

# SWST Newsletter

May-June 2002

SOCIETY OF WOOD  
SCIENCE AND  
TECHNOLOGY

**SWST**

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## Editor's Note

Dear Readers:

Summer is almost here and I, for one, am particularly pleased, after the non-existent spring weather. It is a time of change in my research group as Magnus Walinder recently returned to Sweden after working with me for two years. I wish him luck with his new job at KTH in Stockholm. The wood science faculty at U Maine were proud to claim this years U Maine Salutatorian, Ben Herzog among our Forest Products Minors. Ben will be pursuing an MS degree with Barry Goodell beginning this summer. Mike Wolcott recently returned to his *alma mater* to receive the 2002 Distinguished Forestry Alumnus Award. Read on to see this News item.

As always, I am looking for articles and tid bits of news.

Respectfully submitted,  
Doug Gardner



## News Items

### ASTM International Markwardt Award Presented to Dr. Robert J. Tichy

W. CONSHOHOCKEN, Pa., 30 April 2002—The L. J. Markwardt Award was presented to Dr. Robert J. Tichy, research engineer at the Wood Materials and Engineering Laboratory at Washington State University in Pullman.

He received the award for his "outstanding contributions to the knowledge of wood as an engineering material as it relates to the improved utilization of this renewable resource."



Robert J. Tichy

An active participant in the standards work of ASTM Committee D07 on Wood for more than 20 years, Tichy, a resident of Federal Way, Wash., currently leads D07.01.04 on Methods and Evaluation of Duration of Load and Creep Effects, D07.02.06 on Reliability-Based Design, and D07.02.07 on test methods and design value assignment for wood-plastic composites. He is also a member of ASTM Committee D20 on Plastics.

Outside ASTM, Tichy is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the Forest Products Society, and the Society of Wood Science and Technology.

At the Wood Materials and Engineering Laboratory, Tichy focuses on wood-based composites and engineered construction materials and systems. His composites work concentrates on the development of engineered strands and wood-polymer composites. His building materials and systems research has involved technology transfer activities in Asia, where he has assisted in developing engineered wood construction building codes.

Before joining the lab at Washington State, Tichy

worked in the forest products industry, including the Western Wood Products Association and Weyerhaeuser Company.

A graduate of the University of Illinois with a B.S. in wood science and technology, Tichy earned an M.S. in wood science and engineering from Colorado State University and a Ph.D. in materials science and engineering from Washington State University.

### Wood Handbook – Wood as an Engineering Material

Available in hardcover from Algrove Publishing for \$19.95. Go to [www.leevalley.com](http://www.leevalley.com) for more info.

### RNRF SPRING MEETING EXPLORES RESOURCE POLICY IN CONGRESS

RNRF board members and member organization policy staff met on May 14 to discuss "Natural Resource Policy in Congress: Needs & Opportunities." Bryan Hannegan, Staff Scientist, Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee, and John Rishel, Legislative Staff, Energy & Mineral Resources Subcommittee, House Resources Committee spoke on the current state of resource policy, particularly the energy bill, and what the science community can contribute to the debate.

Dr. Albert Teich, Director of Science & Policy Programs, AAAS, provided a stimulating speech entitled "Something Funny Happened on the Way to the White House" which will appear in an upcoming issue of Renewable Resources Journal.

For more information visit: <http://www.rnrf.org> and select "News"

### ASCE PRESIDENT URGES FUNDING WATER PROGRAMS

Congress should appropriate a minimum of \$3 billion for the Clean Water Act State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) in Fiscal Year 2003, ASCE President Gerry Schwartz told Congress. In addition, Congress should fully fund the Safe Drinking Water Act SRF at \$1 billion in FY 2003, Schwartz said.

"The President has proposed total funding of slightly less than \$2 billion for these critical programs, an amount that we believe is insufficient," said Schwartz in an appearance before the VA, HUD and Independent Agencies subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee on April 16.

### ASSISTANCE NEEDED FOR PBS PROGRAM ON CONSERVATION

The PBS program Spotlight On... will be doing a piece on

Conservation and is interested in receiving input from interested groups. The program runs 4-5 minutes and is shown on PBS networks across the country.

For more information on this opportunity please contact Rey Mobley, renard@trivue.org or Ryan Colker, rmcolker@rnrf.org.

## University of Maine Distinguished Forestry Alumnus - 2002

### MICHAEL P. WOLCOTT

Mike received his B. S. in Wood Science in December 1982. During his undergraduate program Mike took a year off from school to ski with the U.S. Biathlon team as an alternate for the 1980 Winter Olympics. In 1985, Mike completed a Master's Degree in Forestry at U Maine. He then attended Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University and received a Ph. D. in Materials Engineering Science in 1989. A paper from Mike's doctoral dissertation received the second place Wood Award in 1990 from the Forest Products Research Society. Mike joined the faculty of wood science at West Virginia University in 1989, and remained there until 1996. Mike then moved to Washington State University where he is currently an Associate Professor of Civil Engineering and holds the chair of Louisiana-Pacific Professor of Wood Materials and Engineering. Mike has the distinction of winning the George Marra award for excellence in research from the Society of Wood Science and Technology in 1991 and 1995. He also won the Cahn Award in 1992 for work on dynamic contact angle analysis of wood. Mike is professionally affiliated with the Forest Products Society, Society of Wood Science and Technology, ASTM, the Society of Experimental Mechanics, Xi Sigma Pi and Sigma Xi.

## Affiliate Member Report

### FROM TALENTS F. GOTO

I FEEL VERY PROUD AND HONOURED TO BE APPROVED AN AFFILITATE MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY.I BELIEVE THIS IS AN EYE OPENER TO THE REST OF MY COLLEGEUES ON THIS PART OF THE WORLD. THAT THERE ARE VAST BENEFITS OF BEING A MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION- SHARING OF IDEAS I HOPE TO ALSO BRING IN SOMETHING DIFFERENT TO THE REST OF THE MEMBERS OR THE NEWSLETTER READERS ON THE WOOD TECHNOLOGY ACTIVITIES OCCURING IN AFRICA, SINCE I BELIEVE NOT A LOT IS

KNOWN TO STUDENTS OR TO SOME AL-READY PRACISING PROFESSIONALS. I BELIEVE SOME THING OF INTEREST AND ON SOFTER NOTES DO YOU KNOW THAT TIMBER IS REMOVED FROM THE HARDWOOD FORESTS WITH THE USE OF OX /DONKEYS/ MULE OR CATTLE DRAGING LOGS OUT OF THE BUSH. IN ZIMBABWE EXIXTS SOME OF THE WORLDS STABLIEST TIMBER SPECIES *PTEROCARPUS ANGEOLENSIS* COMMON NAME MUKWA. THANK YOU FOR SENDING ME MY FIRST JOURNAL, I CAN'T HELP READING IT OVER AND OVER AGAIN ...I BELIEVE I HAVE GONE BACK TO COLLEGE.

ANY BODY WILLING TO INQUIRE ANY INFORMATION ON THESE AND OTHER ISSUES CONTACT ME ON: talentsgoto@hotmail.com

TALENTS GOTO

ZIMBABWE

## Conferences and Events

**8th International IUFRO Wood Drying Conference**

***Improvement and Innovation in Wood Drying – A Major Issue for a Renewable Material***

***Brasov, Romania, 24-29 August 2003***

You are invited to attend/contribute to the 8th International IUFRO Wood Drying Conference to be held in Brasov, Romania, in August 2003. Following up the tradition of the previous seven successful drying conferences, this event will provide again the opportunity for fellow research workers from all over the world to meet, to promote new ideas and to exchange information.

The conference will highlight recent advances made both in fundamental and applied wood drying research, as well as converting research results into

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practice. Innovation in wood drying will be one of the main topics, as it is regarded to be at present the key issue with a view to future progress. Another important topic refers to industrial applications of wood drying research, which we hope to raise the interest of industry specialists and to increase the number of conference participants from this field of activity.

Following up the example of the previous conference held in Tsukuba-Japan, and due to its success, the poster session will be fully integrated in the proceedings. A full length paper will be required for each poster presentation, as for an oral presentation. In addition, two minutes oral presentation (1 OHP) of the poster will be planned before the actual poster session. In combination with 4 days of plenary (non-concurrent) sessions of paper presentations, we hope that this conference format will be successful and will ensure a productive and enjoyable conference.

This conference will be the first of this type in Eastern Europe. Being a great opportunity for colleagues from the region to participate and share the latest achievements in the field of wood drying research at world-wide scale, we expect a high number of participants to attend it.

We hope that this conference will provide a productive framework for memorable professional and cultural exchanges for all participants. We look forward to meeting You in August 2003, in Brasov-Romania!

### **CONFERENCE WEB SITE**

<http://www.unitbv.ro/il/iufro2003/wdc8.htm>

### **TOPICS**

- Innovation in wood drying
- Modelling
- Basic wood – moisture – heat relations
- Mechanical aspects of wood drying
- New advances in conventional drying

- Vacuum and high-frequency drying
- High-temperature drying and its influence on wood properties
- Kiln control and measuring techniques
- Drying quality
- Industrial applications of wood drying research

Note: The list above is given only as a guideline and should not be considered exclusive.

### **VENUE**

Aula of the “Transilvania” University of Brasov.

International Association of Wood Products Societies Conference

### **IAWPS2003**

An Invitation from the Conference Chairman:

Dear Colleagues in the field of Forest Products,

On behalf of Organizing Committee, the International Advisory Committee, and the Conference Sponsors, I would like to express my warm invitation and welcome to the international conference (IAWPS2003) of IAWPS (International Association of Wood Products Societies). I would like to especially welcome all those who have not previously visited Korea and do not know well about 5,000 years of history and culture of Korea. I hope that you all visit Korea and find about the country of Morning Calm.

IAWPS is the international organization aiming to contribute better utilization of wood and wood products for human, earth and our future and to build better world by using wood and wood products. IAWPS2003 is part of such effort and designed to provide a forum for active discussion and exchange of information and recent research findings among researchers, scientists and engineers of the world. The information presented in the conference will be useful for researchers, manufacturers, international traders and whoever wants better utilization of wood for human, earth and future.

The conference will be processed for three major topics such as engineering utilization, chemical utilization, and recycling and environmental issues of wood. Even though subjects of IAWPS2003 is somewhat broad, it may give us another chance to meet our colleagues working in different but closely related fields of forest products.

Daily tours for accompanying persons and conference partici-

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pants will be arranged to visit historical and cultural places around conference venue. You can visit Kyungju, the ancient Capital of Korea, and very old historic town where shows traditional construction and living style of Korea by participating in the post-conference tour.

Please visit our homepage at <http://www.iawps2003.or.kr>, and please send e-mail to [ssjang@cnu.ac.kr](mailto:ssjang@cnu.ac.kr), if you have any question. I hope to see you at IAWPS2003.

Sincerely,

Hwa Hyoung Lee

Conference Chairman

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**UPCOMING CONFERENCES FROM FPS**

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

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**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 feedstock.

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

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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

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

### An Overview of Wood Science and Technology Programs In Selected Regions

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

### Afternoon Program

1:00-4:00     Joint SWST/Forest Products Society  
(FPS)

Plenary Sessions

*Session 1: Current Topics in Evaluating  
Solid Wood and Wood-Based Compos-  
ites*

(Hall of Ideas I)

*Session 2: Properties and Processing of  
Fiber-Based Raw Materials: Under-  
standing 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)

### RNRF SPONSORS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

RNRF has joined the George Washington University and the University of Shanghai for Science and Technology, as sponsors of the International Conference on Energy and the Environment (ICEE), to be held May 22-24, 2003 in Shanghai, China. This will be the third ICEE since its inception in 1995.

In this new century, the scientific community will face many challenges in balancing the increasing demand for energy and the increasing need for environmental protection. ICEE aims to provide an international forum for the discussion of clean city energy and related topics.

For more information on ICEE please visit: <http://www.gwu.edu/%7Eeem/ICEE/main.htm>.

### Humor

In case you needed further proof that the human race is doomed through stupidity, here are some actual label instructions on consumer goods.

On a Sear's hairdryer: Do not use while sleeping. (darn, and that's the only time I have to work on my hair).

On a bag of Fritos: You could be a winner! No purchase necessary. Details inside. (the shoplifter special)?

On a bar of Dial soap: "Directions: Use like regular soap." (and that would be how???....)

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## Positions Available

### EARLY ALERT WOOD SCIENTISTS (2 POSITIONS) USDA Forest Service, Southern Research Station Pineville, Louisiana

The USDA Forest Service, Southern Research Station ([www.srs.fs.fed.us](http://www.srs.fs.fed.us)) will soon be advertising and filling 2 permanent, full-time Wood Scientist positions. Both positions are series GS-1380-12/13 with a starting salary of \$54,275 to \$70,995 depending on qualifications, expertise, and experience. The wood scientists will be part of the Forest Products Utilization Research Unit (RWU-4701) located at Pineville, Louisiana. The primary task of the scientists will be to develop and implement a research program that focuses on their strengths while remaining in the greater framework of the Unit's mission: *to define and apply fundamental chemistry, material science, and engineering principles to the utilization and processing of southern forest resources in an environmentally sound way.* The two research positions to be filled are:

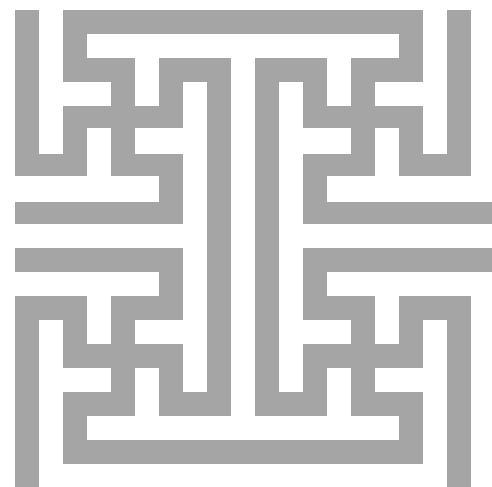
- **Wood Quality Assessment.-** This candidate will be expected to work with other scientists to develop a research program focusing on the assessment of wood properties. The scientist will be expected to develop relationships between chemical, physical, and mechanical properties of wood and their corresponding composites. The candidate should have skills in wood anatomy, wood composites, adhesion, and wood mechanics or chemistry.
- **Chemometrics.-** This candidate will be expected to develop research relationships with other federal, university, and industrial laboratories and will be instrumental in developing rapid assessment techniques for characterizing wood properties. The candidate will employ mathematical and statistical methods in the analysis of spectral signatures to extract material property relationships. The candidate should have skills in chemometrics, wood technology, and wood composites.

The candidates will be stationed in Pineville, LA. Pineville is located in central Louisiana and, in conjunction with the sister city of Alexandria and outlying areas, has a population base of just under 100,000. The area is rich in culture, history, and recreation. The New Orleans/Baton Rouge area is an approximate three-hour drive. There will be no need for the candidates to pack either snow shovels or snowshoes. Additional information can be found at [www.cityofalexandrialala.com](http://www.cityofalexandrialala.com) and [www.pineville.net](http://www.pineville.net).

Interested qualified individuals should send a letter of interest and/or brief resume with name, address, e-mail address, and phone number to:

Les Groom, Project Leader  
Utilization of Southern Forest Resources  
Ph: (318) 473-7267  
Southern Research Station  
fax: (318) 473-7246  
2500 Shreveport Hwy  
e-mail: [lgroom@fs.fed.us](mailto:lgroom@fs.fed.us)  
Pineville, LA 71360

When the position is formally announced, a copy of the vacancy announcement with information about application procedures will be sent to you upon request. The vacancy announcement will also be available at [www.usajobs.opm.gov](http://www.usajobs.opm.gov).



**POSITION AVAILABLE**  
**Research Forest Products Technologist/  
 Research Forester/Team Leader**  
**GS-13/14**

**At the Pacific Northwest Research Sta-  
 tion, Portland, Oregon**

The USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest (PNW) Research Station will advertise a permanent position for a Research Forest Products Technologist / Research Forester/Team Leader beginning early June with application deadline in early July. The duty station will be in Portland, Oregon. The position reports to the Program Manager of the Human and Natural Resource Interactions Program. The position will be a G GS 13/14 which has a starting salary range of \$66,324 to \$78,377.

The Ecologically Sustainable Production of Forest Resources (ESP) team is an interdisciplinary team comprised of wood technologists, foresters, silviculturists, and social scientists who conduct research on how forest conditions influence the characteristics and quantity of timber and the resulting impact on other goods and services desired by society. The team works closely with other groups that study how planned and unplanned disturbances influence forest conditions. Geographic focus for the team encompasses the western states (USDA Forest Service Regions 1-6 and Region 10). Work is organized around sub-regions where similar forest conditions or forest management issues exist. Potential research areas are broad and include topics that can be addressed by a variety of natural resource science disciplines.

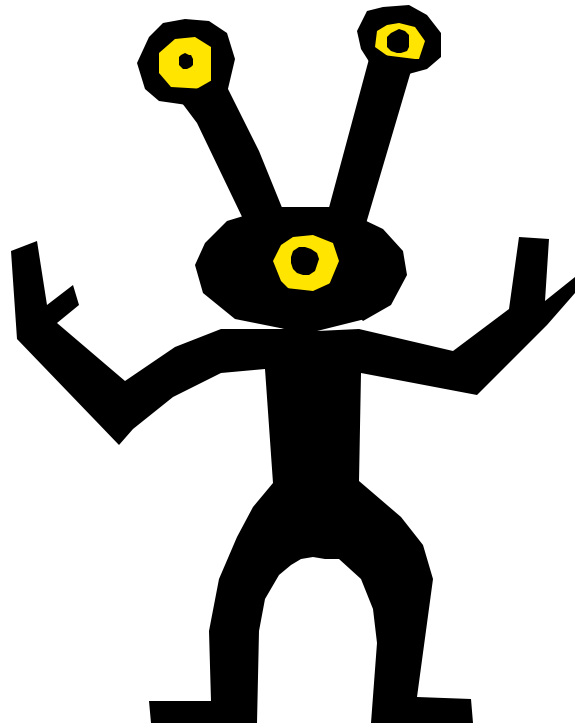
The incumbent will conduct personal research to advance knowledge, establish protocols, and develop methods through integration of multi-disciplinary research in support of the ecologically sustainable production of forest resources in the western United States. The research is generally of an applied nature directed at understanding how different forest management activities affect forest outputs over time, at different geographical scales, and what opportunities exist for achieving joint production of goods and services from forested landscapes. Implementation of a successful program of work involves developing collaborative relations with Universities and other research institutions and coordination among federal land management, regulatory and research agencies, tribal governments, private landowners, and state and local governments and agencies.

In addition to developing a personal program of scholarly work, this individual is expected to provide other technical RD&A leadership to a diverse team of researchers plus other technical specialists. Administrative responsibilities include formal supervision of members of a research team (typically 8-10 people), accountability for management of appropriated funds and cooperative relationships, and contributions to man-

agement of the research program.

The PNW Research Station is seeking candidates who can demonstrate a strong scholarly background similar to that expected from someone with a doctoral degree, as well as a familiarity with National Forest Management. Candidates must be a U.S. citizen. An essential requirement of this position is a working knowledge of the wood products industry. Candidates must also have strong skills in planning, organizing, coordinating, and implementing a program of work that includes scientists and technical specialists not necessarily under their direct supervision and also have a demonstrated ability to work on complex and controversial issues.

Interested applicants, or those desiring further information, should contact either Richard Haynes, Program Manager, Human and Natural Resource Interactions Program, at e-mail [rhaynes@fs.fed.us](mailto:rhaynes@fs.fed.us) or phone (503) 808-2002 or Eini Lowell, Research Scientist, Ecologically Sustainable Production of Forest Resources Team at e-mail [elowell@fs.fed.us](mailto:elowell@fs.fed.us) or phone (503) 808-2072..





## Committee Reports

### WOOD AND FIBER SCIENCE Report from Geza Ifju Editor

I took over the editorship from Bob Youngs on July 1, 2001. Below is a short summary of the activities during the last year.

Number of manuscripts received since July 1, 2001	73
Number of manuscripts inherited from Bob Youngs	58

Total: 131

	No.	Pages
Published in W&FS		
October, 2001	13	156
January, 2002	16	144
April, 2002	15	173
July, 2002	11	130
Total published:	55	603
Rejected		7
Ready to go in the October, 2002 issue		15
In process at various stages		54
Total:		131

Wood and Fiber Science receives a healthy number of manuscripts. Most of the submissions are of high quality. The articles in the past four issues have been diverse among the various topics. There appears to be an increasing number of manuscripts submitted by non-English speaking authors, especially from South America, Asia and Europe. This trend is very good from the diversity point of view but sometimes it creates problems because of English. Some of the reviewers have been very generous with their time and have tried to put the paper into proper technical English. Others have just suggested to reject the somewhat incomprehensible manuscripts. I have not rewritten any of those papers. Instead, I suggested to the authors to give their manuscripts to an editor with a good command of technical English.

Page charges are sometimes difficult to collect. In order to improve the collection process, I devised a "Page Charge Agreement Form" which is now sent to all authors whose papers have been recommended for publication with the suggested revisions. The signed form along with the signed "Copyright Agreement Form" must be returned with the revised manuscript before I pass the paper over to Carol Ovens, the Assistant Editor. SWST members pay \$90 and non-members \$135 per page. If the average charge per page for last year was \$100, and if every author paid, the Society received over \$60,000 from the authors.

## International Relations

Below are the comments I submitted last October for board and committee review and comment. Howard Rosen and you both responded and agreed with the comments. I believe that the comments are still valid and am waiting on direction and support from the board as much of what is suggested requires expenditures, adopting new fee structures, and providing leadership for implementation of activities not under the purview of the committee (ie. developing web pages, instituting SWST-wide promotional campaigns, charging fees for affiliates, etc.). Some additional observations are asterisked.

Special Charges for 2001 -2002:

1. Develop and implement a promotion and information effort to increase SWST affiliate membership. Including potential IUFRO and affiliate membership.

Affiliate membership has been a fairly low key activity over the past few years. Promotion has been limited to casual conversations with pre-screened individuals (criteria at the discretion of the SWST member). I suggest that a more formalized promotional campaign be implemented. This would not be extravagant but rather focused on a flyer/brochure to be distributed at meetings, newsletter information for members to help in soliciting affiliate members, and more comprehensive information at the SWST web site. Right now the application form is nebulous with the following: Requirements for Affiliate Membership: Resident of "qualifying" country, as determined by the International Relations Committee, where the cost of membership would be prohibitive. I suggest that the countries be defined and that a nominal fee be charged for Affiliate members.

2. Prepare a recommendation on how SWST may form long-term relationships with similar organizations outside of North America. What are the mutual benefits? Consider in this recommendation the potential impact on SWST membership and distribution of technical information.

This one depends on what kinds of relationships the Board has in mind. On one hand there seems to be a desire for collaboration and mutual recognition. On the other hand, there is a healthy dose of concern regarding diluting the membership base or precluding joining of new members (probably affiliate members). It is impossible to prognosticate on the possible impacts on membership or technical information distribution. Therefore, at this time I suggest that the committee pass this back to the Board for clarification.

3. Develop webpage about affiliate membership and one dedicated to international partners as mentioned in committee annual report.

At this point, it is premature to talk about expending funds and human resources to develop webpages devoted to affiliate

\*\*The board needs to also identify personnel and funds that could support website development.

4. Collect reports from current affiliate members on an annual basis, and publish in Newsletter.

Is this supposed to be the quid pro quo for not having to pay dues? I would suggest that affiliate members pay dues to create value for membership. These reports should be voluntary. I have not seen any examples of reports from current or previous affiliate members. Do they exist? Are they useful or just a required task? Although there are bylaws in the constitution addressing affiliate members, I suggest that these are valid questions for the Board. \*\* The committee has still not seen any previous reports.

Regards,  
Rich

### **SWST Public Liaison Committee Annual Report 2002**

Members: John Phelps, David Patterson, Howard Rosen, Cindi West, *ex officio*. Doug Stokke, Chair

Our committee is charged with maintaining communication with cooperating organizations, informing the SWST membership of relevant meetings, promoting public awareness of wood science (including youth programs), and preparing and updating SWST promotional display materials. Special charges for this year included adding other organizations to our contact list and identifying committee members to contact cooperating organizations. In addition, we put forth some effort to follow up on a special charge formerly made to our Committee, but shifted in primary responsibility to the Education Committee. This involved the development of a display with text and pictures, geared toward youth audiences, and aimed at informing them about educational and career opportunities in wood science and technology.

With regard to the latter issue, we met with the Education Committee during the Annual Meeting in Baltimore. Following is a synopsis of that meeting. We discussed the need for the display and what would be the intended audience: Elementary (as in the Wood Magic shows), middle school, or junior and senior high school? The idea of promoting the Society and recruiting students into the profession suggested to some that target is junior and senior high students. The question of format (web vs. poster, CD, Powerpoint [or Acrobat] on web) was discussed. Whatever this product is, it should "illustrate our profession in action". This could be used for career days and the like. It could include some kind of activities, i.e., something for students to do (hands-on). Several people shared about continuing education events that they hold for high school biology and/or science teachers. Out of this came the notion that we need a web section on the SWST site that is just for science teachers! We could give contact infor-

mation for teachers in various geographic locales, i.e., local resource people (University or government types, let's say) that the teachers could contact for more info or for a workshop or wood magic show. It seemed that there was some consensus that it makes sense for SWST to piggyback on some of the very good activities going on around the country in terms of youth and teacher education for wood science and technology, and to do so by targeting teachers.

At the fall 2001 SWST Board meeting, the Public Liaison Committee was charged with coming up with "a one-page document with links to wood magic programs, links to other schools, a list of educational materials, bookmarks with information on how to earn continuing education units (CEU's) for teachers or to add curriculum standards." Here is what has been done in response to this charge:

A draft web page was developed (to be added as a section of the SWST web site) with three major sections, which are 1) Universities with wood magic programs; 2) Universities with wood science and technology education and research programs; and 3) On-line resources for teachers. We now need to move ahead to flesh out these sections.

We also developed a draft bookmark that could be distributed to teachers who participate in wood magic programs or wood science CEU programs. This gives a URL for our teacher resources web page (item under development described above) and will serve as a reminder for teachers to take a look at these materials.

With regard to contact with "cooperating organizations", here is our current list, with organization contact and SWST contact shown in parentheses: International Woodworking Machinery and Furniture Supply Fair USA (IWF), John Zinn (Cindi West); Renewable Natural Resources Foundation, Robert D. Day (Howard Rosen); National Research Council Board of Agriculture (NRC), unidentified (unidentified); Wood Machinery Manufacturers' Association, Dana Klaus (Rado Gazo); Forest Products Society, Art Brauner (Vicki Herian). At the fall 2001 SWST Board meeting, other possible organizations with which we should develop liaison contacts were discussed. These include the Wood Machinery Industry Association (they are involved with WoodLinks USA; Rado Gazo is possible SWST Board contact), the Society of American Foresters, and the International Union of Forest Research Organizations. Follow-up to assure contact between SWST and the current list is pending.

On some Swanson frozen dinners: "Serving suggestion: Defrost." (but, it's "just" a suggestion).

On Tesco's Tiramisu dessert (printed on bottom): "Do not turn upside down." (well...duh, a bit late, huh)!

On Marks & Spencer Bread Pudding: "Product will be hot after heating." (...and you thought????...)

On packaging for a Rowenta iron: "Do not iron clothes on body." (but wouldn't this save me more time)?

On Boot's Children Cough Medicine: "Do not drive a car or operate machinery after taking this medication." (We could do a lot to reduce the rate of construction accidents if we could just get those 5-year-olds with head-colds off those forklifts.)

On Nytol Sleep Aid: "Warning: May cause drowsiness." (and...I'm taking this because????....)

On most brands of Christmas lights: "For indoor or outdoor use only." ( There are other options?)

On a Japanese food processor: "Not to be used for the other use." (now, somebody out there, help me on this. I'm a bit curious.)

On Sainsbury's peanuts: "Warning: contains nuts." (talk about a news flash)

On an American Airlines packet of nuts: "Instructions: Open packet, eat nuts."

On a child's superman costume: "Wearing of this garment does not enable you to fly." (I don't blame the company. I blame the parents for this one.)

On a Swedish chainsaw: "Do not attempt to stop chain with your hands or genitals." (Oh my God...was there a lot of this happening somewhere?)

Now that you've smiled at least once, it's your turn to spread the stupidity and send this to someone you want to bring a smile to (even a chuckle)...in other words send it to everyone. We all need to smile every once in a while.

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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.

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 The logo for the Society of Wood Science and Technology (SWST) features the letters "SWST" in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The letters are set against a solid black rectangular background.
