

# 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 & TREM TRIPS**  
**Moderator:** Julie Gannon – Regional Vice President, Mill Operations, Smurfit Westrock  
**Panelists: CHE's:** Logan Beaupre '27, Alison Cameron '28, Hudson Depriest '28, Sydney Gray '28, Anna Eugene '26, Cole Guimond '26, Jackson Haskell '28, Nick Lenfest '26, Jacob Levesque '26, Dominic Malette '29, Keira Ryan '28, Phil Vissering '26, Will Young, '28  
**ELE:** Georgi Borg '27; **MEE:** Keller Whitney '27; **MET:** Luke Davidson, '29
- 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
  - **Practical AI Applications** - Dr. Raymond Pettit, Chief Data Science & AI Officer, Neuro-AI Design
- 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. Giovanna Guidoboni, Dean & Interim Vice President for Research, University of Maine, Maine College of Engineering and Computing  
**Keynote:** Kirk Ross, VP Manufacturing, Sappi
- *Senior Recognition*
  - *Teacher Awards*
  - *Genco Award*
  - *New Company Members*
  - *Named Scholarships*
  - *Honor Award*