

**STUDENTS, UNIVERSITY,
INDUSTRY, + DONORS**

Volume LXV No. 2
FALL 2023



The Dandy Scroll

2023 Scholarship Banquet

Every year we look forward to welcoming our students back to campus at our Scholarship Banquet. It is one of many events where we bring together students, alumni, and industry representatives to build our students' networks from the very start of their college careers—networks that will continue to sustain them throughout their professional lives. On September 7th, we welcomed the Class of 2027 as first-year students, recognized our incoming seniors, and enjoyed some laughs as we hosted our annual trivia game.

The UMPPF's total number of scholarship recipients has grown to 139 students thanks to increasing demand for UMPPF engineers and strong corporate and alumni support.

The **60 corporate members** of the UMPPF donated items for the **First Year Welcome Gift Bags for our 33 new students**; they each walked away with two full tote bags filled with items demonstrating the support of their future employers.

The Keynote Address was delivered by **Heather Dubois**. Heather has Bachelor's Degree in Chemical Engineering from UMaine, where she was a Pulp and Paper Foundation



scholarship recipient. She is now Senior Vice President of Corporate Accounts with Ecolab and a member of the Pulp and Paper Foundation Board of Directors. Heather focused on two things that she learned at UMaine that have helped her most in her professional career: preparation and purpose.

To help prepare our students for the fall interview season, industry volunteers joined us on campus to conduct **Resume and Interview Workshops**, attend the **Scholarship Committee Meeting**, and to award **Fall Scholarship Checks** to our students. Many thanks to Austin Gilboe, Dale Wibberly, and Chris Francis of Sappi North America; McKenna Baker and Heather Dubois of Ecolab; Katherine Bell of Huhtamaki; Steve Provencal of Packaging Corporation of America; Alex Claverie of Woodland Pulp; Jess Vigneault of Timber HP; Scott Frasca of MiniFibers;



Monique Claverie of St Croix Tissue; Ashley Pezanowski of Sylvamo; and Mike Hammond of BTG. Many of these volunteers also helped us conduct these workshops remotely over the summer. In addition to those listed above, other industry representatives who helped us with this valuable experience for our students included Shawn Albert of GAC Chemical; Tony Ouellette and Mike Browne of Sappi North America; and Elaina Stefanick of Packaging Corporation of America.

The Scholarship Banquet is one of the highlights of our year, and we are so grateful to all of our industry volunteers and donors who make it all possible!

Far left: First Year Students Dorothy Ives and Phoebe Travis attend their first scholarship banquet; **Left:** Heather Dubois, '96 CHE, delivers the Keynote Address at the Fall Scholarship Banquet; **Right: 1.** Siblings Maci ('27 MEE) and Shelby ('24 CHE) Belanger and Caroline ('24 CHE) and Mike ('18 CHE) Hammond; **2.** Kenzie Karpinski ('26 CHE) listens to the Keynote Address; **3.** First Year Gift Bags containing gifts from corporate members and the UMPF; **4.** Reagan Rath, Ingrid Plant, Adreanna Michaud, Avery Greco, and Ellie LeDuc (all '24 CHEs) attend their last scholarship banquet as undergraduates; **5.** The UMPF Class of 2024.





TREE Trip Journal 2023

TEN DAYS, SEVEN PULP AND PAPER SITES, AND PARIS TOO!

By Carrie Enos, President, University of Maine Pulp and Paper Foundation

In May, 14 students participated in UMaine's TREE (Tappi Research Expedition Europe) trip through Amsterdam, Germany, Belgium, and France to tour a wide array of pulp and paper industry facilities.

Over 10 days we visited seven different sites, including equipment manufacturers, pulp and paper mills, and printing and converting plants. Students observed facets of the pulp and paper industry that they had never seen before, and for many this was their first trip to Europe.

Our journey began in the Netherlands with a visit to **Smurfit Kappa's Parenco Mill in Renkum**, located on the banks of the Rhine River. There we saw a 9-meter-wide machine that had been converted to packaging grades (fluting and testliner) as well as a graphic paper machine. We also watched the paper recycling process and got an introduction to the theme of sustainability—a theme that would resonate throughout the rest of our trip.

From Renkum, we traveled to Germany to visit **Graphic Packaging's AR Packaging facility in Aachen**. They specialize in folding cartons in the fine fragrance, beauty care, and confectionery sectors. There were many unique aspects of production that the students had never seen before, so it was eye-opening. We were so fortunate to be hosted by the AR Packaging team for dinner and given a personal tour of Aachen, which is a beautiful and historic city.

Our next stop was Ghent, Belgium. We toured **Stora Enso's Langerbrugge site**, where they make newsprint and magazine paper but also host an FDCA Pilot Plant, where they are working to replace fossil fuel-based processes with renewable packaging solutions. Some of our seniors on the trip had just completed a capstone project utilizing a very similar bio-based process, so this discussion was particularly engaging as they batted ideas around with the Pilot Plant site manager.

Sappi sponsored our stay in Maastricht, where we toured their **Research and Development Center** as well as their **Lanaken Mill**. Lanaken is a fully integrated



mill that makes CTMP from sawmill waste and tree prunings from durable forest maintenance. The mill then produces several fine coated papers for heat-set web offset printing. We also participated in a workshop on Sappi's Valida fibrillated cellulose, which is a multi-functional additive that can be used as a rheology modifier and stabilizer in personal care and home care products. It was unlike anything the students had seen in the US. The Sappi team arranged a guided tour of Maastricht for us and then hosted us for a wonderful dinner.

Andritz graciously hosted our group again on this TREE Trip, and we toured two of their manufacturing sites. First was the **Andritz Fabric and Rolls facility located in Düren, Germany**. We witnessed the production of forming fabrics on giant looms and learned about dryer felts and shoe press belts. The students had seen various pieces of machine clothing while co-op'ing but had never seen how they're manufactured, particularly on such a large scale.

We toured a second Andritz facility in Krefeld, Germany, that specializes in rolls for the paper, board, nonwoven, and textile industries. Andritz Küsters showed us how a world leader in roll technology develops, tests, and implements solutions for its customers. We saw a variety of processes ranging from full-size lathes to a pilot plant-sized calendar that demonstrated the principles of zone-controlled rolls. The students were continually amazed by the cleanliness and organization of these shops.

The trip offered many benefits not strictly related to technology in the pulp and paper industry as well. We became familiar with Europe's incredible rail system and utilized it to travel quickly from country to country. Although we had many early morning train rides followed by long days of touring and learning about the manufacturing facilities, we also found time to have fun. We spent the weekend in Paris and saw the Eiffel Tower, Arc de Triomphe, Notre Dame Cathedral, Moulin Rouge, Jardin des Tuileries, Place de la Concorde, Pont Alexandre III, Musée du Louvre, and more. We

sampled croissants, baguettes, crepes, fresh strawberries, and espresso. Throughout our trip, we were impressed by the incredible sense of pride we saw in each country as we listened to the locals talk about their landmarks, history, and culture. The best part was getting to interact with the people who brought each site visit and city to life.

We experienced first-hand how pulp and paper is a rapidly evolving industry that offers endless opportunities to students who want to create real change in the world and advocate for a sustainable future. This was truly a once-in-a-lifetime adventure which created memories that we will always cherish. We are so thankful to each donor who made this trip possible.

Left: Touring Smurfit Kappa's Parenco Mill;
Above, left to right: Touring Sappi's Maastricht R&D Facility; Andritz Küsters in Krefeld, Germany; Andritz Fabric and Rolls in Düren, Germany.

Fall Info Sessions— A Success!

There's nothing quite like the buzz of interviews and info sessions, when our students meet and talk with representatives from various pulp and papers companies. It's a chance for students to learn what each company does and consider whether they'd be a good fit for a co-op position—or even a fulltime job after graduation.

One September visit was from Packaging Corporation of America (PCA) CEO Mark Kowlzan, a longtime friend and benefactor of UMPPF, and his leadership team.



Clockwise: 1. PCA's Leadership Team including CEO Mark Kowlzan, Executive VP Jack Carter, VPs Dana Cook and Adam Webster, and Sr. Director Barb Hamilton, Filer City Mill Manager Paul Cova, Early Talent Program Ambassador Casie Case, and UMPPF alums at the PCA Info Session; **2.** PCA CEO Mark Kowlzan; **3.** PCA EVP Jack Carter and VP Adam Webster speaking at the PCA Luncheon; **4.** WestRock's team, including UMPPF alums Mykel Callaway and Chelsea Pelletier, join UMPPF students for the WestRock Info Session; **5.** Students attend the Procter & Gamble Info Session; **6.** UMPPF Alums Adam Kelley, Joey Greendale, Cooper Bennett, Andrew Kiley, and Liz Goulette present to students at the P&G info session.

ON-CAMPUS INTERVIEWS PAIR STUDENTS WITH OPPORTUNITIES

By mid-October, nearly 700 co-op and senior interviews were conducted! Many of our seniors have already accepted positions with companies across the US like Sappi, P&G, PCA, ECI, Footprint, and Cianbro. Many more are currently in late-stage interviews with multiple companies.

A total of 27 companies across 45 locations scheduled interviews. UMPPF is grateful for their time, participation, and consideration of our talented students.



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATIONS

Each spring we welcome the opportunity for our volunteers to visit high schools and present our scholarship to the students who will attend UMaine in the fall. This year we would like to thank Stephan Donnell of IGIC, Rick Fortier of Valmet, Liz Goulette of Procter & Gamble, Marty Richard of IGIC, Jill Twist of Ecolab, Giorgia Calcagno of Sappi, McKenna Baker of Ecolab, Scott Frasca of MiniFibers, Mark Morneault of Solenis, Codi Eremita of ResourceWise, Jason Eremita of Buckman, Ben Conner of Sappi, Walter Goodine of MidSouth Engineering, Deece Hannigan of Sappi, Mitch Thayer of White Mountain Tissue, Craig Martin of GAC Chemical, Grace Farrington of Sappi, and Maddy Logan of Pixelle for volunteering to make these presentations on our behalf. By volunteering in this way, they are making connections with these students before they even begin their college studies, which demonstrates support to the students and introduces them to the represented company as a possibility for future employment. A true win-win!



At left: Scott Frasca presenting to Holden Hall; **At right:** Mitch Thayer presenting to Vivian Rober-Carpenter.

Introducing the **Class of 2027!**

This year we welcome 33 scholarship recipients in Chemical, Civil, Computer, Electrical, and Mechanical Engineering, as well as Mechanical Engineering Technology. Our students are geographically diverse, coming to us from all over the country including our own local community. 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 2027!



Fall **Career Exploration** Seminars

Watching high school students see a paper, packaging, or tissue machine for the first time is truly a unique experience. Their eyes light up at the scale and complexity of the equipment used to manufacture items they use every day, and they walk away with a new appreciation for how these items are made as well as how they might be able to contribute as engineers in the pulp and paper industry. That's why we love our **Career Exploration Seminars!** In addition to touring the facilities to see engineering in action, students get the chance to have casual conversations with engineers about what their daily work looks like. We also take the opportunity to tell them about our **Consider Engineering** program for rising high school seniors as well as our scholarship opportunities. We are so thankful for our mill hosts who volunteer their time and resources to make sure that these students get a meaningful introduction to engineering and the pulp and paper industry.

The Career Exploration Seminars included visits to:

- **Irving Tissue** — Fort Edward, NY
- **Sappi** — Skowhegan, ME
- **St. Croix Tissue** — Baileyville, ME
- **Sylvamo** — Ticonderoga, NY
- + more!

In addition to these Career Exploration Seminars at manufacturing facilities, our Recruiting Committee is hard at work identifying new and unique ways to connect with students at the middle and high school levels. For the first time this fall, we participated in a **Trades for ME** event in Presque Isle, Maine. We are also connecting with resources at **FOR/ Maine**, the **Maine Development Foundation**, and more to brainstorm creative ways to work together. If you know of people we should be connecting with, please send them our way at carrie.enos@maine.edu. We would love to hear from you as we continue to build our network and provide great opportunities for students!



SEEING IT ALL IN ACTION

UMPPF alumna **Emma Smith, CHE '21**, led high schoolers from Washington Academy, Calais High School, and Hogdon High School on a tour of **St. Croix Tissue**. Students were able to talk with Emma about her real world experience, co-ops, and how UMPPF helped facilitate her career—all while experiencing a mill IRL.



Alumni News + Announcements

1980-1999

Bill Manzer, '80 CHE, is now Senior Advisor at Rayonier Advanced Materials in Jacksonville, FL.

Rob Harvey, '90 MET, is now Northern New England Municipal Infrastructure Regional Manager with Haley Ward, Inc. in Bangor, ME.

Matt Begin, '94 CHE, has been promoted to Converting Technology Platform Manager at Georgia-Pacific in Ft Lauderdale, FL.

Julie Gannon, '97 CHE, has been promoted to Vice President of Product Development at WestRock in Richmond, VA.

Jaime Ezernack, '99 CHE, has been promoted to Manufacturing Excellence Manager at International Paper in Orange, TX.

Rick Fortier, '99 CHE, has been promoted to Director, National Accounts at Ingredion Inc. in Charlotte, NC.

Amanda Wade, '99 CHE, has been promoted to Solid Waste Program Manager at TRC Companies in Augusta, ME.

2000-2019

Jason Eremita, '10 CIE, is now Sales Manager at Vulcraft Verco — Division of Nucor Corp in Chemung, NY.

Devin Rose, '13 CHE, is now Process Control Engineer at St Croix Tissue in Baileyville, ME.

Caleb Mathers, '15 MEE, is now Principal Engineer – Power and Utilities at Clearwater Paper.

Shania Evangelista, '18 CHE, is now Research Scientist at Sappi in Westbrook, ME.

Alex Flannery, '19 CHE, has been promoted to Senior Manager – Feminine Care – Operations Department Leader with Procter & Gamble in Bear River City, UT.

Deejay Gendreau, '18 CHE, is now Key Account Sales Manager at Solenis in Ft Edwards, WI.

Alyssa Wardwell, '19 CHE, is now Applications Engineer with Axchem serving the Northeast US.

2020+

Giorgia Calcagno, '20 CHE, is now Associate Lean Six Sigma Black Belt at Sappi in Skowhegan, ME.

Alyssa Murphy, '20 CHE, is now Operations Manager – Coating and Additives at Sappi in Skowhegan, ME.

Emma Smith, '21 CHE, has been promoted to Tissue Machine 1 Superintendent at St Croix Tissue in Baileyville, ME.

Nate St Jean, '21 BLE with EE Minor, has been promoted to Process Automation Engineer 2 at Pixelle Specialty Solutions in Spring Grove, PA.

Anna Snow, '22 CHE, is now CMP Process Engineer at Fujifilm Materials in Mesa, AZ.

Zach Flannery, '23 CHE, has been promoted to Paper Mill Labs Manager at Sappi in Skowhegan, 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

Alumni **Recognition**



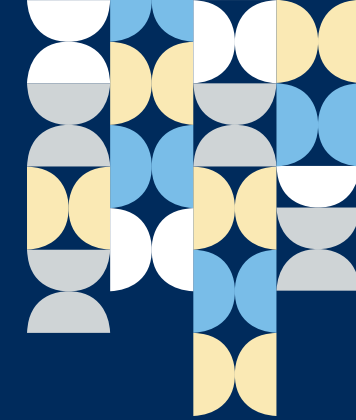
This summer **Mitch (CHE '79)** and **Jamie Tarr** visited UMaine to establish the new **Mitch and Jamie Tarr Scholarship Fund** at the UMPPF! While on campus they also toured the new Ferland Engineering Education and Design Center and the Process Development Center in Jenness Hall.

Mitch graduated from the University of Maine in 1979 with a B.S. Degree in Chemical Engineering and is a former Pulp and Paper Foundation Scholarship recipient. Mitch went on to earn a Master's Degree in Quality Assurance and an MBA from California State University. He worked for Northrop Grumman for 32 years in various roles, retiring from there in 2019 as Supplier Mission Assurance Engineering Manager for the Western United States. In addition, he was co-owner of the Redwood Consulting Group from 2004-2019.

While at UMaine, Mitch was also active in Phi Eta Kappa, Baseball, was the Judo Club President, and was the Photo Editor for the Maine Campus Daily Newspaper.

We are grateful to Mitch and Jamie and to all of our donors who make everything we do possible!

From left to right: UMPPF Program Director Jen Ireland greets Mitch and Jamie Tarr during their campus visit; Longtime friends Andre & Elizabeth Burghard join Mitch and Jamie as they tour UMaine engineering buildings; Mitch and Jaime Tarr pictured outside the Ferland EEDC.



Follow us on
social media!

+ @UMPPF

PHYSICAL
217 Jenness Hall
Orono, ME

MAILING
5737 Jenness Hall
Orono, ME 04469

PH (207) 581-2297
E info@UMainePPF.org

UMainePPF.org





UMaine Pulp+Paper Foundation
5737 Jenness Hall, Orono, ME 04469
UMainePPF.org

Connections, inspiration and **support**. Find out what staff, students, and our pulp and paper associates are up to by following our exciting journey on LinkedIn, Facebook, and Instagram!

 +   @UMPPF



Gift Bags presented to each First Year Student at the Fall Scholarship Banquet; Members of UMaine's TAPPI Student Chapter and President Carrie Enos arrive at Schiphol Airport in the Netherlands to begin this year's TREE Trip; It was standing room only at the Sappi info session with students packed in to learn about the company and opportunities.