

**Graduate Assistantship for a Master's Student in the Department of Sustainable Bioproducts,  
Mississippi State University**

An opening with a two year stipend and tuition waiver is available in the Department of Sustainable Bioproducts, Mississippi State University. The student selected for this position will work toward an M.S. in Sustainable Bioproducts, focusing on the statistical distributions of strength and stiffness properties in mill run lumber populations. The student selected for this position will be responsible for oversight of laboratory work involving, but not limited to, the following:

- Acquisition of lumber specimens from local/regional sawmills
- Preparation of specimens for testing (labeling, measuring, planing, weighing, etc.)
- Laboratory-based nondestructive evaluation of the lumber specimens
- Performance of static bending tests on an Instron universal testing machine
- Participation in statistical analyses of the data
- Preparation/presentation of oral and written reports

In addition to these duties, the selected student will pursue coursework necessary for the completion of an M.S. degree in Sustainable Bioproducts and write/defend a thesis on this project.

In support of this work, the Department of Sustainable Bioproducts and the USDA Forest Products Laboratory have collaborated on funding, which will support one M.S. student for two academic years, including stipend, tuition, and insurance. The student will also maintain an office cubicle at the Department of Sustainable Bioproducts.

A student selected for this position will be under the direction of Dr. Frank Owens (MSU Department of Sustainable Bioproducts). The student will have ample opportunities for interaction with professional research and industry personnel, and when possible, will travel to appropriate meetings to present findings from this research.

A Bachelor's degree in a related field (forestry/forest products/wood science, engineering, mathematics/statistics, physics, etc.) and a GRE test report are required for application to this program. TOEFL (min. 550 PBT, 213 CBT, 79 iBT) or IELTS (min. 6.5) is required for international students. A full application to the Graduate School at Mississippi State University will be required before an offer can be made.

This position will remain open until filled. The start date will be Summer or Fall Semester 2018. If you or a student you know is interested in this opportunity, please contact Dr. Frank Owens at [frank.owens@msstate.edu](mailto:frank.owens@msstate.edu). Skype/video conference interviews may be requested. Only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Additional information can be found on the websites of the MSU Department of Sustainable Bioproducts (<http://www.cfr.msstate.edu/bioproducts/graduate.asp>) and the Office of Graduate School (<http://www.grad.msstate.edu>).

MSU is an equal opportunity employer, and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, ethnicity, sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), national origin, disability status, age, sexual orientation, genetic information, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law. We always welcome nominations and applications from women, members of any minority group, and others who share our passion for building a diverse community that reflects the diversity in our student population.

***Mississippi State University is an AA/EOE.***