

# Paper Days 2026

*Building the Future of Pulp & Paper*  
*People. Technology. Purpose.*



**UMaine**  
**Pulp+Paper**  
**Foundation**

**April 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Wells Conference Center**  
**University of Maine**

## **TUESDAY, April 7<sup>th</sup>**

- 1:45 - 4:00 p.m.**     **Engineering Building Tours - PDC, ASCC, EEDC** (*please register for tours by 3/20/26*)  
**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 to [cmartin@gacchemical.com](mailto:cmartin@gacchemical.com), open to all, Seasons is located at 427 Main St, Bangor, ME*

## **WEDNESDAY, April 8<sup>th</sup>**

- 8:00 - 9:00 a.m.**     **Check In/Registration/Breakfast Buffet** - Wells 2<sup>nd</sup> floor lobby  
**9:00 - 10:00 a.m.**   **Student Panel Discussion - TAPPI TREE TRIP**  
Panelists:     Georgi Borg, ELE '27     Joe Elliott, CHE '27     Anna Eugene, CHE '26  
                 Cole Guimond, CHE '26     Natalie Hamlin, CHE '27     Nick Lenfest, CHE '26  
                 Jacob Levesque, CHE '26     Solomon Susen, CHE '27     Phil Vissering, CHE '26  
**10:00 - 10:15 a.m.**   **Break**  
**10:15 - 11:30 a.m.**   **NE PIMA/TAPPI Hot Topics for Young Professionals**  
Speaker: Casie Case, Early Talent Program Manager, PCA  
Topic: *Early Career Development for YP*
  - ◆ Starting a Family While Working in Industry - Danielle Thibodeau, Twin Rivers Paper
  - ◆ Advocating for Yourself and Negotiating the Best Job Offer - Casie Case, PCA
  - ◆ Personal Financial Planning - Patrick Laliberte, PCA
  - ◆ Retaining Young Talent - Scott LeBeau & Ron Sherman, GPI
  - ◆ Building Professional Relationships - Brian Lambert, Nalco
  - ◆ Building a Strong Technical Foundation - Jess Vigneault, TimberHP**11:30 - 12:00 p.m.**   **Break - UMaine Research Poster Session - Atrium**  
**12:00 - 1:00 p.m.**     **WELCOME LUNCHEON - Demystifying AI**  
Dr. Raymond Pettit, Chief Data Science & AI Officer, Neuro-AI Design  
**1:00 - 1:15 p.m.**     **Break - Poster Session Concludes**  
**1:15 - 3:15 p.m.**     **NE PIMA/TAPPI - Breakout Sessions**
  - **Ethics** - Eric Dawson - Plant Manager, Irving Tissue
  - **Sustainability** - Bakul Wadgaonkar - Director of Sustainability, Sappi
  - **Safety** - Leslie Petrie - Retired International Paper, TAPPISAFE Ambassador
  - **Leadership** - Julie Gannon - Regional VP Mill Operations, Smurfit WestRock
  - **Networking** - Steve Jose - VP Corporate Accounts North America, Solenis**3:15 - 3:45 p.m.**     **NE PIMA/TAPPI Executive Committee Meeting 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 + UMM  
Keynote: Kirk Ross, VP Manufacturing, Sappi
  - Senior Recognition                     ▪ Teacher Awards                     ▪ Genco Award
  - New Company Members                ▪ Named Scholarships                ▪ Honor Award