

SWST Newsletter

March-April 2002

SOCIETY OF WOOD
SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY

SWST

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Editor's Note

Dear Readers:

How time flies! Here it is at the end of April and time for another SWST Newsletter. The economy seems to be picking up if job postings, and the stock market's modest upswing are any indication of improved conditions.

Recently returned from the Composite Materials Symposium in Pullman, WA. Most manufacturers appear optimistic about the coming year. I really enjoyed participating in the Technical Workshop on Fundamentals of Adhesion. I learned a few things! The pre-symposium ski outing in northern Idaho was outstanding!

Spring is finally making it's début in Maine. The "peepers are out", can the black flies be too far behind? Would love to see some feedback about the upcoming changes to the SWST Accreditation Standards. Look forward to seeing everyone in Madison.

Respectfully submitted,
Doug Gardner



News Items

U.S. EPA OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION MAY CLOSE

Since 1990, the Office of Environmental Education within the EPA has strengthened the quality of environmental education curriculum materials, enhanced training methods for teachers and resource professionals and increased access to information about environmental topics. This commitment to excellence has resulted in tens of thousands of our nation's youth receiving scientifically accurate, objective and educationally sound opportunities teaching them about our natural heritage and instilling in them a sense of stewardship for the environment.

President Bush's proposed budget includes an OMB recommendation that would:

- * Close the National Office of Environmental Education at EPA;
- * End the successful Environmental Education and Training Partnership;
- * Eliminate \$8 million in annual Environmental Education funding provided by EPA;
- * End support for the National Environmental Education & Training Foundation.

To voice your opinion or get more information visit:
<http://www.nwf.org/bushadministration/environmentaleducation.html>.

RNRF BEGINS ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

The Renewable Natural Resources Foundation (RNRF), a consortium of 15 professional and scientific groups concerned with natural resources and conservation, has developed an electronic newsletter designed to inform the natural resources community of events going on in the world of natural resources. This newsletter highlights the work of RNRF member organizations along with happenings in natural resource policy.

Recipients are encouraged to submit news, events of interest and comments via e-mail to rmcolker@rnrf.org.

For more information on RNRF, visit <http://www.rnrf.org>.

PATH-HUD ROADMAPPING

Recently the Partnership for Advancing Technology in Housing (PATH) and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) held a workshop to develop a road map for structural improvements in housing. The outcome of this

workshop is the "Research and Development Needs for Structural Performance of Light-Frame Residential Construction" review which can be found on the PATH web site--www.pathnet.org, under PATH Technology Roadmapping. This document addresses the enormous potential for structural innovations for improving the quality, durability, hazard resistance and affordability of America's homes.

"ShakeZone"

An earthquake exhibit ("ShakeZone") at the Riverside County Youth Museum (KidZone) opened last week on January 17, the anniversary of the Northridge Earthquake, which features displays produced by the CUREE-Caltech Woodframe Project.

Jill Andrews, Manager of the Education and Outreach Element for the Woodframe Project, oversaw the whole effort, which includes work contributed by the following subcontractors to CUREE:

Graphic Blade Studio (a realistic model of the collapsed Northridge Meadows Apartment Complex);

North Road Builders (full-scale mock-ups of woodframe walls with seismic features);

Prof. Schierle at USC (architectural models of hillside house with and without seismic bracing, apartment building-over-garage with and with seismic bracing, and explanatory posters);

Ray Juncal (models children can play with and shake, with removable bracing for four kinds of buildings: cripple wall, hillside house, apartment-building-over-garage, and anchor bolts);

Bob De Groot (appropriate curricular connections for age levels);

TGA Displays and Catharine Stebbins: professional quality mountings, signage, etc.

With its own funding, SCEC (Southern California Earthquake Center) contributed posters, educational materials, and VCR-kiosk. The exhibit thus contains both Earth science and engineering information.

SCEC's InstaNet News contains photos and other information on the opening of the exhibit:

<http://www.scec.org/instanet/02news/education020123.html>

SWST Spring 2002 Board Meeting Highlights Held March 3, 2002 in Jacksonville, FL

- 2002 Annual Meeting Program – “The State of the Profession: Reviewing our Accomplishments, Establishing Our Breadth and Outlining Our Future”, to be held June 23, 2002 at the Monona Terrace Convention Center, Madison, Wisconsin. Program to be out soon.
- New affiliate member approved – Talents Goto, from Zimbabwe
- Majority of subscriptions and dues payments have been collected already
- Total Membership – 374; Total Subscribers – 226
- Investments are down, but starting to make a slow crawl back up
- Ad hoc committee formed to look at educational products available and what SWST should do
- Wood and Fiber Science – 34(1) published, 34(2) at press, 34(3) has enough papers ready to go.
- Article written by Rado Gazo about “Posting a Journal Article on a Personal Website” – will be in the July issue
- SWST Website – Utilizing Nettracker software to track visitors. Preliminary plots indicate people are mainly interested in W&FS, the school directory, and our Links page. More investigation is needed.
- Committees are working on processing awards for Annual Meeting
- Public Liaison and the Education Committees have been working on web page work promoting education – more to come in the future.
- Letters were sent to schools and students regarding benefits of SWST membership
- A brief and white paper on “Importance of Wood Utilization Research” is being worked on
- Career brochure is being updated
- Mission and Vision statements will be ready for membership review before Annual Meeting
- Renewable Natural Resources Foundation has made a call for nominations for Outstanding Achievement Award, Sustained Achievement Award, and Excellence in Journalism Award. Contact Vicki at Executive Office if you have candidates.
- Committee Handbook – preliminary copy will be available in May

RNRF Roundtable Held with Mark Rey, Under Secretary for USDA Natural Resources and Environment

As the Renewable Natural Resource Foundation (RNRF) representative for SWST, I attend selected Roundtables throughout the year. I believe this one held on February

14, 2002 had importance to SWST because Mark Rey is over the Forest Service and his Deputy for Forestry, David Tenney, was the Industry Focus Day Luncheon Speaker at the Annual FPS Meeting in Baltimore this past summer. Mr. Rey has significant input to Federal forestry policy and management of our National Forests.

Of interest to SWST should be Mr. Rey's comments regarding timber removals from Forest Service lands, which surprisingly “sound” similar to the previous administration. He emphasized removals for forest health reasons—for overcrowding, insect and disease problems, and fire damage. His concern is finding economic ways to remove this timber. Research in economic removals systems and processing for small diameter timbers and logs from diseased and fire damaged trees should be of interest to future Federal land managers.

Howard Rosen, SWST RNRF Board Member

Welcome to www.EcoLogik.net

Based in Indianapolis, IN, EcoLogik uses innovative and creative techniques to bring CD and Internet applications to life. EcoLogik specializes in software design and database construction for the biological sciences. EcoLogik also designs web sites and stand alone programs for many companies who have no relation to the biological sciences.

The EcoLogik staff has over 30 years of experience in creating multimedia content for use on the Internet, stand alone applications and kiosks. Using the latest technology, such as Macromedia's Flash and Director programs as well as QuickTime Virtual Reality (QTVR), EcoLogik's creativity and experience can make any stagnant project come to life.

Many of EcoLogik's projects are funded by local, state, and federal grant money, giving those with great ideas and resources the avenue for results.

In the mix

Currently EcoLogik has completed the newest CD in its Virtual Forest series. The Virtual Boreal Forest is the 2nd in a series of 5 CD's that allows users to explore the northern boreal forest. Using QTVR, students can practice identifying trees, can talk to experts on various ecological topics, and even play games aimed at outdoor education. This project is funded by Indiana's Project Learning Tree.

Positions Available

FORESTRY BUSINESS ANALYST

Salary to \$70,000+. Integrated forest products corporation seeking to expand analytical efforts related to forestry operations. Excellent opportunity for a 4-year college graduate (B.

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S. Forestry, Business or equivalent) to assist in expanding business opportunities for a 200,000+ acre timberlands operation. Candidates must have business skills in financial analysis, accounting, relational databases including timber inventory. Leadership and communication skills essential. Promotion opportunities exist for person who can produce results. Location. Upper Midwest (SA# 4681)

Please call or e-mail me if you have an interest or know of someone who may be qualified and may have a potential interest. If possible, forward this e-mail to someone who may be interested. More information on our firm and current job postings is available on our web site at www.searchna.com. We look forward to talking with you or your associates.

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW IN SAWING SIMULATION/ OPTIMIZATION

A postdoctoral fellow is sought to participate into a multidisciplinary project funded by the government and the forest industry in eastern Canada. The successful candidate will conduct research on the simulation of lumber recovery from different resources, and will play an important role in the development of an innovative product parameter-based decision-support model for intensive forest management. The candidate must have proven research experience in sawing modelling, simulation & optimization. Basic knowledge of forest science is an asset. It is important that the candidate be able to work in a team environment and communicate with other members of the team. The successful candidate will be located in Quebec City at the Eastern Laboratory of Forintek Canada Corp., Canada's Wood Products Research Institute.

The fellowship is available immediately for 2 years. Qualified candidates are invited to send their resumes together with names and addresses of 3 references to:

Dr. S.Y. (Tony) Zhang
Forintek Canada Corp.
319, rue Franquet
Sainte-Foy, Quebec
Canada G1P 4R4
Tel: 418-659 2647
Fax: 418-659 2922
E-mail: tony.zhang@qc.forintek.ca
Website: www.forintek.ca

**Vacancy Announcement
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
USDA, FOREST SERVICE**

Vacancy Announcement Number: FPL-35-02D
Opening Date:02/13/2002
Closing Date:04/15/2002

Position: RESEARCH GEN ENG / RESEARCH FOREST
PROD TECHNOL (INTERDIS)
GS-0801-12 /13

Salary:\$54,275 - \$83,902 per year

Duty Location: 1 vacancy at MADISON METRO AREA, WI

USDA Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, WI

Applications will be accepted from: Any United States citizen, 18 years or older, can apply for this position.

POSITION ALSO ADVERTISED THROUGH ANNOUNCEMENT FPL-36-02D.

Travel and relocation expenses may be paid contingent on funding availability.

Major Duties:

This position is in the Wood Engineering and Drying systems Design Criteria Research Work Unit (RWU), Wood Products Research. The mission of the RWU is to develop nondestructive evaluation technologies, engineering design criteria, and drying systems that facilitate use of underutilized materials and help conserve forest resources. The RWU has a broad area of technical responsibilities - from the development of sophisticated mathematical models of moisture movement in wood to analytical procedures for advanced structural wood systems. The RWU is assigned problems of exceptional national and international interest and impact. Results of the RWU are of national and international interest and impact. Results of the RWU are widely used, as they serve as the foundation for all drying systems used in North America and for all building codes in the United States.

The researcher personal research assignment covers the entire research cycle -from initiating a study through reporting results and helping users implement them (information and technology transfer). This normally includes (1) defining the research objective, (2) describing the research approach, (3) delineating ways of resolving complexities and ambiguities of the technical problem assigned, (4) describing expected results, (5) evaluating the significance of progress, and (6) defining the methods planned for disseminating and applying results and transferring the technology.

The incumbent's personal research is in two problem areas. One research areas to develop analytical and experimental tools for characterizing the drying behavior of lumber products and to predict the response of wood to drying in terms of drying time, moisture content gradients, stress, and distortion, and establish relationships between the responses and relevant material and process variables. This will allow an analysis of the effects of lumber thickness, temperature, relative humidity,

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and air velocity on final moisture content, moisture and temperature gradients, drying stresses, and warp. The objective of the work are: 1) to develop analytical models of temperature and moisture content variations and stress/warp development in wood during drying and ; 2) develop better correlation between drying rates and dry kiln operating parameters. The second research area is to develop principals that will lead to the use of non-destructive testing methods in dry kiln control. The relationship between moisture content and stress waves in wood will be established in such a way that moisture loss during kiln drying can be estimated remotely and non-destructively, leading to increased efficiency in kiln drying.

This position offers the opportunity to:

- Develop environmentally benign technologies consistent with the practice of sustainable forestry
- Conduct full-time research using state-of-the-art equipment
- Interact with leading researchers in industry, academia, and government agencies.

Contact for information regarding the research assignment:
 Dr. Bob Ross
 Phone: 608-231-9221453
 Fax: 608-231-9262
 E-mail: rjross@fs.fed.us

Conferences and Events

UPCOMING CONFERENCES FROM FPS

- FPS 56th Annual Meeting; June 23-26, 2002; Monona Terrace Convention Center; Madison, Wisconsin, USA
- FPS 57th Annual Meeting; June 22-25, 2003; DoubleTree Hotel; Bellevue, Washington, USA
- FPS 58th Annual Meeting; June 27-30, 2004; Amway Grand Plaza Hotel; Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA

**NAPFSC-NPC
 Fall Meeting
 September 23 –25, 2002**

The National Planning Committee of the National Association of Professional Forestry Schools and Colleges

(NAPFSC-NPC) and the USDA Forest Service are sponsoring a meeting around “Biobased Forest Products and Bioenergy”. The main purpose of the meeting is to look at cooperation and funding opportunities in biobased forest products.

More specifically, this meeting will provide a forum to:

- Share technical information and case studies on research efforts in the area of biobased products and bioenergy from forest resources,
- Explore funding groups from USDA, DOE, NSF, AF&PA Agenda 2020, and others to provide information on their research agendas and goals in the area of biobased products and bioenergy
- Cover the spectrum of research, development, and technology transfer activities in biobased products and bioenergy being conducted at the NAPFSC universities throughout the United States, and
- Network among forest products based-research and implementation organizations.

The Biomass Research and Development Act of 2000 (Public Law No. 106-224) was enacted to create strong biobased products and bioenergy industries that will in turn create new economic opportunities for rural America, protect and enhance the environment, and strengthen US energy security. This Act could fulfill some of the needs in the President’s National Energy Plan and includes both agricultural and forest based biomass. The Act calls for a focused, integrated, and innovation-driven research, development, and demonstration effort. Specific areas for biomass utilization which will be addressed by this meeting include:

- feedstock pretreatment and hydrolysis of cellulose and hemicellulose
- development of novel organisms for bioprocessing
- composite products, including wood and non-wood combinations
- diversifying the range of products that can be efficiently and cost-competitively produced from biomass,
- separation technologies for cost-effective product recovery and purification
- evaluation of current and future biomass resource availability
- use of biobased industrial products relative to other alternatives
- biomass combustion to produce electricity
- strategies to enhance the economic viability of biobased industries
- improved technologies for the harvest, collection, transport, storage and handling of residue feed-

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stock.

This two-day meeting and workshop brings together researchers, and those who transfer the technology actively conducting research, development, and technology transfer activities in the area of biobased products and bioenergy, industrial and governmental entities who are interested in promoting increased work and implementing new technologies in the area, and university researchers and administrators.

NAPFSC-NPC

NAPFSC-NPC represents all the Universities in the US with Forest Products education and research programs. NAPFSC-NPC actively promotes increased collaboration and cooperation among its member universities as well as with industry and governmental groups that share common interests and objectives.

Location:

USDA Forest Service
Forest Products Laboratory
One Gifford Pinchot Drive
Madison, Wisconsin 53705

Contact: Gordon Blum (608-231-9325, E-mail:
gblum@fs.fed.us)

Dates & Time: 1:00 PM, September 23, 2002 to 12:00
Noon, September 25

IUFRO All Division 5 Conference March 11-15, 2003 Rotorua, New Zealand

The 2003 IUFRO All Division Conference, *Forest Products Research-Providing for Sustainable Choices*, welcomes you to attend this international meeting to provide papers and poster, discuss, and participate in field trips on the needs in research to meet rapidly increasing demands for all kinds of forest products, while maintaining the forest as a source of such products and a resource for social, economic, and environmental benefits. The official language of the conference is English. Technical areas accepting presentations are wood quality, properties of wood, wood processing, wood protection, composites and reconstituted products, energy and chemicals from forests, utilization of bamboo, utilization of tropical woods, forest products marketing, non-wood forest products, tree ring analysis,

sustainable wood industry, and industrial logistics. Further information can be found on the conference website: <http://www/forestresearch.co.nz/site.cfm/alldiv5iufroz>.

Contact Conference Organizer: John Stulen, Innovatek, Tel: +64 7 348 1039, e-mail: jornstulen@clear.net.nz in New Zealand or,
Conference Organizing Committee Chair: Howard Rosen, Tel: 703-406-4196, e-mail: hrosen@fs.fed.us

SWST Annual Meeting Program

The State of the Profession: Reviewing Our Accomplishments, Establishing Our Breadth, Outlining Our Future

Monona Terrace Convention Center Madison, Wisconsin June 23, 2002

7:30-8:00	<i>Registration and Coffee</i>
7:55-8:00	Introduction of the Program Moderator: <i>Bob Rice</i>
8:00-8:30	Reviewing Our Contributions and Uniqueness <i>Robert L. Youngs</i>

An Overview of Wood Science and Technology Programs

	In Selected Regions
8:30-8:55	Europe: <i>Helmuth Resch</i>
8:55-9:20	Asia: <i>Chung Hse</i>
9:20-9:45	Canada: <i>Paul Cooper</i>
9:45-10:10	Latin America: <i>Aldo Ballerini</i>
10:10-10:35	United States: <i>Jim Bowyer</i>
10:35-10:45	Questions and Comments
10:45-11:15	Accreditation Standards: Setting a Course for the Future: <i>Thomas E. McLain</i>
11:15-11:20	Address to Students: <i>Rich Vlosky</i>
11:20-12:00	Awards Program
12:00-12:45	Annual Business Meeting and Lunch

Afternoon Program

1:00-4:00 (FPS)	Joint SWST/Forest Products Society Plenary Sessions
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Student Poster Competition

Guidelines and Procedures

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Poster Competition is to:

1. Encourage student membership and participation in SWST,
2. Encourage student attendance at the SWST Annual meeting
3. Recognize excellence in student research, and
4. Improve the visibility of student research efforts.

ELIGIBILITY AND RECOGNITION

The competition will be held on the Saturday evening before the Sunday Annual Meeting. It will also consist of participation in the Sunday afternoon poster session at the SWST Annual Meeting. All undergraduate and graduate students who are members of SWST may participate. There should be no coauthors on the poster session, however, faculty sponsors and funding agencies should be identified in both the abstract and poster display. All participating students will receive a complimentary registration to the SWST Annual Meeting. At the meeting, they will be recognized and presented a Certificate of Participation. The individual selected for first place will be awarded \$250 and a first place plaque, while the second place winner will receive \$125 and a second place plaque. All participants will be announced in one of the SWST publications.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

To apply, a student must submit the following materials to the SWST Executive Director by May 1 for the June Annual Meeting.

A membership application form for SWST and payment for annual dues (if not already a member). A student award application form. Four copies of 500-word maximum abstract. The abstract should identify the title, author and affiliation, and contain a single spaced narrative giving the purpose and significance of the research, a summary of procedures, and the most important results. Faculty sponsors and funding agencies should also be listed. The abstract will be considered as part of the judging criteria.

Since the Forest Products Society (FPS) is the joint sponsor of the poster session, the student will also be responsible for registering and meeting all criteria for a FPS poster presentation. Presentation of a poster in the SWST Student Poster Competition will not preclude subsequent presentation in the appropriate FPS Technical Forum.

JUDGING PROCEDURES

The abstracts and poster presentations will be evaluated by a committee of 4 judges (the Chair of the Education Center and three others) on a 100-point scale:

1. Submitted abstract:

- A. Soundness of research hypothesis (10 points)
- B. Scientific writing ability (10 points)
- C. Organization (10 points)

2. Five-minute poster presentation to members of the judging team :

- A. Scientific merit (newness, breadth of interest, potential impact of the research) (15 points)
- B. Experimental design and thoroughness of investigation (15 points)
- C. Validity of conclusions (15 points)
- D. Organization and visual quality of presentation; adhering to 5-minute time limit (15 points)
- E. Response to questions of judges (10 points)

The chair of the Education Committee will have overall responsibility for the competition including selecting judges. Judges will not assess student posters on whose committee they serve. The chair of the judging committee does not vote except when one of the other judges is exempted. Posters will be presented in English.



Session 1: Current Topics in Evaluating Solid Wood and Wood-Based Composites

(Hall of Ideas I)

Session 2: Properties and Processing of Fiber-Based Raw Materials: Understanding Macro-, Micro-, and Nano-Structures

(Hall of Ideas J)

4:00-5:30 Joint SWST/FPS Technical Forum and Student Posters (Ballroom D)

4:30-5:30 SWST Committee Chair Meeting (Room N)

6:30-8:00 Joint SWST/FPS Host Reception (Grand Terrace)

Humor

Subject: Chicken Little

This one's a Hoot! The mind of a six-year old is wonderful.
First grade...true story.

One day the first grade teacher was reading the story of Chicken Little to her class. She came to the part of the story where Chicken Little tried to warn the farmer. She read, "...and so Chicken Little went up to the farmer and said, "The sky is falling, the sky is falling!" The teacher paused then asked the class, "And what do you think that farmer said?" One little girl raised her hand and said, "I think he said: 'Holy Shit! A talking chicken!'"

The teacher was unable to teach for the next 10 minutes.

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.

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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.

Society of Wood Science and Technology

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	Cindy West (2003)
	Rado Gazo (2003)

Editor, *Wood and Fiber*

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The logo consists of the letters "SWST" in a bold, white, sans-serif font, centered within a solid black rectangular background.

