Students attend TAPPI’s 2018 PaperCon in Charlotte, NC
If record numbers of First Year Scholarship applicants, Consider Engineering applicants, and a 150% increase in fundraising dollars sounds good to you, then you’ve come to the right place! 2017 marked another successful year for our Foundation.

We began the year with industry representatives choosing 20 first-year scholarship students who entered UMaine in the fall. Financially, our total income from fundraising efforts has increased 150% since 2010. In October our calendars were full with companies from around the country on campus to interview students for both co-op and full-time positions. Representatives of 25 companies and 37 locations interviewed our students this fall, and more have visited since then to round out their hiring needs. It’s a great time to be a UMaine Pulp and Paper Foundation Engineer.

Some key events in 2017 were:

A record number of students applied for first year scholarships by December 31, 2017. A typical year has been 55-60 applicants, but this year we received 94 applications. Our Scholarship Committee held a long day of interviews to carefully select students who will matriculate in September 2018. Nearly 80% of last summer’s Consider Engineering program participants applied for a scholarship this year: continued proof that this program encourages many students to ultimately pursue careers in engineering.

Introducing high school students to careers in engineering in their own communities also continued via the Foundation’s Career Exploration Seminars. Seminars were conducted in New York at Essity in Glens Falls and in Maine at Twin Rivers in Madawaska. Through these events, over 100 high school students received the opportunity to tour manufacturing facilities and see what their future engineering careers could look like. In addition, UMPPF representatives spread our message through high school visits in multiple states.

New Hampshire, New York, Georgia, and Massachusetts were visited by our President in order to connect with companies, alumni, donors, potential future students and their teachers about the UMPPF. Carrie also hosted the Annual Alumni Soiree at TAPPI’s Papercon technical program in Minneapolis, where she was invited to speak at the Annual Couch Pit University Banquet. Two of our students were honored at this industry event in front of an international audience. They were presented with two scholarships from TAPPI, and one was recognized as the Student of the Year!

Financially, our investments did better than the market in 2017 with a 15% return and $3.3 MM in gains. Our total fundraising also increased (20% year over year). For the third year in a row we exceeded our campaign goal of $200K in annual giving, driven this year by an increase in individual membership.

Paper Days 2017 was an outstanding event with a keynote address by Jim Porter, Vice President at WestRock. The banquet welcomed over 350 attendees. John Donahue, Vice President of Sappi North America, received the Honor Award in recognition of his contributions to the UMaine Pulp and Paper Foundation as well as to the industry in the state of Maine.

The more than 90 volunteers of the UMPPF are an invaluable resource for our organization and our students. We continue to grow this network, and ultimately it results in the success of our scholarship recipients. Thank you to everyone who plays a role in developing the next generation of pulp and paper industry leaders; your dedication is recognized and whole-heartedly appreciated.

Ray Heuchling, Chair of the Board
Marco L’Italien, Chair of the Executive Committee
Packaging Corporation of America has pledged a $1 million gift to help construct the University of Maine Engineering Education and Design Center, according to UMaine Pulp & Paper Foundation President Carrie Enos.

PCA is one of the largest producers of containerboard and corrugated packaging products in the U.S., and a corporate member of UMPPF. Headquartered in Lake Forest, Illinois, PCA recruits UMPPF students for co-op opportunities and full-time employment for its mills nationwide.

“The University of Maine is very grateful that the corporate members of the Pulp & Paper Foundation are active partners in our mission,” says UMaine President Susan J. Hunter. “For decades, foundation members have generously supported the programming that makes our students so competitive after graduation. This gift from PCA will help us recruit and develop the next generation of industry-leading engineers.”

In April, Packaging Corporation of America Chairman and CEO Mark Kowlzan and 330 other paper industry executives from 19 states, Mexico and Canada were on campus for the annual Paper Days conference, sponsored by the UMaine Pulp & Paper Foundation. The non-profit foundation, the nation’s oldest of its kind, furthers the study and promotion of pulp and paper, and related subjects at UMaine, and encourages students to consider paper-related technical careers.

UMPPF offers scholarships for approximately 90 students annually, and introduces high school juniors to engineering careers through its annual Consider Engineering summer camp. Consider Engineering alumni include UMaine’s 2018 valedictorian Graham Van Goffrier and salutatorian Brianna DeGone.

“UMaine engineering graduates are second to none, and the UMaine Pulp & Paper Foundation sets the benchmark for promoting collaboration between the university and industry. That is why PCA is investing in the University of Maine,” says Kowlzan.

The $1 million corporate gift for the center announced on the Maine Day of Giving brings the Vision for Tomorrow comprehensive campaign to over $155 million of the $200 million goal, says University of Maine Foundation President Jeffery Mills.

Members of the College of Engineering Dean’s Advisory Board, alumni, friends and corporate donors have collectively contributed $12 million in gifts and pledges toward the construction of the engineering center to date.

Up to $15 million remains to be raised toward construction of the Engineering Education and Design Center, proposed to cost up to $80 million.

Groundbreaking for the facility is anticipated in 2020, with completion in 2022.

“We are truly grateful to Packaging Corporation of America and the members of the UMaine Pulp & Paper Foundation, who are generously investing in our students, programs and facilities,” says College of Engineering Dean Dana Humphrey.

“Members of the UMPPF have worked very hard to develop close relationships between the university and paper industry leaders in Maine and around the world. We are thrilled that it can benefit our students in this way,” says Enos.
The Pulp & Paper Foundation’s Paper Days Event welcomed more than 340 guests to UMaine on April 4th & 5th. Participants enjoyed a variety of speakers as we celebrated the 68th anniversary of the Foundation.

Our program opened with the Wednesday luncheon and featured Tim Baade, Senior Vice President and General Manager of Irving Consumer Products. He spoke about Irving’s “Commitment to Growth.” The audience was wowed by his overview of Irving’s Integrated companies, global reach, and commitment to their core values. Tim discussed the growth of the company, including the new $400 million tissue facility in Macon, GA. With this kind of expansion, Tim emphasized the need for future engineers, and he wrapped up his presentation with a video called “More with Every Role,” which featured UMaine engineers who are current Irving employees!

After lunch the panel discussion on Growth Through Research & Development featured work by UMaine Faculty and Grad Students. Dr. Caitlin Howell delivered a high energy presentation on her work in Paper Based Bioengineering, featuring Point-of-Care Diagnostics and Slippery Surfaces which resist bacterial adhesion. Dr. Tom Schwartz followed with his work on the Production of Biobased Butadiene for Paper Coatings (and other applications).

Dr. Doug Bousfield generated a lot of questions and discussion with his group’s research on Alternative Packaging Based on Cellulose Nanofibers. Dr. Bousfield discussed the unique properties of CNF and flexible packaging application to replace plastic as well as double walled cups to replace Styrofoam. UMaine Graduate Student Kendra Fein expanded on this topic with her investigation of the Water-based Modification of Cellulose Nano Fibrils for Packaging Applications. The motivation for this research is to provide biodegradable packaging alternatives that are more environmentally friendly.

The second panel discussion on Wednesday afternoon discussed Growth Through Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning. Dr. Roy Turner opened the topic with his presentation “Toward Artificially-Intelligent Factories and Mills” and the different stages we may go through to reach a future state where mills are intelligent agents. Dr. Sofian Audry delivered an introduction to Machine Learning, discussed the economic benefits of Artificial Intelligence, and finally Industry 4.0 where Cyber Physical systems exist. These are important topics that we need to educate our students about to make them successful leaders in the pulp and paper industry of the future.

(Please turn the page for more about Paper Days 2018.)
Paper Days 2018 - Accelerating the Growth Curve (cont.)

New Board Members Welcomed at Paper Days (back row L to R): Deece Hannigan, Sappi; Dana Cook, PCA; Ben Blanchette, Georgia-Pacific; Bill Butterfield, Xerium; and Brian Lambert, Nalco Water. Front Row (L to R): Bob Snyder, Twin Rivers; Austin Gilboe, UMaine CHE student; Ned Dwyer, Catalyst; Beth Cormier, Sappi; and Justin Hebert, P&G.

Employees from Catalyst Paper attend Paper Days 2018 to see President and CEO Ned Dwyer give the keynote address at the banquet dinner. Pictured from left to right are: Peter Theriault, Manager, Human Resources; Craig Blodgett, Technical Manager; Melany Gilboe, Assistant Pulp Mill Superintendent; Derek Armandi, Lead Reliability Engineer; Ned Dwyer; President & CEO; Scott Reed, Environmental and Public Affairs Manager; Marcia Powers, R15 Dry End Superintendent; Randy Chicoine, V.P. & General Manager, Rumford Mill.

Recruiting Diversification Committee Member Addie Nadeau (left) congratulates the winners of the Northeast TAPPI/PIMA $500 scholarship raffle. All First-Year, Sophomore and Junior students in attendance were eligible. The winners were Class of 2019 CHE Students Olivia Goulet (center) and Austin Albert (right).

Did you know the Foundation is on Facebook? Like us at University of Maine Pulp & Paper Foundation to follow our activities.
The UMaine Pulp and Paper Foundation Annual Meeting wrapped up the afternoon activities and was followed by the social hour and Paper Days Banquet. Guests were greeted by Chair of the Executive Committee, Marco L’Italien. Marco also read a statement from Congresswoman Chellie Pingree thanking the UMPPF and all in attendance for “the profound impact on these students’ lives and the industry as a whole.” Congressman Bruce Poliquin delivered passionate remarks about the importance of the pulp and paper industry to the economy of our state as well as our nation. UMaine President, Dr. Susan Hunter, also extended a warm welcome to guests and thanked the companies, alumni, friends and the Foundation for all they do for our students.

After dinner the Paper Days Keynote Address was delivered by Ned Dwyer, President and CEO of Catalyst Paper Corporation. Ned’s remarks struck a chord in many ways, but perhaps the sentiment that resonated the most was his urging to our students that they think about the importance of doing good work every day.

The banquet continued with the drawing of the winners of the Northeast TAPPI/PIMA $500 scholarship raffle and the introduction of the graduating Senior scholarship recipients. This was followed by teacher awards, named scholarship presentations, the Genco Award winner, and the 2018 Honor Award presentation. Readers will find stories about each of these events featured throughout the newsletter.

Our Thursday morning Breakfast Panel was moderated by Greg Radney, who was instrumental in helping to organize the Student TREE Trip to Sweden in May 2017. The panel featured current engineering students and recent graduates who joined Greg, Dr. Tom Schwartz, and UMPPF President Carrie Enos on that same trip. The students gave a presentation about what they learned and experienced each day of their journey, and they were grateful for the support of the UMPPF and its members so that they could expand their knowledge beyond what they learned at UMaine and during their co-op experiences.

Ben Thorp of the Biorenewable Deployment Consortium offered our attendees a look at the “Mill of the Future” in his presentation about Growth through Expanding Markets. Then, a panel of Donna Cassese, Jake Ward, and Peggy Daigle reviewed the findings and plans of FOR Maine (Forest Opportunity Roadmap).

The closing luncheon speaker was Bob Snyder, CEO of Twin Rivers Paper Company. We knew we were in for a unique presentation when he opened with a recording of “Eye of the Tiger,” and the rest of his time was spent discussing how Twin Rivers is Growing by Reinvention. It was appropriate that Twin Rivers’ acquisition of the Pine Bluff, Arkansas mill from Mondi was announced during Paper Days! Bob offered wise words of advice to our students: Be Proactive, Nimble, Entrepreneurial, and a Leader. Clearly these are words he himself has lived by.

Ned Dwyer, President & CEO, Catalyst Paper delivers the Keynote Address.

Ben Thorp, BDC, speaks to the audience about the “Mill of the Future.”

L to R: Dean Dana Humphrey and Congressman Bruce Poliquin greet guests at the Paper Days Honors Banquet.
The 2018 Pulp & Paper Foundation Honor Award, in recognition of activities that improved the reputation of the University of Maine throughout the paper and supplier industries, was presented to Greg Radney at the Foundation’s 2018 Paper Days April Honors Banquet.

UMPPF Board member and Honor Award Committee Chair John Wolanski and Mike Gray, Sr. Vice President, Valmet were both on hand to present the award and to share some of Greg’s many accomplishments.

Greg Radney graduated from the University of Maine in 1977 with a BS in Pulp and Paper Technology and in 1978 with a BS in Chemical Engineering. He grew up in the Pulp & Paper Industry traveling to various locations (Maine, Nova Scotia, New York, Pennsylvania) while his father built Pulp Mills for Scott Paper.

Greg started his career with the Foxboro Company and after three years joined Valmet, a company truly devoted to Pulp & Paper, for the start-up of the Madison Paper Pressurized Groundwood Plant & PM3 in 1981. Over the next thirty-six years he held various position from Sales Manager, Vice President to Corporate Account Manager for International Paper Globally. Greg is recently retired as Vice President on the Board of Directors for the UMaine Pulp and Paper Foundation and Chair of the Nominating Committee.

The 2018 Honor Award Recipient has served as a Vice President of the Foundation’s Board since 2011. The Greg & Patty Radney Scholarship was established in 2017. When establishing this scholarship Greg stated: “It is my sincere pleasure to establish this scholarship to make it possible for others find their way to the Pulp & Paper Industry. If it were not for this program, the University, its professors, assistants, and Joe Genco I would not be where I am today. It has been an honor to serve the University of Maine Pulp and Paper Foundation in various capacities including to help coordinate TREE trips (Finland & Sweden). The University of Maine Pulp and Paper Foundation is one of a kind, developing engineers and professionals to meet future challenges. Thank you for allowing us to be part of this experience and best wishes to all we can help.”

Greg Radney, left, moderates the Student TREE Trip Breakfast Panel.

University and Industrial Support Committee Chair Peter Hart (center), visits with UMaine President Susan Hunter (left) and her husband Dr. David Lambert during the Paper Days Banquet Dinner.
Paper Days 2018  Accelerating the
Growth Curve

Picture Highlights
Scholarship and Educational Relations Committee Chair Steve Provencal and the two Foundation scholarship recipients who were successful in nominating their teachers presented the Foundation’s 2018 Teacher Recognition Awards to two exceptional high school teachers at the Paper Days honors banquet.

Each year nominations are solicited from current scholarship recipients who appreciate the support, motivation and educational processes demonstrated by their nominated teachers. Students submit a one-page narrative stating the reasons why their teacher should receive the award. The Scholarship/Educational Relations Committee reviews the applications and selects two teachers each year to receive awards. The awards are intended to stimulate and expand interest in math and science among teachers and their students. In addition to being presented with citations noting their accomplishments, each recipient is provided with an honorarium of $500.

Eliza Hosford, a sophomore chemical engineering major from Bucksport, ME who attended Bucksport High School nominated her math teacher, Mike Cowing.

In her nomination letter, Eliza writes, “I had so many great teachers growing up, but there is no one that comes even close to the caliber of Mike Cowing. Throughout my four years at Bucksport High School, I learned so much from him not only scholastically, but about life in general as well. He’s the person that made me realize that working in a male-dominated field wasn’t anything to be intimidated by at all; all I had to do was prove to myself, not anyone else, that I was just as capable. He spent all four years building up my self-confidence without me even noticing it at the time.

He would never just tell me what I wanted to hear all the time like most people do. He took the time to get to know me and my life so that he could actually provide good, solid advice. This is why so many students love him and connect with him so well. He takes the time to get to know each one; their stories, their lives, and their limits so that he can help each of them to the best of his ability. He always knows when to push harder and when to back off, and I’m forever grateful for all that he taught me. I can’t imagine having gone through high school and not having a teacher like him around. They don’t get much better than Mr. Cowing.”

Spenser Steeves, a first-year chemical engineering major from Skowhegan, ME who attended Skowhegan High School nominated his History Teacher, Heather Ross.

In his nomination letter, Spenser writes, “Heather Ross, for about 20 years has been supporting and helping kids find success. As a history teacher and head of the Social Studies department at Skowhegan Area High School she impacts hundreds of students every year.

I had the pleasure of having Mrs. Ross as my advisory and homeroom teacher all four years of high school. As her advisee I was asked every day about my sports games and other extracurricular activities, but most importantly my grades. She would somehow know when all of my tests and projects were due and check to make sure I was preparing for them, nudging me to get things done ahead of time.

When it came to my senior year, she was there helping me weigh my options and keeping me on top of my scholarship opportunities. What amazed me the most was that this seemingly special treatment was not only for me, she would ask all of the other advisee’s the same. Additionally, to help all of her students succeed Mrs. Ross frequently held study sessions for A.P. exams in which she would lead us through problems, helping us to understand the information.

Aside from the lessons to get my work done early and always do it right, which I found out later is very good advice when faced with the workload you are in college, what set Mrs.Ross apart from the rest was her attitude on life. Every day Mrs. Ross would be in our room excited and happy for another day. This happiness was contagious and the learning environment she was able to create with it was irreplaceable. As Mrs. Ross would say “people may forget what you said, but they will never forget how you made them feel.” This is why I believe Mrs. Ross more than deserves the Teacher of the Year Award.”
2018 Genco Award Presented to Dr. Adriaan van Heiningen

The Joseph M. Genco award, established by the Foundation in 2010, is presented annually to a UMaine representative who has demonstrated exemplary support of the Pulp & Paper Industry through either outstanding research that has the potential to significantly improve the viability of the industry, and/or through innovative student recruitment to help provide the next generation of Pulp & Paper Engineers and Leaders, or through innovative teaching that inspires current engineering students.

Dr. Adriaan van Heiningen was chosen to receive the 2018 Genco Award for his expertise in the chemical engineering aspects of pulp and paper processes, in particular those of wood pulp, pulp bleaching and recovery of spent kraft pulping chemicals. He has more than 10 years’ experience in all aspects of “Integrated Forest Product Refineries” which produce transportation fluids, chemical and biomaterials besides pulp, paper and wood products. He holds many patents in these processes. He has over 250 publications and has won many awards including Best Paper in the TAPPI Journal in 2012. He was elected as a Fellow of The Chemical Institute of Canada in 1996, a Fellow of Canadian Academy of Engineering in 2008, and as a TAPPI Fellow in 2016.

Meet Colleen Walker - New PDC Director

Dr. Colleen Walker is the new Director of the Process Development Center at the University of Maine where she will lead the Center’s mission to provide cost-effective, rapid response research and technical services for the pulp, paper and packaging industries.

Prior to joining the University of Maine, Colleen was Technical Director at TAPPI. While at TAPPI, Colleen worked with international technical experts and scientists in pulp, paper and cellulose nanomaterials to develop conference programs, initiatives and platforms to foster international technical exchanges and collaboration.

Colleen also worked with TAPPI’s International Research Management Committee, a group of paper industry CTO’s and R&D leaders from over 20 countries, dedicated to advancing industry R&D. Colleen has over 20 years of experience in R&D, new product and business development in the paper industry, having worked for ABB, Tenncro Packaging, Westvaco, and Georgia Tech. Colleen received her bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering from the University of Delaware, and her masters and doctorate degrees from the Institute of Paper Science & Technology.

On accepting the position Colleen stated, "I am honored to be the new Director of the PDC. The PDC is an internationally-recognized resource within the pulp and paper industry, with a staff of dedicated experts that help companies launch new products. As the paper and packaging industries transform for strategic growth, so will the PDC. This includes both traditional paper products, but also the new opportunities for the paper industry provided by cellulose nanomaterials and biomaterials. I am very excited to work with PDC stakeholders and the global paper industry to ensure that the PDC’s strategic growth is aligned with industry needs.”

Meet Colleen Walker - New PDC Director

Colleen Walker (left) is honored by All Maine Women honor society member Jessica Oriente (Class of 2018) with the 2018 Distinguished Mentor Award.
Endowed Scholarships Introduced at Paper Days

Fundraising Committee Chair Sarah Dawkins (above left) presents the Class of 1986 Scholarship Plaque to class champion Mark Pare. Mark thanked all of the members of the Class of 1986 (and those who were not in the class but helped them achieve their goal) who contributed and challenged other classes to do the same!

The Cort & Ludwig Family Scholarship was established by Brad and Carol Cort (above center) in 2017. Brad and Carol are both UMaine alums graduating in 1983 with CHE degrees. When establishing this scholarship they stated: “We would like to dedicate the scholarship to our fathers, Robert Cort and Stephen Ludwig, as they both have had a huge influence in guiding us and making us the individuals we are today. Both of us really appreciated our UMPPF scholarships while at UMaine and would like to provide that same opportunity to other students.”

Dave and Judi Dyer (above right) with their daughter Angela accepted the Dyer Family Plaque from Brian Lambert. Dave stated: “Being a four year recipient of a Pulp and Paper Foundation Scholarship made it possible for me to pay my own way for a great education. Judi and I wanted to give back something so that other deserving students could benefit from the Foundation. Most of my family worked at the mill, father, mother, grandfather, sister, aunts, uncles etc, etc. So papermaking was truly the ‘family business’, this scholarship is meant to be a true Family Scholarship.”

Chip & Sally Ellms (above left) accept the scholarship plaque established in honor of Chip’s parents, Carlton W. Ellms, Jr. & Marilyn Ellms. Chip graduated from the UMaine in 1971 with a B.S Chemical Engineering and then received the 5th year pulp and paper certificate in 1972. He ran track and played soccer for the University of Maine. He started his career with Nalco Chemical Company for which he held numerous positions until his retirement. Chip stated that “It was a pleasure to establish another scholarship to help others the same way that I was helped many years ago. The University of Maine Pulp and Paper Foundation does a great job preparing their students for working in the industry.”

Chris Francis (above center) became the youngest donor to establish an endowed scholarship in 2018. Chris is a 2015 UMaine graduate in Chemical Engineering and is originally from Hampden, ME. He now works as a Process Engineer for Crane Currency in Dalton, MA. Chris established this scholarship “in gratitude for the support from so many and to pay it forward.”

John Wolanski (above right) accepts the Wolanski Family scholarship plaque from Brian Lambert and Sarah Dawkins. John attended the University of Vermont where he received a B.S. in Chemistry in 1981. He started his career as a Technical Sales Representative with Hercules Inc. in Buffalo, NY. In 2004 John was named Vice President of Sales & Marketing for Savage Safe Handling, Inc. and in 2011 became Vice President of Marketing & Sales with GAC Chemical Corporation in Searsport, ME. John was the 2015 Honor Award recipient and has served the University of Maine Pulp & Paper Foundation as an individual member, Membership Committee Chair, Board Member, Executive Committee President and Chair of the Board.
The Brian F. Greenwood Scholarship Fund was established in his honor by friends and colleagues. Brian graduated from UMaine in 1978 with a degree in Chemical Engineering. He worked his entire career with the legacy of Kamyr companies which includes Ahlstrom, and now Andritz. Brian distinguished himself by earning 49 patents in his name during his career, and he made friends with countless people all over the world. Pictured above accepting the Greenwood plaque from left to right are Bob Roy, Brian’s wife Sue and their daughters Jen & Kim, and Jan Bilodeau.

The David Leigh Nichols & Family Scholarship Fund was established by Greg and Jenn Nichols in honor of Greg’s grandfather David, who was a professor at UMaine from 1961 to 1988. Greg received a UMaine Pulp & Paper Foundation scholarship and graduated from UMaine with a B.S. in Chemical Engineering in 1995. The support from the Pulp & Paper Foundation has helped Greg enjoy a rewarding career within the industry. Greg is currently a Plant Manager for Sappi in Allentown, Pennsylvania. Pictured above accepting the Nichols plaque from left to right are Emma Hennessy, Sean Hennessy, Greg Nichols, Scott Nichols, Terrie Hennessy, Sarah Dawkins, Susan Nichols, and Mark Nichols.

Eleven New USA Scholars Funds Announced

The Arnold Paine Scholarship Plaque (left) and the Eugene Shurling Scholarship Plaque (right) were also presented at Paper Days 2018 and will be displayed in the lobby of Jenness Hall. Thank you to all of our donors for their generosity. A record number of scholarships were established this year!!

Pictured above are three of the USA Scholars Funds that were introduced at Paper Days in April. The Clayton T. Bockus plaque was presented to David Richardson (left) by outgoing Fundraising Committee Chair Sarah Dawkins and incoming Fundraising Committee Chair Brian Lambert. Sarah and Brian also presented the Delano L. Boutin plaque to Delano’s son Don (center) and the Richard D. Violette plaque to Richard’s grandson, Chris (right). Other USA Scholars Funds announced at the Honors Banquet were: Warren A. Abbott, Elliott R. Barker, Jane Gray Hunley Chase, Charles E. Crossland, Roy L. Davis, Ada M. Gledhill, Paper Chase and Kenneth H. Phillips. All eleven plaques are pictured on the next page and will be displayed in the lobby of Jenness Hall.
The Foreign Direct Investor of the Year Award is presented annually by the MITC to recognize foreign-owned companies that have made a strategic decision to invest in Maine by either opening a plant or enhancing their existing operations here.

St. Croix Tissue in Baileyville, Maine is a bright spot for Maine’s paper industry. In 2016, the parent company, International Grand Investment Corp. (IGIC), a US-based company for a Chinese investment firm, invested $120 million in two new tissue making machines that has resulted in more than 80 new jobs at the mill and hundreds of indirect jobs.

Marco L’Italien, Vice President US East Operations for IGIC, says the high tech nature of the machines offers a new spin on traditional mill jobs. The employees operate together as part of a high performance work team, every position from maintenance to process engineers. As part of new market grant money the company received, 60% of the new hires were low income earners, providing economic opportunity for people in Washington County. Jobs at the mill pay between $18 and $35 per hour. Thirty-percent of the workforce are women.

The giant machines produce tissue rolls that weigh 2.5 tons, and the mill can produce 125 rolls per day. All of the tissue produced in Baileyville is trucked to other plants for finishing where it is turned into paper towels, facial tissue, and other consumer paper products.

“Investments have been made to give this facility a good head start for a sustainable future. We are happy to accept this award from Maine International Trade Center and credit our employees at St. Croix Tissue for their hard work helping to revitalize Maine’s proud paper making industry,” said Marco L’Italien.
Sophomore Eagles

Current Sophomore Eagle, Eliza Hosford (CHE ’20), left, welcomes new Eagle, Grace Farrington (CHE ’21), right, after the induction ceremony this spring.

IGIC Hosts Open House & Career Exploration Seminar

IGIC hosted over 50 company members at an Open House in November 2017 which included a luncheon, networking session and tour of the two new tissue machines. Marco L’Italien, Vice President US East Operations, was on hand to answer questions.

IGIC also hosted a Career Exploration Seminar for area high school students from Calais High School, Shead High School, Washington Academy and Woodland High School.

Carrie Enos is the President of the University of Maine Pulp and Paper Foundation. Carrie earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Maine in 1999, where she was a Pulp and Paper Foundation Scholarship Recipient. Her career began as a co-op engineer in a Kraft Pulp mill following her sophomore year at UMaine. After college, Carrie began as a Process Engineer and progressed to the Finished Products Business Unit Manager for a four-machine lightweight coated facility. Her employers have included International Paper, Sappi North America and Verso Corporation.

After more than 14 years in the pulp and paper industry, Carrie took the helm at the University of Maine Pulp and Paper Foundation in January 2014. In this role she leads an extraordinary partnership between students, the University, the Pulp and Paper Industry, and many generous donors. The mission of the UMPPF is to engage and encourage students to consider engineering and leadership careers in the Pulp and Paper Industry so that a pool of high quality, motivated engineering graduates is available to meet the entry level engineering needs of the Industry and its Suppliers each year. The UMPPF provides over $600,000 annually in scholarships to 80-90 undergraduate engineering students, recruits high school students to the industry through a free residential summer program and site visits, and supports teaching and research in Pulp and Paper.

Carrie Enos joins TAPPI Board

Carrie Enos is available to meet the entry level engineering needs of the Industry and its Suppliers each year. The UMPPF provides over $600,000 annually in scholarships to 80-90 undergraduate engineering students, recruits high school students to the industry through a free residential summer program and site visits, and supports teaching and research in Pulp and Paper.
Senior scholarship recipients were called to the stage and introduced to the audience at the Paper Days Honors Banquet.

Current & Future Twin Rivers Employees Attend Paper Days 2018

Pictured from L to R: Mike Harm, Technical Director; Jake Gendreau, CHE (Class of 2018); Mark Guerette, Electrical Engineer; Bob Snyder, Chief Executive Officer; Brian McAlary, Director of New Business Development; Alexis Cote, CHE (Class of 2019); Aaron Soucy, CHE (Class of 2019); and Randy Blodgett, Product Development Engineer.