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# INSIDE VT WOOD

## Reminder...

Remember to submit department news items by Friday 3 pm 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

I will be conducting exit interviews of graduating students over the coming weeks — both undergraduate and graduate. This feedback is an important conduit for the department as we strive to improve all qualities and experiences of our educational programs. Summary results are posted each semester on our intraweb site.

## Join Us For Lunch with our Staff on Wednesday

We'd like to show our appreciation to our great department staff by hosting them at lunch on Wednesday the 26th. Join us for lunch, good conversation, and a show of appreciation to our staff who work so hard to support the faculty and the department. Location to be announced. Lunch will be at 11:30 am

## Department Meeting Postponed

The regularly scheduled department meeting planned for Tuesday April 25th is postponed for several weeks (date to be announced). There is no pressing department business. We will meet as a department before the semester is over, or immediately after.

## Thermax-Thermatron Corporation Visiting

John Hokanson and colleagues from Thermatron Corporation of Hauppauge, Long Island New York are visiting Tuesday April 25 with Paul Winistorfer, Wolfgang Glasser and Bob Wright about steam explosion infrastructure and capabilities.

## Last WOOD 5004 Graduate Seminar Presentation of the Semester

Brian Perkins (MS Candidate with Bob Smith) will make the final WOOD 5004 Graduate Seminar Presentation of the semester on Tuesday Afternoon at 3:30 Brooks Classroom. The title of Brian's presentation is "A Business Model for a Small Diameter Processing Facility in Southwest VA". Come and show your support for Brian and our graduate seminar in the department.

## **Second Bioprocessing/Biomaterials Candidate to Interview This Week**

Dr. Mark Davis will be interviewing on Thursday and Friday of this week for the bioprocessing/biomaterials cluster hire position. Dr. Davis is a scientist at the National Renewable Energy Lab in Golden Colorado. Candidate resumes are available at the front desk at Cheatham and Brooks. The interview schedule is as follows:

### **Dr. Mark Davis—Interview Schedule, Bioprocess/Biomaterials Cluster Hire**

#### **Thursday, April 27, 2006**

7:00 – 8:00	Breakfast with Search Committee (all 3 candidates)	The Inn
8:15 – 9:15	meet with Dept. Head	230 Cheatham
9:20 – 9:40	meet with Cheatham faculty	230 Cheatham
9:50 – 10:20	meet with Brooks faculty	Brooks conference room
10:20 – 11:00	meet with grad. students, post docs, research associates, USFS, technical and clerical staff	Brooks conference room
11:00 – 12:00	tour of facilities	
12:00 – 1:00	lunch with Wood Science and Forest Products faculty	
1:00 – 2:00	meet with Forestry faculty and possibly tour new building and VBI	230 Cheatham
2:00 – 2:30	prepare for seminar	Fralin auditorium
2:30 – 5:30	seminars (all 3 candidates)	Fralin auditorium
6:30 – 8:30	dinner with Search Committee	Vincent's

#### **Friday, April 28, 2006**

7:00 – 8:00	Breakfast with Search Committee	The Inn
8:30 – 9:15	meet with CNR Dean, Mike Kelly	324 Cheatham
9:30 – 10:00	meet with Search Committee (all 3 candidates)	Cheatham
10:00 – 10:30	meet with WS & FP search committee members	
11:15 – 12:00	meet with Dept. Head	230 Cheatham
12:00 – 1:00	lunch	
1:30 – 3:00	meet with real estate agent for tour of Blacksburg (all 3 candidates)	pick up at Cheatham
3:30	depart for Roanoke Airport	

## New Check Sheets Available On-Line

Newly designed check sheets for each option in the major are now downloadable on-line via our website. The sheets were redesigned by Will Pfeil and include career opportunities, courses required for the option, and the 4-year check sheet. We are working over the coming month to improve our 'recruiting package' of materials for prospective students.

## CSREES Review Report Now Available

The final report of the Comprehensive Program Review of the College of Natural Resources conducted by the United States Department of Agriculture Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES), Natural Resources and Environment is now available. The review was conducted September 18-22, 2005. The final report is posted to the department intraweb site under the heading of CSREES Reports. There are sections in the report about each department in the college.

## Contributions to the Jean Stromberg and E. George Stern Memorial Scholarship

Recently we have had many contributions to the E. George Stern Memorial Scholarship. The name of the scholarship has been changed to reflect the memory of Jean Stromberg, George and Marianne's daughter who died unexpectedly last Thanksgiving. George and Marianne's eldest son John recently celebrated his 60 birthday and challenged his friends and guests to bring a donation to the scholarship fund to the party rather than a gift. His thoughtful suggestion and those generous actions of his guests generated about \$5,000 additional monies for the fund. Thanks John and Marianne for your continued support. We will make significant awards from this and all of our scholarship funds after May 15th.

## DOE Biomass Initiative Newsletter - <http://www.biomass.govtools.us/>

You can subscribe to the DOE Monthly Biomass Initiative Newsletter on-line at <http://bcsmain.com/mlists/?p=subscribe&id=2> The feature article this month is Biorefineries: Building the Road from Petroleum to Biomass

## Post-Graduate Survey Results Available

The Post-Graduation Survey of the 2004-2005 academic-year Virginia Tech bachelor's degree graduates, administered by Career Services, is complete and the Post-Graduation Report is online at <http://www.career.vt.edu/PostGraduationReport/>

The Report tells our graduates' pursuits — employment, graduate or professional school, etc. -- (and much more) up to six months following commencement.

I invite you to view the Report, and share this with your colleagues. You'll see that you can view the report for the whole university, by college and by major. I have also prepared Highlights of the 2004-2005 report with select comparisons to 2003-2004 data. In lieu of this being attached, it's online in PDF format at <http://www.career.vt.edu/PostGrad/Highlights2004-2005Report.pdf>.

All bachelor's degree graduates of Virginia Tech are invited to complete the online Post-Graduation Survey, which opens just prior to commencement and closes six (6) months after commencement. The Virginia Tech PID and password are required for login to the survey, ensuring that only our graduates respond.

For the 2004-2005 academic year bachelor's degree graduates:

The survey was open for December 2004 graduates from December 2004 through June 2005, and was open for May and summer 2005 graduates from May to December 2005.

Our **response rate was 56%** (same for 2003-2004 graduates). The response rate, of course, varies by college and by major, and you can view that in the online report. These graduates reported over **800 employing organizations** and **over 120 graduate and professional schools** (and other institutions).

If you have specific questions about the report or desire more information, please contact Catherine Copeland: [copeland@vt.edu](mailto:copeland@vt.edu) or 231-6241.

Catherine Copeland  
Assistant Director for Assessment  
Career Services (0128)

**The Department of Science and Technology in Society at Virginia Tech presents:**

**Andrew Jamison**  
**Aalborg University, Denmark**  
**Monday, April 24, 2006**

There are several opportunities to hear and discuss Jamison's work or to meet with him individually:

**12:00 - 1:30 p.m.:** Roundtable lunch discussion (brown-bag): a brief presentation by Jamison on *Urban Environmentalism - From Mumford to Malmö*, followed by a discussion of this and other topics.

Location: 132 Lane Hall

**4:00 p.m.:** STS Seminar - *Green Knowledge and the Challenge of Globalization*

Location: 1000 Torgersen Hall

**Abstract:**

In spite of ever more money being spent on science and technology the state of the global environment continues to deteriorate. Drawing on the recent book, *Hubris and Hybrids. A Cultural History of Technology and Science* (Routledge, 2005) that he has written with Mikael Hård, as well as his earlier *The Making of Green Knowledge* (Cambridge, 2002) Andrew Jamison will discuss this contradiction in terms of a tension between the "hubris" of global technoscience and the "hybrids" of green knowledge-making. He will also discuss some of the lessons that can be learned by the populist reactions to environmentalism that have been so significant in Denmark in recent years.

Andrew Jamison is professor of technology and society at Aalborg University, in Denmark.

In addition to the books mentioned above, Dr. Jamison recommends the article "Learning from Lomborg, or Where Do Anti-Environmentalists Come From" that was published in *Science as Culture*, 2004.