

October 2007						
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# 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.

## News From Paul Winistorfer

- The department was represented at the College Showcase last Saturday as part of the activities on campus that included Parents Weekend, the Campaign for Virginia Tech kick-off, and the Ut Prosim gathering. We had our display set up in Squires and visited with many



interesting people and students. Out of these conversations, one student has already switched into our major, and two more are considering a move to Wood Science.



- I want to recognize Phil Araman's contributions to our program for his instruction of WOOD 1234 again this semester. We are actively recruiting from this course and have four students considering a switch to our major. Thanks Phil for your continued efforts on behalf of our department.
- Tomorrow we host a delegation from Congressman Boucher's office at Brooks from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm. This is a group touring business incubators around the state, and they are interested in our programs as there is a move to create an incubator in the Covington area and we may have some engagement with this as it moves forward.
- Dr. David Damery, Assoc. Professor and Director of Building Materials and Wood Technology at the University of Massachusetts will be visiting our department for three days from October 29-31. This is a visit scheduled as a mini-portion of a sabbatical leave for Dr. Damery. He is interested in visiting with faculty, guest lecturing in classes, learning of our initiatives, opportunities for collaboration, and to bring news and information from the Massachusetts program. We will seek opportunities on campus for Dr. Damery to be engaged with other relevant programs (Building Construction, Architecture, Civil Engineering). Dr. Damery's contact information is:

Dr. David Damery, Associate Professor  
 Room 120, Holdsworth Natural Resources Center  
 University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003  
 Tel. 413-545-1770  
<http://www.umass.edu/bmatwt/>

### **Training, Testing and Certifying Your Manufacturing Employees Webinar Broadcast**

The Woodworking Machinery Industry Association (WMIA) is hosting a webinar on November 6 titled "Training, Testing and Certifying Your Manufacturing Employees". The program speaker is Chris Hallam of American Woodmark Corporation. Paul Winistorfer will moderate the broadcast. The broadcast is free, but you must register. You can register at <http://www.iiian.ibeam.com/events/watt001/23803/>

### **Rupert and Maccubbin Represented CULD at Pack Expo 2007**

Ralph Rupert and Bonnie Maccubbin represented the Center for Unit Load Design and the Packaging Science program at Pack Expo 2007 in Las Vegas last week (October 15 - 17). Pack Expo is sponsored by the Packaging Machinery Manufacturer's Institute (PMMI). The Center's booth was in PMMI's Educational and Workforce Development Pavilion with 9 other packaging schools. The show gave the opportunity to visit with current and prospective center clientele, while interacting with other packaging programs and students (many of whom are looking for graduate school opportunities).

### **Smith and Parhizkar Presented at the 17th Annual Transport Symposium**

Bob Smith and Omid Parhizkar presented at the International Forest Products Transport Association's 17th Annual Transport Symposium in Mobile Alabama on October 16th. The title of their presentation was "Transportation: Impacts on the US Hardwood Industry."

Bob Smith also published an article in the fall issue of the Engineered Wood Journal. The title of the article is "Sales Savvy: Tips on Forest Industry Sales Methods and Techniques."

## General Announcements

### Call for Papers: 3rd Annual ACC Undergraduate Research Conference, April 17-19, 2008 at FSU

By Mike Ellerbrock (mebrock@vt.edu), Special Assistant to the Provost for Undergraduate Research & Advising

The ACC university presidents use proceeds from the ACC championship football game to sponsor this conference on undergraduate research, featuring student presentations of four competitively-selected papers/creative works from each institution. Students' registration, travel, lodging and daytime meals expenses are covered by the ACC. I accompanied our students last year and heartily endorse the experience for our undergraduates.

I am writing to solicit your involvement in promoting and submitting papers/works for the conference. Each Virginia Tech College (via its Associate Dean for Academic Affairs) may nominate up to three papers/works for selection as one of VT's four representatives. The one-page "Application Cover Sheet" with Submission Guidelines is available from your College Associate Dean. Please note the deadlines below. Write/call (1-3842) if you have questions.

Thanks, Mike

#### Deadlines and Review Process

1. Students must submit their application packets on or before Monday, December 3rd, 2007 at 5:00 PM to their College Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
2. Each College Associate Dean can nominate three proposals from their college by Friday, January 18th, 2008 at 5:00 PM to Mike Ellerbrock at UCUE, 122 Hillcrest Hall - 0903.
3. Our ACC Undergraduate Research Conference proposal review committee will review the Colleges' nominations and identify the four presenters by Feb 1st, 2008.

### U.S. Forest Service Chief Abigail Kimbell Announced Today Key Personnel Changes for Research and Development Within the Agency

WASHINGTON, October 19, 2007

Dr. Jim Reaves has been selected as Director of the Southern Research Station in Asheville, N.C. He will replace Dr. Pete Roussopoulos who has announced his retirement after 35 years of service to the agency. Reaves most recently serves as the Associate Deputy Chief for Research and Development in Washington, D.C. He received his B.S. Degree from Voorhees College and his M.S. and Ph. D. Degrees from the University of Atlanta.

Dr. David Cleaves, currently the Station Director at the Rocky Mountain Research Station, has accepted the position of Associate Deputy Chief for Research and Development vacated by Reaves. Formerly, Cleaves was a staff director in Washington and also served as a National Program Leader for Fire Systems Research. Cleaves has a B.S. and M.S. Degree from Michigan State University and a Ph.D. in economics from Texas A&M University.

Dr. George S. (Sam) Foster has accepted the position of Station Director of the Rocky Mountain Research Station located in Fort Collins, Colo., vacated by Cleaves. Foster has been the Director of Resource Use Science Research Staff in Washington and is internationally known for work in forest genetics. Foster received his M.S. and B.S. Degrees from the University of Tennessee and a Ph.D. in forest genetics and silviculture from Oregon State University.

"The Forest Service is so fortunate to have visionary leadership to face challenges of the future," stated Chief Kimbell. "We have benefited from the extraordinary expertise of Pete Roussopoulos over the past 35 years. Although his retirement is our loss, we are confident that outstanding leadership will continue within Research and Development with the selection of these superb individuals."

The new assignments are expected to be effective in January 2008.