



The 62nd SWST International Convention was held October 20-25, 2019, at Tenaya Lodge, 1122 Highway 41, Fish Camp, California, just outside the gate of Yosemite National Park, California, USA. The overall theme was “Renewable Materials and the Wood-based BioEconomy”.

**Convention Chair:** Eva Haviarova, Purdue University

2019 Convention Program – Sessions included:

- Wood Physics and Mechanic
- Wood Chemistry
- Biodegradation and Preservation
- Timber Engineering and Mass Timber
- Composites and Adhesives 1
- Composites and Adhesives 2
- Business, Marketing and Regulations
- International Innovation, Trends and Education in Wood Science
- Forest Disturbances, Carbon and the Environment
- Early Stage Researcher
- Poster Session

We had an opening keynote Monday morning by Chris Schow, Fire Management Officer on the Stanislaus National Forest in California on “Fire Challenges in California”. Two additional keynotes were presented Monday at lunch by Bo Kasal “Overview of Work and Future Developments at Fraunhofer Institute for Wood Research Wilhelm-Klauditz-Institut WKI” and

Tuesday at lunch by Levente Denes “Smart Systems and Intelligent Solutions in the Biomaterials Processing Industry”.

We had 150 attendees to the Convention from 5 continents and 23 countries. Countries represented were: Austria, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, and United States. There were 71 oral presentations, 34 posters, 30 Student Poster Competition posters, and 16 Early Stage Researchers who made short 3-minute presentations.

## **2019 SWST FINAL PROCEEDINGS**

A Welcome Reception was held Sunday evening at Tenaya Lodge as well as a Banquet on Thursday evening with wine and beer tasting and a cowboy band. Wednesday was a free day to explore Yosemite National Park or other natural areas surrounding the Lodge. A Business Meeting ([Minutes of the 2019 Business Meeting](#)) and Awards Presentation was held on Thursday at lunch. Awards presented were:

### **George Marra Excellence in Writing**

The George Marra Award for Excellence in Writing is given in memory of George Marra by the Marra family in recognition of George’s devotion to excellence in writing. Every article in each issue of the most recent volume of *Wood and Fiber Science* is read and judged by a committee. This year’s committee consisted of Brian Bond, Virginia Tech, Chair; David Jones, Consultant; Eini Lowell, USDA Forest Service PNW Station; Mehdi Tajvidi; University of Maine. This year’s winners were:

#### **First Place**

*Life Cycle Assessment of Activated Carbon from Wood Biomass*, by Hongmei Gu, Richard Bergman, Nathaniel Anderson, Sevda Alanya-Rosenbaum, Volume 50, Number 3, pages 229-243.

#### **Second Place**

*Ability of Finger-Jointed Lumber to Maintain Load at Elevated Temperatures*, by Douglas R. Rammer, Samuel L. Zelinka, Laura E. Hasburgh, Steven T. Craft, Volume 50, No. 1, pages 44-54.

#### **Third Place**

*Analysis of Adhesive Penetration into Wood Using Nano-x-ray Computed Tomography*, by Paige McKinley, Frederick A. Kamke, Arijit Sinha, Vincent De Andrade, Joseph E. Jakes, Volume 50, No. 1, pages 66-76.

### **Student Poster Competition Award**

The purpose of the Student Poster Competition is to: encourage student membership and participation in SWST; encourage student attendance at the SWST International Convention; recognize excellence in student research and improve the visibility of student research efforts.

This year’s panel of Student Poster judges were: Gloria Oporto, West Virginia University, Chair; Michael Burnard, InnoRenew CoE and University of Primorska; Alain Cloutier, Université Laval; Nan Nan, West Virginia University; Sheldon Shi, University of North Texas

### **Student Poster Winners:**

1st Place: Qijun Zhang, University of Tennessee, United States, *A Novel Method for Fabricating an Electrospun Polyvinyl Alcohol/Cellulose Nanocrystals Composite Nanofibrous Filter with Low Air Resistance for High-efficiency Filtration of Particulate Matter*

2nd Place: Aitor Barbero-López, University of Eastern Finland, Finland, *Activity of Organic Acids and Their Synergy Against the Wood-Decaying Fungus *Coniophora puteana**

3rd Place: Tianyu Cao, Northeast Forestry University, China, *Study on VOCs Emissions from Veneered Plywood at Closed Circumstances.*

3rd Place: Jiyao Hu, University of North Texas, United States, *The Effect of Pore Size on Specific Capacitance for Activated Carbon Supercapacitors.*

Special Recognition: Brooklyn Legg, Oregon State University, United States, *Industry 4.0 Readiness in the US Forestry Industry.*

### **Distinguished Service Award**

The SWST Distinguished Service Award is given in recognition of distinguished service to the profession as a whole and for extraordinary contributions in wood science and technology. Such service may have been made in any educational, technological, scientific or professional area directly related to the profession of Wood Science and Technology in furtherance of the objectives of the Society as outlined in its Constitution and Bylaws. The 2019 winner was **James W. Funck**, retired from the APA-The Engineered Wood Association.

### **Fellow Award**

The Fellow award recognizes significant contributions to the wood science and technology profession and service to the Society by SWST members. The 2019 winner was **Alain Cloutier**, Université Laval, Québec, Canada.

### **Awards of Accreditation**

Department of Wood Science and Engineering, College of Materials and Engineering, South China Agricultural University, Guangzhou, China, June 2019

Wood Science and Technology Program, Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources & Design, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV USA, April 2019

### **Sponsors of the 2019 Convention:**

Gold

- Norbord, North America



## Silver

- Surface Measurement Systems, USA



## Copper

- West Virginia University, USA
- University of Maine, USA
- North Carolina State University, USA
- Virginia Tech, USA
- Oregon State University, USA
- Mississippi State University, USA



## Bronze

- InnoRenew CoE, Slovenia
- Université Laval, Centre de Recherche sur les Matériaux Renouvelables, Canada
- [TallWood Design Institute](#), Oregon State University, USA



Videos from the Convention can be found below.

### WELCOME & KEYNOTE

1. Welcome from Eva <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2NNNu3QnChQ&t=20s>
2. Keynote <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kcSxs6hT2Ew&t=729s>

### DAILY VIDEOS

1. Welcome <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6nUExAZQPus&t=1s>
2. Day 1 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XIQbMMK9uEI>
3. Day 2 [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_1xOaRkMNko](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_1xOaRkMNko)
4. Day 4 <https://youtu.be/iVIAAFqRANQ>

### SAMPLING OF EARLY STAGE RESEARCHERS

1. Tianyu Cao, China <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UFzdIz8rMgw&t=2s>
2. Ondrej Dvoracek, Austria [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tLpQ\\_32hHc4&t=4s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tLpQ_32hHc4&t=4s)
3. Raphaela Hellmayr, Austria <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KNQsyUug1Hc&t=5s>

4. Brooklyn Legg, US <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-J8vsLwX81w&t=3s>
5. Han Lei, Sweden <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vOA0Xm99zZs&t=5s>
6. Huifang Li, China <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gffMwNRuDyI&t=2s>
7. Sameen Raut, US <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sDn43rJNejY&t=3s>
8. Alexander Scharf <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dc5f4ErBHqU&t=6s>
9. Adam Scouse, US [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I6k\\_jsg0euk&t=1s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I6k_jsg0euk&t=1s)
10. Qifan Wang, China [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S\\_-CB3bon08&t=2s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S_-CB3bon08&t=2s)
11. Xiaoqian Wang, China <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u9mnPG7FIe0&t=6s>
12. Lu Wang, US <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fjRgS2iW0iw&t=4s>

#### SAMPLING OF ORAL PRESENTATIONS

1. Elaine Oneil, US <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pE01sO2ICjM&t=118s>
2. Maureen Puettmann, US <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vuMmCtixq9Y&t=116s>
3. Anne Wekesa, New Zealand <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o30Cjf-7GeM&t=1s>
4. Evan Schmidt, US <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Csnm20ma0UI&t=12s>
5. Amy Simmons, Slovenia <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aYEW3a-Y-KE&t=4s>
6. Andreja Kutnar, Slovenia <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=60pGcoeEmVk&t=2s>
7. Olena Myronycheva, Sweden [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xeVREIYZ\\_9I&t=3s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xeVREIYZ_9I&t=3s)
8. Benedikt Neyses, Sweden <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fUzXa4xQfNI>
9. Micah Sutfin, US <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hj4ZxEVdivI&t=8s>
10. Taylor Barnett, US <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e54X3xmj8QU&t=8s>
11. Ed Pepke, France <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kGwbNCpdWnY>
12. Matthew Schwarzkopf, Slovenia <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GgKGmaowYQc>
13. Candra Burns, Germany <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7TIsJIG4q1o&t=2s>
14. Henry Quesada, US <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-wRT09vu6fs>
15. Levente Denes, Hungary <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oYSfds4TbVc>
16. David DeVallance, Slovenia <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uN003v1aLBc>