Paper Days 2023 was held April 4th and 5th on the UMaine campus. The theme of this year’s event was “Innovation Happens Here.” Our one-of-a-kind networking event was attended by over 300 UMPPF students, faculty, and industry leaders.

During our annual Paper Days event, we open our doors so guests can learn about our facilities and research capabilities firsthand. When these assets are paired with our innovation mindset and our extraordinary industry partners, anything is possible!

Student Panel

Our program opened with a panel discussion moderated by Dana Dolloff, a devoted UMPPF volunteer who led teams with International Paper and Rayonier prior to his retirement. Avery Greco and Caroline Hammond, both junior Chemical Engineering students, offered perspectives on how they decided upon their co-op employers and what they experienced during their first co-op semesters. Brady Lobdell, senior Mechanical Engineering student, and Parker Shaw, senior Chemical Engineering student, answered questions about how they have recently made decisions on both co-op and full-time jobs. McKenna Baker of Nalco Water, an Ecolab Company, and Olivia Gervais of AstenJohnson both graduated in May 2022 and shared some
of their experiences from their first year as new engineers, including the importance of mentorship. The students provided insight into the changing needs of the current generation of students and what would entice them to go to work for specific employers or at specific locations. Challenging and meaningful work, mentors, and awareness of the individual as a whole person with a complex life were amongst the factors that help students decide on where to invest for their future. The audience was very engaged in the discussion and posed great questions during the Q&A session that followed.

Innovative Facilities

Tuesday’s program featured tours of our Process Development Center and Advanced Structures and Composite Center. On Wednesday, guests toured the new Ferland Engineering Education and Design Center. Many of our guests contributed financially to help construct the new building, and they were absolutely thrilled to see students utilizing the space and breathing life into the beautiful new common areas, classroom space, meeting rooms, and labs.

Luncheon Speaker

Kevin Gunning, Senior Vice President of Innovation North America with Huhtamaki, delivered our luncheon address. We learned about Huhtamaki’s North Star, which is to “become the first choice in sustainable packaging solutions” driven by innovation and operational performance.” This was a theme that resonated throughout the day. Sustainability is here to stay, and the evolution of products to meet consumer demand is a focus for most companies. What great news for our young engineers who possess innovative ideas and technical skills to meet the challenges of the pulp and paper industry!

National laboratory, explored fundamentals of PHK and acid sulfite dissolving pulps, and thought about value-added co-products for kraft pulping. We were introduced to packaging research through the Paper Surface Science Program and launched our new Sustainable Packaging Initiative!

Many thanks to Dr. Habib Dagher, Executive Director, Advanced Structures and Composite Center; Dr. Susan MacKay, Senior R&D Program Manager II, Advanced Structures and Composites Center; Dr. Colleen Walker, Director of the Process Development Center;

Continued on next page

UMaine Research Presentations

UMaine’s faculty and staff welcomed the opportunity to present a wide spectrum of the research being done here at our R1 research institution. We explored using mushrooms in packaging, 3D-printing houses out of nanocellulose, and using existing paper technology to create microfluidics for use in medical diagnostics. We learned about our Hub and Spoke Partnership with Oak Ridge

At left: Guests tour the UMFPP facilities; Carrie Enos starts off the event at the podium; Moderated by Dana Dolloff, the student panel includes Avery Greco, Caroline Hammond, Brady Lobdell, Parker Shaw, McKenna Baker, and Olivia Gervais. Above: UMaine faculty and grad students lead tours of the new Ferland EECD building and present current research topics in the laboratories; Luncheon Speaker Kevin Gunning and Dr. Colleen Walker present on sustainability and innovation, and research at UMaine, respectively.
**Dr. Doug Bousfield**, Calder Professor of Chemical Engineering; **Dr. Caitlin Howell**, Associate Professor of Biomedical Engineering; **Dr. Yonghao Ni**, J. Larcom Ober Chair and Professor of Chemical Engineering; **Dr. Tom Schwartz**, Associate Professor of Chemical Engineering; and **Dr. Mehdi Tajvidi**, Associate Professor of Renewable Nanomaterials for giving us a small look into the tremendous research efforts going on here on campus.

**Keynote Address**

**Laurence Mott, Executive Vice President for Development and Technology at Tetra Pak,** was our keynote speaker at the Honors Banquet. He holds a Ph.D. in fiber science and mechanics from UMaine, and Paper Days marked his first return to campus in many years. His keynote address was centered around sustainability and innovation, expertly delivered with a sense of humor and product samples that drove the message home. We were honored to host Laurence on campus and hope that this is only the first of many visits back to Maine from his home in Switzerland.

**Above:** Dr. Caitlin Howell, keynote speaker Laurence Mott, and Dr. Yonghao Ni address the audience. **Clockwise from top left:** 1. Tony Ouellette, Director of Customer Service at Sappi catches up with Sappi Co-op student, Caroline Hammond, CHE ’24; 2. Mechanical Engineers connect during the social hour: Logan Pelletier, MEB ’11, Steven Hogan (both at Andritz), John McLaughlin, MEE ’24, and Sean Meisel, MEB ’24; 3. Monique Claverie, CHE ’01, Quality Manager at St. Croix Tissue, gives the UMFPF Recruiting Committee report at the Foundation’s Annual Meeting; 4. Dr. Stephen Shafer, Prof. of Sustainable Materials & Technology, School of Forest Resources, and retired CHE prof. and J. Larcom Ober Chair, Dr. Adrian van Heiningen visit during social hour; 5. Olivia Gervais, CHE ’22, Sales & Service Associate at AstenJohnson speaks at the Breakfast Panel; 6. UMFPF’s Board of Directors; 7. Avery Greco, CHE ’24, speaks at the Breakfast Panel; 8. Max Moore, MEE ’24, Connor Alley, CHE ’24, Avery Greco, CHE ’24, Hailey Holmquist, CHE ’23, and Audrey Smith, CHE ’23, attend social hour; 9. Giovanna Guibdoni, Dean of Engineering, enjoys Paper Days along with Dana Doloff CHE ’63, ’64G; 10. + 11: UMaine faculty and grad students lead tours of the new Field EBDC building and present current research topics in the laboratories; 12. Jordon Gregory and Liz Goulette, both CHE ’22, network during social hour.
UMPPF recognizes **LAMMERT + BAILEY** with the **2023 Teacher of the Year Award**

UMPPF recognizes two teachers annually with Teacher of the Year awards for their excellence in inspiring and challenging their students. Each year, current scholarship recipients are asked to nominate a past teacher who made a difference in their lives, submitting a one-page narrative describing their appreciation for the that teacher’s support and pedagogical approach. The Teacher of the Year award is an expression of the high esteem in which the teachers are held by this Foundation, and by former students who have been motivated to succeed in their studies as a result of their teachers’ devotion.

**MARY LAMMERT**

A teacher with an “inability to be boring” made AP Chemistry entertaining for students, including Alia Parsons, a current senior Chemical Engineering major. Alia wrote to nominate Mary Lammert of John Bapst Memorial High School for Teacher of the Year, noting that she “showed time and time again that she cared for our education and for our overall well-being.” Encouraging, innovative, and real, Mrs. Lammert convinced Alia to check out Consider Engineering, setting her on a path to UMPPF that Alia considers “life changing.”

“I wouldn’t be a graduating young adult, with no college debt and a full-time job lined up after graduation, without her knowing my potential and handing me that pamphlet,” says Alia of the Consider Engineering brochure that Mrs. Lammert gave her during her junior year of high school.

“Grammy Lammy,” as she is affectionately known, is more than a fantastic teacher with fun Jello experiments. She offers a kind ear and sage advice to her students while they are in her classroom, and beyond, making her the definition of a mentor and friend.

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**Left:** Alumni, company members, and students fill the banquet hall. Mary Lammert and Alia Parsons, who nominated Mary, pose together after her acceptance;

**Right:** Ellie LeDuc introduces Jeff Bailey, her nomination for the Teacher of the Year Award; Jeff Bailey graciously joins virtually to accept his award.
JEFF BAILEY

It took one week of Pre-Engineering class for Mr. Jeff Bailey of Mountain Valley High School to inspire a new direction for nominating student Ellie LeDuc. Now a senior studying Chemical Engineering, Ellie was originally inclined towards medicine. She found herself so excited and challenged by Mr. Bailey’s projects that engineering became her focus, and she continued to search out his electives.

Ellie described Mr. Bailey as “one of the most organized, driven, and personable leaders.” Mr. Bailey’s students looked forward to his classes, together they tackled 3D printing, AutoCAD, app development, and coding competitions.

In AP Computer Science, one eight-hour coding competition ended in a landslide loss. Not wanting his students to be discouraged, Mr. Bailey developed his own coding challenge for them. Now called the “Build Apps for ME Challenge,” the program has grown to include middle and high school students throughout western Maine.

“It is inspiring to see what a difference one man can make on so many peoples’ lives,” says Ellie.
2023 Genco Award
PRESENTED TO DR. SARA WALTON

The Joseph M. Genco Award was created by the UMaine Pulp & Paper Foundation to recognize a University of Maine employee who has demonstrated exemplary support of the Pulp and Paper Industry through either outstanding research that has the potential to significantly improve the industry, and/or through innovative student recruitment to help provide the next generation of engineers to our industry, through innovative teaching that inspires current engineering students.

This year’s Genco Award is presented to Dr. Sara Walton. Dr. Walton received her B.S. in Chemical Engineering in 2005 and a Ph.D. in 2009, both from the University of Maine. During her undergraduate career, Dr. Walton worked as a student laboratory assistant at the Process Development Center and completed two co-op terms with Georgia-Pacific in Old Town, ME. Dr. Walton completed post-doc research at the University of Minnesota and returned to UMaine in 2013, where she is now a Senior Lecturer in Chemical Engineering.

Dr. Walton teaches Statistical Process Control and Analysis, Process Control, Chemical Engineering Economics, Senior Seminar, and two Unit Operations Lab courses. When she assumed teaching responsibilities for Statistical Process Control, Dr. Walton wanted to update the course and sought help from the Foundation. We connected her with resources in the field to provide data sets, to help modify course content, and to serve as industrial mentors for students in the course. In addition to her teaching role, Dr. Walton is also the academic advisor for the Class of 2026 and the College of Engineering representative to the University Teaching Council.

Dr. Walton is also active in student recruitment. She serves as the Outreach and Recruitment Leader for the Chemical Engineering Department, which includes leading prospective student tours of the department. Dr. Walton is the Faculty Advisor for both the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society and AICHE Student Chapter. In this role she coordinates student participation in events such as Girl Scout programs and the Engineering Expo, which introduce young people to Chemical Engineering and our industry.

To ensure that our Chemical Engineering program remains at the top of its field, Dr. Walton is also the lead author of our ABET accreditation self-study report and facilitator of the department site visit.

For all these reasons, we find Dr. Sara Walton deserving of the Joseph M. Genco Award.
UMPPF Honor Award
PRESENTED TO DAVID COLTER

The Honor Award is presented to a distinguished leader of the University of Maine Pulp and Paper Foundation and the paper industry whose dedication has helped enhance our reputation as a foundation committed to meeting the workforce needs of the pulp and paper industry and preparing the next great leaders in our field.

This year’s Honor Award is presented to David Colter. David joined GAC Chemical Corporation in Searsport, ME, in 1994, and he became President and CEO in 2003. Prior to that, David worked for Ernst & Young in Ohio, where he earned his CPA license.

David has been an active UMPPF volunteer since 2005, when he became Treasurer and joined the Executive Committee. David has shown tremendous dedication to the success of the Foundation and its students. In 2015, GAC Chemical endowed a named scholarship with the UMPPF thanks in large part to David’s leadership. David became Chair of the Executive Committee in 2019 and Chair of the Board in 2021.

David and his wife, Amy, and have 2 children. Adam graduated from Husson University in 2020, and Emily graduated from UMaine in 2022. David is also an active volunteer with Maine State Chamber of Commerce, the Maine International Trade Center, and Bar Harbor Bank & Trust. It is our pleasure to award the 2023 Honor Award to David Colter.

Top: David Colter and Keith Meyer; Bottom: Emily, David, Adam, and Amy Colter
Named Scholarship Funds reaching the $10,000 mark

Chris Cusick, CHE Class of 1973, established the Cusick Family Scholarship in honor of his family, including George, Joanne, Jean, Michael, and Patrick and their spouses and children. He was unable to join us tonight but stated, "I am very pleased to establish this scholarship to help others the same way that I was helped many years ago. Those who are willing to work to improve their knowledge and apply their skills to real industrial challenges should be given that opportunity. In retrospect, it has been an honor for me to serve the industrial organizations I have over my 42-year career. My education developed the ability in me to offer significant contributions to my employers, as well as to provide for a safe and nourishing environment for my wife and our family. I have enjoyed mentoring young engineers over my career to develop their skills and contributions. The University and the Pulp and Paper Foundation do a nice job of preparing engineers for our industry. I hope this scholarship helps them to continue and expand on their mission."

The Class of 1995 Scholarship was established by Todd Jordan, Adam Webster, and their classmates Lynn Muzzey, Andrew Winslow Burke, Erica Atherton Libby, and Marc Leblond.

The LaBonty Family Scholarship Fund was established by James and Mary LaBonty. James meet Mary (Chapelaine) at UMaine when both were pursuing CHE degrees. James received the UMPPF scholarship and graduated in 1982 with a B.S. in Chemical Engineering. He later added an EE degree from RIT and an Executive M.B.A. degree from Purdue while continuing to work in industry.

James and Mary are very pleased to be able to give back to the UMPPF and its talented students. They remain interested in the success of the pulp and paper industry that enabled a very successful engineering co-op career start for James at Twin Rivers (then Fraser Paper Company) in Maine. This start led to long-term engineering opportunities at Kodak, Rockwell Automation, and finally ending up as Head of Global Automation Engineering at Pfizer, Inc., where James was recognized with the 2021 Outstanding Engineering Achievement Award recognizing life-long engineering accomplishments.

The Sarah Nicole Muzzy Loner Scholarship Fund was established by Sarah, who graduated from Deering High School in 2007. She attended the UMPFP’s Consider Engineering summer program as a high school junior and fell in love with UMaine.

During her time at UMaine, Sarah was a Pulp and Paper Foundation Scholar and was actively involved with the Foundation. She also participated in the Student Chapter of TAPPI/PIMA, of which she was President during her junior and senior years. Sarah won TAPPI’s Student of the Year award in 2010. Sarah co-op’ed for 3 years at the Sappi Mill in Westbrook, ME, working in the coating and release department.

When she graduated from UMaine in 2011, she accepted a position with Nalco and became a District Sales Representative in Anderson, South Carolina. Since then, she has worked for O’Neal, Inc., an engineering design and construction firm in Greenville, SC, focusing mostly on pulp and paper projects, and is now back on the chemical sales side of the paper industry with Solenis. She is currently a Key Account Manager in Anderson, SC, with one of Solenis’ largest accounts globally.

Sarah dedicates this scholarship fund to her wonderful and supportive family. Sarah’s husband, Evan Loner, is a native of Anderson, SC, where they currently reside. Sarah’s parents, Peter and Susan Muzzy, still live in Portland, ME. Her sister, Heather Muzzy Caron, is also a graduate of UMaine and lives in Westbrook, ME, with her husband Zachary Caron. The family’s paper industry heritage includes Sarah’s uncle and aunt, Jimmy and Diane Murphy, as Jimmy worked his entire career at the Sappi Mill in Westbrook, ME. The same is true of Sarah’s maternal grandparents, Harry and Claire Perry (both deceased), as her grandfather Harry worked his entire career at the Sappi Paper Mill in Westbrook, formerly Scott Paper. All these people made her incredible career possible.

The Pendse Family Scholarship Fund was started by Dr. Hemant and Mrs. Sheila Pendse and completed as a surprise by their friends and colleagues. It was presented to them at Paper Days along with a book of letters of thanks and special memories of Dr. Pendse. Dr. Pendse is the current Chair of the Department of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering and will retire in August after over four decades of service to UMaine. His service to the university and support of the UMPFP are much appreciated, and he will be missed.

At left: The Cusick Family Scholarship plaque; Members of the class of 1996, Chad Martin and Scott Varney, hatch plans for their own year’s scholarship fund; Sierra Thibodeau, CHE ’19, Chair of the Fundraising Committee; presents the Class of 1995 Scholarship with Alums Adam Webster, VP of Corporate Technology at PCA, and Todd Jordan, Global Solutions Team Manager - Packaging from BTC. Above: Sierra joins James J. LaBonty, Retired - Head of Global Automation Engineering at Pfizer, to present the LaBonty Family Scholarship Fund; Sierra presents the Sarah Nicole Muzzy Loner Scholarship with Sarah Loner, CHE ’11, Key Accounts Manager at Solenis; A surprised Dr. Hemant Pendse and his wife Sheila are joined on stage with Sierra to present the Pendse Family Scholarship Fund.

The Dandy Scroll • SPRING 2023
Scholarships reaching the $50,000 USA Level

The Peter W. Hart Scholarship was established by Peter in 2004. Peter graduated from UMaine with a B.S. in Chemical Engineering in 1984, followed by his master's degree in 1988. While at UMaine he was a UMPPF scholarship recipient, where his co-op experience was with Boise Cascade in Rumford, ME. After graduating from UMaine, Peter received his Ph.D. in chemical engineering from Georgia Tech.

Peter joined Westvaco Corporation (now WestRock) in 1984, where he is currently the Director of Research and Innovation. Peter is a decorated researcher in the pulp and paper industry and known worldwide. Peter recently received the Gunnar Nicholson Gold Medal Award from TAPPI, the Edward T. Bryant Distinguished Engineer Award from UMaine, and is a Francis Crowe Society Distinguished Engineer at UMaine. He holds six patents, has edited nine books, and has received many other accolades over the course of his career.

Welcome, New Company Members

We’re pleased to welcome three businesses as new company members of the University of Maine Pulp and Paper Foundation.

Corporate memberships support activities such as student recruitment, student travel to regional and national student summits, and tutoring help for our scholarship recipients. The Foundation would like to recognize three new Corporate Members: Allnorth Americas, Sylvamo, and TriNova.

At left: UMaine and UMPPF Alum Dr. Peter Hart and Sierra present the Peter W. Hart USA Scholars Fund. Above, R to L: Jay Miele of Allnorth, David Shelmidine of Sylvamo, and Joe Pillsbury of TriNova, with Craig Martin at Paper Days.
CONGRATULATIONS

As sad as we are to see you go, we are even more proud of everything you accomplished here—and excited to see everything you will accomplish as you move forward. Your futures as the next great leaders in the pulp and paper industry are bright, and we can't wait to follow along on your journeys. Remember: No matter where your paths take you, you'll always be a part of the UMPPF family.

Timothy Beech, CHE, Diodes, South Portland, ME
Kyle Curtis, MEE, Sappi, Somerset, ME
Kaylee Faherty, CHE, Sappi Tech Center, Westbrook, ME
Joseph Goulette, CHE, Onyx, Springfield, MA
Jonathan Hicks, CHE, Dubois Chemicals, CT
Hailey Holmquist, CHE, PCA, Tomahawk, WI
Andrew Killey, CHE, P&G, Auburn, ME
Brady Lobdell, MEE, ECI, Cumberland, ME
Garrett Morneault, Forestry, Irving Woodlands, Ashland, ME
Hollie Morneault, CHE, Sappi, Somerset, ME
Alia Parsons, CHE, PCA, Filer, MI
Gabe Pasternak, CHE, Solenis, ME
Hunter Quirion, MET, ND Rumford, Rumford, ME
Connor Robertson, CIE, Wright Ryan, Portland, ME
Adam Rush, CHE, Sappi, Somerset, ME
Lea Scrapchansky, CHE, Andritz, Springfield, MA
Parker Shaw, CHE, Sappi, Somerset, ME
Audrey Smith, CHE, Graduate School, Brown University, RI
Annabelle Soucie, EET, Sappi, Somerset, ME
Caleb Streinz, CHE, Sappi, Somerset, ME
Lily Welch, MET, Andritz, Springfield, MA
Alumni News + Announcements

1980-1999

Marco L’Italien, ’86 CHE, is now Vice President of Operations at BiOrigin East in Gouverneur, NY.

Phil DeSoto, ’89 MET, is now President and Owner of FPC Bangor.

Adam Tonzi, ’92 CHE, has been promoted to Vice President for Paper and Board Biomaterials, Growth Accelerator, with Kemira in Gig Harbor, WA.

Matt Mangarelli, ’93 CHE, is now Technical Sales Representative with MiniFibers in Boston, MA.

Chris Darling, ’96 CHE, has been promoted to Paper Mill Manager at Sappi North America in Skowhegan, ME.

Sean St. Jean, ’96 EE, is now Principal Electrical Engineer at SGC Engineering in Bangor, ME.

Paul Jack, ’99 CHE, is now Business Unit Leader Fiberline at Georgia-Pacific in Perry, FL.

2000-2019

Shawn Kelley, ’02 CHE, is now Senior Director of Technology at Clearwater Paper in Spokane, WA.

Jessica (Paul) Vigneault, ’06 CHE, is now Operations Manager at HP Timber in Madison, ME.

Michael Browne, ’11 CHE, has been promoted to Director, Packaging Brands at Sappi North America in Boston, MA.

Ryan Lindemann, ’12 CHE, is now Safety and Training Manager at UMaine’s Advanced Structures and Composite Center.

Denis St. Pierre Jr., ’13 CHE, has been promoted to SV8 Superintendent at International Paper in Savannah, GA.

Ben Conner, ’14 CHE, has been promoted to Senior Project Manager, R&D Engineering and Operations, at Sappi North America in Westbrook, ME.

Miichael Degou, ’16 MEE, is now Continuous Improvement Engineer with Imerys across the Performance Minerals division.

Trevor Diemer, ’17 CHE, has been promoted to Paper Mill Manager at Irving Tissue in Macon, GA.

Ryan Erskine, ’18 CHE, is now Northeast Account Manager, DuBois Chemicals

Chris Albert, ’18 BS CHE, ’20 MS CHE, is now Pulping Production Engineer, Sappi North America in Skowhegan, ME.

Justin Gagnon, ’18 CHE, has been promoted to PM3 Operations Manager at Sappi North America in Skowhegan, ME.

2020+

Cody Doughty, ’20 CHE, is now Pulp Mill Bleach Plant Supervisor at ND Paper in Rumford, ME.

Maddy Logan, ’20 CHE, has been promoted to Operational Maintenance Coordinator at Pixelle in Spring Grove, PA.

Sierra Yost, ’20 CHE, has earned her master’s degree in chemical engineering from Penn State University and is pursuing her PhD.

Grace Farrington, ’21 CHE, has been promoted to PM1 Production Engineer at Sappi North America in Skowhegan, ME.

Austin Gilboe, ’21 CHE, has been promoted to PM3 Production Engineer at Sappi North America in Skowhegan, ME.

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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
**Alumni Recognition**

**Tim Glatter, '21 CHE**, is now Production Engineer at Sappi North America in Westbrook, ME.

**Nathanael Goulette, '21 CHE**, is now Process Engineer at Sappi North America in Westbrook, ME.

**Alex Paradis, '21 MEE**, has been promoted to Project Manager at Steel-Pro in Rockland, ME.

**Cameron Peavey, '21 CHE**, has been promoted to Assistant Superintendent of Fiberlines at Pixelle in Spring Grove, PA.

**Sage Duguay, '17 CHE**, Business Intelligence Consultant at Fisher International, received one of TAPPI's Young Professional of the Year Awards. The award recognizes young professionals who have made significant contributions to the forest products industries in the following areas: leadership, community service, and problem-solving contributions to scientific or engineering projects.

**Joe Viola, '14 CHE**, was recognized on the Forbes 30 under 30 list for Consumer Tech. He is the Co-Founder and President at 9Count in Los Angeles, CA.

**Congratulations to Sage and Joe!**