

SWST Newsletter

November-December 2002

SOCIETY OF WOOD
SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY

SWST

Inside this issue:

<i>News.....</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Jobs.....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Conferences.....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Humor.....</i>	<i>5</i>

Editor's Note

Dear Readers:

Happy holidays! The semester is winding down and I for one am looking forward to a little rest and relaxation. I am in the final push to finish grading reports, and submitting grade sheets. Hope to get out the door soon to do some Christmas shopping. It looks like we may not have a white Christmas here in Orono. The recent rains have washed away most of our snow, and more rain is in the forecast. I shouldn't have purchased new skis. Then we would have had a white Christmas.



Respectfully submitted,

Doug Gardner

News

RNRF ANNOUNCES ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Renewable Natural Resources Foundation (RNRF) is pleased to announce results of biennial elections conducted at the board of directors' annual meeting.

RNRF CHAIRMAN:

Albert A. Grant, Public Interest Member of the Board

RNRF VICE-CHAIRMAN:

Vernon B. Cardwell, American Society of Agronomy

RNRF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND AT-LARGE OFFICERS:

Burrell E. Montz, Association of American Geographers

Lawrence R. Pettinger, American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing

Barry W. Starke, American Society of Landscape Architects

Bowyer Elected Chair of TFF

Dr. Jim Bowyer, University of Minnesota professor of Wood & Paper Science, was elected Chairman of the Tropical Forest Foundation (TFF) at the organization's fall Board meeting in Washington, D.C., October 24. Bowyer succeeds Dr. Gary Hartshorn, Executive Director of the Organization for Tropical Studies, who had served as TFF Chairman since 2000. Bowyer has served on the TFF Board of Directors since 1995, and on the Executive Board since 1999.

The Tropical Forest Foundation was established in 1990 as a non-profit educational organization that has sought to forge an alliance between the scientific and conservation communities and industry to capitalize on the strengths of these groups to bring about positive change in the world's tropical forests. TFF's programs focus on the conduct of "on the ground" demonstrations and training programs that teach sustainable forest management principles and application of reduced impact logging practices.

The experience, leadership, and perspectives represented by its balanced Board of Directors remains one of TFF's unique strengths. The 35-member Board includes representatives of industry, government agencies, academia, and environmental NGOs, and of all regions in which TFF operates.

The Foundation currently operates programs in Brazil and Guyana in South America and in Indonesia in the Asia Pacific Region. Establishment of a program in Africa is currently under consideration.

Vincent Chiang – New Job

Vincent Chiang has accepted a new position at North Carolina State University as Co-Director of the Forest Biotechnology Group. Good luck to you in your new pursuits! Vincent can be reached at the following:

Vincent Chiang, Professor
Co-Director

Forest Biotechnology Group

Department of Forestry

College of Natural Resources

Campus Box 7247, 2500 Partners II Bldg

North Carolina State University

Raleigh, NC 27695-7247

Telephone: 919/515-7800; Fax: 919/515-7801

E-Mail: vincent_chiang@ncsu.edu

NEW SWST ACCREDITATION STANDARDS HELP!

What's going on? A team of members have worked over the past year to rewrite the SWST Accreditation Standards as part of a major overhaul of our accreditation program. Most academic members are aware of a general move in higher education toward assessing student competency as an outcome rather than assessing inputs such as courses, credit hours and a curriculum. This move is now affecting the institutions housing wood science programs across the country.

The Society of American Foresters (SAF) will implement new, outcomes-based standards in the Fall of 2004. Because of our close working relationship with SAF, that schedule is important for our revisions. In November the SWST Board received draft standards from the revision committee and charged that comments from SWST members be solicited and considered.

How do I respond? A draft of the new standards can be found at www.swst.org/.... Please review those and send any comments to:

Thomas.McLain@orst.edu

or

Thomas McLain, Dept of Wood Science & Engineering, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331

Your response by February 1, 2003 would be most helpful.

Why should I care? The draft standards identify the knowledge, skills and competencies expected in graduates of SWST-accredited programs. This list, in effect, identifies the core knowledge of wood science and technology needed by future professionals in our field. As a current professional and member of SWST, this is your opportunity to help shape that future.

Thanks for your help.

Tom McLain

(Continued from page 2)

Jobs

Brunswick Billiards

Brunswick Billiards, is a manufacturer and distributor of high-end billiards tables and equipment. They are looking for a Manufacturing/Sourcing Engineer, based in Bristol, WI. You will visit all suppliers, develop relationships, and add value by providing your expert engineering knowledge to the manufacturing process. 30-50% travel will be expected. LOCAL CANDIDATES ONLY or those within commutable distance preferred. If you are interested in a global position with a leader in recreation, please contact me and/or send your resume to: Robert Seiden, Recruiter, 212-351-7319. Robert.seiden@tmp.com

Robert Seiden
Service Delivery
Midlevel Search and Selection
TMP Worldwide
212-351-7319
www.tmp.com

Tenure-Track Faculty Position in Forest Molecular Genetics Michigan Technological University School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science

The School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science at the Michigan Technological University (<http://forestry.mtu.edu>) invites applications for a tenure-track faculty position in the area of forest molecular genetics. This position is affiliated with the Plant Biotechnology Research Center (PBRC, <http://forestry.mtu.edu/research/pbrc/>), dedicated to the advancement of tree molecular biology, genomics and biotechnology. The Center offers state-of-the-art tissue culture, molecular biology, biochemistry and functional genomics laboratories, including a new microarray facility. Candidates must have a Ph.D. and postdoctoral experience, with demonstrated record of research excellence. Responsibilities will include teaching in the applicant's area of expertise, and development of a vigorous, extramurally funded research program involving Masters and Doctoral students. Applicants with expertise in any area of plant molecular biology, biochemistry, genomics and functional genomics and an interest in using biotechnology to address issues pertinent to forest trees or forest ecosystems in their research program are encouraged to apply. We seek an outstanding individual who will complement existing strengths at the PBRC, participate in interdisciplinary research collaborations, and contribute to the education and research missions of the School. The School offers degree programs in Forestry (B.S. and M.S.), Applied Ecology and Environmental Sciences (B.S.), Forest Science (Ph.D.), and Forest Molecular Genetics and Biotechnology (Ph.D.).

The position is open at the level of Assistant, Associate or Full

Professor. Appointment level, teaching responsibility and salary are negotiable and will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. Attractive laboratory and start-up funds will be provided. Minorities and women are especially encouraged to apply. Senior level candidates should have a successful research program and will assume leadership of the PBRC. Applicants should send curriculum vita, publication list with selected reprints, graduate transcripts (Assistant Professor level), statements of research interests and teaching philosophy, and names of three references to:

Forest Molecular Genetics Search Committee
c/o Dr. Chung-Jui Tsai, chair
School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science
Michigan Technological University
1400 Townsend Drive
Houghton, Michigan 49931-1295

Review of applications will begin in February 1, 2003, and will continue until the position is filled. Questions may be directed to Dr. Chung-Jui Tsai at chtsai@mtu.edu

Michigan Technological University is an equal opportunity education institution/equal opportunity employer.

Wood Science Research Assistant---Department of Forest Management, The University of Maine.

Full-time professional appointment responsible for conducting supervised research involving mechanisms related to wood brown-rot decay in wood composite materials. Conducts chemical and microbial analysis of wood samples using electronic spin resonance (ESR) instrumentation. Conducts wood treatments using high pressure and wood vacuum treatment autoclaves. Conducts pilot plant scale wastewater treatment with fungal degradation metabolites. Analyzes and interprets data, including modeling of 3-dimensional synchrotron data, correlates data obtained from experiments, helps write reports and manuscripts for publication.

Qualifications: MS in Wood Science or Forestry with a concentration in Wood Science: experience using ESR instrumentation, high pressure and wood vacuum treatment autoclaves, and conducting waste water treatment with fungal degradation metabolites; with documented ability to culture and grow wood fungi in bioreactors, extract fungal metabolites; interpret data using computer models including shell programming in a UNIX environment and perform customized programming of 3D JAVA-based image processing applets. This position works under the direct supervision and in support of a senior research scientist. Position funded by outside grant agencies.

Review will begin February 1, 2003. Send cover letter, resume and three letters of reference to Ms. D. Stone, 201 Nutting Hall, University of Maine, Orono, ME 04469. ATTN: Wood Science Res. Assistant. The University of Maine is an

EO/AA employer"

Visiting Scientist

SWST International Travel Grants

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

For the details and guidelines of proposal, please contact Hongmei Gu at Tennessee Forest Products Center, University of Tennessee, Dept. of Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries, 2506 Jacob Dr. Knoxville, TN 37996-4570. E-mail: <mailto:hgu@utk.edu>. Phone: 865-946-1126. Fax: 865-946-1109.

Also we have small amount of funding to support national visits for the SWST members. For information and request, please contact Hongmei Gu (<mailto:hgu@utk.edu>)

If you would like to be in the potential visiting scientists list, please visit <http://www.swst.org/visitingscientistlist2001.pdf> and send your information to Hongmei Gu hgu@utk.edu to be added in the list."

Thank you,

Dr. Hongmei Gu
Post Doc. Research Associate
TN. Forest Products Center
Forestry, Wildlife & Fisheries
2506 Jacob Drive
Knoxville, TN. 37996-4570
Phone: 865-946-1126
Fax: 865-946-1109
Upcoming Conferences

Conferences

37th International Wood Composite Materials Symposium April 7-10, 2003, Washington State University, Pullman Washington, USA

7th International Conference on Woodfiber-Plastic Composites (and other natural fibers) May 19-20, 2003, Monona Terrace Convention Center, Madison, Wisconsin, USA

Second International Precision Forestry Symposium June 15-18, 2003, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, USA

FPS 57th Annual Meeting June 22-25, 2003, DoubleTree Hotel, Bellevue/Seattle, Washington, USA

Forest Products Machinery & Equipment Exposition June 25-27, 2003, Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta, Georgia, USA

Humor

Christmas Cards for the Psychologically Challenged

Schizophrenia --- Do You Hear What I Hear?

Multiple Personality Disorder --- We Three Kings Disoriented Are

Dementia --- I Think I'll be Home for Christmas

Narcissistic --- Hark the Herald Angels Sing About Me

Manic --- Deck the Halls and Walls and House and Lawn and Streets and Stores and Office and Town and Cars, Busses and Trucks and trees and Fire Hydrants and....

Paranoid --- Santa Claus is Coming to Get me

Borderline Personality Disorder --- Thoughts of Roasting on an Open Fire

Personality Disorder --- You Better Watch Out, I'm Gonna Cry, I'm Gonna Pout, Maybe I'll tell You Why

Obsessive Compulsive Disorder --- Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells....



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 address.

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