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INSIDE VT WOOD

RED ALERT

Inside VT Wood will not be published the Week of March 3-7, 2008. We will resume publication on Monday, March 10, 2008.

News From Paul Winistorfer

- Our Graduate Student Spotlight and Seminar presenter this week is Alex Hagedorn, doctoral candidate working with Dr. Han. The title of his presentation is 'Identifying pallet size incompatibilities within the global supply chain'. Please join us at 9:00 am on Friday morning in the Brooks Classroom.
- Patrick Calello, Founder of Automoblox (<http://www.automoblox.com>) will be our keynote speaker at Wood Week 2008 the week of September 15-18, 2008. The keynote lecture will be on Monday evening September 15, following a department welcome back picnic at the Hahn Horticulture Pavilion.
- We will issue a national press release this week to the wood industry, industry contacts and trade associations announcing Wood Week 2008 and the Career Fair on Thursday September 18th.
- The deadline for registering for the March 13th Southern Virginia Forest Products Initiative is March 1 – if you are not registered do it TODAY at <http://www.woodscience.vt.edu/svfpi/>
- I will participate in a nationwide meeting of the Wood Utilization Research Centers the week of March 3 in Washington DC. We are currently not a recipient of the Special USDA Grant that supports these Centers, but aspire to be in this recipient pool.

Virginia Tech Wood Science - Wood Industry Student Placement Program

'Find the Best - Hire the Best'

The department is launching a new student placement and industry recruiting program beginning in February. A new website will include resumes of our students (undergraduate and graduate) and post doctoral scientists seeking internships, summer employment and full time employment. As well, the site will include a registration gateway so that the industry can post placement opportunities directly to our site. We are working on the site currently and will have it operational in February. This initiative supports our vision to 'bring the North American wood and fiber industry to Virginia Tech - for our students and all majors'. We will promote this new program extensively throughout the campus and the North American industry, and use it as a tool to engage more partners in our Wood Week 2008 Career Fair.

Thanks To Ralph Rupert for an Excellent Inaugural Lunch and Learn Program last Week

We had a 'learning crowd' of nearly 20 last week to learn of the new software platform and functional capabilities of our new cutting table. It was a fun, informal, informative session.



Southside Partners Visit Virginia Tech



David Kenealy, Coordinator of the Wood Science Initiative at the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center in South Boston, and colleague Kevin Cristie, visited the Brooks Center last week to discuss mutual programming as associated with the Southern Virginia Forest Products Initiative. David just joined the Higher Education Center, leaving his long term position at Rockingham Community College in North Carolina where he was a faculty member for 20 years. He will be a great asset to our partnership in Southside.

Bowling: Forest Products Club Versus Faculty/Staff

Jesse Paris, Student Club President (parisjl@vt.edu)

The students of the forest products club have challenged the faculty and staff to two games of bowling at the NRV Superbowl at 5:30 PM Friday March 14. We already have 4 lanes reserved for that time slot, and we can fit up to 8 people on a lane. We did this two years ago and had a great time. The prices are \$4/game/person, and \$3.50/person for shoes. So we are looking at \$11.50 per person plus whatever food and beverages you would want for yourselves. The club however will pay \$5/person, so that means anyone wanting to come would only need \$6.50. This should be a great time, and the students are looking to rebound from that embarrassing loss to the so-called "Faculty" team in football last fall. I will leave a sign-up sheet with both Angie and Debbie at Brooks and Cheatham for people who know they want to come, so we can get a better estimate of who will participate. We hope to see a great turn out. As always feel free to e-mail or call me (804-338-4353) if you have any questions, or need a ride.



Alex Hagedorn
Ph.D. Candidate

Hello, I am Alex Hagedorn, a 2nd year Ph.D. student in packaging science. My research considers the interaction of pallets with material handling equipment, transport equipment and storage facilities within the global supply chain. I will be focusing on identifying incompatibilities that exist within these sectors and creating a tool that the industry can use to increase pallet flow efficiency. My committee is composed of Dr. Han, Dr. White, Dr. Smith, Dr. Cook, and Ralph Rupert.

I grew up in a small town of 2,500 people in southern Indiana, called Ferdinand. Here, much of my time was spent working on vehicles at Hagedorn's Service, an establishment my father has owned and operated for over 40 years. My mother was an X-ray tech for 40 years at a local hospital before it was closed. She now works in a clinic doing the same job. I have two older siblings, a brother (director of building and construction at a hospital) and a sister (nursing instructor/pursuing a Ph.D. degree).

I entered college at Indiana State University (ISU) where I received a B.S in packaging technology. While pursuing this degree I completed a packaging internship at The Scotts Company (manufactures of Roundup, Miracle-Gro etc.) in Marysville, OH. I came back to ISU to begin

a M.S in industrial technology with a focus in packaging. It was during this time, I became one of the founders of an incubation company called the Indiana Packaging Research and Development Center. Here, I served as the manager for the lab doing package testing, consulting, and recruiting for the business. It was also during this time, I met my now fiancé Ilona, who currently lives in N.Y.C. working at Columbia University. Nearing completion of this degree, along with running the business, I was offered a full time packaging instructor position at ISU, which I held for two years before arriving at VT. In the summers, I volunteered my time to teach low income high school students about the fundamentals of packaging and worked on an old house I had purchased. I also became a certified packaging professional through the International Safe Transit Association.

In having this opportunity at ISU, I realized that teaching/research is what I wanted to do, but in order to do this successfully, I needed my Ph.D. degree. I enjoyed my time at ISU; however, felt it best to diversify my educational background. In order to have the complete education in the packaging realm, I needed the other side of packaging (unit loads, pallets/crates). Because of this reason, and the fact that Dr. Han was in my ear to come to VT ever since he left ISU, I finally made the move.

Since my arrival at Virginia Tech, I have assisted teaching two courses, pallet and container design and packaging and material handling. I started an IoPP (Institute of Packaging Professionals) student chapter last year. I am completing my last class this semester, and have hopes of graduating May 2009.

My free time consists of spending time with Ilona and my family, traveling, fixing up old International Scouts, fishing with Garrett at the river, and golfing.

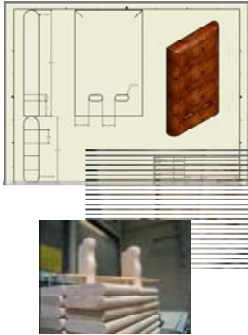
Tim Stuess, Grad Student Extraordinaire, Represented The Department at The Booth and Presented a Poster.

Virginia Tech had a great showing at the Panel World Expo in Atlanta on Feb 8-10. The expo was held at the Omni Hotel which, as shown in the picture, connects with the CNN plaza. Our booth had great exposure and neighbored the Forest Products Society booth, helmed by Carol Lewis. Key speakers included Mike Rehwinkel, President, Wood Products, Georgia Pacific; Chris Risbrudt, Director, Forest Products Lab; and Ian de la Roche, President/CEO, FPIInnovations. Also speaking in a number of sessions were past and present members of our Wood Products Department, most notably, our newest professor, Dr. Urs Buehlmann.





Student Wood Enterprise Institute
WOOD 2984
Summer '08



What is the Student Enterprise?

- ✓ A chance to experience what you learn in class by making it work in a real business enterprise situation
- ✓ A chance to develop skills not typically taught in the classroom
- ✓ A chance to fine-tune your time management abilities
- ✓ A chance to learn how to teach things you know to those who don't
- ✓ A chance to build your resume, build a portfolio, and showcase your abilities in more visible ways in a variety of outlets
- ✓ A chance to deal with problems, understand their root cause, and to develop appropriate countermeasures.
- ✓ A chance to learn what it really means to align business operations with market demand
- ✓ A chance to test the waters of risk, innovation, creativity, and entrepreneurship
- ✓ A chance to further build your network, both in the business world and in the academic world
- ✓ And probably most importantly, a chance for you to guide and direct your own learning experience in directions that are both meaningful and fun! The enterprise is owned by you and it is what you want to make it.

The Wood Enterprise Institute (WEI) introduces an actual wood product “concept-to-market” business project during the Summer Semester 2008. Students will continue last year’s successful inaugural start-up of WEI. Learning experiences include how to improve, make, and market a wood product, organize a business to make and sell it, measure and assess key performance areas, and manage the quality of the processes necessary to sustain a profitable and timely business. Sponsoring faculty and industry representatives will interact with students throughout the project for business models, technology, and practical advice that would be necessary to sustain a competitive business venture. This study is offered as a 6 credit full summer semester course.

Please join the faculty the Department of Wood Science and Forest Products to learn more about WEI:

5:30 pm Wednesday 27 February, 2008
Brooks Forest Products Center Classroom

or

Please contact Dr. Earl Kline (kline@vt.edu) for more information on how to sign up for WEI.





Spring 2008 Seminar

Seminar meets in the Brooks Forest Products Classroom

Date-Friday 9:00 AM	Presenter	Topic
January 18	Brian Perkins Ph.D. Candidate	Modeling Factors that Influence Firm Performance of Eastern Hardwood Lumber Manufacturers
January 25	John Bouldin Ph.D. Candidate	Defects in engineered wood products in residential construction
February 1	Thammarat Mettanurak M.S. Candidate	Effect of Suppression and Release on Compression Parallel to Grain Property for Small-sized Yellow-poplar (<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i> L.) Specimens
February 8	Omid Parhizkar Ph.D. Candidate	Improving the international competitiveness of U.S. sawmills to Middle Eastern markets: An assessment of market segments
February 15	Tim Stuess Ph.D. Candidate	Information Flow in the Hardwood Supply Chain
February 22	Jim Bisha M.S. Candidate	The effect of load stabilizer selection on load slip within unit loads
February 29	Alex Hagedorn Ph.D. Candidate	Identifying pallet size incompatibilities within the global supply chain
March 14	Omar Espinoza Ph.D. Candidate	Quality Measurement in a Wood Products Supply Chain
March 21	Hezong Wang Ph.D. Candidate	Polyelectrolyte complex formation between cellulose nanocrystals and chitosan
March 28	Gi Young Jeong Ph.D. Candidate	Tensile Properties of Loblolly Pine Strands Using Digital Image Correlation and Stochastic Finite Element Method
April 4	Braden White M.S. Candidate	Verification of Finite Element Model Estimates of Wooden Pallet Performance
April 11	Angela Zhou M.S. Candidate	Nano-coating on wood veneers for adhesion and durability
April 18	Ji Youn Yoo M.S. Candidate	Quantitative Analysis of the Static Stress Distributions across Pallet Decks for the Unit Loads of Selected Packaged Product Forms and Stacking Patterns
April 25	Garrett Norman M.S. Candidate	Just-In-Time Manufacturing System Design for Rough Mill Systems: A Case Study

April 30 classes end

For more information please contact the department at 540/231-8853

The Southern Virginia Forest Products Initiative

March 13, 2008

Institute for Advanced Learning and Research — Danville, Virginia

Program Agenda

Partners & Supporters

- Danville Community College
- Danville Public Schools
- Halifax County Schools
- Morgan Lumber Company
- Pittsylvania County Schools
- Southern Virginia Higher Education Center
- Virginia Forest Products Association
- Virginia Tech – College of Natural Resources and Department of Wood Science and Forest Products

Special Thanks

Special thanks to the Virginia Forest Products Association for providing financial resources in support of this conference and the vision to establish WoodLINKS sites in Virginia.

Congratulations

Congratulations to the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center in association with Halifax County Schools and Danville Community College in association with Danville Public Schools and Pittsylvania County Schools in recognition of establishing the first two official WoodLINKS USA sites in the state of Virginia.

8:30-9:00 a.m.	Registration/Coffee Pastries Fruit
9:00-9:15 a.m.	Welcome: Purpose For The Conference, Why We Are Here, How We Got Here, and Where We Are Going. Conference Hosts and Partners
9:15-10:00 a.m.	Workforce Needs, Recruiting, the Forest Products Industry in Virginia Mike Sexton - Virginia Economic Development Partnership Richmond, Virginia and Why Danville? Bengt Danielsson, President of Swedwood North America
9:45 – 10:00 a.m.	Coffee Break
10:00-11:00 a.m.	Evolution of the Secondary Wood Products Manufacturing Industry Duane Griffith - Manager, Stiles Education Grand Rapids, Michigan and WoodLINKS USA – An Industry-Education Partnership and The Evolution of the Wisconsin WoodLINKS Model Steve Ehle - Wisconsin Coordinator, WoodLINKS USA and Editor, Wood Digest magazine Madison, Wisconsin
11:00-11:30 a.m.	Panel Discussion with Morning Presenters
11:30-12:45 p.m.	Lunch and Luncheon Address: The Evolution and Impact of the West Ottawa High School WoodLINKS USA Program Eric McCourt, WoodLINKS USA Teacher West Ottawa High School Holland, Michigan
1:00-1:30 p.m.	The Advanced Wood Products Laboratory at Georgia Tech Karl Brohammer, Director Atlanta, Georgia
1:30-3:00 p.m.	The Virginia Wood Science and Advanced Wood Products Manufacturing Model – Incorporating the Best National Practices and How We Move Forward as Partners in Virginia Dr. Paul Winistorfer, Professor and Department Head Department of Wood Science and Forest Products College of Natural Resources Virginia Tech – Blacksburg, Virginia Panel Discussion with ALL Presenters
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.	Tour of Swedwood-Danville Plant George Patmore, Plant Manager, Swedwood-Danville Optional for participants but you must pre-register for this tour

The Southern Virginia Forest Products Initiative

March 13, 2008

Institute for Advanced Learning and Research — Danville, Virginia

Partners and Supporters

- Danville Community College
- Danville Public Schools
- Halifax County Schools
- Morgan Lumber Company
- Pittsylvania County Schools
- Southern Virginia Higher Education Center
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- Virginia Tech – College of Natural Resources and Department of Wood Science and Forest Products

Statement of Purpose

- We seek to develop the human resource to enable a globally competitive and sustainable wood and renewable materials industry in Virginia.
- Our partnership is a collaboration of educational providers and business and industry partners who envision the future pathways to reach the potential of Virginia's human resource as the most important element of our economic and natural resources sustainability.
- We are creating educational pathways to create and retain the workforce of tomorrow in Virginia today - to secure our economic and natural resources sustainability for tomorrow.

Benefits

- Create a seamless educational and career pathway for high school and the adult learner that spans K-12 to the University.
- Respond to the changing workforce needs of the business communities.
- Capitalize on Virginia's natural resources, industrial base, and strengths of our educational providers.
- Contribute to the human resource, natural resources, and economic development of Southern Virginia.
- To capitalize on synergisms among the growing partnership as a key strategy for moving forward.

Who Should Attend

- Human Resource Directors
- Wood Industry CEOs and Senior Leadership
- Higher Education Institutions, Administrative Leadership and Faculty
- Public Education Officials, School System Administration and Career and Technical Education Teachers
- Economic Development Specialists
- Government and Community Leaders

Forest Products Club 2008 WOOD T-Shirts

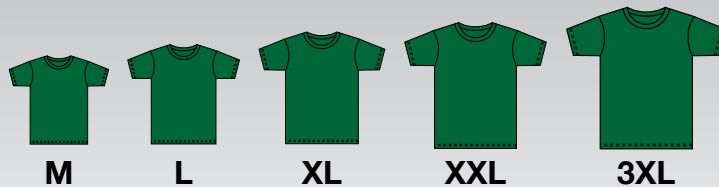
Brooks Forest Products Center
1650 Ramble Road
Blacksburg, VA 24061

230 Cheatham Hall
Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, VA 24061



\$12.00

Sizes Available



Cash or Checks (Payable to "FPS Society")

t-shirt design by Michael Elebash