

## LETTER FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Dear Society of Wood Science and Technology Members:

First, I want to send best wishes for 2019. It should be an interesting year for me, and I am pleased to lead this fine organization. Second, I want to thank my predecessor Bob Smith for the guidance and mentoring he provided. Third, I want to thank the Organizing Committee and the Japan Wood Research Society for the successful meeting in Nagoya, Japan. The meeting was successful because of their diligence to detail.

I am committed to the Society, and as President, I want to share with you some of the goals that are on my agenda for the organization:

1. The Society is planning on addressing the need for Open Access of *Wood and Fiber Science (WFS)*. At the last Executive Meeting, we agreed on some preliminary ways that we can meet this need. We will have a trial period to see if our plans can work without impacting the financial situation of the Society.
2. We will continue to expand our University Accreditation to International Institutions. We recently accredited Zhejiang Agriculture and Forestry University in Zhejiang, China. We will work hard to expand our accreditation service to other international institutions.
3. The Society is committed to expanding our Social Media efforts, and Pipiet Larasatie is doing an excellent job on that effort. Please watch Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter for SWST activities.
4. Finally, I am committed to increasing international members active in the Society either on committees, the Board, the *WFS* Editorial Board, or BioProducts Business Editorial Board.



**Nicole Robitaille Brown**

If any of our international members are interested in serving in such a position, watch for calls for nominations sent out by Vicki Herian, the Executive Director of SWST, or contact the Executive Office directly.

I look forward to serving as your President for the coming year.

Sincerely,

NICOLE ROBITAILLE BROWN  
*President*  
*Society of Wood Science and Technology*