

THE HOT PRESS

Furniture Manufacturing and Management Center
NC State University

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WE'VE MOVED TO DANIELS HALL!



New testing lab, new teaching lab, new classroom, new offices; it's all new for us at the Furniture Manufacturing and Management Center. June 1, 2007, we completed our move from Park Shops to Daniels Hall (just across the street, but a big chore none the less!). See more inside.



Comments from the Director, Russell King

The Furniture Manufacturing and Management Center is undergoing changes in order to continue to effectively serve the ever changing furniture industry. While we will continue to provide extension, applied research and education for manufacturing of home furnishings with particular focus on global supply chain and logistics, we are expanding our services and education program to include related wood products such as contract, institutional, and other home products. Our recent move to Daniels Hall provides us with improved laboratories and allowed us to expand our testing facilities. We are interested in talking with you about your operations and your problems so that we can better serve this important industry.



More of the new home for the FMMC in Daniels Hall.....



We've still got our environmental chamber, otherwise known as the house of hot air; plenty of that to be found around here! Seriously though, our testing lab is now all under one roof, right across the hall from our offices in Daniels Hall. Dr. Harvey West is in a better position than ever to be able to provide outstanding testing services to our many furniture industry clients.

Our new location in 126 Daniels Hall is right across the street from our long time home in Park Shops. Now all of the Edward P. Fitts Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering and the FMMC is under one roof. The end result for all concerned has been a very nice upgrade in our facilities. But don't ask about parking!



Our trusty, and crusty, 5-axis Shoda made the move as seen on page 1. Above is our handy dandy Biesse PTP, ready to use in its spacious new home. We really added some great new space in our teaching Lab, and Lab Manager and ISE 331 instructor, Ron Aman, did a fantastic job of organizing and executing the move. Well of course he did; he's an NC State Engineer!



← Courtney Evans and David Jones, both May 2007 graduates, designed and built our new classroom lectern. They also managed to win \$500 in a design contest for their efforts! They have both moved on to graduate school; they'll be missed.



Harvey has a new toy in his new Lab....an Allen Bradley PLC that controls one of his BIFMATICS. He thanks Ron Aman on a daily basis for making it work.



On the very remote chance that one of our Hot Press readers hasn't seen a BIFMATIC 2000 doing its thing, here's one in action.

The Edward P. Fitts Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering is pleased to announce that Dr. Paul Cohen will be the new Department Head, effective August 24, 2007. Dr. Cohen comes to North Carolina State University after a distinguished career at Penn State University.



Dr. Paul Cohen, Edgar S. Woolard Distinguished Professor and Department Head, Edward P. Fitts Dept. of Industrial and Systems Engineering.

Dr. Cohen takes the reins of the department during an exciting time. With its move to the renovated Daniels Hall now complete, the Edward P. Fitts Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering is in a better position than ever to meet the needs of North Carolina’s growing and ever changing economy. New programs are being developed in the areas of logistics, health systems, and bioproduction engineering to help the department to better prepare students for the future. In addition, the University maintains its commitment to serve one of North Carolina’s most important industries through the Furniture Manufacturing and Management Center.

Long,
Long

ago...from a 1955 brochure for the Furniture Manufacturing and Management Program...

“Total expenses of a student who is a resident of North Carolina can be held as low as about \$900 for a regular college year. Of this amount, \$300 is for tuition and fees to the college. For out of state residents, the tuition and fees are \$210 higher. The above figures include tuition and fees, books and school supplies, room, board, heat, light, laundry. They do not include clothing, pocket money, or travel.”

Also in the same brochure...

“All students take a basic course in either Army or Air Force for the first two years. At the end of the second year, you may, if you choose, elect to take two more years of advanced instruction...If you satisfactorily complete the four years of work you are given a commission, serve two years of active duty, and then go on reserve.”

N. C. State University Wolfpack Football Schedule, 2007

<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
Central Florida	Sat. Sep. 1	Raleigh	East Carolina	Sat. Oct. 20	Away
Boston College	Sat. Sep. 8	Away	Virginia	Sat. Oct. 26	Raleigh
Wofford	Sat. Sep. 15	Raleigh	Miami	Sat. Nov. 3	Away
Clemson	Sat. Sep. 22	Raleigh	North Carolina	Sat. Nov. 10	Raleigh
Louisville	Sat. Sep. 29	Raleigh	Wake Forest	Sat. Nov. 17	Away
Florida State	Sat. Oct 6	Away	Maryland	Sat. Nov. 24	Raleigh

Ed Clark, “the best furniture engineer I ever knew”... by Tom Culbreth



Former FMM faculty member **Ed Clark** passed away on May 14, 2006, at the Springmoor Life Care Retirement Community in Raleigh, NC after a brief period of illness. He was 84 years old.

Ed joined the FMM faculty in January 1968, coming to NCSU from Sam Moore Furniture Industries in Bedford, VA, where he served as Vice President. Prior to that and for many years, Ed managed the Methods and Standards Department at the Lane Company in Altavista, VA.

FMM graduates remember Mr. Clark as the instructor for “Principles of Upholstery.” In addition to being the resident upholstery expert, Ed taught Furniture Manufacturing Processes I, usually referred to as the “machinery course.” He authored “Furniture Manufacturing Equipment,” the textbook used for that class.

Ed was very keen on students coming to his class which was always scheduled for 8 AM. He was famous for flipping a coin at the start of every lecture. Heads meant there would be no pop quiz. Tails triggered a quiz and if, as was the case on too many occasions, you were still asleep in your dorm room, bad things would happen when grades were assigned. Ed was an effective and “colorful” instructor who the students both enjoyed and respected. In 1978 Ed won the C.A. Anderson Award recognizing the most outstanding faculty member in the Industrial Engineering Department.

Many FMM students probably owe their first job to the efforts of Ed Clark. He spent untold hours on the telephone finding summer jobs for continuing students and matching up graduating seniors with potential employers. His steadfast concern for the welfare of the students meant his door was always open to provide advice or lend a sympathetic ear.

In addition to his teaching and student advising duties, Ed served as Furniture Extension Specialist for the NCSU Industrial Extension Service. Rare was the day that Ed did not receive multiple phone calls from the industry requesting technical assistance of some sort. One of Ed’s biggest contributions was overseeing the writing of a series of “Operator Training Manuals” for woodworking machinery. Hundreds of copies of these manuals were distributed to the furniture industry throughout the 1970s and 80s. Ed was recognized for his extension efforts in 1986 when he received the Fairchild Industries Outstanding Engineering Extension Award.

Ed was a tinkerer and an inventor who held several patents. Among his most noteworthy accomplishments was the development of the “Clark Chair Frame.” This was a construction for upholstered furniture frames that employed curved plywood strips and solid wood spacer blocks. Given the proliferation of engineered plywood upholstery frames today, one can truly say that Ed was a visionary and a man ahead of his time.

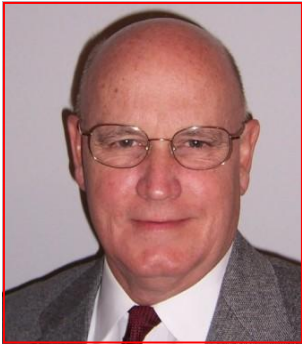
Ed retired in June of 1987 and spent much of his time traveling with his wife June, playing golf at the NCSU Faculty Club, and tending his garden. He also served on the NCSU Faculty Club Board of Directors for a number of years and helped restore the “Club” to a sound financial status.

Ed is missed and fondly remembered by the entire FMM family.

Another sad note:

Robert (Bob) Gilmore, retired forestry faculty member, died July 21, 2007. Many of you FMMers will remember Bob Gilmore from your WPS 205 Summer Practicum days. Mr. Gilmore was superintendent of the Wood Products Lab from 1957 to 1991. He retired from NCSU in 1992.

The Faculty and Staff of the Furniture Manufacturing and Management Center



John Summey is one of our Extension Specialists and has worked at the Center since 1993.

During a career that has spanned more than thirty years in the furniture industry, John has been an engineer, manager and educator. John currently works with furniture companies across America to implement new technologies and methods, with particular emphasis on product engineering.



Dr. Harvey West joined the FMMC staff in August, 1997, as testing lab manager. Harvey earned his doctorate in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering at NCSU and is a registered engineer in North Carolina.

In the past ten years Harvey has conducted hundreds of tests in his lab for many clients, and has become widely known for his outstanding work.



Ron Aman has been with us for the past 3 years as our graduate research assistant and is doing an outstanding job teaching ISE 331 which gives the students a real hands on experience with furniture manufacturing. Ron came to NCSU after a 10 year stint in the Navy which included tours on 2 nuclear subs. Ron's nearly completed his PhD work, which is focused on the technology of reverse engineering of complex objects.



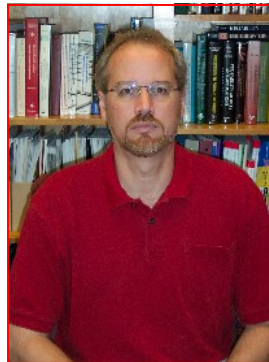
Steve Walker is another one of our Extension Specialist, and has been at the Center since 1995.

Steve's career has included management experience with Ethan Allen, The Hon Company, and Thomasville. His particular focus is on Lean Manufacturing strategies, as well as working with manufacturers on improving their facility layouts.



Dr. Tom Culbreth needs no introduction to any regular Hot Press reader. Tom was the founding director of the FMMC and continues teaching ISE 430 and 431. He also teaches Quality Control classes at both the graduate and undergraduate levels.

Tom has been on the NCSU ISE faculty since 1978 and has been associated with the FMM program or the FMMC his entire academic career.



Dr. Russell King is the Director of the FMMC and has been a member of the NCSU ISE faculty since 1985. Rusty also serves as the Director of Graduate Programs for the ISE Department.

Dr. King has been closely associated with the FMMC throughout his ISE tenure, with special emphasis on highly effective applied research, including development of Packfab, the well known fabric marking software.



Dr. Denis Cormier has been a member of the NCSU ISE faculty since 1994 and has been part of the teaching faculty in the FMMC his entire career, teaching ISE 330.

Denis' particular focus is on product development and state of the art research involving rapid prototyping. Denis was voted the Clifton Anderson outstanding faculty award in 2001, joining the club already populated by Drs. King & Culbreth.



Jean Rollins has been with the FMM Program/Center since February 1972! Hired by Dr. Prak as a part time secretary, she soon went full time, continued when Dr. Culbreth took over the program, then Dr. Cormier and now Dr. King. She is the longest employed member of the FMMC staff. Jean used the move to Daniels as an opportunity to clear out years of "stuff" in preparation of her retirement. When is the question??????



Jean Rollins keeps threatening to retire, but we don't believe her. Here she is in her new spot in the Furniture Center in Daniels Hall, still firmly in control of the comings and goings at the FMMC.

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