

# INSIDE VT WOOD

## News from Paul Winistorfer

Thanks for tuning in to our new electronic weekly newsletter Inside VT Wood. Inside VT Wood will work if we want it to; contribute and make it a vehicle to increase our community and communication in the department. Submissions are welcome by everyone in the department throughout the week until 3 p.m. Friday. Submit items to Will Pfeil at [wpfeil@vt.edu](mailto:wpfeil@vt.edu).

## Assistant Department Head Named

I have asked Dr. Audrey Zink-Sharp if she will assist me with additional duties in the department as assistant department head. Audrey has accepted and will begin immediately. As you know Audrey is organized, detailed, thorough and meets deadlines. Audrey is dedicated to our department and is enthusiastic about all we do. It helps me greatly that she is located in Cheatham Hall. I need this type of assistance to keep things moving in the main office and as I prepare to move forward with a significant focus on developing new resources for our program. Audrey will have specific responsibilities outlined and will serve in my capacity when I am traveling. She will have signing authority. Audrey will not function in annual reviews or in allocating budget resources across faculty. I ask that you give Audrey and me your support as we move forward with this new model. Clearly, we are moving forward to develop new resources for our program and faculty. Audrey will continue to function in her normal teaching and research role, and as Director of SEMI – so I am asking her to do more to assist our program. My thanks to Audrey for accepting my invitation to assist the department as needed to move forward.

## Winistorfer and Dean Kelly to Meet with Dr. Steger

Paul Winistorfer and Dean Kelly will meet with Dr. Steger at 2 p.m. Friday April 14 to discuss department plans for moving forward with development initiatives and infrastructure discussion.

## Curriculum Materials Approved by CUC Thursday April 6

All pending department curriculum changes were passed by the Commission on Undergraduate Curriculum on Thursday afternoon. There are no other pending department curriculum issues pending.

### Those items approved include:

- A new department minor in Packaging Science (this stands alone on the campus)
- Approval of new option Wood Structures and Materials (this completes all 6 new options)
- Change course number WOOD/FOR 3784 to WOOD 2784 World Forestry and Forest Products
- Change course numbers for WOOD 4315/4316 to WOOD 3315/3316 as a sequence. Also change credit hours of Wood 3315 from 2 to 3 credits.

- Approve new course WOOD 3224 – Packaging and Materials Handling was approved with changes; those changes incorporated to include page numbers on suggested text, changes in verbiage per the hand written notes on the original submission
- Approve new course WOOD 2124 Wood Structure and Properties (drop WOOD 3114 Wood Structure, Processing and Properties)
- Approve new course Wood 3124 Paper and Paperboard Packaging – the prereq was changed to WOOD 2124 Wood Structure and Properties (which was approved at the 2/16/06 CUC meeting).
- Approve new course Wood 4024 Packaging Dynamics for Distribution – prerequisites addressed and appropriately changed to WOOD 3224 Packaging and Materials Handling. Justification on prerequisites added.
- All new checksheets are now available on the department website for download. There are no new curriculum issues pending for the department.

### **Visitors Coming to the Department Week of April 10th**

Forest Products Society Executive Director Carol Lewis coming to Virginia Tech April 10th (Monday) to meet our faculty, staff and students. There is a reception at the BROOKS FOREST PRODUCTS CENTER ON MONDAY APRIL 10TH AT 3 PM. Come and meet Carol, and learn about the Society.

American Woodmark will be here on Monday April 10th for a presentation to our students at 5 p.m. at the Brooks Center. 4 American Woodmark Executives will be present, including COO Kent Guichard. Help the department welcome and support their effort to reach our students.

### **WERC/Pipestem Conference**

Paul Winistorfer, Bob Youngs, Brian Perkins, Tim Stieess, and Peter Hamner will attend the Wood Education and Resource Center sponsored conference Tuesday and Wednesday April 11-12 at Pipestem State Park titled: Helping the Wood Products Industry Profit From the Next 10 Years

### **Overhead for Buildings**

Please see the Provost's website for update and information on VT plans to move forward with building surge space in the CRC to accommodate space needs across the campus. Grant and contract overhead is an important and critical component to this program. Faculty are advised to be familiar with the report to the Provost chaired by CE head Bill Knocke.

<http://www.provost.vt.edu/> CRC Space Committee's Final Report

### **VT Strategic Plan Update**

Please see the Provost's website for update on the development of the VT Strategic Plan. The College is integral to the planning process.

[www.provost.vt.edu](http://www.provost.vt.edu) Strategic Plan Update

### **Wood Magic was Present at Timber Truss Housing Systems Open House Sat. April 8**

Audrey Zink-Sharp took Wood Magic to Timber Truss Housing in Salem for their open house on Saturday April 8. The request came from Timber Truss President Gary Saunders. Timber Truss has hired 12 WSFP graduates over the past decade. Jon Sharp helped Audrey deliver programming from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m..

### **Scholarship Support Offered to 5 Incoming Freshman**

The department has offered scholarship support from the SE Dry Kiln Club to 5 new incoming freshman in our

program. Each student was offered \$500 and must confirm acceptance by May 15th – our internal deadline for scholarship applications. If any of the 5 new students decline our offer and do not enroll at VT—we will redirect support.

## **CORRIM Summary Materials Available**

Last week Bruce Lippke from the University of Washington came to campus and presented the CORRIM Phase I research findings on environmental footprints of materials used in residential housing. You can find all CORRIM results, and a nicely produced piece of streaming video that is an overall summary of CORRIM at [www.corrim.org](http://www.corrim.org). You may be able to use this information in class, seminars, or short courses.

## **A Very Useful Image Gallery with Many Products Slide**

Go to the University of Washington Rural Technology Initiative website for some very interesting and excellent images of wood products.

[http://www.ruraltech.org/projects/image\\_archive/](http://www.ruraltech.org/projects/image_archive/)

## **Department Creative Achievements 2004 Wins Statewide Award — Just Announced in April**

Creative Achievements 2004 has garnered first place in the Printing Excellence graphic communications competition sponsored by the Printing Industries of Virginia. Congratulations to Arlice Banks who designed it, to Angela Riegel who pulled together content, and to Michael Abrams of Christiansburg Printing for printing it. Our visual image is critical to relating our program to our constituents, friends, alumni, campus colleagues and our university leadership. Congratulations to all. Creative Achievements 2005-2006 promises to be even better.



## **Important Dates Career Services Directions Career Fair**

Monday, April 10, 2006

5:30 p.m.- 7:30 p.m. - Recruiter Reception

American Woodmark will give a presentation to our students at 5 p.m. at the Brooks Center. Four American Woodmark Executives will be present, including COO Kent Guichard. Help the department welcome and support their effort to reach our students.

Tuesday, April 11, 2006

10:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. - Career Fair - Squires, Commonwealth Ballroom & Old Dominion Ballroom

Wednesday, April 12, 2006 (if selected by employer)

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. - Interview Day - Career Services Building

**Note** - there are always 4-6 wood industry companies present at our on-campus career fairs. Take a few minutes to attend this week - meet with our industry representatives and welcome them to our campus.

- The following wood industry companies are registered:
- 84 Lumber
- American Woodmark Corporation

- Jeld-Wen Windows and Doors
- Potomac Supply Corporation
- Rex Lumber Company
- Royal Mouldings Limited
- The Mann and Parker Lumber Company

## **Center for Unit Load Design**

- The March issue of Modern Materials Handling features an in-depth interview (pp. 53 - 58) titled, "Marshall White on the State of Pallets - Modern discusses worldwide pallet usage trends with the director of the Center for Unit Load Design at Virginia Tech."
- The Center for Unit Load Design participated in NA2006 (Material Handling and Logistics Tradeshow) in Cleveland, March 27 - 30, 2006. Participation included a booth at the show and a well-attended open floor seminar, "The Case for Developing Systems-based Design of Unit Loads", by Marshall White.
- Ralph Rupert was at Weyerhaeuser last week (April 1) teaching his corrugated short course. This week (April 11 - 13), the Center will be teaching its Unit Load Design Short Course at the Inn.
- Due to departmental Wood Week activities the week of October 2nd, the Basic Corrugated Packaging and Unit Load Design short course has been rescheduled to October 2 - 3, 2006 (changed from October 4 - 5, 2006). Please note the date change as this course has been globally advertised with the original dates.

## **Macromolecules and Interfaces Institute**

MII will conduct its regular 18 month review at the Inn at Virginia Tech Monday April 10th to Wednesday April 12th. Maren Roman (1:45), Scott Rennekar (2:55), and Darren Riedlinger (3:25) will be presenting Tuesday afternoon in the Solitude Room at the Inn during Session IV: Macromolecular Science/Engineering at the interface with Sustainable Materials. Come support us!