A SUMMER OF EXPLORATION

Consider Engineering 2021

The University of Maine Pulp and Paper Foundation’s Consider Engineering program is a summer camp experience for high school juniors (rising seniors) interested in the field of engineering.

These students demonstrate high aptitude in math and science, possess strong leadership and communication skills and want to explore different disciplines of engineering and discover which one may be right for them.

The program is designed to challenge participants, answer their questions, and to show students what engineering majors and programs are available to study at UMaine.

Consider Engineering consists of three separate four-day long sessions held during the month of July every year. Each week a new group of students arrives on Sunday with their families, and Foundation President Carrie Enos kicks off the program with a presentation.

During each four-day session, students are presented with the opportunity to:

- Meet UMaine engineering professors + current engineering students
- Tour UMaine’s engineering facilities + nearby papermaking facility
- Complete a construction design project
- Participate in a difficult problem-solving exercise
- Compete in a product development challenge
- Help conduct a group engineering experiment
- Compete in the “I AM an Engineer” challenge

Consider Engineering concludes on Wednesday morning of each week with our construction design competition and the presentation of research experiment results to parents and guests. We close each session with a luncheon that includes some words of wisdom from a UMaine graduate working in our industry as well as the awarding of prizes for the week’s many competitions.
We would like to thank our industry volunteers Barbara Hamilton of Packaging Corporation of America, Beth Cormier of Sappi North America, Brian Lambert of Nalco — an Ecolab Company, Sage Duguay of Fisher International, Chad Martin of AstenJohnson, and Keith Meyer of Andritz for volunteering their time with our students during the 2021 Consider Engineering camp sessions.

We are also grateful to Dr. David Neivandt and Andy Sheaff of UMaine who once again went above and beyond to make sure our Consider Engineering students had the best experience possible. Lastly, we would like to thank the teams from each engineering department who hosted tours and provided faculty and graduate students the chance to facilitate the experiments in each engineering discipline.

Program brochures and applications for Consider Engineering 2022 will be available in high school guidance offices and our website in late January 2022. You may also call the Foundation office at (207) 581-2297 or email info@umaineppf.org for more information. The deadline to apply for admission to Consider Engineering 2022 is April 15, 2022.
Consider Engineering 2021
MAKING CONNECTIONS

Industry Professionals Take Time Out For Students

Jeff Levensailor, Director of Papermaking Optimization at Domtar, visited campus and UMPPF with Mike Coughlin, a recent retiree from International Paper.

Mr. Levensailor is an ambassador for TAPPI’s Couch Pit University Fraternity, an organization composed of industry professionals whose mission is to support and mentor college students and younger paper professionals.

While on campus, the two men regaled students with life and career lessons with an emphasis on getting hands-on experience. They advised students to connect with operators in order to experience the art of papermaking, in addition to the science of it.

TAPPI’s Couch Pit University Fraternity awards six $1,000 scholarships a year to six of the ten pulp and paper-focused schools in the country, including UMaine.

Jeff Levensailor and family pose in front of the UMPPF scholarship plaque for Jeff’s father, Arthur Levensailor, a UMaine Mechanical Engineering graduate who retired from International Paper as Manager of Manufacturing Services for the Southern Kraft division before launching his own consulting business. The UMPPF scholarship in Arthur’s name reached USA Scholars level in 2021.
KNOWLEDGE + INSPIRATION

Industry Leaders Leave Legacies and Lessons

Packaging Corporation of America’s (PCA) CEO Mark Kowlzan has been a leader in financially supporting the students of UMPPF with their tuition costs and with co-op and full-time job positions since 2015.

Mark visited UMaine in early October along with numerous UMaine alums who now hold leadership positions within PCA.

At the opening luncheon, Mark spoke with students about his experiences and the many opportunities that abound in the industry. At the information session and dinner in the Soderberg Center at Jenness Hall, representatives from each mill location and the box plant locations described what a typical co-op and full-time employee experience might be like. The PCA team all spoke to the demand for our students in the industry and within their company. It was evident that the UMaine alums at PCA have progressed rapidly in their careers, stepped up to the challenge, and reaped the benefits of high expectations and readily available opportunities.

If any UMPPF students needed reassurance about the possibilities that await them as co-op students and full-time engineers, then Mark certainly put their minds at ease. He discussed the challenges that PCA is eager to meet such as constructing new facilities with renewable energy and carbon neutrality in mind, as well as expanding sustainable packaging. As always, at the end of the day, everyone felt inspired by Mark’s vision and enthusiasm for both the industry and UMPPF students.

Thank you to the following PCA employees for joining us:

Mark Kowlzan, CEO
Dana Cook, VP & Area Mill Manager (UMaine alum)
Adam Webster, VP Corporate Process Technology (UMaine alum)
Barbara Hamilton, Senior Director Process Technology (UMaine alum)
Steve Provencal, Senior Staff Engineer (UMaine alum)
Devin Maynard, Staff Engineer (UMaine alum)
Vanessa Graham, Plant Optimization Engineer (UMaine alum)
Joe Lancaster, Supt Paper Mill at Filer City Mill (UMaine alum)

Elaina Stefanick, Process Engineer at Filer City Mill (UMaine alum)
Traci Saari, HR Specialist, International Falls Mill
Alex Hartford, Supt Power House at Tomahawk Mill (UMaine alum)
Julie Hess, Manager Quality Assurance at Tomahawk Mill
Chris Changnon, Executive Director HR
Barb Robinson, Early Talent Program Manager
OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND

Hundreds of Job Interviews Held on Campus

More than 700 interviews were conducted in Jenness Hall this fall!

This number includes both co-op interviews and senior interviews for full time positions. UMPPF’s senior class is considered large this year with 34 students; more than 50% are already employed and several more are considering offers.

A total of 31 companies scheduled interviews. UMPPF is grateful for their time, participation, and consideration of our talented students.
Mike Doss, President and CEO of Graphic Packaging International (GPI), recently made a generous donation to UMPPF, followed by a visit to campus with his leadership team to meet with students, faculty, and to learn about the research in pulp and paper UMaine is conducting.

At the most recent Paper Days event in April 2021, Mr. Doss surprised attendees with a pledge of $50,000/year for the next five years to the UMPPF scholarship fund. UMPPF is extremely grateful for the generosity of this donation and intends to use the funds to support UMPPF’s goal to have 150 students participate in the scholarship program annually.

In September, Mr. Doss returned to campus to speak with students and learn more about UMaine’s pulp and paper programming. He was joined by members of his leadership team which included, GPI’s VP of Recycled Mills Scott LeBeau, a ‘92 UMaine Electrical Engineering graduate; GPI Senior Manufacturing Manager John Patterson, a ‘92 UMaine Mechanical Engineering graduate; Mark Kaestner, VP of Talent, Learning, Diversity and Inclusion at GPI; and Joanna Goodstein, University and Military Talent Program Manager at GPI.

The visit began with lunch and a discussion with members of UMaine’s Society of Women Engineers and the Student Chapter of Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry (TAPPI). The visitors then went on to meet with members of our esteemed faculty including Dr. Tom Schwartz, Dr. Doug Bousfield, Dr. Mehdi Tajvidi, and Dr. Will Gramlich. Later in the day, sophomores were invited to participate in a Q & A with the leadership team. The engaging conversation covered everything from career pathways in engineering and the industry to the efforts GPI is making in sustainable packaging solutions to replace single-use plastics. Afterward, the team made their way to the Process Development Center where Dr. Colleen Walker demonstrated UMaine’s pilot capabilities, and then onto the world-class nanocellulose production factory. The day concluded with an information session and dinner at the Wells Conference Center.

Many thanks to Mr. Doss, GPI and the leadership team for the generous donation to UMPPF and for taking a vested interest in our programming and students!
WELCOME CLASS OF 2025!

This year we welcome 30 scholarship recipients in Chemical, Civil, Computer, Electrical, and Mechanical Engineering as well as Mechanical Engineering Technology. Our students come from as far away as Texas, Georgia, and Vietnam. We’ve got Maine covered too: from York in the south to Madawaska in the north and from Bethel in the west to Lubec in the east. Many of these students have already interviewed for a number of first-year internships offered by companies during our co-op and full-time recruiting season, which started in late September and ran through the end of October.

Welcome to campus, Class of 2025!
The University of Maine Pulp and Paper Foundation (UMPPF) welcomed the Class of 2025 and brought industry representatives, UMaine faculty, and scholarship recipients together to present Fall Scholarship checks on September 14th.

Management consulting firm engages executive leaders who are committed to creating an agile organization. Kimberly is a descendent of the founder of Kimberly-Clark, so papermaking is in her DNA!

Kimberly is a pioneer in online learning and was instrumental in creating the Georgia Distance Learning Association. She is a frontrunner in the coaching industry and founding member of the International Coach Federation. She’s worked with companies such as Coke, Home Depot, and NASCAR’s Dale Earnhardt Jr.

Kimberly received her bachelor’s degree from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Duke’s Fuqua School of Business, and Harvard Business School for her postgraduate education.

Kimberly gave an uplifting mini-workshop on how the last year has taught us to GROW Together. She paired the students up as peer coaches and led them through the process of describing a Goal, identifying the current Reality, naming Obstacles, Opportunities to leverage, Options, and defining What to Commit to Today, a Way Forward, What’s Next, and When Will I Do it By (GROW). She discussed the importance of teams and developing collaboration skills now as the students begin their leadership journey. The student response was overwhelmingly positive, and we noted that

We could not do what we do without the tenacious support of our industry volunteers and the dedication of our students. Thank you for a great start to the 2021-2022 academic year!

UMPPF’s total number of scholarship recipients has grown to more than 130 students thanks to increasing demand for UMPPF engineers and strong corporate and alumni support. The nearly 60 corporate members of UMPPF donated items for the First Year Welcome Gift bags for each of the 31 freshmen.

The Keynote Address was delivered by Dr. Kimberly Jackson, the Founder and Principal of CKI (Coach Kimberly International). Her global management consulting firm engages executive leaders who are committed to creating an agile organization. Kimberly is a descendent of the founder of Kimberly-Clark, so papermaking is in her DNA!

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UMPPF networking events such as the Annual Scholarship Banquet and Paper Days springboard their skills in these areas starting in their very first weeks here at UMaine.

**UMPPF would like to thank the industry volunteers who supported us at the banquet** and passed out fall scholarship checks to the students. Beth Cormier, Tony Ouellette, Mike Reider, Heather Pelletier, Dale Wibberly, Chris Francis, Blue Keim of Sappi North America; Suzelle Allain, and Bruce Hogan of ND Paper; Jess Oriente of Pixelle; Katherine Bell of Huhtamaki; Walter Goodine of MidSouth Engineering; Steve Provencal of Packaging Corporation of America; Shawn Albert of GAC Chemical; and Scott Frasca of MiniFibers. Many of these folks also coached our students in resume and interview workshops prior to the event to help prepare them for interview season. The banquet counts as the students’ first Chinn Management Seminar credit of the semester; we conducted over 70 workshops in 4 hours thanks to the help of our amazing volunteers! Other industry representatives who helped us with workshops remotely over the summer and fall included Julie White of Georgia-Pacific, John Desjardins of Solenis, Jess Paul of Sappi North America, Mike Farrington of Verso Corporation, and Annette Smith-Wright of Irving Tissue.

We could not do what we do without the tenacious support of our industry volunteers and the dedication of our students. **Thank you for a great start to the 2021-2022 academic year!**

**Photos (left to right, top to bottom):** First year student welcome bags, keynote speaker Dr. Kimberly Jackson, Heather Pelletier of Sappi (front left) presents scholarship checks to students, the UMPPF class of 2022, Beth Cormier of Sappi (front left) presents scholarship checks to students, Blue Keim of Sappi (front left) presents scholarship checks to students
Alumni News + Announcements

Alyssa Burkard, '19 CHE, is now an Operations Maintenance Coordinator at WestRock, Hopewell, VA

Mykel Callaway, '13 CHE, has been promoted to Pulp Mill Superintendent at WestRock, West Point, VA

Jason Eremita, '10 CHE, is now Regional Sales Manager Northeast, Buckman

Ryan Erskine, '18 CHE, has been promoted to Assistant Superintendent, Pixelle Specialty Solutions, Jay, ME

Nick Ferguson, '16 CHE, is now Process Engineer, Fiber Industries, Darlington, SC

Peter Fogg, '97 CHE, has been promoted to Digital Optimization Leader, Power & Recovery COE, Georgia-Pacific LLC

Cameron Grzybowski, '18 CHE, has been promoted to Assistant Superintendent – Lime Kiln/ Caustic Plant, DeRidder Mill, Packaging Corporation of America

Michelle Hale, '19 CIE, is now Structural Engineer, Lincoln/Haney Engineering Associates

Barbara Kerr Hamilton, '82 CHE, is now Senior Director, Process Technology, Packaging Corporation of America

Alex Hartford, '17 CHE, has been promoted to Power and Recovery Superintendent, Tomahawk Mill, Packaging Corporation of America

Pat Laliberte, '18 CHE, has been promoted to Pulp Mill E/I Supervisor, Valdosta Mill, Packaging Corporation of America

Marco L’Italien, '86 CHE, is now Vice President of Engineering, CleanFiber

Nick L’Italien, '16 CHE, is now Key Account Manager, Solenis

Jason Lyons, '93 CHE, is now Manager – Clinical Equipment Contracts, Northern Light Health

William Manzer, '80 CHE, has been promoted to Executive Vice President of Manufacturing Operations, Rayonier Advanced Materials

Caleb Mathers, '15 MEE, has been promoted to Manager of Kraft Pulping and Recovery, ND Paper, Old Town, ME

In Memoriam

Albert Baxter Moore, 1941 - 2021

An accomplished chemical and pulp and paper engineer, Albert Moore was a long-time member of the UMPPF Public Relations Committee and a fixture at our annual Paper Days event. He, along with Dana Dolloff and Faye Woodcock-Murray, collected donations each year at the annual post-banquet gathering at Pat’s Pizza in Orono. These funds were used to establish the Albert Moore/Pat’s Pizza Scholarship Fund. Albert himself established the Winifred and Baxter Moore Scholarship Fund in honor of his parents. Albert’s family has asked that any donations to UMPPF made in his memory be directed to the Scholarship Fund.

To read Albert Moore’s full obituary, please go to: https://www.pressherald.com/2021/09/03/obituaryalbert-baxter-moore/

Sam Miller, '13 CHE, has been promoted to Operations Manager, ND Paper, Rumford, ME

Heather Pelletier, '87 CHE, is now Director – Research & Development, Sappi North America

Aaron Prusiaitis, '13 MEE, is now Senior Project Manager, Wood Environment and Infrastructure Solutions, Portland, ME

Tyler Ritter, '19 CHE, has been promoted to Business Leader, Procter & Gamble

Bob Sherman, '96 EET, is now Engineering Specialist, Andritz, Park City, UT

Jason Smith, '07 MET, is now Manufacturing Manager, International Paper, Auburn, ME

Aaron Soucy, '19 CHE, has been promoted to Superintendent PM4, Twin Rivers Paper, Madawaska, ME
We love staying in touch with our UMPPF alumni.

Have you started a new position? Received a promotion? Celebrated a life milestone? Send your announcements our way and we’ll share your good news with the rest of the UMPPF family. info@UMainePPF.org

Important Dates + Deadlines

SAVE THE DATE FOR PAPER DAYS 2022!
April 5-6, 2022 | The keynote speaker will be Heather Dubois, Vice President and General Manager - Global High Tech for NALCO Water, An Ecolab Company. Heather is a 1996 UMaine Chemical Engineering Graduate and UMPPF alumna. Registration will be available at umaineppf.org in January.

APPLICATION DEADLINE
December 31, 2021 | First year scholarship applications are due for high school seniors.

INFORMATION AVAILABLE
Late January | Program brochures and applications for Consider Engineering 2022 will be available in high school guidance offices and on our website.
Connections, inspiration and support. Find out what staff, students, and our pulp and paper associates are up to by following our exciting journey on Facebook and now on Instagram!

2021 Consider Engineering participants tour Sappi (top right). UMPPF students pose with Dr. Kimberly Jackson, the keynote speaker at our Fall Scholarship Banquet (bottom).