

Keynote Speaker

Dr. BEN P. PATEL

Chief Science and Innovation Officer, WestRock

Dr. Patel has over 25 years of experience serving with publicly-traded, global products and technology companies, and has broad expertise in chemistry and material science. He is currently Chief Science and Innovation Officer of WestRock Company, a leading global provider of sustainable, fiber-based packaging solutions. Prior to joining WestRock, he served as Senior Vice President, Chief Technology Officer of Cooper Tire & Rubber Company, a global manufacturer of specialized passenger car, light truck, medium truck, motorcycle and racing tires. He previously served as Senior Vice President and Chief Technology Officer of Tenneco, Inc., a manufacturer of automotive emission control and ride control products and systems. Prior to joining Tenneco, Mr. Patel held numerous positions with increasing responsibility, including senior scientist, at the General Electric Company.



Luncheon Speaker

Dr. Giovanna Guidoboni

Dean, Maine College of Engineering & Computing

Dr. Giovanna Guidoboni is the inaugural Dean of the Maine College of Engineering and Computing (MCEC) at the University of Maine (Orono, ME), where she also holds the appointment of Professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. Before joining the University of Maine, she served as Professor at the University of Missouri (Columbia, MO), with a joint appointment between the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science and the Department of Mathematics. She was also Associate Dean for Research in the College of Engineering at the University of Missouri. Previously, she served as faculty in the Department of Mathematics of the University of Houston (TX), the Department of Mathematical Sciences of Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI, IN) and the Department of Mathematics of the University of Strasbourg (France). Overall, she advised over 40 students and fellows at different stages of their career (undergraduate, MS, PhD, post-doctoral scholars), in the areas of mathematics, computer science, physics and engineering. She initiated and led several interdisciplinary activities, such as the establishment of the Institute for Mathematical Modeling and Computational Sciences at IUPUI and the foundation of a new international peer-reviewed Modeling and Artificial Intelligence in Ophthalmology (Kugler Publications, the Netherlands). Her scholarly production includes 2 patents, 1 monograph, 2 edited books, 12 book chapters, and over 150 peer-reviewed and conference papers and posters. Her research is currently funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and National Institutes of Health (NIH), with funding history from other US and European agencies and institutions. In 2022, Dr. Guidoboni was elected member of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts.



74th Annual Paper Days 2024

April 2-3, 2024
Wells Conference Center
University of Maine



UMaine
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Foundation

Paper Days 2024

Wells Conference Center

TUESDAY, April 2nd

- 1:45 - 4:00 p.m. Engineering Building Tours - PDC, ASCC, EEDC**
Please register for tours by 3/20/24
- 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. UMPPF Board of Directors Meeting**
Board members only, Wells Conference Center, Room 3
- 5:30 p.m. Unofficial Tailgate at Seasons Restaurant**
Please RSVP, open to all, 427 Main St, Bangor, ME

WEDNESDAY, April 3rd

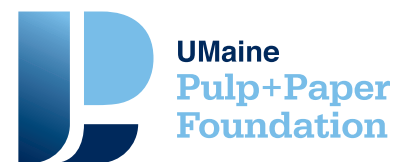
- 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Check In/Registration/Breakfast Buffet**
Wells Conference Center 2nd floor
- 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. Student Panel Discussion - TAPPI TREE Trip**
Moderator: Beth Cormier, Executive Consultant, Sappi
Panelists: Conner Alley, CHE '24 Natalie Bickerstaff, CHE '24
Peyton Chahley, CHE '24 Lif Gaug, CHE '24
Caroline Hammond, CHE '24 Andrew Kiley, CHE '23, P&G
Alia Parsons, CHE '23, PCA Ingrid Plant, CHE '24
Lea Scrapchansky, CHE '23, Andritz Ellie LeDuc, CHE '24
- 10:00 - 10:15 a.m. Break**
- 10:15 - 11:45 a.m. NE TAPPI/PIMA - Guest Speaker & Breakout Sessions**
Bob White, CEO, Pulmac Systems International Inc.
Using Big Data, Automation & Artificial Intelligence to Improve Paper Mill Performance
- Breakout Sessions**
- Ethics – Heather DuBois, Ecolab
 - Networking - Bill Moe, Buckman
 - Safety – Julie White, Georgia-Pacific
 - Leading People - Mark Kowlzan, PCA
 - Workforce Development – Tony Ouellette, Sappi
 - Innovation in the Digital Space – Bill Birney, Allnorth
- 11:45 – 12:00 p.m. Break**
- 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. LUNCHEON**
Dr. Giovanna Guidoboni - Dean
Maine College of Engineering & Computing

Paper Days 2024

Wells Conference Center

- 1:00 - 3:15 p.m. MCEC - Bringing Workforce and Innovation to Industry**
- Dr. Brett Ellis, Associate Professor, Mechanical Engineering Technology CAMM, Lean Manufacturing, and Workforce Development for Industry 4.0
 - Dr. Jason Harkins, Executive Dean of the Maine Business School Workforce Development, Retention, and Training Future Business Leaders
 - Dr. Penny Rheingans, Director of the School of Computing and Information Sciences
Bridging Workforce and Research in AI and Computer Science
 - Dr. Amir Kordijazi, Assistant Professor of Industrial Engineering, USM Artificial Intelligence for Materials Manufacturing
 - Dr. Susan MacKay, Senior R&D Program Manager II, Advanced Structures and Composites Center; AI Steering Committee Member Large Scale & Bio-based Additive Manufacturing
 - Dr. Yifeng Zhu, Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering Advanced Manufacturing and the Interface of AI
- 3:15 - 3:45 p.m. NE TAPPI/PIMA Executive Committee Mtg or Break**
- 3:45 - 4:30 p.m. UMaine PPF ANNUAL MEETING – open to all**
- 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. SOCIAL HOUR**
- 6:00 p.m. PAPER DAYS HONORS BANQUET**
Opening Remarks
Dr. Joan Ferrini-Mundy - President, UMaine and UMM
- Keynote**
Dr. Ben Patel - Chief Innovation and Science Officer, WestRock
- Senior Recognition
 - Named Scholarships
 - New Company Members
 - Genco Award
 - Teacher Awards
 - Honor Award

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