

57TH SWST INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IN ZVOLEN

The 57th Society of Wood Science and Technology (SWST) International Convention was held June 23-27, 2014, at the Aula Building of the Technical University of Zvolen, Slovakia, in conjunction with the 7th Wood Structure and Properties Conference and the 6th European Hardwood Conference. These events were organized from the SWST, University of West Hungary (which organized also a pre-conference tour), and the host Technical University of Zvolen and run under the title "Sustainable Resources and Technology for Forest Products".

The registration list included 167 participants (including 48 students) from 36 countries representing 6 continents: Europe, North America, South America, Africa, Asia and Australia.

The five-day event provided technical sessions on hardwood research and utilization; energy, fuels, and chemicals; products, design, and manufacturing technologies; forest products policy, global trade, and value chain management; wood construction and structures; sustainable forest management; lingo-cellulosic material science; and a poster session.

During these days were organized 9 sessions with 75 oral presentations, 85 posters and a 992 - pages proceedings were issued too.

The last day included a day-long tour of the UNESCO World Heritage Site city of Banská Štiavnica, old Mining/Forestry Academy and Botanical Gardens, and the wooden church in Hronsek.

The next SWST International Convention will be held June 7-12, 2015 at Jackson Lake Lodge, Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming, USA.

SWST is a professional society acting since 1958, pledges to develop and maintain the unique body of knowledge distinctive to science and technology of wood and other ligno-cellulosic materials and represents the wood science and technology profession in public policy development. Also it encourages the communication and use of this knowledge in the Journal for Wood and Fiber Science (since 1968). The society promotes policies and procedures which assure the wise and responsible use of wood and other lingo-cellulosic materials. SWST assures high standards for professional performance of wood scientists and technologists. Also it supports and participates actively in the accreditation of educational programs in North and South America, South-East Asia at all levels of wood science, other ligno-cellulosic materials and their technologies, and further the quality of such programs.



167 participants from 36 countries and 6 continents in front of Technical University Zvolen.



Opening ceremony in the Zvolen castle with Prof. R. Kropil - rector of TUZ (from left), city hall representative, conference overall general co-chairs Prof. M. Babiak TUZ, and Prof. M. Wollcott – President of SWST (WSU).



Chairman, host and main organizers (from left): Prof. M. Babiak (Zvolen), Prof. M. Wollcott (Pullmann), Dr. L. Denes (Sopron, graduated in Brasov), Dr. R. Lagana (Zvolen) and V. Herian (Director SWST).

*Paper written by:
Prof.dr.ing.dr. Marius Cătălin BARBU*