

Forest Products Society 2021 Award Winners Announced

LaGrange, GA – June 16, 2021 – The Forest Products Society, a global network for forest products professionals, announces the winners of its 2021 Annual Excellence Awards. The awards will be presented during the FPS Virtual International Convention being held virtually. The winners are:

Fred W. Gottschalk Memorial Award

Dr. Daniel Hindman



The prestigious **Fred W. Gottschalk Memorial Award**, named for the first President of the Society, recognizes exceptional service to FPS by an individual member. The 2021 Gottschalk Award winner, **Dr. Daniel Hindman**, has exhibited consistent commitment in serving the Forest Products Society since becoming a member. He has been involved in a number of strategic leadership roles at the National and Section levels.

Hindman served as the editor of the Forest Products Society journal, *Wood Design Focus*, and has a long list of professional committee memberships that demonstrate his continued interest and commitment to the profession of wood engineering, including the Wood Engineering Technical interest group, the treasurer of the Carolina-Chesapeake Section, and as advisor to the student Forest Products Society student chapter at Virginia Tech. Hindman was awarded the Recognition Award for Outstanding Leadership as Editorial Board Chair, Forest Products Society, for his longtime service to the Society.

Dr. Hindman has been a professor in the Department of Sustainable Biomaterials at Virginia Tech since 2003 where his passion for teaching and research is demonstrated as he strives to implement new teaching methods and material into his classes. Through his expertise in timber engineering, he can focus on innovative uses of wood engineering applications and developing the next generation of wood engineers. Dr. Hindman teaches five engineering related classes to both undergraduate and graduate students.

Dr. Hindman is actively involved in research on novel wood engineering topics. He was the first to study the use of southern pine as a raw material for cross laminated timbers (CLT) and has focused on the introduction and acceptance of North American hardwood for use in making CLT. He is actively involved in determining the structural properties of bamboo and how bamboo could be used in composite panel products and the use of hemp products in structural and non-structural uses. He has studied and developed methods for improving fall protection for protecting construction workers in wood residential buildings.

Wood Engineering Achievement Award

Dr. Brian Via



The **Wood Engineering Achievement Award** recognizes accomplishments and innovations in the discipline of wood engineering including structures, structural elements, building codes, consensus standards, design procedures and education.

The 2021 winner of the Wood Engineering Achievement Award is **Dr. Brian Via**. Dr. Via is a Professor in the School of Forestry and Wildlife Science at Auburn University. Over the past several years, Dr. Via has worked collaboratively with the College of Engineering, College of Architecture, College of Business and College of Agriculture to create and establish the Sustainable Biomaterials and Packaging curriculum housed in the School of Forestry and Wildlife Science at Auburn.

Dr. Via joined Auburn University in 2012 as the Regions Bank Professor and Director of the Forest Products Development Center (FPDC) after 22 years of industry engagement and experience, including 14 years working for 3 Corporations across an entire supply chain; including, Louisiana Pacific (R&D), International Paper (R&D), and K-Mart. He has a B.S. in Forest Products and M.S. in Wood Mechanics from Virginia Tech and a Ph.D. in Forest Biomaterial Chemometrics from Louisiana State University.

In 2018, Dr. Via became the Editor-in-Chief of the *Forest Products Journal* and serves as a nonvoting member of the FPS Board.

Wood Award

The Wood Award recognizes the most outstanding graduate student research conducted in the field of wood and wood products. Wood Award papers describe original research on a wide range of topics, including but not limited to harvesting and forest operations, product development and manufacture, fundamental properties, end-use applications, and distribution and marketing. The 2021 winners are:



First Place: Dr. Munkaila Musah

Auburn University

“Durability of the Adhesive Bond in Cross Laminated Northern Hardwoods and Softwoods”

Munkaila Musah, is a post-doctoral fellow at the Forest Products Development Center in the School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, Auburn University. He holds a PhD from Michigan Technological University. His research has focused on the adhesive bonding properties of cross laminated wood composites that have on hardwood components.

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Second Place: David Milsted

Mississippi State University

“Prototype Development of an Apparatus for the Study of Wood Hygroscopicity and Other Properties Through Image Recognition”

David Milsted is a master’s student in Sustainable Bioproducts at Mississippi State University, working under supervision of Dr. Darrel Nicholas. He obtained his undergraduate degree from Universidade Federal do Parana in Brazil in Wood Technology Industrial Engineering. His research has focused on developing a complex apparatus capable of evaluating wood shrinkage, swelling curves, fiber saturation point and percentages of earlywood and latewood through image analysis and recognition.

L.J. Markwardt Award Sigong Zhang



The L.J. Markwardt Award recognizes the author(s) of a ***Forest Products Journal*** or ***Wood and Fiber Science*** technical paper published during the previous two years that has the most outstanding merit in the field of wood as an engineering material. This award encourages research and promotes knowledge of wood in the engineering field to enhance the efficient utilization of wood. This year, the selection was focused on Applied Engineering.

The 2021 winning paper is:

“Lateral Load Performance of Panelized Wood I-Joist Floor Systems”

Authors: Sigong Zhang, Ying Hei Chui, David Joo, University of Exeter

The article was published in the ***Forest Products Journal***, Vol. 70, 2020.

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ABOUT THE FOREST PRODUCTS SOCIETY

The Forest Products Society is an international, not-for-profit technical association founded in 1947 to provide an information network for all segments of the forest products industry. Its mission is to contribute to global stewardship by encouraging the social, economic and environmentally sustainable use of wood and other renewable cellulosic materials.

Membership is open to all interested individuals and organizations. Visit ForestProd.org for more information.