Center for Forest Products Business

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Industry Studies Center

Department of

SUSTAINABLE
BIOMATERIALS

College of Natural Resources and Environment

Virginia Tech

Invent the Future

Reporting Period July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020
# Table of Contents

Letter from Director ................................................................. 2  
Participating Faculty and Staff .................................................. 3  
Mission ................................................................. 3  
Proposals Funded .......................................................... 4  
Refereed Publications ....................................................... 4  
Trade Journal Publications Refereed .......................................... 5  
Extension Publications ...................................................... 5  
Other Publications .......................................................... 6  
Graduate Thesis/Dissertations ................................................ 6  
Presentations ............................................................. 6  
Short Courses & Continuing Education ...................................... 7  
Courses Taught ............................................................ 7  
Members ................................................................. 8
Hello from your Center,

I am not sure how to start this letter for 2020. These are unprecedented times and I know your organization has been greatly impacted by this pandemic, just as we have at Virginia Tech. From a marketing viewpoint, nothing really makes sense. Hardwood lumber production is down, housing is up, and softwood lumber prices hit record highs this year. Exports are down and imports are down. We all are getting fatigued of various lockdowns and the daily reminder of how many people are sick, or what small business in our neighborhood had to close its doors due to Covid-19. Yet, the economy keeps plugging away behind all the masks. The positive side of this is businesses are finding new ways to satisfy customer needs which will help them in the future and new businesses are being created that will serve us better after this pandemic has passed.

It is hard to believe that another year has passed and we welcomed 160+ students back in late August. Many of you have hired them for summer internships. When we visit with you during the student interviews, internships are one of the major factors’ employers are looking for when they hire new permanent workers. There is no substitute for good experiences in your mills or offices. We again thank you for helping our students gather this valuable experience. We currently have one of the largest undergraduate enrollments in the department’s 40+ year history. We virtually graduated over 50 students last May, with many of them finding employment within our industry.

As I mentioned last year, I have stepped down as Department Head the end of 2019 in preparation for my retirement. The Department hired Dr. Ching Huang from the Northern Arizona State University’s Forestry College. She started in January and unfortunately was hit dealing with the pandemic as part of her first duties. She is a Forest Economist by training, so she has a business background.

I want to thank you for your continued support of our programs. I hope you will contact us with your needs for employees or summer interns. Many of our classes have projects and if you need a short specific project investigated, please contact me and I will see if we can work it into a class. Please feel free to contact me with any comments or suggestions to improve the program (rsmith4@vt.edu). Again, thanks for your support of our students and I wish you a successful year.

Sincerely,

Bob Smith

“A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.”

Winston Churchill
Participating Faculty and Staff

Robert Smith  
**Director, Department Head and Professor**  
rsmith4@vt.edu

Henry Quesada  
**Assistant Director and Associate Professor**  
quesada@vt.edu

Bob Bush  
**Professor, Sustainable Biomaterials**  
rbus@vt.edu

Tom Hammett  
**Professor, Sustainable Biomaterials**  
himal@vt.edu

Earl Kline  
**Professor, Sustainable Biomaterials**  
kline@vt.edu

Angela Riegel  
**Program Specialist, Sustainable Biomaterials**  
ariegel@vt.edu

Mission

*To assist the forest products industry by improving the management of their operations and the marketing of their products.*
Proposals Funded:

Evaluating Vacuum and Steam Heat As A Methyl Bromide Alternate Phase II Control Of Pinewood Nematode In Pine And Oak Wilt In White Oak Logs, USDA NIFA, Department of Agriculture, Maximum Amount: USD 491,725, Amount Awarded to Date: USD $491,725, Principal Investigators: Chen Zhangjing (40%), White Marshall S (40%), Eisenback Jonathan D (10%), Quesada Henry J (10%), Chen Z; Eisenback J; Quesada H; White M, 09/01/2019-08/31/2021

Refereed Publications:


Trade Journal Publications Refereed:


Extension Publications:

SBIO extension newsletter, Editor of the SBio extension newsletter, published three times per year, 2014-Present, Editor/curator

Sustainable Innovation Management (SIM) web page, Web manager and editor of the SIM web page, 2010-Present, Editor/curator
Other Publications:


Graduate Thesis/Dissertations:

Juan Gonzalez, May 2020, Thermally-modified lumber, Henry Quesada (co-advisor)

Presentations:


Smith, R. 2019. *The State of Wood Science Education in the US*. Presented to the faculty and Administration of the University of Primorska in Koper, Slovenia
**Short Courses & Continuing Education:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Course name</th>
<th># of Students</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 2020</td>
<td>Information Technologies for Supply Chain Management</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1 hour weekly meetings with industry participants. Cojointly organized with the School of Industrial Engineering at Costa Rica Tech. Virtual short course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 2019</td>
<td>Basics of Thermally-modified wood</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Department of Forestry of Virginia. Charlottesville, VA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 2019</td>
<td>101 Wood Basics/NAWLA</td>
<td>45</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 2019</td>
<td>Experiential Learning for Agroforestry High School Teachers</td>
<td>148</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Courses Taught:**

- **SBIO 3464 Forest Products Business**  
  Semester: Spring 2020  
  Credit Hours: 3  
  Instructor(s): Henry Quesada  
  No of students: 56

- **SBIO 5004 Seminar**  
  Semester: Spring 2020  
  Credit Hours: 1  
  Instructor(s): Bob Smith

- **SBIO 5614 Forest Products Marketing and Management**  
  Semester: Fall 2019  
  Credit Hours: 3  
  Instructor(s): Bob Smith and Henry Quesada

- **SBIO 5974 Undergraduate Research**  
  Semester: Fall 2019  
  Credit Hours: 3  
  Instructor(s): Henry Quesada  
  No of students: 1
Members

**Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc.**
PO Box 427, High Point, NC  27261

**Phone:**  (336) 885-8315;  **Fax:**  (336) 886-8865  
**Email:**  [tom@appalachianwood.org](mailto:tom@appalachianwood.org);  **Website:**  [www.appalachianwood.org](http://www.appalachianwood.org)

**Contact:**  Tom Inman, President

AHMI is an association that promotes logs, lumber and products from the Appalachian region.

**Atlanta Hardwood Corporation**
5596 Riverview Road, Mableton, GA  30126-2914

**Phone:**  (404) 792-2290;  **Fax:**  (404) 792-2294  
**Email:**  [ahc@hardwoodweb.com](mailto:ahc@hardwoodweb.com);  **Website:**  [www.hardwoodweb.com](http://www.hardwoodweb.com)

**Contacts:**  James W. Howard, Jr., President;  Marty Payny, Sales Manager;  and  Patrick G. Altham, VP Export

**Products:**  boards, common; boards, select; flooring; moulding

**Species:**  alder, ash, basswood, beech, cherry, hickory, imported hardwoods, mahogany, hard maple, soft maple, white maple, red oak, white oak, poplar, walnut, eastern white pine

**Baillie Lumber Company**
PO Box 6, Hamburg, NY  14075

**Phone:**  (716) 649-2850;  **Fax:**  (716) 649-2811  
**Email:**  [information@baillie.com](mailto:information@baillie.com);  **Website:**  [www.baillie.com](http://www.baillie.com)

**Contacts:**  Jeff Meyer, President;  Kenneth A. Philbrick, Yard Operations Manager

**Products:**  boards, common; boards, select

**Species:**  ash, basswood, beech, birch, cherry, red elm, hickory, hard maple, soft maple, red oak, white oak, poplar, walnut
Bingaman & Son Lumber, Inc.
PO Box 247, Kreamer, PA 17833

Phone: (570) 374-1108; Fax: (570) 374-5342
Email: cbingaman@bingamanlumber.com; Website: www.bingamanlumber.com

Contacts: Chris Bingaman, Vice President Operations/Sales Manager

Products: boards, common; boards select; glued-up stock; furniture dimension

Species: ash, basswood, birch, cherry, hickory, mahogany, hard maple, soft maple, red oak, white oak, poplar, black walnut, eastern white pine

Boehm-Madisen Lumber Co., Inc.
PO Box 906, Brookfield, WI 53008-0906

Phone: (262) 544-4660; Fax: (262) 544-0795
Email: boehmmad@execpc.com

Contacts: Thomas J. Kestly, Sr.

Products: boards, common; boards, select; flooring; timbers; cutstock; log cabin siding; glued-up stock; pattern stock; decking, laminated; decking, roof; dimension, furniture; dimension, precut; edge-glued products;

Danzer Group
Danzer Veneer Americas, PO Box 3455, Williamsport, PA 17701

Phone: (570) 322-4400; Fax: (570) 322-7213
Email: vijay_reddy@danzerveneer.com; Website: www.danzerveneer.com

Contact: Dr. Vijay Reddy, Vice President, (724) 827-8366 Darlington, PA.

Products: veneers for panel, furniture, door, cabinet, edge-banding and flooring, dimension, dry; cutstock; glued-up stock; moulding; fingerjoint stock; furniture dimension; window & sash stock

Species: white ash, aspen, basswood, birch, cherry, black cypress, hickory, hard maple, poplar, red oak, soft maple, white maple, white oak, walnut ash
Fitzpatrick & Weller, Inc.
PO Box 490, Ellicottville, NY 14731-0490

Phone: (716) 699-2393; Fax: (716) 699-2893
Email: sales@fitzweller.com; Website: www.fitzweller.com

Contacts: Dana Fitzpatrick, Executive Vice President

Products: boards, common; boards, select; dimension, dry; glued-up stock; moulding; dimension, furniture

Species: ash, white ash, basswood, beech, birch, cherry, hickory, maple, hard maple, soft maple, white maple, red oak, white oak, poplar, hemlock, eastern white pine

Frank Miller Lumber Company, Inc.
1690 Frank Miller Road, Union City, IN 47390

Phone: (765)-964-3196; Fax: (765)-964-6618
Email: clea@frankmiller.com; Website: www.frankmiller.com

Contacts: Martha Miller Mathias – President, CEO, COB

Products: boards, common; boards, select; dimension, green, quarter rift lumber

Species: white ash, basswood, beech, cherry, elm, hackberry, hard maple, soft maple, white maple, red oak, white oak, yellow poplar, black walnut

Hardwood Manufacturers Association
665 Rodi Road, Suite 305, Pittsburgh, PA 15235

Phone: (412) 244-0440; Fax: (412) 244-9090
Website: info@hardwood.org

Contacts: Linda Jovanovich

HMA is an association that assists the furniture, flooring, kitchen and bath, and moulding and woodwork industries with hardwood information.
Hardwood Market Report
PO Box 2633, Memphis, TN 38088-2633

Phone: (901) 767-9126; Fax: (901) 767-7534
Email: hmr@hmr.com; Website: www.hmr.com

Contact: Judd Johnson, Editor

Hardwood Market Report, established in 1922, is a weekly publication giving benchmark pricing information and marketing commentary on North American hardwood lumber and the hardwood products industry.

Industrial Timber & Lumber Company
23925 Commerce Park, Beachwood, OH 44122

Phone: (216) 831-3140; Fax: (216) 831-4734
Email: sales@itlcorp.com; Website: http://www.itlcorp.com

Contacts: Larry Evans, President

ISK Biocides, IBC manufacturing
416 E. Brooks Road, Memphis, TN 38109-0158

Phone: (901) 344 5350; Fax: (901) 344 5387
Email: info@ibio.com

Contact: Joe Ignatoski, President, COO; Lance Johnson, District Sales Supervisor

Products: sap stain and mold preventatives; industrial wood preservatives; WOODguard and Natural Home--wood protection for the homeowner.

Jim C. Hamer Company
PO Box 418, Kenova, WV 25530

Phone: (304) 453-6381; Fax: (304) 453-6587
Email: jdearing@jimchamer.com; Website: www.jimchamer.com

Contacts: Steve Hamer, President

Products: boards, common; boards, select; dimension, furniture

Species: ash, beech, hard maple, soft maple, red oak, white oak, poplar
Spartanburg Forest Products, Inc.
1431 Highway 101 South, Greer, SC 29651

Phone:  (864) 699-3100; Fax:  (864) 699-3101
Email:   smichael@gsponline.net;  Website: www.sfpinc.biz

Contact:  Stephan W. Michael, President/CEO

Spartanburg Forest Products, Inc. is a marketing and management organization, focusing in treated and engineered wood products.

T & S Hardwoods, Inc.
Harrisburg Road, PO Box 1233, Milledgeville, GA  31059

Phone:  (478) 453-3492; Fax:  (478) 453-9002
Email:   dsmith@tshardwoods.com;  Website:  www.tshardwoods.com

Contacts:  Larry N. Thompson III., President

Products:  boards, common; boards, select; dimension, green; railroad ties; timbers

Species: brown ash, cherry, cottonwood, soft elm, sap gum, hickory, soft maple, red oak, white oak, pecan, yellow poplar, sycamore, black walnut, cedar, cypress

USDA Forest Service
Northern Research Station, 180 Canfield St., Morgantown, WV 26505

Phone:  (304) 285 – 1500
Contact:  Ed Cesa, Research Scientist

USDA Forest Service
Southern Research Station, 1650 Research Center Dr., Blacksburg, VA

Phone:  (540) 231 – 5341
Contact:  Phil Araman, Senior Research Scientist
Virginia Forest Products Association  
220 East Williamsburg, PO Box 160, Sandston, VA 23150-0160

Phone: (804) 737-5625; Fax: (804) 737-9437  
Email: vfpa@att.net; Website: www.vfpa.net

Contact: Susan Seward

VFPA is an association active in promoting state and local codes and regulations developed to provide safety to life and property from the hazards of fire.

W. M. Cramer Lumber Company  
PO Box 2888, Hickory, NC 28603

Phone: (828) 397-7481; Fax: (828) 397-3763  
Email: wmc@cramerlumber.com; Website: www.cramerlumber.com

Contact: Wendell Cramer, President

Products: boards, common; boards, select

Species: poplar, red oak, white oak, ash, hickory, beech, soft maple, cherry, hard maple, elm, basswood, chestnut, mahogany, white pine, ponderosa pine

Wood Preservers, Inc.  
PO Box 158, Warsaw, VA 22572

Phone: (804) 333-4022; Fax: (804) 333-9269  
Email: mwright@woodpreservers.com; Website: www.woodpreservers.com

Contact: Morgan Wright, President

Products: boards; softwood dimension; timbers; ties

Species: loblolly pine, longleaf pine, shortleaf pine