timber  
Structures \(SHATIS'13\)](#)

**SWST**

[About SWST](#)

[Visiting Scientist](#)

## **From the Editor**

It's a new year, and there are some exciting things happening in 2013. Like the redesigned SWST website, where you can still find all of the useful information as before, just in a form that is easier to use and access. Also, SWST is sponsoring the [World Wood Day](#) which is an annual cultural event on March 21st to raise public awareness the importance and goodness of wood. As always, if you have something you want added to the newsletter just send me and email.

Happy and Prosperous New Year,



[Back](#)

## **Looking for a job?**

The best place to visit to get timely updates on positions available is:

<http://www.swst.org/careers/>

[Back](#)

## **Renewable Natural Resources Foundation's (RNRF) Congress on *Sustaining Natural Resources and Conservation Science: What is at Stake in the Years Ahead*, December 13-14, 2012**

The RNRF and its member organizations hosted this Congress to address what is at stake in the years ahead for federal environmental management and science agencies. The Congress was held at the American Geophysical Union conference facility in Washington, D.C. Ann Cairns, Director of Strategic Communications & Outreach for the American Geophysical Union, was Chair of the RNRF Congress Program Committee that organized the meeting.



Together, eight speakers from various government and non-profit natural resource environmental groups and congress delegates discussed essential programs at the federal and regional level and identified the need to develop and promote efficiency, innovation, and interdisciplinary science to face the fiscal, programmatic and environmental challenges of the years ahead. For example, Ann Bartuska, USDA Deputy Under Secretary for Research, Education & Economics, in Washington, DC (pictured) spoke of the possible effects on USDA programs.

Delegates were concerned about the erosion of federal government programs and external support without having a meaningful understanding of the consequences of these reductions. Delegates also recognized the disconnect between an American public inclined to support conservation and scientific measures, and congressional priorities favoring budget cuts and under-appreciating the value of environmental health to society. We cannot rely on an outdated scientific infrastructure to face these complex critical challenges in the future. In the coming years, the promotion of interdisciplinary and interagency programs to unite common interests and extend limited resources will be essential.

Further information on the Congress, including speaker presentations and additional resources, is available online at [www.rnrf.org](http://www.rnrf.org). A report of the Congress will be published and distributed by RNRF in February 2013.

*Howard N. Rosen*

Howard N. Rosen  
SWST RNRF Representative

[Back](#)

## **The 67th FPS International Convention and 56th SWST International Convention on June 9-11, 2013**

Registration is now open for the Forest Products Society and Society of Wood Science and Technology's combined 67th FPS International Convention and 56th SWST International Convention on June 9-11, 2013 in Austin, Texas, USA.

You can register at:

<http://www.forestprod.org/ic/registration.php>

Join other professionals from all over the world as we hold this year's Convention in collaboration with our long-standing partner, the Society of Wood Science and Technology, in order to provide added value to you and other attendees.

The Convention is an astounding opportunity to become exposed to the wide range of timely forest products issues facing the industry worldwide. The theme for FPS's program is Forest Products in a Global Sustainable Economy, with particular emphasis on wood technology, forest products and the environment, and human dimensions and policy. The program led by SWST will focus on Technology Advancement and Marketing Practices in Biomass, specifically in natural fiber-based products and biofuels.

### **FPS CONVENTION THEME:**

Forest Products in a Global Sustainable Economy

Sub-Themes:

- Advances in Wood Technology
- Forest Products and the Environment
- Human Dimensions & Policy

### **SWST CONVENTION THEME:**

Technology Advancement & Marketing Practices in Biomass

Sub-Themes:

- New Technology and Marketing Practices in Natural Fiber-based Products
- New Technology and Marketing Practices in Biofuels

The combined FPS and SWST International Convention is a premier event for professionals in the forest products field. The event is expected to bring together hundreds of R&D scientists, design professionals, managers, engineers, decision makers, and others from industry, academia, and government to discuss the latest advances and innovations in the efficient utilization of wood and other forest products.

We hope you will join us to share your knowledge and raise the visibility of your organization among industry peers. We look forward to your participation.

You can also make your hotel reservations at the AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center. Room rate is \$165+tax/night (single or double occupancy) and will be available 3 days pre June 7, 2013 and post June 12, 2013. Reserve now by going to

<http://www.forestprod.org/ic/location.php>

See you in Austin this year!

Regards,

Neils de Hoop, Program Chair  
67th FPS International Convention Planning Committee

Sheldon Shi, Chair  
56th SWST International Convention Planning Committee

[Back](#)

[Back](#)

### **ABOUT SWST**

The SWST Newsletter is published six times a year by the Society of Wood Science and Technology,

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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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[Back](#)

### **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](#)" (PDF) and send it to the Executive Office. A list of available visiting scientists is available at:

<http://www.swst.org/vsp/vsplist.pdf>

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 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.

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[Back](#)