

May 2007						
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3

# INSIDE VT WOOD

## Reminder...

Remember to submit department news items by Friday 3 p.m. of each week to Will Pfeil at [wpfeil@vt.edu](mailto:wpfeil@vt.edu) for inclusion in Inside VT WOOD each Monday morning. All past issues of Inside VT Wood reside on our department website under the publications link.

## Red Alert

Inside VT Wood will move to a summer publication schedule of twice per month beginning on June 1. Our weekly communication schedule will resume August 13, 2007.

## News From Paul Winistorfer

- Congratulations to our newest alumni in wood science and forest products. We wish you the very best in your new endeavors!
  - Thomas Blount**
  - Stuart Clontz**
  - Jonathan Frey**
  - Joshua Hartzog**
  - Benjamin Ralston**
- I have conducted senior exit interviews in the past week and will be summarizing responses and distributing to the faculty in the coming week. Opportunities and starting salaries remain strong for our graduates.
- Our Southside Virginia delegation is traveling this week to Michigan as we look as innovative programs in Michigan and move toward establishing an educational platform in Southside among many partners. Our tour stops will include West Ottawa High School and teacher Eric McCourt, Stiles Education and Stiles Machinery and host Duane Griffiths, Great Lake Woods and host Keith Malmstead and the Michigan Industrial and Technology Education Competition in Battle Creek. The Michigan state-wide competition will have over 1500 entries in various wood categories.
- Those traveling include:
  - Amy Lammerts**  
Southern Virginia Higher Education Center  
Director, Program Development, Marketing and Communications
  - Paul Nichols**, Executive Director of Administration  
Halifax County Public Schools
  - Gregg Mason**, Career and Technical Education Coordinator  
Danville Public Schools

**Jeff Arnold**, Danville Community College  
Director of Business, Industry & Economic Assistance

**Gerald Sexton**, Danville Community College  
Instructor/Coordinator, Center for Advanced Manufacturing in Wood Products Technology

**Scott Engleman**, Industrial Technology Truman High School

**Andrew Shockley**, Industrial Technology Truman High School

- Faculty – we are scheduled for a one day work session on the graduate program and other business for Thursday June 7. Location will be announced.

## Wood Enterprise Institute Update

12 of our undergraduate students have been very busy this past semester in helping us launch the Wood Enterprise Institute (WEI). WEI is a summer semester venture for our students to gain practical business management

experience in the design, manufacture, packaging, marketing, and selling of a wood product. Already during the Spring Semester, the students have created a business plan, marketing brochures, and some product prototypes to promote their venture. Starting at the beginning of Summer Semester on May 21, Brooks will be home of the WEI. Please stop by and visit.



L-R: Dr. Earl Kline, Adam Birkett, Kevin Knight, Wes Sanders, Dan Rothle, John Foster, Rob Hart, Kevin Eberling, Josh Hosen, Rebecca Dawson, Jesse Paris and Dr. Brian Bond. Not pictured Mike Elebash, Daniel Fore, and David Jones.



▲ Participants create and operate a dovetail drawer box assembly cell

## Lean Manufacturing Workshop

Earl Kline, Tim Stiess, and Garrett Norman joined with Brian Brashaw from University of Minnesota Duluth to conduct a wood products industry workshop on Lean Manufacturing on 7-9 May. 12 industry participants experienced the journey of continuous manufacturing improvement through a hands-on manufacturing simulation. The simulation illustrated how a dovetail



Participants in the May 2007 lean workshop ▶

drawer-box manufacturing process could be changed from a very unprofitable business unable to meet even a single customer order to an organized, methodical and profitable manufacturing operation. One participant commented that the “hands-on dovetail simulation on the first day is a strong motivator to learn more”.

## General Announcements

### VTF Year-End Closing Schedule

By Terri T. Mitchell (terrlicpa@vt.edu), CPA, Assistant Vice President and Controller

The Virginia Tech Foundation (VTF) strives to process every contribution and disbursement request received at fiscal year-end. Our year-end closing cutoff dates are driven by the requirement for compliance with GASB 39 with regard to inclusion of VTF audited financial data in the university’s financial statements. In order to meet the reporting deadlines, we have established the following year-end closing schedule:

**Requests for Payment** - Must be received by VTF no later than June 20, 2007.

**Fund Transfers** - Requests for fund transfers by journal entry must be received by VTF no later than June 22, 2007.

**Contributions** - All gifts to be counted as fiscal year 2007 must be received by VTF no later than June 30, 2007. Endowment gifts received after this date will not be sent to Mellon Bank until September 2007.

We understand that some departments may be experiencing additional workloads due to the tragic events of April 16th, so please notify our office if we may be of assistance in helping you meet these deadlines. We appreciate your cooperation, and should you have any questions please call VTF Accounting at 231-2858.