

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

*Volume LXVI No. 2*  
**FALL 2024**



# The Dandy Scroll



# 2024 Scholarship Banquet

**Ten years ago, we never dreamed that we would welcome nearly 140 students as part of the UMPPF Scholarship Program each year.** At our Fall Scholarship Banquet on September 5th, Class of 2028 claimed the title as our largest first-year class ever at 41 students! This group joined the rest of our students and many industry volunteers at Wells Conference Center for an evening of networking, taking professional photos for their profiles on our website, and a little bit of fun with our first ever Kahoot! Trivia game.

**We pride ourselves on supporting students with more than just a scholarship check — although we did hand those out at the Banquet as well!**

Our students build their soft skills starting from their first week on campus and got the chance to shake hands with a CEO, Vice President, and Human Resources Directors from companies coming to campus interview this fall. They spoke with UMaine alums working as Process Engineers, Sales Executives, and Campus Recruiters for global companies as well as professionals specializing in data analysis, consulting, research and development, and customer service. Knowing these industry

leaders prior to the formal campus recruiting season also makes walking into any interview room much easier.

We continue to be wowed by the generosity of our corporate partners. The **63 corporate members of the UMPPF donated items for the First Year Welcome Gift bags** for each of 41 new students so that they could feel the support from their future employers. And of course, we gifted them their UMPPF polo shirt to wear proudly during their internship and co-op experiences!



**The Keynote Address was delivered by Julie Gannon.** Julie holds a Bachelor's Degree in Chemical Engineering from UMaine, where she was a Pulp and Paper Foundation scholarship recipient. She is now Vice President of Product Development at Smurfit WestRock. Julie shared the three things she's learned over the course of her career that might be helpful to



our students. The first was the importance of not just networking but building meaningful relationships. The second was to be intentional with leadership. She said that taking the step to write down the things that you want people to say about you when you're not in the room shapes how you behave as a leader. Finally, Julie urged our students to not try to be perfect because perfection is the enemy of progress. She asked them to not be afraid of failure but to learn from it.

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 **Shawn Albert** of GAC Chemical; **Austin Gilboe**, **Dale Wibberly**, and **Chris Francis** of Sappi North America; **Shawn Babin** of Twin Rivers; **McKenna Baker** of

Ecolab; **Katherine Bell** of Huhtamaki; **Mark Kowlzan**, **Alia Parsons**, and **Elaina Stefanick** of Packaging Corporation of America; **Alex Claverie** of PSA; **Scott Frasca** of MiniFibers; **Addie Nadeau** of KEAN Engineering; **Chris Plant** of Ingredion; **Monique Claverie** of UPM; and **Sage Duguay** of ResourceWise. Many of these volunteers also helped us conduct these workshops remotely over the course of this summer. In addition to those listed above, other industry representatives who helped us with interview and resume workshops included **Olivia Chamberland** of AstenJohnson; **Tony Ouellette** of Sappi; and **Jess Vigneault** of TimberHP.

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

**Far left:** Early autumn on campus; **Left:** First year gift bag contents generously donated by our corporate partners **Above, left to right:** Keynote speaker Julie Gannon; Shawn Albert of GAC Chemical handing out scholarship checks; Sage Duguay of ResourceWise with Pixelle co-ops and interns; Elaina Stefanick of PCA with UMPPF scholarship recipients; Dale Wibberly of Sappi with UMPPF scholarship recipients; Alex Claverie of PSA with P&G co-ops and additional UMPPF scholarship recipients.

# In Memoriam

**Please join us in celebrating the lives and legacies of Howard Ainsworth and Dr. Peter W. Hart, both of whom UMPPF is proud to call an alumnus, supporter, and friend.**



## Howard Ainsworth

Howard was born in Auburn, Maine and graduated from Edward Little High School. He earned his BS in Mechanical Engineering from UMaine in 1954 and his 5th year MS in Pulp and

Paper Technology in 1955. He worked for Beloit Iron Works, where he and his wife Janice traveled extensively across the US and in France working on paper machine installations. Howard obtained several patents for pieces of equipment still in use in the industry today. His family lived in Wisconsin, New York, and Millinocket, ME, before moving back to Wisconsin where he retired from Nekoosa Paper Company.

In addition to owning a hobby farm and founding the Barnum Bay Marina, Howard served as an engineering consultant with his

son, Scott, who is also a Mechanical Engineer. In retirement, Howard and Janice sold their home and possessions, bought an RV, and became missionaries. They participated in the construction of over 20 churches and facilities from Maine to Alaska to Texas through MAPS RV (now Church Mobilization). Howard was an avid skier, pilot, sailor, and musician.

Howard is survived by his wife Janice, his children Ann, Suzanne, John, Scott and their spouses, seven grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. In addition to the Church Mobilization Program, the family requested that donations be sent to the UMaine Pulp and Paper Foundation, 5737 Jenness Hall, Orono, ME 04469-5737 or online at [umaineppf.org/giving](http://umaineppf.org/giving).

### **Memorials may be made to:**

#### **Church Mobilization (formerly MAPS RV)**

1445 N Boorville Ave.,  
Springfield, MO 65802  
(417) 862-2781 ext. 1391  
[churchmobilization.ag.org/giving](http://churchmobilization.ag.org/giving)

#### **University of Maine - Pulp and Paper Foundation**

5737 Jenness Hall,  
Orono, ME 04469  
(207) 581-2297  
[umaineppf.org/giving](http://umaineppf.org/giving)

## Dr. Peter W. Hart

Dr. Peter W. Hart '85 BS., '88 MS CHE UMaine, '92 PhD from Georgia Tech, was a decorated researcher in the pulp and paper industry and known worldwide who held 6 patents and had edited 9 books, among many other accomplishments.

Peter was inducted into the Francis Crowe Society at UMaine in 2012 as a Distinguished Engineer. In 2015, he received the Edward T. Bryand Distinguished Engineering Award from UMaine in recognition that his activities,

achievements, and scholarship brought distinction to the profession of engineering. He became a TAPPI Fellow in 2012, which is a merit award for lifetime service to the Pulp and Paper Industry awarded to less than 1% of TAPPI members. When he was honored again by TAPPI in 2015, he donated his monetary prize back to the UMaine Pulp and Paper Foundation in typical Peter fashion. He was also awarded The TAPPI Gunnar Nicholson Gold Medal Award in 2022. It is the highest honor that the Association can bestow upon an individual and granted to those "who have made preeminent scientific and engineering

achievements of proven applied benefit to the world's pulp, paper, board, and forest product industries."

Peter tirelessly gave back to the UMPPF. He was a regular donor since he graduated. He established the Peter W. Hart scholarship to the UMPPF in 2004 and continued to build the fund annually. He also gave of his time, serving on our University and Industrial Support Committee for years (including a term as Chair). Peter built an incredible career and was Director of Fiber Technology and Innovation at WestRock.

Those who wish to honor Peter are encouraged by his family to donate to the Peter W. Hart Scholarship Fund.

### Memorials may be made to:

#### University of Maine - Pulp and Paper Foundation

Peter W. Hart Scholarship Fund  
5737 Jenness Hall  
Orono, ME 04469

*For checks, please write "Peter W. Hart Scholarship Fund" in the memo. For online donations, select "Contribute to an Endowed Scholarship" and type "Peter W. Hart."*



**Left:** Dr. Peter Hart pictured with UMPPF scholarship recipients at the Fall 2022 Scholarship Banquet where he was the keynote speaker.

# Wins All Around

## at the Fall Info and Interview Sessions

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.

**Below:** Procter & Gamble employees and UMPPF alums Andrew Kiley, Makao Thompson, Adam Kelley, and Megan Hooper with Carson Myers at our first 2024 Info Session.



## ON-CAMPUS INTERVIEWS PAIR STUDENTS WITH OPPORTUNITIES

By mid-October, over 750 co-op and senior interviews were conducted! Many of our seniors have already accepted positions with companies across the US including P&G, PCA, ND Paper, Solenis, and Twin Rivers. Many more are currently in late-stage interviews with multiple companies.

**A total of 28 companies across 50 locations scheduled interviews. UMPPF is grateful for their time, participation, and consideration of our talented students.**



## SUMMER CO-OP HIGHLIGHTS!



**Above:** **1.** Zoe North, Inland Empire in WA; **2.** Silvia Davids and Jacob Carroll at Clearwater Paper, Augusta, GA; **3.** PCA alums and co-op students at Filer, MI; **4.** Josie Gilmore at Sappi collecting stormwater samples; **5.** Collin Scobie and Kenzie Karpinski at P&G, Mehoopany, PA

## Donor Appreciation



**This August Carrie accompanied Pat Cummings of the UMaine Foundation to visit two joint donors who support both UMaine and the UMaine Pulp and Paper Foundation.**

The first stop was Boothbay Harbor to visit **Jean Barker**. Jean and her late husband, **Elliott R. Barker III**, established a scholarship fund at the UMPPF in 1986 in honor of Elliott's father and grandfather. When making the gift, their kind words about the UMPPF were: "The Pulp and Paper Foundation has provided a level of strength not normally available in a state university. This involvement by a private industry in the educational process has been an inspiration to hundreds of students. It is this enthusiastic support, financially and through the involvement of industry executives, which inspires me, and which makes the establishment of this named scholarship in honor of my father and grandfather such a pleasure." Elliott received his BS in Pulp and Paper Technology in 1954, and Jean adds to this fund each year to help support the next



generation of pulp and paper industry leaders. It was a pleasure to reminisce with Jean about Elliott's career stories and their life together.

The second stop was to visit Yarmouth and UMPPF Alum **Bob Hamilton**. Bob is a 1965 Chemical Engineering and UMPPF graduate. He and his wife, **Becky**, have two children (Abby and Ian) who are also UMaine engineering alums. Carrie has known the Hamilton family since childhood, as Bob was a dear friend and classmate of her uncle, Bob Edgecomb. It was fun to hear Bob's adventures as a grandparent and proud UMaine alum. In the paper industry, Bob is a well-known expert in product development and continues to donate generously to the UMPPF each year.

We could not be more grateful for the support of donors like Jean and Bob who continue to pay it forward, and we love catching up with you!

**Above, left:** Carrie visits Jean Barker in Boothbay with Pat Cummings; **Above, right:** Carrie visits Bob Hamilton in Yarmouth

# Introducing the **Class of 2028!**

This year we welcome 41 scholarship recipients in Chemical, Civil, Computer, Electrical, and Mechanical Engineering, as well as Mechanical Engineering Technology. Our students come from as far away as Spokane, WA, and as close as our own 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 2028!**





# High School Graduation Scholarship Presentations



A huge thank you goes to our volunteers who presented our scholarship certificates to our incoming first-year students at their high school ceremonies this spring. **Stephan Donnell**, **Marty Richard**, and **Jesse Stephens** of IGIC; **Beth Cormier**, **Ben Conner**, **Tyson Girsra** and **Amy Herrick** of Sappi; **McKenna Baker** of Ecolab; **Josh Peterson** of Monadnock; **Jamie Derosier**; **Spenser Steeves**, **Adam Kelly**, and **Sydney Roy** of Procter & Gamble; **Steve Goulet** of Huber; **Brad Bingham** of Essity; **Monique Claverie** of UPM; and **Katherine Bell** of Huhtamaki celebrated these students by awarding what is often the biggest scholarship of the night at each awards ceremony. These volunteers connect with our students before they even begin their college studies, which

shows support to the students and introduces them to the company as a possible future employer. We are grateful for all of our industry representatives for spending time to encourage these incoming UMPPF Scholars!

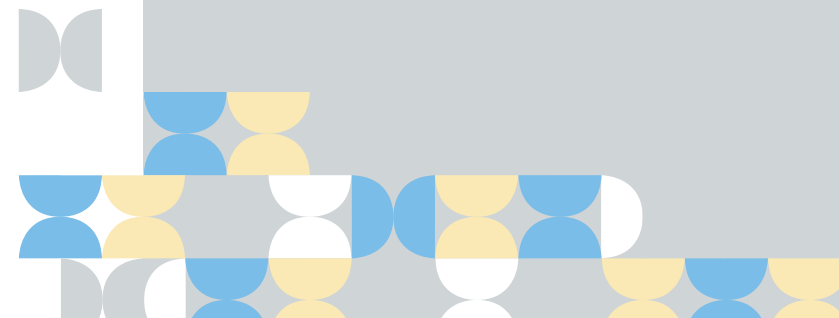
**Left to right:** Stephan Donnell presenting to Evan Donnell at Bucksport High School; UMPPF Alum Jamie Derosier presenting to Joshua Igwe; Katherine Bell presenting to Alice Willette; Tyson Girsra presenting to Braidey Girsra

## 2025 TREE TRIP FUNDRAISING

Students involved with TAPPI Research Expedition Europe (TREE) are working hard to raise funds needed for the May 2025 trip to Finland, Sweden, and Denmark. We are grateful for the leadership of UMaine alum Dr Laurence Mott of Tetra Pak, who is coordinating multiple site visits for the group. The students will benefit from seeing the total value chain perspective from forest to manufacturing to converting, and they are also excited to meet with other University students in Europe.

In the past, TREE trips have taken place in Finland (2013), Germany (2015), Sweden (2017), Austria and Germany (2019), and Belgium, the Netherlands, France, and western Germany (2023). The purpose of the trip is to expose the students to different technologies, cultures, and work procedures that will be helpful to them as they participate in co-op opportunities and begin full-time employment. It also helps them to expand their professional network.

Donations to support the students on the 2025 TREE trip to Finland, Sweden, and Denmark can be made out to the University of Maine Pulp & Paper Foundation with a note designating funds to the TREE trip. For further or additional information about TREE or how to support the students involved, please contact Justin Pelletier at [justin.d.pelletier@maine.edu](mailto:justin.d.pelletier@maine.edu) or Matt Albert at [matthew.albert@maine.edu](mailto:matthew.albert@maine.edu)



# Alumni News + Announcements

## 1980-1999

**Dr. Amy Philbrook, '96 CHE**, is now Director at Hadean Energy in Sydney, Australia

**Matt Nevells, '99 MET**, is now Sales Manager – Rolls, USA North at Andritz

**Amanda Wade, '99 CHE**, has been elected President of the Northern New England Chapter of SWAN

## 2000-2019

**Alex Claverie, '01 CHE**, has been promoted to Executive Manager of Client Relations at Power Specialists Associates

**Monique Claverie, '01 CHE**, is now Senior Manager, Technical Marketing & Services at UPM Pulp

**Dr. Paige Pomeroy, '11 BS, '15 PhD CHE**, is now R&D Manager III at Idexx in Portland, ME

**Anthony Ortiz, '12 CIE**, is now Environmental Health and Safety Manager at Abbott in Scarborough, ME

**Alyssa Burkard, '19 CHE**, is now Ammonium Sulfate Manufacturing Leader at AdvanSix in Sandston, VA

**Maddy Logan, '19 CHE**, has been promoted to Assistant Superintendent of Paper Machines 7&8 at Pixelle Specialty Solutions in Spring Grove, PA

**Elaina Stefanick, '19 CHE**, is now Early Talent Program Ambassador II at Packaging Corporation of America in Lake Forest, IL

## 2020+

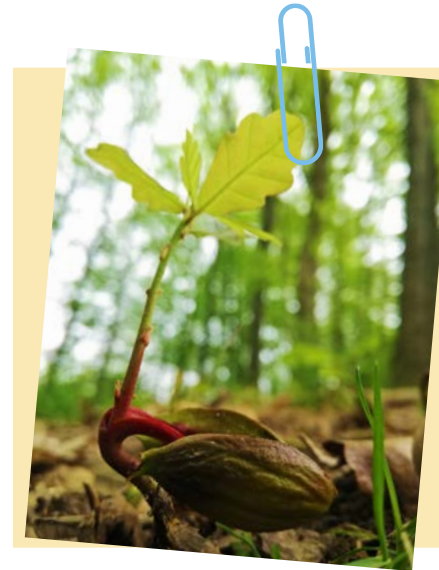
**Lucas Lenfest, '22 CHE**, is now Environmental Engineer at WSP in Falmouth, ME

**Kirstie Rogers, '22 CHE**, is now Environmental Consultant at Sevee & Maher Engineers in Cumberland, ME

**Alia Parsons, '23 CHE**, is now Corporate Environmental Engineer with Packaging Corporation of America in Lake Forest, IL

**Connor Alley, '24 CHE**, is now Process Engineer with Smurfit WestRock in West Point, VA

**Shelby Belanger, '24 CHE**, is now Process Engineer with 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](mailto:info@UMainePPF.org)

**Natalie Bickerstaff, '24 CHE**, is now Process Engineer with Sylvamo in Ticonderoga, NY

**Patrick Bishop, '24 MET**, is now Reliability Engineer at Packaging Corporation of America in Filer, MI

**Ryan Boles, '24 ELE**, is now Design Engineer I at Electrical Consultants, Inc in Cumberland, ME

**Alexa Brennan, '24 CHE**, is now Process Engineer at Procter & Gamble in Auburn, ME

**Ethan Cassidy, '24 MEE**, is now Project and Service Engineer at Andritz in Glens Falls, NY

**Peyton Chahley, '24 CHE**, is now Process Engineer at Packaging Corporation of America in Filer, MI

**Patrick Chisum, '24 CHE**, is now Process Engineer at Packaging Corporation of America in Tomahawk, WI

**Matthew Cyr, '24 MEE**, is now Reliability Engineer at Twin Rivers in Madawaska, ME

**Lif Gaug, '24 CHE**, is now Material Science Engineer at Footprint in Gilbert, AZ

**Avery Greco, '24 CHE**, is now Process Engineer at Procter & Gamble in Auburn, ME

**Caroline Hammond, '24 CHE**, is now Process Engineer with Sappi in Skowhegan, ME

**Zach House, '24 CHE**, is now Process Engineer with Sylvamo in Ticonderoga, NY

**Joshua Languet, '24 CHE**, is now Process Engineer at Weidmann Electrical Technology in St Johnsbury, VT

**Ellie LeDuc, '24 CHE**, is now Process Engineer with Sappi in Westbrook, ME

**Jackson Masterson, '24 MEE**, is now at Mechanical Design Engineer at 2Gig in Madison, ME

**John McLaughlin, '24 MEE**, is now Optimization Engineer at Packaging Corporation of America in Los Angeles, CA

**Rachel McMannus, '24 MET**, is now Reliability Engineer at Twin Rivers in Madawaska, ME

**Alex Mehre, '24 MEE**, is now Mechanical Engineer at Andritz in Springfield, MA

**Sean Meisel, '24 CHE**, is now Reliability Engineer with Sylvamo in Ticonderoga, NY

**Adreanna Michaud, '24 CHE**, is now Process Engineer with SUBMEPP in Portsmouth, NH

**Hannah Milne, '24 CHE**, is now Staff Engineer with Tighe and Bond in Portsmouth, NH

**Julia Muth, '24 CHE**, is now Manufacturing Engineer at Huhtamaki in Albertville, AL

**Logan Perkins, '24 MEE**, is now Project Engineer with Cianbro in Bangor, ME

**Ingrid Plant, '24 CHE**, is now Support Engineer with Solenis in Boston, MA

**Matush Prokop, '24 CHE**, is now Process Engineer with Sappi in Skowhegan, ME

**Reagan Rath, '24 CHE**, is now Process Control ECD Engineer with Smurfit WestRock in Solvay, NY

**Kyle Richard, '24 EE**, is now Electrical Reliability Engineer with Sappi in Skowhegan, ME

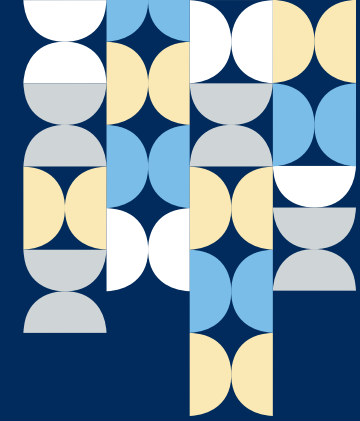
**Eli Ross, '24 CHE**, is now Process Engineer at Woodland Pulp in Baileyville, ME

**Ian Ruona, '24 CHE**, is now Process Engineer at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard

**Isaac Violette, '24 ECE**, is now Electrical Reliability Engineer with Sylvamo in Ticonderoga, NY



**At left:** Carrie visits Ming Albert, Alexis Cote and Austin Albert in Portland, ME; **At right:** Andritz representatives Andrea Thompson, Anthony Harrington, '95 CHE, Andy Eyer, and Kirsten Anderson host an Info Session on September 23 in the Soderberg Lecture Hall.



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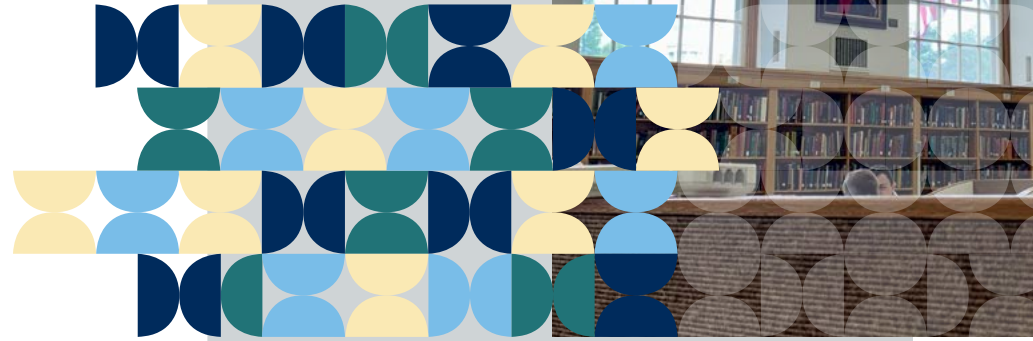
**UMainePPF.org**



**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!

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UMaine, Orono's vaulted ceiling in the library; Silvia Davids and Jacob Carroll with Joe Davis at Clearwater Paper, Augusta, GA; UMPPF's class of 2025.