

April 2007						
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INSIDE WOOD

Reminder...

Remember to submit department news items by Friday 3 p.m. of each week to Will Pfeil at 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

- Inside VT Wood has reached a milestone! April 10th marked the end of an entire year of Monday morning communications – 43 issues were assembled in the past 52 weeks. Thank you all for contributing updates, announcements, and information about your teaching, research and outreach programming. Inside VT Wood is distributed to our entire department, the CNR administrative team, and stakeholders both in Virginia and nationally. I know our commitment to communicating about our people and programs is helping us to shape the future of our department. Thank you for contributing and for reading! I welcome your suggestions on any ways we can improve our department communications and our department overall. My thanks to Will Pfeil who has worked with me to format Inside VT Wood. Will's work on behalf of our department continues at the highest levels of quality and excellence across our print and web media. Thanks Will!
- We had a fruitful meeting with representatives from Mead Westvaco last Monday. We will pursue continued interaction with them, including participation in Wood Week at Virginia Tech. We have opportunities in all areas of our program to build a partnership with them.
- This week is administrative and professionals week. We are planning recognition of our great staff in the department. Plan to join us; announcement forthcoming.

Southside Partners Visit Georgia Tech Advanced Wood Products Laboratory

By Paul Winistorfer

Last Friday a group from Southside joined me in a tour and discussion of programming at the Advanced Wood Products Laboratory, College of Architecture, Georgia Tech in Atlanta, Georgia. Partners from the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center and Danville Community College engaged Director Karl Brohammer in discussion about the AWPL, educational programming, equipment, industry partnerships and their niche on the Georgia Tech campus. We had a fruitful discussion and visiting this state-of-the-art lab and educational programming facility was important as we formulate efforts on Southside. Soon, we will be traveling to Grand Rapids Michigan to visit the Stiles Machinery educational facility and several WoodLINKS sites in the Grand Rapids area. Thanks to Karl Brohammer and his colleagues for hosting us and opening their facility to our Virginia delegation.



(L-R) Ted Bennett, Director Southern Virginia Higher Education Center; Karl Brohammer, Director Advanced Wood Products Lab Georgia Tech; Russell T. Gentry, Associate Director of Research AWPL; Jeff Arnold, Director of Workforce Development Danville Community College; Amy Lammerts Associate Director Southern Virginia Higher Education Center; Gerald Sexton, Instructor Center for Advanced Manufacturing in Wood Products Technology, Danville Community College; Dr. Paul Winistorfer, Head Department of Wood Science and Forest Products, Virginia Tech.



The Advanced Wood Products Laboratory, College of Architecture at Georgia Tech is a state-of-the-art secondary wood products manufacturing and training facility. The AWPL has positioned itself with the College of Architecture as an integral component of the senior design studio where students design, prototype, and build furniture and furnishings. Georgia Tech design students have placed or won recent national design competitions.

Kline to Chair “New Strategic Perspectives” in Boston

Earl Kline is chairing a session, “New Strategic Perspectives” at the Sloan Foundation’s 2007 Annual Industry Studies Conference in Boston, MA on April 26, 2007. For more information on the conference and access to on-line papers of the presentations, please visit: <http://web.mit.edu/sis07/www/program.htm>.

Smith Speaks at 2007 VFA

Bob Smith was a speaker at the 2007 Virginia Forestry Association meeting held in Williamsburg, VA on 4/20 and 4/21 this month. The title of the presentation was “Forest Biomass Utilization in Virginia”.

Smith and Miller Lecture at VT Caribbreen Center

Bob Smith and Chad Miller, Economic Development Specialist VT, recently lectured at the Virginia Tech Caribbean Center for Education and Research (CCER) Ecological Foundation in PUNTACANA, Dominica Republic. They participated with a class of 11 Virginia Tech students discussing trade issues between the U.S. and the Dominican Republic. During their visit they had the opportunity to visit a number of wood products companies importing SYP from the US and tropical hardwoods from South America and Africa.

