

IUFRO Wood Drying Working Group 5.04.
August 24, 2007

The IUFRO Wood Drying Working Group 5.04.06 in the Forest Products Division held a business meeting on August 24, 2007 in Orno, Maine during the group's 10th International Wood Drying Symposium. The meeting was opened at 11:30am by working group coordinator Mike Milota of the U.S.

After opening the meeting, a slideshow was played during the meeting with photographs from the previous meeting in Nanchang, China. The slideshow was provided by Peter Garahan who also made an announcement about the poster presentations during the current meeting.

A thank you was made to the host of the current meeting, Bob Rice at the University of Maine.

Web publishing was the next order of business. Mike Milota described past discussions at these business meetings. The previous concern of members was that putting the proceedings online might hurt meeting attendance. When asked for other ideas, the members at the meeting had no objections to putting the proceedings online except that if the papers went online too early it might prevent publishing in a refereed journal. Mike Milota will pursue this with IUFRO. The Mihaela Campean of Romania pointed out that the proceedings from the 2003 meeting held in Romania are online.

The next order of business was the issue of regional reporters. Mike Milota described what the working group used to do for regional reporters. In the past each region had a reporter that would give a report of research within their geographical region at the IUFRO working group meetings. The regional reporters would also provide information so that reports could be submitted to IUFRO as required. . One objection was the effort required to collect this information Johannes Welling pointed out that there is already a lot of information collection going on in Europe and that this was a duplication. Mike Milota pointed out that if the information is already collected then putting it into a short report for IUFRO would only require a minor effort. There were no other objections from the attendees to re-establishing the system of regional reporters. Mike Milota will follow-up on establishing a new set of regional reporters.

The proposals were solicited for the working group meeting in 2009. This would be the 11th meeting of the working group. One proposal was received from Professor Jarl-Gunnar Salin for Sweden. Professor Salin presented a very compelling argument for holding the meeting in Sweden both because of the amount of research occurring in Scandinavia and the tourist opportunities available in the region. Tom Moran would also be involved and would be the meeting facilitator. The proposal was accepted. Professor Salin then said that the hosts would like to hold the 11th meeting in January of 2010 instead of August

2009. There was considerable discussion about how the meeting time impacts people that are teaching. Another concern was the weather in Sweden in January. A hand vote was taken, the question being who would prefer a summer meeting and who would prefer January. Approximately two thirds or about 24 of those raising hands preferred the summer time for the meeting. The other one third preferred the wintertime for the meeting. The final decision was left to the host.

Proposals were then solicited for the meeting which will occur in 2011 or 2012. The exact timing of the meeting depends on when the meeting occurs in Sweden. One proposal was made by Patrick Perré for four Brazil. Dr. Perré indicated the need for adequate preparation time and that two years might not be enough time to line up the location and the funding. He was seeking approval at this meeting to host the 12th meeting. It was proposed that the group accept Dr. Perré's proposal and hold the 12th meeting of the working party in Brazil. It was recognized that this decision is dependent on the hosts in Brazil having a plan in place before the 11th meeting. If something unforeseeable occurs and Brazil cannot host the 12th meeting, then at the 11th meeting the working group will solicit proposals from other locations. José Brillo is the contact in Brazil.

Under new business Mihaela Campean suggested that the working group seek recognition for the proceedings of future meetings from the ISI - Thompson Scientific. This may allow contributors to list papers as refereed. Mike Milota will talk with Dr. Campean and follow-up on this item.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00.

The meeting notes were submitted by Mike Milota