

**INTERNATIONAL
ACADEMY
OF
WOOD SCIENCE**

**BULLETIN
2007-II**



www.iaws.uhp-nancy.fr/

December 2007

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Vice-President: Frank Beall, Richmond
Secretary: Uwe Schmitt, Hamburg
Treasurer: Howard Rosen, Silver Spring
Past President: John Barnett, Reading

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End of terms: 1 June
Except Treasurer: 31 December

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

My impression for 2007 is very positive, with increasing interest in IAWS. The number of nominations for election to Fellowship is very high (more than 20), thanks perhaps to the new, simpler nomination procedure. This will ensure openness in the way the award of the title FIAWS is made. Thanks also to those fellows who took the time to prepare nominations.

Thanks are also due to our treasurer, Howard Rosen, whose efforts and the cooperation of Fellows have ensured that the annual dues have been recovered more effectively than ever before.

The number of supporting members is increasing and has now reached 26. Most of them are Teaching or Research institutions. We need their support, but the support of Industries would be helpful too. They would be interested in the expertise of fellows. IAWS could play a role to help industries in finding the right experts to assist them with scientific issues. We are, from time to time, already playing this role...but to be more effective we need Fellows to provide information on their expertise in the directory in the line with identification codes, together with a statement about their most important research field.

The certification activity is ready to start, under the guidance of the VP, Frank Beall.

You will have noticed that “IAWS News” is now regularly published in our journal Wood Science and Technology, thanks to our Past President John Barnett.



Group photo taken during the 2007 IAWS Plenary Meeting in Kyoto/Japan

The annual meeting for 2007 was organised in Japan, by the University of Kyoto. This meeting allowed our Academy to recognise the long-standing quality of wood research carried out by the numerous Japanese Fellows (2nd in number, after USA).

The Academy Lecture was given by a famous Japanese scientist, Kazumi Fukazawa, on “Histochemical Studies on Wood”.

The next meeting, to be held jointly with the Linnean Society and the International Association of Wood Anatomists, will be organised, in honour of Prof John Barnett, and hosted by the Linnean Society near Piccadilly Circus in London, 29 - 30 May 2008. Details have still to be finalised but preliminary information is given elsewhere in this Bulletin and in the Web page.

I would urge Fellows and Supporting Members, to support our meetings. They provide an opportunity to meet with other Fellows at a professional and social level, to discuss research and to help determine the future course of the Academy during the Business Meetings.

As usual the participation of fellows was important in FPS and SWST. There was a large participation of Fellows to the IUFRO Div 5 conference in Taipei, just after the annual meeting in Japan.

During the year I was invited, as President of IAWS, to give keynote lectures at two different meetings in China and Morocco. The most important one was the 1st International Conference on advanced Biomass Science and Technology for Bio-based Products organized by the Chinese Academy of Forestry in Beijing. The other one was the 5th school of Wood Technologies and Sciences, on Research on Mediterranean Wood, organised by the Faculty of Sciences of Rabat in Morocco. The striking things about these meetings are:

- for the first, the increasing interest in Wood Bio-Refinery, confirmed by the number of other meetings on this topic, organised in Europe. We have to take careful note of this topic!
- for the second, it is important to take in account the necessity to help Africa in developing Wood Science, for the better use of wood in this continent. Our Academy could play an important role, with its experts.

Next year, our Secretary, Uwe Schmitt, with the Teller’s committee, under the responsibility of Tony Zhang, will have important tasks, with the election of the Vice-President, of the Academy Board members and of new Fellows.

I would urge Fellows to vote, and to consider when voting that we ensure the Academy achieves a good balance in scientific and geographical distribution of Fellows.

Xavier Deglise, President

IAWS BUSINESS MEETING, 26 OCTOBER 2007, KYOTO/JAPAN

The meeting was called to order by President Xavier Deglise and was held at Kyoto University. Fellows Deglise (President), Beall (Vice President), Rosen (Treasurer), Barnett (Past President), Schmitt (Secretary), Hou-Min Chang, R. Evans, Fujii, Fukazawa, Funada, Higuchi, Isogai, Jeffries, Kawai, Meshitsuka, Nakatsubo, Suzuki, Takabe, Terashima, Tomita, Umezawa, Watanabe, and Yamamoto were present.

The meeting was opened by President Deglise at 4.15 pm, he welcomed Fellows and thanked them for attending the 2007 Plenary Meeting in Kyoto. The audience adopted the agenda.

President Deglise reported on the results of the 2007 election of new Fellows. 10 scientists with impressive careers were elected (see brief descriptions in this Bulletin), from which Fellow Watanabe was present at the meeting.

Vice-President Beall gave an introduction on the certification process as a new field of activity of IAWS. It is to encourage and recognize exemplary wood science programs and can be done for academic and research organizations world-wide. VP Beall is presently preparing a comprehensive contribution to be published in the May Bulletin 2008. The meeting strongly supported this new activity.

There was a discussion on future IAWS annual meetings. Fellows Deglise and Barnett informed that the 2008 meeting will be held in London on 29-30 May as a joint meeting of IAWS, IAWA (International Association of Wood Anatomists), and the Linnean Society of London (details see special announcement in this Bulletin). In 2009, the annual meeting takes place in St. Petersburg/Russia and for 2010 it is already decided to have a joint meeting with SWST (Society of Wood Science and Technology/USA) in Zvolen/Slovakia. President Deglise raised the question of the role of EC in the organization of the annual meetings. It was recommended to increase the involvement of EC members.

President Deglise reported on the first experiences with the new nomination process which were mostly positive (see description of the nomination process in Bulletin I/2007).

Treasurer Rosen gave a brief overview about the financial situation of IAWS which is in good balance. He again urged Fellows to use the PayPal system for paying dues.

President Deglise asked the meeting to be active in nominating potential candidates for fellowship, but also Fellows as candidates for the coming Board election which will take place early in 2008. Four Board members have to be replaced next year.

Past-President Barnett reported on the situation with our journal 'Wood Science and Technology'. It was positively mentioned that the backlog of accepted papers went down to 6-8 months. This is a big improvement as compared with the situation a couple of years ago. The impact factor of WST went up to 0.74 at the end of 2006. Fellow Barnett encouraged the attendees to submit any news items which are worth publishing in WST under the rubric 'IAWS News'.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 5.30 pm.

Uwe Schmitt/Hamburg

IAWS 2008 PLENARY MEETING– LONDON, MAY 29-30

“Wood Matters – a celebration of the work of John Barnett”

Our 2008 plenary meeting will be in honour of our Past President Prof. Dr. John Barnett and is organized as a joint meeting of IAWS, IAWA (International Association of Wood Anatomists), and the Linnean Society of London. It will take place at Burlington House, Piccadilly, in London on May 29-30, 2008.

Burlington House is a building on Piccadilly in the heart of London. It was originally a private building and was expanded in the mid 19th century after being purchased by the British government. The main building is at the northern end of the courtyard and houses the Royal Academy, while five learned societies occupy the two wings on the east and west sides of the courtyard and the Piccadilly wing at the southern end. These societies, collectively known as the Courtyard Societies are:

- Geological Society
- Linnean Society of London
- Royal Astronomical Society
- Society of Antiquaries of London
- Royal Society of Chemistry

Details of the meeting will be published soon on our web page or the web page of the Linnean Society of London (www.linnean.org/index.php?id=226). Prof. Dr. David F. Cutler, current President of the Linnean Society, is responsible for the organization.

NEWLY ELECTED FELLOWS FOR 2007**Prof. Dr. Konstantin BOGOLITSYN**

Arkhangelsk State Technical University, Russia

Professor Bogolitsyn is a recognized scientist and expert in the field of Physical Chemistry of natural compounds. He had developed and conducted world-wide recognized fundamental and applied research in that field. He had established modern physical-chemical methods of automatic analytical control and ways of ecologically safe chemical utilization of plant raw materials.

Dr. Byron JORDAN

Paprican, Quebec, Canada.

Dr. Jordan has done groundbreaking research into the optical and appearance attributes of paper, and has helped to elucidate the molecular and structural basis of various paper strength parameters. Several widely used Standard methods are based on his research, including the ERIC test adopted worldwide for measuring the degree of ink removal in recycled paper.

Prof. Dr. Lucian A. LUCIA (USA)

College of Natural Resources, Raleigh/NC, USA

Prof. Lucia has had contributions to a rather diverse array of activities ranging from fundamental lignin photochemistry and extending to modified kraft pulping & oxygen delignification. Prof. Lucia is an energetic and highly creative scientist eager to apply his knowledge in solving tangible problems for our discipline. His vivacious personality, gentle nature and respect for principle are immediately apparent as they permeate his papers and his contributions to our science.

Prof. Dr. Shawn D. MANSFIELD

University of British Columbia, Canada

Dr. Mansfield is a recognized expert in the field of forest products biotechnological, focused on altering the chemistry and morphology of wood and wood fibres. He has developed several enzymatic applications modifying the properties of wood, and more recently contributed extensively to genetically augmenting inherent wood fibre traits.

Prof. Dr. Sandor MOLNAR

University of Sopron, Hungary

Anatomy, technical properties, colour changes and form stability of *Robinia pseudacacia* upon steaming, industrial adaptation of results. Breeding trials, anatomical characterisation, mechanical tests, national standards, international seed exchange programs for plantation trees of *Robinia pseudacacia*, *Populus deltoides* and its hybrids. Technology transfer by organisation of timber machines fairs, organisation of national/international conferences, publication of books, monographs.

Prof. Dr. Yoshiyuki NISHIO

Kyoto University, Japan

His activity concerns the Chemical conversion of renewable natural resources represented by wood and its constituents into useful materials possessing adequate conformity with the environment and/or exhibiting specific functions for some advanced applications, by adopting modern techniques including interfacial reactions in bulk, molecular or supramolecular modifications, and microscopic hybridization with supplementary compounds.

Prof. Dr. Todd F. SHUPE

Louisiana State University, USA

Prof. Shupe has given major contributions to: 1) the development of an environmentally friendly and economically viable closed-loop recycling program for preservative-treated wood and 2) the development of NDT techniques for wood quality evaluation (NIR spectroscopy). The closed-loop recycling program incorporates many fundamental disciplines of wood science and is the only known method to remove over 99% of all of the metals from CCA-treated wood.

Prof. Dr. Junji SUGIYAMA

Kyoto University, Japan

The activity of Prof. Sugiyama concerns pioneering electron microscopic studies of native celluloses. He has developed the first lattice images, thus resolving a number of important outstanding questions regarding the nanoscale structures of native celluloses. He is also recognized for more recent contributions to understanding of biogenesis of native celluloses.

Prof. Dr. Peter VINDEN
The University of Melbourne, Australia

Prof. Vinden is recognized for his pioneering work and scientific leadership in the area of microwave modification of wood for the purposes of improved drying efficiency, preservative penetration and the production of novel composite materials. His research and development programs currently attract substantial financial backing from government and industry.

Prof. Dr. Takashi WATANABE
Kyoto University, Japan

Prof. Watanabe has made major contributions to chemistry of lignin-carbohydrate complexes (LCC) with his pioneering work using DDQ-oxidation. He has also made important contributions to understanding of selective white rot. He has identified new fungal iron-redox-regulators which inhibit the Fenton reaction, and found free-radical processes capable of delignifying wood.

ACADEMY LECTURE KAZUMI FUKAZAWA

Presented during the 2007 IAWS Plenary Meeting in Kyoto/Japan, October 25, 2007

“Histochemical Studies on Wood“

Abstract

Qualitative and quantitative chemical analyses of wood specimens allow for a wide consideration on wood research such as wood formation, wood deterioration constituents, wood identification and others. Wood has a big variation in its structure and chemical composition among tree species. Basically, such a diversity originates from plant evolution and differentiation for their survival. Therefore, wide knowledge on structural and chemical diversity of wood is useful for efficient wood utilization and research on the dynamic change of cells will be related to genetic improvement in future toward sustainable society.

Histochemistry or cytochemistry had been proceeding rapidly from their original qualitative analysis through the use of chemical specific stain reagents toward quantitative analysis. Therefore, the special microscopes are developing step by step with the technical change of times. Progress in microspectrophotometry concerning with the author's research will be reviewed, showing many photographs. Studies on the mechanism of heartwood formation, wood development such as deposition of cell wall components, cell wall deteriorations by

fungi, diversity of lignin distribution and others will be introduced in this lecture. Though full course of study was not half run in my times, mysterious photographs of wood structure will lead us to the world of technical thrill, which might be performing by young scientists.



Fellow Fukazawa during the Academy Lecture



President Deglise hands over the AL certificate to Fellow Fukazawa

ACADEMY LECTURE XAVIER DEGLISE

Presented at the IUFRO All Division 5 Conference in Taipei, Taiwan, October 31, 2007

For distinguished research in wood chemistry and science and education administration in wood technology

“A Scientific Itinerary: Physical Chemistry to Wood Science”

Abstract

It is a strange scientific itinerary to start from very simple molecules like hydrogen superoxides (H_2O_3 , H_2O_4 synthesized in cold plasma of water and identified by Laser Raman Spectroscopy) to reach a complex macromolecular structure like wood. With a scientific career in Physical Chemistry (chemical kinetics, IR and Raman spectroscopy, photochemistry...) it is not obvious to understand why solid wood became my main topic of interest. In fact as a teacher I was always interested to look at the professional “output” of the graduates in the industry. Besides, in the late 70's, appeared in our country a need to develop R/D in Wood

Science and Technology. The wood industrial sector was mainly driven by foresters, with a strong expertise in forestry, silviculture, wood anatomy etc. and there was a lack of R/D experts for Wood and Furniture Industries.

In 1978, with the support of the University and the Government, I started a new teaching /re-search structure which became ENSTIB in Epinal. The staff was multidisciplinary (Biology, Chemistry, Physical Chemistry, Chemical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering) to fulfill the main industrial needs in Drying, Protection, Gluing, Finishing, Processing and Machining, Construction and Wood for Energy. In parallel with teaching we have developed a research, in this field. For me it was in two main topics, wood pyrolysis, where I have applied my background in kinetics, and wood surface protection and treatment, where photochemistry



Treasurer Rosen hands over the AL certificate to President Deglise

and spectroscopy have helped us to understand the mechanisms of weathering. I will focus my presentation on these two topics where the scientific advances were important and have brought progress in industry. For pyrolysis/gasification, which was an important topic in 1980, with the peak in crude oil price, we have developed a circulated fluidized bed (CFB) system, starting from the laboratory scale to the pilot, in a chemical pulp mill. Unfortunately we were too far in advance to succeed...and twenty years later the wheel is reinvented in

CFB gasification! In wood surface protection, thanks to our background in photochemistry, we have proposed three solutions to increase the durability of Wood/Finishes system: Photo-protection of underlying wood; adjust the T_g (glass or softening temperature) of the finishes; application of a soft undercoat playing the role of shock absorber between the dimensional variation of wood and the hardening of the topcoat.

NEWS FROM SUPPORTING MEMBERS

PAPRICAN merged with FERIC, FORINTEK, and Wood Fibre Centre of NRC

FPIinnovations brings together FERIC, Forintek, Paprican, and the Canadian Wood Fibre Centre of Natural Resources Canada, to create the world's largest private, not-for-profit forest research institute. With over 600 employees spread across Canada, FPIinnovations unites the individual strengths of each of these internationally recognized forest research and development institutes into a single, greater force. The merge of the above mentioned organizations happened in the spring 2007.

The goal? Leadership. Through innovation. A strengthening of the Canadian forest sector's global competitiveness through research, knowledge transfer and implementation.

Speaking with one voice

As a powerful, united voice for forest sector research in Canada, FPIinnovations is quickly establishing itself as the key element in the sector's transition to a stronger, more sustainable future. From genetics and harvesting operations to wood and paper products and beyond, FPIinnovations is positioned to provide a sector-wide voice on issues of global importance to the Canadian forest industry and its customers.

FPIinnovations forges a united organization that leverages increased operational efficiencies into greater value for its members. Tackling issues and opportunities along the full length of the forest sector value chain is its hallmark.

The benefits? Institute-wide integration of technical competencies and best practices, value-chain research solutions, optimized knowledge transfer and implementation, strengthened engagement with universities and other R&D providers, a stronger basis for industry and government partnerships, and a cohesive strategic and policy approach.

The results? Flexible and competitive forestry and transportation processes, advanced wood products and living-with-wood solutions, next-generation pulps and papers, new nanoproducts and applications, and new energy and chemical products derived from forest biomass. In short, a global vision of product development for the Canadian forest industry.

One vision. Global competitiveness demands bold transformation grounded in realism and backed by wise planning based on marketplace realities. FPInnovations embraces the challenge of change. We will define the future by the decisive actions we take today. We're all about new thinking for a rapidly changing world, and translating action into global leadership and global success for our members.

1 Leadership in
Forestry

- We provide leadership and guidance by developing solutions for a bioeconomy
- We improve forest productivity and maximize fibre delivery and value
- We apply precision forestry techniques to optimize operation and management processes
- We deliver solutions to suppress and manage wildland fires
- We promote environmental sustainability

2 Innovation in
Wood Products

- We apply advanced technology to reduce production costs and improve manufacturing processes
- We create innovative solutions to increase the quality and variety of specialty, wood-based products
- We provide solutions to optimize fibre usage
- We develop the next generation of wood construction products and system solutions
- We collaborate internationally to strengthen building codes and standards

3 Creativity in Pulp,
Paper and Beyond

- We optimize pulp and paper processes and enhance traditional paper products.
- We conceive revolutionary paper products
- We identify new product streams by extracting chemicals and energy from forest biomass
- We build cellulose-based nanomaterials to produce high-performance paper and packaging
- We promote environmentally sustainable mill practices

Web address: <http://www.fpinnovations.ca>

WOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY JOURNAL – IAWS NEWS

Wood Sci Technol (2007) 41: 549-550

IAWS NEWS

**Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Academy
in Hamburg**

Published online: 23 June 2007

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Academy took place at the Bundesforschungsanstalt für Forst- und Holzwirtschaft, Hamburg, on 7 and 8 May 2007. The meeting was hosted by the Executive Secretary Dr Uwe Schmitt and attended by the President, Vice-President, Past-President and Treasurer. The discussions were wide ranging and outcomes affecting Fellows are briefly described below:

1. The secretary reported that changes to the Constitution of the Academy had been approved by a ballot of Fellows and changes to the By-Laws by the Academy Board. The amended documents may be seen by visiting the Academy website <http://www.iaws.uhp-nancy.fr/>
2. A new simplified nomination procedure for Fellowship had been prepared by the Vice-President and it is hoped that this will encourage more nominations. The form previously used and printed in each issue of the Academy Bulletin should no longer be used.
3. The voting system used for election of Fellows had been simplified and was used for the 2007 election. Its effectiveness will be assessed following appraisal of the election results by the Executive Committee later in the year.
4. The Academy Board has hitherto been chaired by the Academy President. In future a chairman will be elected from among and by the Board members. Procedures are being put in place to ensure Board members are more actively involved in decision making.
5. It was reported that information about the 2007 plenary meeting to be held in Kyoto on 26–28 October 2007 will be posted on the website. Potential delegates are encouraged to visit the IAWS website for details.
6. The 2008 plenary meeting will be a joint meeting in London with the International Association of Wood Anatomists and the Linnean Society of London. Details will be posted on the website shortly.
7. New Supporting Members. Two new supporting members have been elected by the Academy Board:
 - Department of Forest Products, Mississippi State University, USA
 - Ecole Supérieure du Bois, Nantes, France

Prof. Dr. John Barnett
Past President of IAWS

Wood Sci Technol (2007) 41:461***IAWS NEWS*****Plenary meetings****Published online: 24 July 2007**

Full details about registration and accommodation for the 2007 meeting to be held in Kyoto, Japan from 25 to 27 October are now available on the Academy website <http://www.iaws.uhp-nancy.fr/>. The meeting will take place at Shiran Kaikan, Kyoto. The scientific meeting is expected to include papers on a wide range of topics in wood science and Fellows should send abstracts to the organizers by 15 August. The scientific meeting will be followed by an excursion including visits to the Nishi-Honganji Temple, Kitayama (traditional log production) and Suntory

(a famous whisky distillery in Japan). An interesting tourism programme has also been prepared for accompanying persons. Fellows of the Academy are encouraged to attend this opportunity to see wood science in Japan and to meet other Fellows. There will also be the opportunity to attend the business meeting and have a say in the activities of the Academy. The plenary meeting for 2008 will be held in London on 29th and 30th May. This meeting will be held in collaboration with the Linnean Society of London and the International Association of Wood Anatomists. It will take place at the historic headquarters of the Linnean Society at Burlington House in Piccadilly which houses the specimens collected by Linnaeus and his library. Further details on this meeting will be posted in due course.

Prof. Dr. John Barnett
Past President of IAWS

Wood Sci Technol (2007) 41: 635***IAWS NEWS*****IAWS Certification****Published online: 25 September 2007**

Over the past several years, IAWS has discussed the possibility of providing on-site reviews (accreditation or certification) of programs on request. Finally, we decided that a Certification program would be the type of broad evaluation that would be of greatest interest for educational (undergraduate and/or graduate) and research programs (at universities or institutes). The process is still under development, but we have completed the major portions needed, the development of a Certification Handbook and the concept of a Certification Oversight Committee (COC). The intent is to have the COC operate as a committee of the Academy Board, which would be responsible for administering the Certification process. When a request is received, the COC would appoint a 2- to 3-member Certification Review Com

mittee that would do the on-site evaluation. Their findings would be reported to the COC, which would send a recommendation to the Executive Committee for final approval. When the process is finalized, information on Certification will be posted on the IAWS website, and organizations will be invited to participate.

Prof. Dr. Frank C. Beall
Vice President of IAWS

ACADEMY DINNER IN TAIPEI

This was certainly one of the academy dinners with the highest number of participants (28!). It was organized during the IUFRO Div 5 Conference in Taipei and was held at November 1, 2007. As we already had a business meeting during the IAWS annual meeting in Kyoto, we only gave written information to the fellows mainly about the positive developments of our Academy. The atmosphere was very friendly with numerous cheers and very tasty Taiwanese food.



Fellows Chang, S-Y. Wang, Meshitsuka, Cho.



Fellows Deglise, Cathy Wang and Bob Youngs.

Xavier Deglise/President

OBITUARIES

Tore E. Timell (1921-2007)

On July 11, 2007 Fellow Tore E. Timell passed away peacefully in Syracuse, NY. Dr. Timell served as president of IAWS from 1975 to 1978. He was born on March 21, 1921 in Stockholm, Sweden. In 1950, he earned the Ph D degree in Chemistry and Chemical Engineering from the Royal Institute of Technology. He then became a research associate in the Department of Forest Chemistry at SUNY- College of Forestry, Syracuse, New York. From 1952-1962 he was an honorary lecturer at McGill University and a chemist at the Pulp and Paper Research Institute of Canada, Montreal. In 1963, he returned to SUNY- College of Forestry, Syracuse for the remainder of his career. In addition to his position as Professor of Forest Chemistry, he was also the Director of the Cellulose Research Institute and an associate member of the Polymer Research Institute.

Dr. Timell was well known for his work on cellulose, hemicelluloses, and reaction woods. He was Chairman of the American Chemical Society's Division of Cellulose, Wood, and Fiber Chemistry. In 1971, he received the Division's Anselme Payen award for outstanding research in wood and cellulose chemistry. He was the L.T. Murray Distinguished Visiting Professor

at the University of Washington in 1968. In 1968-1969, he was a SUNY Distinguished Research Fellow at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich, Switzerland. It was during this time that he learned electron microscopy. In 1977 he was awarded a Fulbright fellowship to conduct research at the University of Munich, Germany.

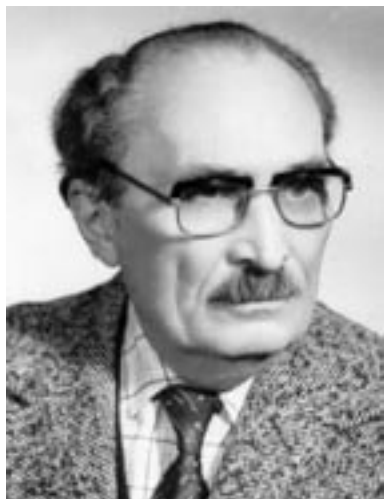
He was an editor of the Journal of Wood Science and Technology and the editor of the Springer-Verlag series of monographs in Wood Science. He was author of several books, one patent, and more than 200 research publications.

To his students and colleagues Tore was well known for his encyclopedic knowledge, his attention to detail, and the care with which he did his experiments. An example that Tore was fond of relating dealt with work done at McGill University in the 1950's. He and his students were attempting to separate xylose oligomers generated by enzymatic hydrolysis of a birch xylan. Chromatographic methods in the late 1950's were far less advanced than now. Fortunately, there was an empty elevator shaft in the building in which he worked. Tore assembled a charcoal column, apparently nearly ten meters high, in that shaft. The exceptionally long column enabled them to resolve and isolate xylo-oligomers up to xylopentose as well aldohexa- and heptouronic acids. His careful studies of cellulose molecular weights at a time when polymer molecular-weight characterization was still in its infancy are classics that continue to deserve study.

Dr. Timell retired from SUNY-ESF, Syracuse, NY in 1995. He enjoyed American and European history, classical music, politics, and the arts. He spent many hours walking in the forests of upstate New York and enjoying nature. Tore was an exceedingly gentle man with a great love for nature and all its creatures. His last dog, a fairly large mixed breed that he had rescued from the streets, lived a long life to the point where he was capable of walking but still in fairly good health in all other respects. Every day for the last year or two of Barnaby's life Tore could be seen carrying the dog into his office, carefully laying him on a pile of rugs and then carrying the dog outside, as needed, during the day and finally back to the car in the evening. This was done every day with complete indifference to the rigors of a Syracuse winter.

He is survived by his wife of 59 ½ years, Anna, three daughters, and four grandchildren. Those of us who had the good fortune to know Tore whether as parent, spouse, colleague, friend, mentor, or teacher are richer for that experience and he will be missed.

Robert B. Hanna/Syracuse

Cristofor I. Simionescu (1920-2007).

A legend has gone...

Fellow Cristofor I. Simionescu, who devoted his entire life to the natural and synthetic polymer chemistry, passed away on August 7, 2007.

Cristofor I. Simionescu, born in Dumbraveni-Suceava, on July 17, 1920, received his chemical engineer (*magna cum laude* - 1944) and *Ph D* degree (1948) at the "Gheorghe Asachi" Polytechnic School of Iasi/Romania. He became Professor and Head of department (since 1952), Vice-rector (1951-1952) and Rector (1953-1976) of the "Gheorghe Asachi" Polytechnic Institute of Iasi; Head of the Macromolecular Chemistry Laboratory (1956-1970) and Director of the "Petru Poni" Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry, Iasi. He was

elected corresponding member (1955) and full member of the Romanian Academy (1963), Vice-president of the Academy of Romania (1974-1990) and President of the Iasi Branch of the Romanian Academy (1963-1974 and 1989-2001).

He was the founder of higher education and research in the fields of cellulose and macromolecular compounds chemistry in Romania. In his position as professor, diverse disciplines were taken up and developed in the Department of Natural and Synthetic Macromolecular Chemistry. His main scientific contributions referred to organic and macromolecular chemistry, wood and reed chemistry, pulp and paper chemistry and technology, chemistry of polysaccharides, mechanical chemistry of polymers, plasma chemistry and synthesis of life precursors (he is the author of the *cold theory* on the origins of life). Cristofor Simionescu has added a lot to the knowledge of wood species in Romania, especially of the fast growing (poplar and willow) ones, for their possible utilization as raw materials for pulp and paper industry. In the field of paper chemistry, his contributions to paper sizing under alkaline conditions and to the obtaining of synthetic papers deserve special attention. The name of professor Simionescu is equally related to research devoted to polymer grafting by chemical and physical methods, to polymers based on acetylene with semi- and photo-conducting properties, to copolymers and to their utilization as drug delivery supports. He proposed the theory of conducting in organic polymers, along with the initiation of studies on the synthesis of polymers by electrochemical and radical ways. He demonstrated the role played by radicals in vegetal cancer

proliferation and its possible inhibition by antioxidants. Close contacts were maintained with the industrial branches, in both pulp and paper, and polymer processing fields.

The legacy of his research will live on in the numerous students that made their way through his laboratories, in which, along the years, 95 graduates defended their *PhD* theses under supervision of Cristofor Simionescu and 35 of his previous students reached the degree of Professor in prestigious universities from both Romania and abroad.

The scientific work of Cr. I. Simionescu has been documented in 23 books and more than 700 publications and 70 patents.

International activities constituted an essential part of his engagements, as he was member of numerous international societies: fellow of the International Academy of Wood Science, member of the Hungarian Academy, of the New York Sciences Academy, of the Moldavian Academy, of the European Academy of Science and Arts, of the Chemical Societies of France, USA and Romania.

He was honoured with 30 Romanian and foreign medals.

He was the founder and editor-in-chief of the journals *Cellulose Chemistry and Technology* (1967) and *Memoriile Sectiilor Stiintifice ale Academiei Romane* – 4th Series.

He organized numerous international scientific meetings, among which special mention should be made of the 13 *International Symposia on Cellulose Chemistry and Technology*.

Behind this dry listing there stood a man with huge ambition, energy and enthusiasm, good humor, a man of spirit who loved to live and could live out and live through both cloudy and cloudless times.

The rich life-work of Cristofor Simionescu will not fall to dust. The Technical University lives, the Department of Natural and Synthetic Polymers lives, the Macromolecular Chemistry Institute lives, the journals he founded live and the image of Cristofor Simionescu will ever remain in our memory. His passing away is a great loss for the whole community of polymer chemistry and not only.

Valentin Popa/Iasi

NEW BOOKS

The following book was recently published under the editorship of Fellows U. Schmitt and A. P. Singh and Prof. P.J. Harris from Auckland University.

***The Plant Cell Wall –Recent Advances and New Perspectives-
Proceedings of the 2nd New Zealand-German Workshop on Plant Cell Walls, Hamburg,
4-6 October 2006.***

Mitteilungen der Bundesforschungsanstalt für Forst- und Holzwirtschaft Hamburg, No. 223, August 2007, ISSN 0368-8798

Editors: U. Schmitt, A.P. Singh, P.J. Harris

Publisher: Kommissionsverlag Buchhandlung Max Wiedebusch, Dammtorstr. 20, 20309 Hamburg, Hamburg, 2007, 153 pages

After the 1st New Zealand-German Workshop on Plant Cell Walls in 2005 in Rotorua/New Zealand (proceedings published in the New Zealand Journal of Forestry Science, Vol. 36/issue 1), in October 2006 the 2nd New Zealand-German Workshop on Plant Cell Walls was held at the Federal Research Centre for Forestry and Forest Products in Hamburg/Germany (BFH). Contributions from the participants of this meeting covered general research on cell walls of both monocotyledonous and dicotyledonous plants as well as specific topics on walls of callus tissue cultures, of fruit tissues, and of woody tissues. Techniques used to investigate such a variety of tissue systems came from all types of microscopy as well as the most modern microbiological approaches. The papers presented in this book therefore probably represent worldwide trends in cell wall research. With its 15 chapters in all, this volume presents cell wall research being carried out by leading groups in New Zealand and Germany.

UPCOMING MEETINGS OF INTEREST TO FELLOWS

March, 11-14, 2008: 2008 Nordic Wood Biorefinery Conference. Stockholm, Sweden

The Nordic Wood Biorefinery Conference 2008 covers biorefinery separation and conversion processes as well as energy, chemicals and materials from the wood based biorefinery. The speakers represent the global chemical, energy, pulp and paper industry as well as recognized representatives from the global research community. The conference will also present the main findings from the EU-project WaCheUp which has explored production of value-added substances from bark, pulping spent liquors and cork processing residues.

The conference has the following sessions:

- Biorefining Processes

- Biofuels
- Chemicals
- Materials
- Emerging Forest Biorefineries
- Major Biorefinery Projects

Contact: Phone: +46 8 54 65 1500, Fax: +46 8 54 65 1599, E-mail: confirmation-sweden@mci-group.com

May 29-30, 2008: IAWS 2008 Plenary Meeting. London/UK

June 16-18, 2008: *Control Systems/Pan Pacific Conference. Vancouver, Canada*

Control Systems is held every two years and is the preeminent conference in the area of process control and systems engineering for the pulp and paper industry. We are pleased to announce the 2008 edition of this event will incorporate the international Pan Pacific Conference, and as a result the list of joint sponsoring associations includes Appita (Australia/New Zealand), ATCP (Chile), Japan TAPPI, KTAPPI (Korea), PAPTAC (Canada), PI (Finland), SPCI (Sweden), TAPPI (United States of America), TAPPI Philippines, and Taiwan TAPPI. Presenters and attendees will come from all major pulp and paper producing countries, so this will be your best opportunity to learn what is happening around the world in this field. The conference will focus on evaluating new technologies, and showcasing successful solutions. We encourage you to submit abstracts on the following topics:

- measurement and control of mechanical pulping processes
- measurement and control of recycled fibre lines
- pulp mill measurement and control
- paper mill measurement and control
- novel sensors and sensing techniques
- cross-directional measurement and control
- process and control performance assessment
- operations decision support
- production line management and optimization
- process data analysis
- modeling and simulation for contro

Contact: Greg Hay, Events Planner, Pulp and Paper Technical Association of Canada.
Tel: +514-392-6964, Fax: +514-392-0369, E-mail: ghay@paptac.ca

July 6-10, 2008: *4th International Conference on Advanced Engineered Wood and Hybrid Composites*. Bar Harbor/Maine, USA

The upcoming conference will provide a focused venue for presenting and discussing the commercial, scientific, and engineering aspects of advanced engineered wood and hybrid composites. This International Conference provides a setting designed to create dialogue among industrial researchers, business development specialists, wood scientists, structural engineers, polymer scientists and materials researchers.

Contact: Doreen Boutin, E-mail doreen.boutin@umit.maine.edu

August 4-8, 2008: *World Congress “Local livelihoods and global challenges: understanding human interaction with the environment”*. Copenhagen, Denmark

Why hold a World Congress of Environmental History?

Worldwide, humans interact with the environment to make their living, create artifacts, recreate, reflect their belief systems, and to survive. Humans have changed the face of the Earth considerably and have experienced both resilience and degradation of natural systems. Environmental historians in many fields study these interactions and aim their explorations toward a sustainable future. The first World Congress for Environmental History (WCEH) will bring together scholars from all over the globe, giving them a unique opportunity to learn from each other and together create an overarching picture of the historic relationship of people and the environment through time. Interactions are found on many scales, from the local to the global. Resource issues cross national borders and cross ecosystem boundaries. Looking at our challenges from multiple perspectives, multiple spatial and temporal scales, and varied politics, economies, and disciplines is the only way to enlighten the complex challenges of creating a sustainable future. The World Congress will offer opportunities for all member organizations to meet and present themselves. It will bring a wide range of high-quality research papers to a diverse audience and seeks to discuss the political relevance of environmental history. We hope you come and share your results and questions with those of scholars from all over the world.

Contact: E-mail: wceh2009@ruc.dk

November 17-20, 2008: *Forest Sector Modeling: State-of-the-art and future challenges in an expanding global marketplace*. Seattle/Washington, USA

Resuming a past tradition, the IUFRO Forest Sector Modeling Working Party WP 6.11 (originally part of the IIASA Forest Sector Project) is planning a conference in Seattle, Washington, USA. The meeting will offer new and old researchers interested in forest sector modeling (FSM) the opportunity to catch up with developments from around the world. Sponsors include IUFRO, CINTRAFOR at the University of Washington, EFI (European Forest Institute), IIASA (International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis), the U.S. Forest Service, and Oregon State University. Activities will begin with a reception on November 17, presentations on the 18th and 19th, and conclude with a tour on November 20. The conference

will mix plenary, concurrent sessions, focused panel discussions, and input from key FSM users in forestry, forest industry, and policy planning. Plenary sessions will feature invited speakers, notable in forest sector modeling, with reviews of state-of-the-art FSM applications in major forest sector regions. The organizing committee is soliciting speakers for the concurrent sessions to present the latest modeling developments and policy applications. Of particular interest are speakers who might address: short-term versus long-term modeling issues, use of econometric results as input to FSM's, opportunities for integrating models across sectors, integrating forest sector and biological system models, treatment of uncertainty in FSM's, incorporating wood-based bio-energy models in FSM's, and application of FSM's in policy analysis including GHG mitigation.

Contact: E-mail: forest.sector@oregonstate.edu

TREASURER'S REPORT

The finances of the Academy remain in a healthy state. The balance at the end of November 2007 is about \$7800 in check and \$41,000 in savings. If anyone has contact information about any of the following "missing members", please email Howard Rosen at hrosen@fs.fed.us with email or mailing address:

Mitsuo Higuchi from Kyushu, Japan (retired)

Y. Hirashima from Nagoya, Japan

Raymond A.Young, Madison, WI, USA (retired)

Howard Rosen/Silver Spring

GUIDELINE FOR HIGHLIGHTS

The purpose of the Highlights, published in the Bulletin, is to promote the integration of the fields of wood science. Fellows are encouraged to submit Highlights to any of the Officers!

Highlights should:

- * be free of jargon and highly technical language and (unexplained) acronyms, and be readily understood by wood scientists in other fields
- * be no more than 1000 words (roughly 4 pages in the Bulletin)
- * begin by providing a brief background or framework to put the report in perspective
- * give due credit to the work of others in the field, not just summarize the author's work
- * contain important references to the literature for further reading
- * finish with a statement of future directions in the area

Nomination for Fellowship of the International Academy of Wood Science

Name of Candidate:

Name of Proposer:

E-mail:

Date:

Contact Data:

(Current E-mail is a strict minimum!)

Candidate's Background (maximum 100 words):

IAWS



www.iaws.uhp-nancy.fr/