University of Maine Pulp & Paper Foundation Scholarship Committee Representatives Welcome 76 Returning Scholarship Recipients and Award More Than $185,000 in Scholarships at it’s Annual Fall Banquet.

Following a long standing tradition, University of Maine Pulp and Paper Foundation Scholarship Committee Chair, Jack MacBrayne and other committee members welcomed seventy-six returning students to its annual banquet on Thursday, September 9th. Students had the opportunity to meet and talk with committee members at a reception preceding the banquet. Guest speaker for the evening was Mr. Robert Keller, Senior Vice President of Kemira Chemicals, Kennesaw, Georgia. Mr. Keller is also a member of the Foundation’s Board of Directors.

In his address to our students Mr. Keller told students of industry challenges in North America. The challenges as he explained them are energy, fiber, transportation, labor costs, imports, regulation, older machinery and shrinking markets. “But all is not grim”, he told the students. “Students like you are our industry’s future. We need you. We badly need new blood and new ideas” Mr. Keller went on to say, “Today’s graduates are brighter than ever. Industry conditions are not all negative, but, they are different.” He told the students innovation and technical competence is critical. He told the students they can control their own success in the industry.

The Subject is Jobs. The Mission is Beginning Engineers. What is the Vision?

A message from Executive Director, Peter Duncan

All of us were on the job starting in high school. Upon graduation we made a transition to the next level of job, be it University studies or into the work force. And for those of us who concentrated on higher education, the goal was still a transition into the work force. In the transition from high school, to the University, to the work force the level of work is differentiated by degree of independence and source of income. In all cases success comes via a 60 hour work week.

Ultimately the goal of most, if not all, students is independence via a self supporting job.

The mission of this Foundation is to provide a steady stream of quality engineers for selection by the membership for employment in our industry.

Thus, for both student and Foundation the mission is the same – a job.

This is the 1st year in 14 years when the Foundation did not achieve 100% placement of graduating seniors. Few companies came to the University for on sight interviews. In anticipation of this possibility your Foundation sponsored three sessions with the objective of having seniors become more proactive in their job search. Still, two of our seniors signed up for the Peace Corps, one chose law [we hope to attract her to our industry upon graduation] and we have lost track of a few of our scholarship students.
Mr. Keller closed his presentation with a few recommendations to our students. He told them to refine their technical skills and knowledge. He urged them to be flexible with regard to location, responsibilities and attitude and told them to “learn a second language and all aspects of the business”. In closing Mr. Keller told scholarship recipients to “Develop and nurture personal relationships. Balance your work and personal lives and most of all, enjoy what you do.”

Following Mr. Keller’s presentation, Jack MacBrayne and members of the Foundation’s Scholarship Committee awarded students scholarship checks totaling more than $185,000.

Sixty-nine students are from the State of Maine. Two students are from New York, one from Massachusetts, one from South Dakota, one from Colorado and one from Virginia.

There are 27 seniors, 35 juniors and 14 sophomore scholarship recipients. Additionally there are 12 first-year recipients who have been offered spring scholarships provided they meet academic performance requirements for the fall semester.

All scholarship recipients receiving Foundation support this fall have had summer or co-op positions in the industry. Students also attend the Foundation’s yearly Jack E. Chinn Engineering Management Seminar Series as a way of showing their support for our industry.

At the scholarship committee meeting preceding the banquet, the scholarship committee agreed to offer scholarships to up to 25 incoming first-year students in the fall of 2005. It is also the recommendation of the committee to continue Foundation support to up to 100 upper-class scholarship recipients for the 2005-06 academic year. Scholarship awards are based on merit and on a student’s demonstrated interest in considering a paper-related technical career upon graduation from The University of Maine.

Scholarship application for the 2005-06 academic year will be available in the Foundation office, and additionally on the Foundation’s website starting in January. First year scholarship applications are being mailed to Maine high schools in October and will also be available on our website.

Scholarship Committee member Marco L’Italien, Pulp & Recovery/Utilities Manager, Lincoln Paper and Tissue, LLC, distributes scholarship checks at the Foundation’s Annual Scholarship Banquet.

Looking at the chart you can see that the break point in paper and related jobs is the year 2000, tracking the downturn of our industry. Last year we could make a few phone calls and get a student an interview. Our last two students were absorbed into the workforce in this way. Not so this year, as student hiring continues to lag the turn-up in the economy.

We expect the situation to change driven by the demographics of the current workforce. Fortunately we are still able to attract high quality students to this program. Next May 25, Foundation scholarship recipients will make decisions regarding their future, and indirectly, their decisions will impact our industry. Our class of 2005 placement brochure has been printed and distributed to our Corporate Members. With many problems to solve, our industry is in need of bright young talent. As your full service human resources supplier of beginning engineers, call us if we can assist in any way.
Scholarship Recipients Need Your Help to Find Summer Employment in the Industry

As a condition of retaining their scholarship, students must meet two criteria. The first criteria, academic performance is easy for them. The second criteria, a demonstrated interest in our industry is determined by attendance at our Chinn Management Seminars and the student’s ability to obtain a summer job, internship or co-op position.

Do you have a technical job needing staffing? Consider hiring a Pulp and Paper Foundation scholarship recipient.

Dr. Hemant Pendse, Chair of Chemical and Biological Engineering and coordinator of our co-op program and Faye Woodcock Murray of the Foundation office have teamed together to help you meet your employment goals. We can arrange for your company to receive resumes of students who want to work for you. We will also arrange for your company to host an “information night” to tell students about employment opportunities you have available. We will also help to set up an appropriate interview schedule. Please call Faye at 207/581-2297 and tell her your needs.

Students without 2005 summer employment may loose their Foundation scholarship.

Class of 2005 is Ready for Placement in the Paper & Allied Industry

Twenty-Five members of the University of Maine’s Class of 2005 are introduced in this year’s Pulp & Paper Foundation Candidates for Placement brochure which is distributed as a benefit of membership to Foundation Corporate members.

In his letter to Corporate representatives, Foundation Executive Director Peter Duncan states, “The mission of the Pulp & Paper Foundation is to provide a steady stream of quality engineers for our membership as represented by paper manufacturers and suppliers, including forest products. To that end we have been extremely successful. Consider that in the year 2004 our students average GPA was 3.66 vs an overall campus average GPA of 2.79. In addition, our scholarship recipients enjoyed leadership roles in various campus activities including six students enrolled in the honors program, six varsity athletes, two senior skulls, two all Maine Woman, the President of Tau Beta Pi, etc. The results of our program stand up to any metric parameter you might propose”.

The brochure features a photograph and abbreviated resume showing each student’s background and work experience. To learn more about our graduating seniors and their technical capabilities, or to request copies of the Candidates for Placement brochure call the Foundation office at 207/581-2297 or send email to pulppaper@maine.edu. We will send a brochure in the next mail.

Cascades Auburn Fiber Joins the Pulp and Paper Foundation

John Wolanski, Membership Committee Chair, is pleased to announce a new pulp & paper company Foundation member in 2004; Cascades Auburn Fiber in Auburn, Maine. According to John, “We are very pleased that Cascades Auburn Fiber has joined the Foundation as a new Company Member. It is important that Maine-based manufacturers like Auburn Fiber have access to the technical capabilities and people resources of the Foundation.”

Cascades Auburn Fiber is a 200 TPD facility manufacturing market deinked pulp (MDIP) used in the production of post-consumer based papers throughout Eastern Canada and Northeastern United States. Cascades Auburn Fiber is part of the Specialty Products Group of Cascades Inc. based in Kinsley Falls, Quebec. Cascades Inc., is a North American leader in the manufacture, converting and marketing of packaging products, tissue papers and fine papers made primarily with recycled fiber. Cascades employs more than 15,000 men and women in some 150 operating units in North America and Europe, and owns or has interests in 21 paper recovery centers, recycling more than two million short tons of paper and board annually. In 2004, Cascades Inc is celebrating their 40th anniversary and with their unique corporate culture of people-oriented management, they are poised for the next 40 years.

The mill in Auburn, Maine was constructed in 1995 and was one of the new breed of U.S. recycled pulp mills at that time. In June of 1998, Cascades Inc purchased the facility. In spite of the declining recycled pulp market since the mill’s startup, Cascades Auburn Fiber has continued to survive and prosper with the support of Cascades Inc. and their expertise in recycled fibers.

Craig Martin, UMaine Class of 1989, is the Sales Manager for the Auburn facility. Craig explains why Cascades Auburn Fiber became a company member: “Cascades Auburn Fiber’s membership is driven by the belief that the University of Maine and this Foundation continue to be a key entity in the promotion of our industry and the development of our future leaders. The vast network of industry professionals and the service capabilities offered because of the past great work of this foundation is a huge benefit for all those willing to be involved. Going into the future, Cascades and the Auburn facility will be honored to get on board and play a larger role in the development of our industry’s future through the work of this Foundation.”
Foundation Looks to Continue Success of Named Scholarship Program

The Pulp and Paper Foundation Gifts & Bequests Committee under the direction of Philip Emery (with assistance from Keith Meyer), continues to encourage those involved with our program to establish a Named Scholarship as a means of thanking the University and helping engineering students slated for our industry to meet the cost of their college education.

The committee continues to provide avenues for donations to such funds as well as assistance to the donor by providing up to date contribution amounts and values of the endowment. The Foundation will also assist with a broker or mutual fund company, including the paying of commissions to assist in completing a transfer/sale of any securities the donor may wish to contribute as a means of avoiding capital gains which would otherwise be due. The Foundation will also work with the donor’s employer to facilitate matching contributions, and lastly the Foundation will continue to insure that the scholarship recipient has a sincere interest in our industry and a high probability of success.

Please consider establishing a Named Scholarship with The University of Maine Pulp & Paper Foundation as a means of sharing your success with the University while encouraging and assisting our students in their pursuit of a career in our industry.

Philip Emery has a long history of support for our Foundation and both he, and most recently Keith Meyer, are Named Scholarship donors. Please feel free to discuss any thoughts you may have on establishing a Named Scholarship with them or with Peter Duncan, Executive Director of The University of Maine Pulp & Paper Foundation. You can reach Peter by telephone at 207/581-2298 or by email at duncan@maine.edu.

Annual Contributions From Foundation Alumni & Friends are Important to Maintain Scholarship Support

In July of each year your Foundation sends letters to all alumni, members and friends requesting a financial contribution. Your gift, and the gifts of more than 600 others is important to the continued support of our scholarship program. Did you know all contributions received from alumni and friends can be designated to support a Foundation activity of your choosing? If you so designate, 100% of your contribution will go to scholarship support. You choose how your contribution will be used.

If you work for a company with a matching gifts to education program you can increase your contribution as defined by the limits of your program. Some companies offer two and three times contribution matches.

In his July letter to Foundation alumni and friends, Executive Director, Peter Duncan said, “I was the 1st college graduate in the family. Without the Pulp & Paper Foundation scholarships we did not have sufficient resources for me to attend college and likely I would still be “in the mill”. Instead, I managed to achieve leadership roles in four companies, developed a wide array of friends throughout the industry, and had many opportunities to enjoy significant world travel. Our family has lived well and much of the success and opportunity can be traced back to “Pulp & Paper Foundation scholarships” and the support I received from people related to the Foundation at that time”. Peter went on in his letter to say, “How about you? How important was your scholarship in obtaining a degree? How important was your degree in the success of your career? Your financial support is critical to the success of your Foundation. I ask you to join me with your annual gift. More than ever our industry needs talented young people. This is your opportunity to pass it along”.

The Foundation needs your help. If you have made a yearly contribution, thank you. If you have not made a contribution we would welcome your gift. Would you consider supporting our students with a contribution of one credit hour ($170) or any amount you feel appropriate. Our address is: UMaine Pulp & Paper Foundation, 5737 Jenness Hall, Orono, ME 04469-5737. Thank you for your support.

Will You Recommend a Deserving High School Student for a Scholarship?

The Pulp & Paper Foundation is once again planning to offer up to 25 merit-based scholarships to first-year students who will enter the University of Maine College of Engineering or Forestry in the Fall 2005.

Scholarship applications are sent to all of the previous summer’s “Consider Engineering” participants and to Maine high schools in October. Applications can also be downloaded from our website at www.mainepulpaper.org.

First year scholarship awards are for $1000 payable in the spring semester of the first year of study provided the student completed 14 credit hours of coursework with a minimum GPA of 3.0. There are also $3,000 awards available for first-year out-of-state students.

Successful scholarship applicants are usually in the top 10% of their senior class and have earned SAT scores in the top 10% of all test takers. Applications are reviewed as they are received at the Foundation. While there is no deadline for applications, there is no assurance funds will be available after February 1st, 2005.

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Once again The University of Maine Pulp & Paper Foundation will offer scholarship recipients and other interested students the opportunity to attend The Jack E. Chinn Engineering Management Seminar Series. The series offers exposure to topics not routinely offered in the engineering curriculum and are a positive way for scholarship recipients to show demonstrated interest in the paper and allied industry which is one of the requirements for retaining their scholarships.

The first seminar this fall, on October 19th, will feature John T. Wolanski, Vice President, Safe Handling. John will present his seminar titled “Sales & Marketing” to our students.

Other topics to be covered by the 2004-2005 seminar series are: Business Ethics; Sales & Marketing; Leadership, Compliance with Environmental Regulations and Unions – What Do Labor and Management Want”.

Management seminars offer students the opportunity to meet industry managers and learn about their areas of expertise. Each seminar is followed by a light dinner sponsored as part of the series. The dinner offers students the opportunity to meet the speaker and talk in an informal setting.

Foundation members and friends who would like to present a Chinn Engineering Management Seminar are asked to call Foundation Executive Director Peter Duncan at 207/581-2297.

Academic Year 2004-05 Jack E. Chinn Engineering Management Series Schedule Announced

Once again The University of Maine Pulp & Paper Foundation will offer scholarship recipients and other interested students the opportunity to attend The Jack E. Chinn Engineering Management Seminar Series.

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Foundation members and friends who would like to present a Chinn Engineering Management Seminar are asked to call Foundation Executive Director Peter Duncan at 207/581-2297.
Two sessions of the “Consider Engineering” program for academically gifted students who have completed their junior year of high school were once again sponsored by The Pulp & Paper Foundation in July. Sixty-one students attended the program to learn more about careers in engineering and the pulp and paper industry.

The “Consider Engineering” program gave students the opportunity to spend four days on campus exploring the engineering curriculum and profession.

Students learned about various engineering disciplines by attending lectures, classroom discussion, conducting laboratory experiments facilitated by UMaine faculty and graduate students.

A highlight of the program was to learn how paper is made. Dr. Joseph Genco, Professor of Chemical Engineering & LC Calder Professor and Michael Bilodeau, Director of The UMaine Pulp & Paper Process Development Center offered students lectures in papermaking. Students were also able to participate in a hand-sheet lab, each making their own sheet of paper in the Jenness Hall laboratory. In the afternoon students toured Georgia-Pacific’s Old Town, ME mill’s tissue and converting operations to see first-hand how tissue products are made.

Current engineering students, who were taking summer classes, offered insight into what is it like to attend college and major in engineering at a question/answer session which is one of the highlights of our program.

Problem-solving capabilities were challenged in a construction project to build a strong tower from one copy of The Bangor Daily News and one roll of masking tape. The students succeeded with some of the structures capable of supporting more than 100 lbs.

Another challenge offered the students was to test their creativity and presentation skills as they prepared PowerPoint presentations of lab experiments conducted over a two-day period. The presentations were made in front of an audience of parents and friends. This year’s laboratory projects included “Stress in Beams” conducted by Professor Vince Caccurse, Mechanical Engineering; “The Quest of Tuor”, conducted by Andy Sheaff, Computer & Electrical Engineering; “The Recycling of Mixed Waste Paper”, conducted by Professor David Neivandt, Chemical & Biological Engineering; “Dem Bones”, conducted by Professor’s Darrell Donahue and Paul Millard, Chemical & Biological Engineering and, “When Will It Really Break?”, conducted by Professor David Humphrey, Civil Engineering. Students choose the experiment they wanted to work on based on a brief narrative supplied by Professors.

More than 1,500 students have participated in the “Consider Engineering” program over the last 35 years. Many former participants are now senior mill managers, sales executives or hold other positions of responsibility within the industry. The program is one of our best student recruiting tools.

Do you have an item for the Alumni Personals section of the Newsletter?

Please contact Faye Woodcock Murray at the Foundation office to tell her the news you would like to share with classmates and friends. Call 207/581-2297 or email Faye at woodcock@maine.edu.
Alumni
Personals

Sherrill J. Hazard, III, ’80, recently joined Simkins Industries, Inc., in New Haven, CT as General Manager.

Daniel Rivard, ’82, has joined Fisher International as Vice President Sales for North America in Norwalk, CT.

Jeff Hamilton, ’82, has joined SAPPI Fine Papers Skowhegan, ME mill as Integrated Manufacturing Manager.

Marco L’Italien, ’86, has joined Lincoln Paper and Tissue, LLC in Lincoln, ME as Pulp & Recovery/Utilities Manager.

Robert Harvey, ’90, has recently joined Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Limited in Corner Brook, NL Canada as Paper Mill Superintendent.

FACULTY NOTES

Professor Adriaan van Heiningen, Ober Chair Professor of Chemical Engineering has received $496,584 for a three year project from the U.S. Department of Energy. The project is called “Integrated Forest Products Refinery”.

A Novel Barrier Coating Developed by Cerealus Holdings, LLC and the UMaine Pulp & Paper Process Development Center

Fluorinated chemicals are often used to impart grease and oil resistance to paper packaging for food items such as microwave popcorn, pizza, burgers, beverages and pet food. However, recent studies suggest that some fluorinated compounds break down to form perfluorooctanoic acid, a potentially toxic compound. Perfluorooctanoic acid is non-biodegradable and, therefore, persists in the environment. One study found traces of this compound in the bloodstreams of 90% of Americans sampled.

Cerealus Holdings, LLC of Waterville, Maine and the UMaine Process Development Center (PDC) have developed a non-toxic alternative that can potentially revolutionize paper-based food packaging products. With ‘Seed Grant’ support from the Maine Technology Institute (MTI) and innovative research by Anthony Jabar and PDC staff members, a new bio-based chemistry has been developed that can potentially replace fluorinated compounds in food grade paper and board packaging. Preliminary test results are very encouraging. Cerealus and UMaine plan to further develop this patent-pending technology.

The new polymer has many advantages over fluorinated compounds. Besides being non-toxic and biodegradable, the polymer is readily available from renewable plant-based materials, and since it is generally recognized as safe (GRAS), it has little regulatory burden.

The development of a biodegradable, non-toxic packaging comes at an important time for the paper industry, as alternatives to paper, such as plastics, pose a real threat to this market segment. The EPA, concerned about the toxicity and pervasiveness of fluorinated chemicals, has recently undertaken the largest review in its history to discover how these chemicals and their by-products have apparently bio-accumulated in humans. In addition, the Environmental Working Group (EWG) has requested that nine major fast food chains — including McDonalds, Burger King, and Krispy Cream, among others — to disclose the use of fluorinated compounds in their packaging and to eliminate their use in the future.

Cerealus and UMaine are currently in discussions with several potential development partners to accelerate the commercialization of this technology. If you would like to find out more about this project, or discuss other product development opportunities, please contact Michael Bilodeau, Director of the Process Development Center, at 207-581-2387.

Mark Your Calendar Plan to Attend:

“Developing Our Position in the Global Forest Products Industry”
April 6 - 8th, 2005

At September’s Pulp & Paper Foundation Open House Committee Meeting it was decided to change the format of our upcoming 2005 Pulp & Paper Foundation Open House. We have joined with Maine/New Hampshire TAPPI, Northeast PIMA, and the Maine Pulp & Paper Association in Augusta to bring all groups together for “PaperDays 2005” starting with our welcome luncheon on Wednesday, April 6th and ending with lunch on Friday, April 8th.

A committee comprised of representatives from each organization is working to design a new program encompassing all organizations and offering attendees the opportunity to attend committee meetings, panel sessions and activities which will be of benefit to all.

A complete program brochure will be available for distribution in January.
Pulp & Paper Foundation Scholarship Recipients say “Thank you” to the Donors of Their Scholarships

Each year Pulp & Paper Foundation scholarship recipients write thank you letters to the sponsor of the endowed scholarship which supports their financial award. Students express their appreciation and report on recent work experiences and future plans.

Darren Boyce from Otisfield, ME has received a Pulp & Paper Foundation scholarship since his first year at UMaine. Darren, now a senior writes:

Dear Mrs. Ward,

It was a great honor to learn that I was selected to receive the Eugene J. Ward scholarship from The University of Maine Pulp and Paper Foundation for the 2004-2005 school year. This is the last year I will be a part of The Pulp and Paper Foundation at UMaine in Orono, and it is such a pleasure to have the opportunity to recognize someone who has been such an influential member in the paper industry. Through the continued support that I have received from the Foundation, a once seemingly unattainable goal has developed into reachable aspirations for the future.

It has always been my belief that the best way to develop a skill is to build experience in real-life situations. I have been given this opportunity during my co-op terms in the paper industry. My first experience was during the fall of 2002 at Great Northern Paper in East Millinocket, ME. Unfortunately, the co-op program was cut after my first semester. I was fortunate and accepted a position at the MeadWestvaco paper mill in Rumford, ME for the fall of 2003 as well as the summer of 2004. During my time in Rumford, I was given the opportunity to play a significant role in the technical services department and make a large number of contacts for the future. My experiences during these co-op terms have played a huge role in refueling my confidence in the paper industry, and have given me the tools necessary to prepare for the next step in my career as an engineer.

Thank you so much for all of your support through this journey. Your generosity has been an inspiration for everyone looking to make a difference in the paper industry.

Sincerely,
Darren S. Boyce

Darren S. Boyce, Senior, Chemical Engineering, UMaine Pulp & Paper Foundation Scholarship Recipient.