

INSIDE VT WOOD

News from Audrey Zink-Sharp, Interim Department Head

•If you watched any of the speed skating at the Olympics this year, you probably saw the massive roof of the Richmond Olympic Oval. This is one of the world's largest speed-skating facilities. The wood wave roof encompasses 6.5 acres and is one of the longest clear spans in North America built almost entirely from wood. Have a look <http://www.archinnovations.com/featured-projects/sports-facilities/a-look-at-the-richmond-olympic-oval-by-cannon-design/>

•**CONGRATULATIONS** go out to **Dr. Dan Hindman** on being a 2010 Hall of Fame honoree in the educator/academic research category at the National Frame Building Expo in Louisville, KY, in February. Dan was presented with a Rural Builder Hall of Fame Award. For more information, please see <http://www.ruralbuilder.com/article/HindmanHOF2010/>

•**Advising Week** for Summer I & II and Fall Semester 2010 is the week of March 22, 2010.

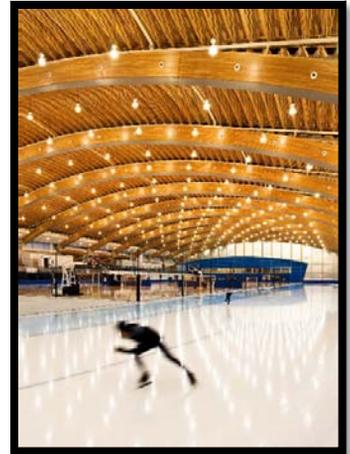
•**Web course request for Summer 2010 opens March 15th**

•**Web course request for Fall 2010 opens March 23rd and closes March 30th**

•All students - you need to see your advisor prior to requesting courses on line.

•Undergraduate students – your course request may be blocked if you don't see your advisor.

•**Spring Break** is the week of March 7 – March 13, enjoy, we can all probably use some SPRING !



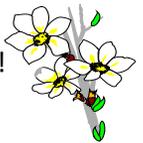
Richmond Olympic Oval

Other news in the department and around campus:

HEAT TREATMENT SEMINAR OFFERED

Bonnie Maccubbin

The Center for Unit Load Design in conjunction with the USDA and Conway and Robison is sponsoring a Pallet Industry Update on Heat Treatment on March 18, 2010 (10:00 – 3:00pm) at the Wood Education and Resource Center. Speakers will cover recent changes and developments to heat treatment standards and practices. Several departmental members will be speaking. Topics include: Building Heat-Treatment Chambers Utilizing Wood Waste (John Conway), Vacuum Steam Phytosanitation Development (Zhangjing Chen), Basics of Fan Shed Design and Operation (Ralph Rupert), Heat Treatment Kiln Schedule Update (Brian Bond), and Treatment Procedures to Prevent Mold Reinfestation (ISK Biocides).



NATIONAL STUDENT PACKAGING JAMBOREE TO BE HELD AT VIRGINIA TECH

Bonnie Maccubbin

Jim Bisha, president of the Virginia Tech chapter of the Institute of Packaging Professionals (IOPP), successfully campaigned to have the annual packaging student jamboree at Virginia Tech, March 25 – 27, 2010. The theme of this year's event is The New GDP: Green Distribution Packaging and will be held at VCOM II Building, Squires Student Center, and the Brooks Center. The jamboree will be held in conjunction with the professional Carolina IOPP Chapter Meeting, and is sponsored by IOPP, the Packaging Machinery Manufacturer's Institute, and the Center for Unit Load Design. Students from all packaging schools, along with professionals in the industry, are expected to comprise the 100 or so participants. Speakers will include Mark White, Alex Hagedorn, and Ed Brindley (publisher of Pallet Enterprise Magazine). Also presenting is Lt. Commander Robert Barnes, Director of the Joint Culinary Center of Excellence US Army Quartermaster School, who will address the logistics of feeding our military troops.



Contents of a Meal Ready to Eat package

As a follow-up to Lt. Commander Barnes' presentation, lunch will consist of MRE's (meals ready to eat) that the troops eat in the field. MRE's feature a unique packaging system containing a self-heating apparatus. If you are interested in seeing a MRE, Ralph has several on hand in his office. The Virginia Tech chapter of IOPP has been working hard and enthusiastically to make this year's event memorable for all involved.

Don't forget: 26th Annual Graduate Student Assembly Research Symposium to be Held March 24, 2010

The Graduate Student Assembly (GSA) of Virginia Tech proudly invites you to the 26th Research Symposium, a forum that provides graduate and undergraduate students a unique opportunity to showcase their scholarly pursuits and achievements in their respective academic fields. The symposium is intended to stimulate interaction and exchange of ideas among faculty, staff, and students from a variety of disciplines and backgrounds. All Virginia Tech students are invited to present their work at the Research Symposium.

Key Dates:

- Abstract submissions open: January 31, 2010
- Abstract submissions close: February 26, 2010
- Notification of acceptance: March 6, 2010
- Poster/Oral/Video Presentation and Performance: March 24, 2010
- Keynote Speech and Awards Reception: March 24, 2010

The keynote speaker is Dr. Andrew Weaver. Dr. Weaver is one of the world's foremost climate scientists. He was a lead author in the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change—the group that, with Al Gore, won the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize.

For information about submission guidelines, awards, keynote speaker, etc., please access the following url: <http://www.gsasympoium2010.uusa.vt.edu/>

Wood Science and Forest Products Student Ambassador Program

The department is seeking enthusiastic and motivated Wood Science & Forest Products students to support our recruiting efforts. Please consider participating in this fun, high-impact activity as a WS&FP Student Ambassador. You will gain new skills, connect with students, faculty and industry reps, and make a positive difference to our program.

Below you will find a description of the Student Ambassador program. The application form is available on our website. <http://www.woodscience.vt.edu/news/newsdetail.asp?newsID=95>

Completed applications must be received **by April 2nd**. Please contact any member of the Department's Enrollment Management Committee or your faculty advisor with questions.

WS&FP Enrollment Management Committee (EMC)

Dr. Urs Buehlmann, Ms. Linda Caudill, Dr. Kevin Edgar, Dr. Chip Frazier, Dr. Tom Hammett, Dr. Earl Kline, and Dr. Joe Loferski.

Program Description:

A WS&FP Student Ambassador works to recruit undergraduate and graduate students into the major through participation in organized recruiting activities. Examples of recruiting activities include New Student (Summer) Orientation, CNR Orientation, VT Majors Fair, "Wood Week" and other department-sponsored recruiting activities. Members may also be asked to travel to community colleges or high schools, with department faculty, to represent the department and speak to prospective students. Program expenses will be covered by the department.

Student Ambassadors will be selected through an application process by department faculty. Appointments will be for one year, after which time a student may be reappointed. Applications will be accepted during the Spring Semester and appointments completed each May.

What you will gain:

- Improved communication, presentation and public speaking skills
- Leadership experience
- In-depth knowledge about your department and its faculty and staff
- Networking opportunities with other students, alumni and industry representatives
- A fun way to make a difference in your department
- A valuable addition to your resume

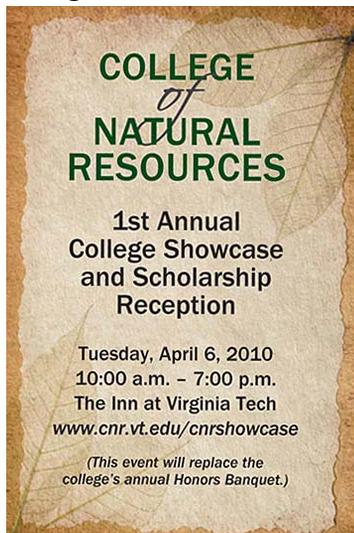
Responsibilities:

- Complete the training required to become a Student Ambassador
- Work with the WS&FP Enrollment Management Committee and department faculty
- Assist in developing or updating training materials for future Student Ambassadors
- Represent the department in a professional, unbiased manner to the public
- Participate in organized recruiting activities
- Establish personal and professional connections with students interested in learning more about our major

To Apply:

Applications are available through the News section of Wood Science and Forest Products website (<http://www.woodscience.vt.edu>), or from your faculty advisor, and must be received **by April 2, 2010**.

College of Natural Resources Showcase Announcement—April 6, 2010, the Inn at Virginia Tech.

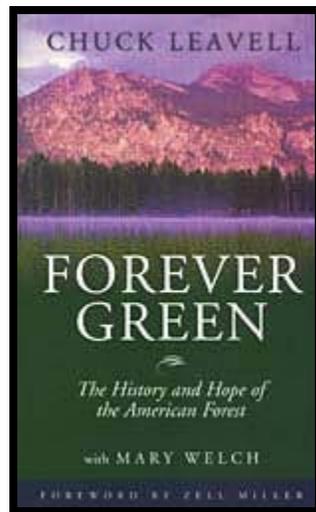


Chuck Leavell

The First Annual College of Natural Resources Showcase will be a major event for undeclared undergraduate students on the VT campus. It will showcase the college, we can interact with donors, friends, and agency personnel, and come together across the college on one day each year. We will have department, center, and faculty posters, as well as student clubs present during the day to interact with students. We will have a presentation of scholarships and awards as we have done in the past, but this event will not be a sit-down dinner.

The highlight of the showcase will be a presentation by Chuck Leavell, keyboard player for the Rolling Stones and Georgia tree farmer and conservationist. Chuck will be with us the entire day of April 6, and will perform at the end of our day. You won't want to miss this very special event! Chuck is the author of *Forever Green* and you can read about him at <http://www.chuckleavell.com/>

Mark your calendar for our first annual College Showcase, plan to participate and help us showcase Chuck Leavell to the campus community. It will be a great day.



8th Biennial Conference on University Education in Natural Resources

March 25-27, 2010 Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia

Website: <http://www.cpe.vt.edu/cuenr/index.html>

Virginia Tech will host the 8th Biennial Conference on University Education in Natural Resources in Blacksburg, Virginia, March 25-27, 2010. The conference is aimed at faculty and administrators interested in national trends in curricular issues and innovative teaching methods in natural resource fields.

Graduate and undergraduate students, as well as agency and organizational partners who both receive and help design and conduct educational programs, are encouraged to attend.

The conference typically blends plenary and breakout sessions devoted to issues surrounding and methods for engaging students in learning. Topics reflect the diverse subject areas, techniques, and perspectives of faculty and administrators across a broad spectrum of interests and responsibilities in natural resources education. While much of the focus is on strategies and practices associated with college and university classes, the conference will include techniques and programs associated with the full spectrum of Extension and continuing education audiences, ranging from K-12 students and teachers to scientists and professional resource managers. It will include practices used within universities to foster and reward good teaching and effective learning.

Education in forestry and wildlife has been the traditional focus of the conference, but for this conference we are reaching out to particularly include all natural resource-related disciplines. Most participants come from the United States and Canada, but international guests are welcome. This conference will make a special effort to broaden its geographic scope and learn about trends and approaches shaping educational programs in other parts of the world.