

## President's Column: "The Readiness is All!"

by John Wolanski

Looking back on the 62<sup>nd</sup> annual Paper Days 2012 held in April, reminds me of a famous line from Shakespeare's play, Hamlet. In the play, as Hamlet prepares for a sword fight against Laertes he tells his friend Horatio that; "The readiness is all". Hamlet is prepared for the future and his readiness has given him the confidence he needs to win the fight. Like Hamlet, the University of Maine Pulp and Paper Foundation believes in "readiness" and excels at preparing its' students for the future.

As we prepare for the next 62 years, a sub-committee sponsored by the Executive Committee is evaluating the mission and objectives of the Foundation to assure that we are ready for the future. Involved in this effort are teachers, recent graduates, university staff, equipment suppliers, chemical suppliers, scholarship donors, HR Managers, mill representatives, and members of engineering companies. Although it is difficult to predict the future, we need to be prepared for a future where our graduates can be successful, and we, as an organization are successful in supporting our industry with outstanding entry level engineers. We expect to complete this process by early December for presentation to the Executive Committee, and ultimately for presentation to the membership next April. We encourage your input on this subject. Please send your comments to healy@maine.edu and Jack will pass them along to the committee.

In addition, the Paper Days committee is also a great example of "readiness" for their detailed planning and preparation of Paper Days. In addition, we have heard the personal stories about how the Foundation has built a strong reputation for preparing engineering students for careers in the pulp and paper industry. For example; John Donahue from Sappi, Class

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## Paper Days 2012 Hugh Success With More Than 330 People in Attendance

More than 330 industry representatives, University of Maine alumni, faculty and students attended Paper Days making it one of the largest Open House events held in recent years.

Paper Days is a yearly event sponsored jointly by the University of Maine Pulp & Paper Foundation, the Maine Pulp & Paper Association and Northeast TAPPI/PIMA. The theme for this year was "The Paper Industry – A Global Perspective".

Paper Days opened with our Wednesday luncheon and featured speaker, Deece Hannigan, Vice President – Fiber Resources, Sappi Fine Paper North America. Deece gave the audience an introduction of his background and went on to present an overview of Sappi while explaining that Sappi is a diversified worldwide company with production facilities focused in South Africa, Europe and the U.S. Deece noted that Sappi had invested \$90 million in Maine since 2009, and that Sappi expected to complete conversion of two pulp mills in South Africa and Minnesota to chemical cellulose pulp which can be used for food stuffs, alcohol and chemical raw materials.

Forest Economics' Advisor's president Brendan Lowney provided a dynamic macro view of the economy and its relationship to the forest products industry. It was clear from Brendan's presentation that the economy and ultimately the total forest product's industry's economy is tied to consumer spending and housing starts. The recovery is expected to follow the recovery after historical banking crises, with full recovery by 2015. Brendan went on to discuss projections for timber, paneling, pulp wood, biomass and paper.

The keynote banquet speaker for Paper Days was Mark S. Cross, Senior Vice President, MeadWestvaco Corporation. Mark opened his presentation with a 1979 video clip showing him winning on TV's Match Game. Mark's message to our audience focused on opportunity knocking at any moment. Mark went on to say how his winning the money and making a connection led to a 24 year career at Kimberly Clark. Attending dinner, at Mark's invitation, were several friends he introduced to our audience including his high school basketball coach who taught him responsibility and friend, Jim Alexy, an industry legend who showed Mark

how to connect broadly with customers. The presentation continued with an overview of the transformation at MeadWestvaco and their positioning as a packing company. Mark addressed students in the audience telling them we need leaders who can operate in a volatile, uncertain and complex ambiguous environment. Mark went on to say he has a differentiated career based on global experiences – for the graduating engineers he said, "You will be required to have a global perspective." The presentation concluded with a video produced for Mark's presentation by Shaka Smart, Virginia Commonwealth University Coach, titled "Our Time Right Now", which built on the theme of seizing opportunity.

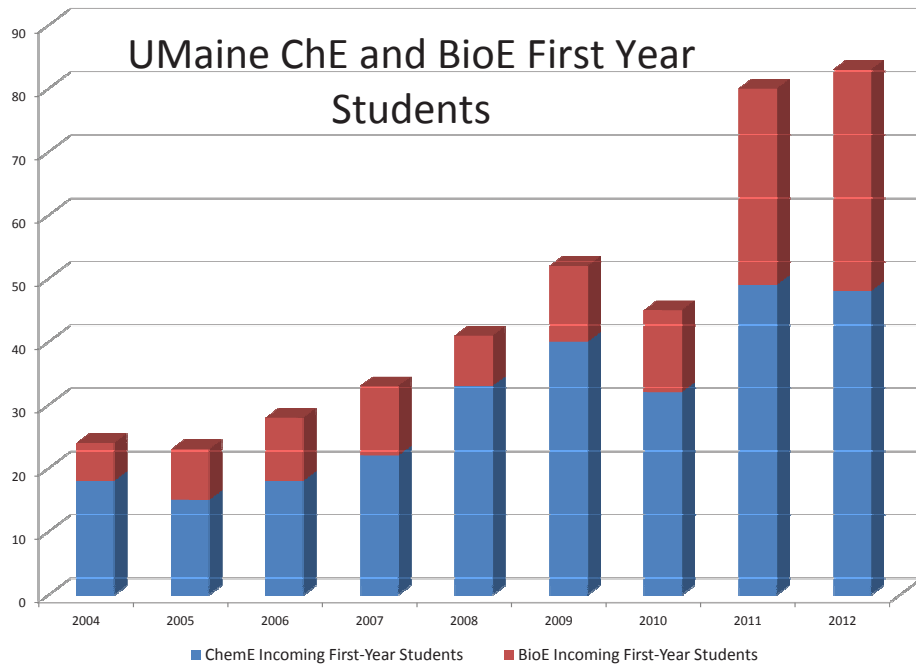
Our Thursday morning breakfast and panel featuring Pulp & Paper Foundation scholarship recipients continues to be a highlight of our program. Moderator for the student centered session was Michael Luciano, Human Resources Manager, Verso Paper. Continuing this year's theme of "The Paper Industry – A Global Perspective", our students offered their insight and perspective of the paths and directions they envision their own careers taking.

Our program concluded with our Thursday luncheon and speaker, Terrence M. Gallagher, Senior Division Vice President, Nalco who addressed the topic of water conservation and its global impact.

The Paper Days Committee will meet in July to start planning Paper Days 2013. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend; the dates will be April 3 & 4, 2013.



*Paper Days keynote speaker, Mark S. Cross, Senior Vice President, MeadWestvaco. "Make everyday your masterpiece."*



The graph above shows the continued increase in the Chemical and Biological Department at UMaine. In 2011 Chemical Engineering increased by 61% and Biological Engineering Increased by 100%. Those gains have been maintained or slightly exceeded in 2012 with the incoming fall 2012 currently at 83 students. The College of Engineering expects to exceed (for the first time) 500 1<sup>st</sup> year students in the fall of 2012, with more than 1700 students in the Engineering College in total.

*Continued - The Rediness is All*

of '79, who International Paper ranked as the "Best Prepared" from the entire group of 20 first year new hires at their Fort Ticonderoga mill in New York. And Lucas Mathers, Class of 2011, who Ashland Hercules rated the best co-op intern student they had in 2011 out of a group of more than 40 student interns. And Ben Schneider, Class of 2012, who Eka Chemicals selected as number 1 out of an impressive group of more than 20 engineering students from across the country and offered him a job while he was still in school. Ben might have been number #1, but his fellow UMaine engineering students were ranked a close second, third, fourth and fifth!

It is a fact that the Foundation does an excellent job in preparing its' best and brightest students for engineering careers in the industry. When it comes to the Foundation, including the staff, supporters, professors, and students; "The readiness is all!"

## Record Setting 182 Applications Received for 2012 Consider Engineering - 102 Students Invited to Participate

The Foundation's Consider Engineering program was first introduced to 24 students in 1969 and has been offered every July since. This year 182 students applied for admission and 102 students have been invited to participate. The program is designed for high ability math/science students who have completed their junior year of high school.

Applications for admission are sent to all Maine high school guidance offices and to all teachers who have recommended a student to our program in the last three years. We also send program brochures and applications via email to math and science teachers. Program information and the program application are also posted on the Foundation's website. We are noticing an increase in the number of applications received from students who discovered our program by doing a web search.

Students are selected competitively based on their school grades; ability to write a letter describing what they hope to

realize from their participation in Consider Engineering; extracurricular activities and leadership responsibilities; and the strength of a letter of recommendation from a teacher or school counselor.

Once students arrive on campus they will learn about various engineering disciplines through a series of discussions, laboratory experiments, and discussions with current engineering students who are on campus taking summer classes in preparation for coop jobs. Students will also tour a local paper making facility and have lunch with industry engineering enabling them to ask questions and to learn about engineering in our industry.

The competitive spirit and problem solving capabilities of our students will be challenged in a construction project they will complete with their roommate.

Other activities include playing our "I AM an Engineer" game where students compete in teams to solve practical challenges using skills learned in high school

math and science classes.

Along with testing their technical skills students will also show their creativity as they prepare a group PowerPoint slide presentation of a lab experiment they will conduct over a two day period. The presentation will be part of the activities they will present to their parents and friends as part of the program's closing day activities.

New this year, students will be introduced to the Foster Innovation Center, here on campus, where they will conduct an experiment with former scholarship recipient James Beaupre who has just completed his PhD in Chemical Engineering. James has volunteered his time to work with our students.

For more than 40 years the Foundation's Consider Engineering program has given more than 3000 students an opportunity to learn about the challenges and satisfactions of engineering and to help them decide upon their field of college study.

## Five New Pulp & Paper Foundation Company Members Introduced at Paper Days Honors Banquet

We would like to thank all the Company Members of the University of Maine Pulp & Paper Foundation. Company memberships are a WIN-WIN proposition with a good return on investment (ROI) for annual Company dues. The annual donations help fund the Foundation scholarship program for developing the best and brightest college engineering students who are seeking a career in the pulp and paper industry. In 2012, we welcomed five new Company Members who joined the Foundation and they are:

- AMEC
- Axchem USA, Inc.
- Great Northern Paper Company
- Sekisui Specialty Chemicals America
- Target Fiber (The Heuchling Group)



*Everett O'Neill, Great Northern Paper Co., announces his company's Foundation membership at Paper Days.*



*Brian Satterfield, AxChem (left) presents Foundation President John Wolanski with a company membership check at Paper Days.*



*Brook Lamm (left) and Raul Hurtado (right) from Sekisui Specialty Chemical address the Paper Days audience.*



*Jeff Lancaster, AMEC tells the Paper Days audience how pleased he is to represent his company as a Foundation member.*



*Foundation President John Wolanski (left) welcomes Raymond Heuchling, Jr., Target Fiber, as a Foundation Company Member.*





## Twenty-One Entering First Year Engineering Students Awarded Foundation Scholarships

Executive Director Jack Healy has announced the Foundation's Scholarship Committee has awarded twenty-one full tuition scholarships to students who will enter UMaine in the fall to study engineering.

The students were selected from a pool of 80 applicants. Forty-four students applying for a scholarship had participated in the previous summer's Consider Engineering program.

Each student is required to complete an application, submit a high school transcript, and write a letter telling the scholarship committee how they have or will become familiar with the opportunities available in the paper and supplier industry.

The applications are reviewed and put into rank order by members of the Scholarship Committee. The top applicants are invited to participate in a Skype interview with several members of the Scholarship Committee. All interviews take place during one day in January with offers extended by the end of the day. Students have until April 1<sup>st</sup> to accept or decline the scholarship offer.

By field of study, 17 students will study chemical engineering, 3 students will study mechanical engineering and one student will study electrical engineering.

### We Need Your Support Did You Know -

You can now make your yearly contribution to the Foundation on our website using our secure server. Just visit our website and click on the tab "*Make a Donation*". From there you simply fill in your information and donation amount. Visit us today:

[www.maineulpaper.org](http://www.maineulpaper.org)

## Foundation Honors Two Outstanding Educators at Paper Days Banquet



The University of Maine Pulp & Paper Foundation's Scholarship Committee once again solicited current scholarship recipients to nominate math and science teachers or guidance counselors from their high school to receive the Foundation's annual teacher recognition awards. The awards are presented to the recipients each year at the Paper Days honors banquet.

The 2012 Pulp & Paper Foundation Inspirational Guidance Counselor Award was presented to Mark Nadeau, (pictured above left), who is a guidance counselor at Old Orchard Beach High School (formally at Madawaska High School). Mark was nominated by his former student and current scholarship recipient Jonathan Lee. In his letter of recommendation Jon wrote, "I feel obligated and proud to nominate Mr. Nadeau because he was a very important figure throughout the school. I often visited Mr. Nadeau's office to discuss the many possible course paths to take throughout high school. He always challenged me to take an extra class instead of a study hall. He would also inspire me to rise to the challenges of AP classes. Mr. Nadeau saw the motivated student I was, and saw to it that I reach my potential. In June, I graduated Valedictorian of Madawaska High School Class of 2011". Closing his nomination, Jon wrote, "As you can see, Mark is able to do what many teachers and guidance counselors strive to do each day. He successfully bridges the gap between the student and the teacher. He provides a comfortable non-threatening environment by allowing for a free flowing exchange of conversation between one another when students are confused, unsure and need clarity in



an array of situations. This attribute I believe is the key to Mr. Nadeau success as a guidance counselor. Mr. Nadeau unselfishly and relentlessly continues to go out and take an active role to know and understand his students. It is my firm belief that Mr. Nadeau has earned this nomination. I believe he is most worthy of this recognition.

The 2012 Pulp and Paper Foundation Inspirational Teacher Award was presented to Dick Balentine (pictured above right), a biology teacher from Hampden Academy. Dick was nominated for the award by his former student and current scholarship recipient, Chris Francis. In his letter of nomination Chris wrote, "My choice of what to study in college was influenced by many things. Growing up I had a strong affinity for math and science, then in High School during my Sophomore year I still had no idea what I wanted to do, though Engineering looked promising knowing it involved both of the subjects I was good at and engineers were known to make good money, however this was just one option out of many. It was during my time as a sophomore that I started taking Biology, a class that I would really grow to enjoy and look forward to everyday. It is my belief that because of the teacher I had that I became very passionate about the subject". Chris closed his nomination by saying, "I do not feel that any other teacher had prepared me and made a more lasting impact on my choice of studies that he has because of his care for his students, knowledge in the subject and outstanding job as an educator".

## Annual Meeting Receives Reports, Elects Officers and Adopts Budget

The Foundation's 2012 Annual Meeting, held on Wednesday afternoon as part of Paper Days elected officers for 2012, received committee reports and adopted the Foundation's 2012 budget.

Barbara Kerr Hamilton, Senior Consultant, Industrial Energy, Emerson Process Management will continue as Foundation Chairman while John Wolanski, Vice President Marketing & Sales, GAC Chemical Corporation will continue as President. Newly elected vice presidents were Greg Radney, Director Northern & Western Regions, Metso Automation and Nicholas Hart, University of Maine Chemical Engineering student and scholarship recipient.

Incoming Directors at Large are: Richard Arnold, President, Old Town Fuel & Fiber; Marco L'Italien, Mill Manager, Lincoln Paper & Tissue; Jeffrey Lancaster, Senior Process Engineer, AMEC; Mark Wescott, General Manager North America, Ashland Hercules Water Technology; and, Vaughn Wildfong, Vice President, PaperChine.

Officers whose terms are completed were introduced to our audience and thanked for their service. They are: Vice President, Matthew Howard, University of Maine Chemical Engineering student representative, and Directors at Large: Donna Cassese, Managing Director, Sappi Fine Paper Westbrook; Craig Martin, Commercial Director, N.A., Styron; Jack

Treas, President, Treas Inc.; Douglas Walsh, Executive Vice President Operations, Lincoln Paper & Tissue.

In addition to electing officers the Foundation's committee chairs each presented their 2012 reports describing their activities and outlining their future goals.

The 2012 budget will provide \$750,000 for undergraduate scholarships to encourage students with a demonstrated interest in a paper industry related career.

Copies of the Foundation's 2012 Annual Report are available from the Foundation office on request.



*University of Maine Pulp & Paper Foundation Executive Committee and Board of Directors pose for a picture at Paper Days 2012.*



The Investment Management (IM) Committee of the University of Maine Pulp and Paper Foundation works closely with Commonfund, the Foundation's investment manager. Primary decisions of the Investment Management Committee are asset allocation, alternate investment decisions, spend rate policy, and evaluation of investment managers, both current and potential. Pictured above are: Brian Lambert, Susan Durrell (Commonfund), Cheryl Levesque, Janelle MacDermott, Stan Marshall, Jack Healy, Ralph Keef, Dave Colter, Elsa Sanborn, and Thom LaHaise. Committee members not pictured is Martin Grant, Bill Igoe, and Jim Crump.



Each spring representatives of the Scholarship and Educational Relations Committee visit high school graduations or award nights to present the UMaine Pulp and Paper Foundation Scholarship to High School Seniors. In 2012 we had representatives from the Committee and Foundation Company Members presenting scholarships at Gorham, Jay, Bucksport, Lincoln, Windham, Southern Aroostook, Madawaska, and Brewer (pictured above). Not all schools permit visitors to award scholarships in person, but we are grateful to those who do.





## Paper Days 2012 Picture Highlights

Each year Paper Days is sponsored by the University of Maine Pulp & Paper Foundation, the Maine Pulp & Paper Association and Northeast PIMA/TAPPI. Paper Days is a unique opportunity for Foundation Company Members, friends and scholarship recipients to gather to renew friendships, build networks and to hear presentations from some of our industry's top speakers. Paper Days 2012 welcomed more than 330 guests to campus.



Foundation President John Wolanski asked audience members to stand if they were UMaine alumni. After a series of questions asked of the audience it was determined the last two alumni standing have been participating in Foundation events since the 1950's. Standing (left) is Ralph Keef, '55 and (right) Joe Kirk, '55 both University of Maine Chemical Engineering graduates.



Foundation Director, Jack Healy introduced the "Business Card Challenge" at the Paper Days social hour. Industry guests were asked to bring a generous supply of their business cards and scholarship recipients were provided business cards. The challenge was to use the cards to introduce themselves to each other. Prizes were awarded to the scholarship recipient and the industry guest who collected the most business cards. Winners were Bill Peterson of Lincoln Paper & Tissue and student Emily Vannozi.



Paper Days social hour is the perfect opportunity to catch up with old friends.



Keynote speaker, Mark Cross (left) enjoying time with friends at the Paper Days honors banquet.



Paper Days banquet guests enjoying the honors banquet entertainment provided by Maine humorous Joe Bennett.



Paper Days 2012 opened with a luncheon and presentation by Sappi Paper's Deece Hannigan.



Foundation scholarship recipients participated in a breakfast panel session to discuss "The Paper Industry - A Global Perspective".



Chemical Engineering graduate students held a poster display showcasing their current research projects at Paper Days.

Speaker presentations and additional pictures are featured on the Foundation's website at:

[www.maineulpaper.org](http://www.maineulpaper.org)

## Maine Governor John LePage Visits Paper Days to Welcome Guests



Maine Governor John LePage is welcomed to Paper Days by Foundation President, John Wolanski.



Governor John LePage is introduced to Paper Days guests during the morning coffee break.



Foundation Chairwoman, Barbara Hamilton (left) and Paper Days Chair, Albert Moore pose for picture with Governor LePage.





## Two Pulp & Paper Foundation Company Members Make National Top 100 List

The UMaine Pulp & Paper Foundation is pleased to send congratulations to Foundation member companies, Cianbro Corporation and Woodard & Curran for their listing in the top 100 nationwide, based on 2011 revenues for the work they do. This is the first time these companies have been listed in the top 100.

Cianbro Corporation, which is home based out of Pittsfield, ME was number 88 on Engineering News Records list of contractors and Woodard & Curran, based out of Portland, ME is number 91 on Engineering News Records list of design firms.

Cianbro's chairman and CEO, Peter Vigue, credits it's 4000 strong work force and the company's 2010 acquisition of Starcon International, a Texas based contractor; expanding Cianbro's presence to 25 additional states. In a recent Bangor Daily News article Vigue stated the acquisition "allowed us to expand our footprint, it allowed us to grow our company finan-

cially at a time when the economy was not going well". Vigue went on to say the main reason for growth was the company workforces' willingness to adapt to new types of work.

Woodard & Curran has been moved up in the listing for the last five years. In a recent press release, CEO Douglas McKeown stated, "The depth and capabilities of our team have enabled us to take on much larger projects for our clients." McKeown went on to say, "We have expanded the services we offer and are focusing more on design-build work, where we direct the overall effort from concept through completion. This has helped us continue to grow throughout the recession and the challenging recovery."

**CIANBRO**



## Hanna Verrill Receives TAPPI Outstanding Student Award



Hannah Verrill, '12, UMaine ChE was selected as the 2012 TAPPI Outstanding Student of the Year Award recipient. Hannah is from New Gloucester, ME. Hannah completed two terms of coop with Sappi Fine Paper, Westbrook, ME. Hannah, the 6<sup>th</sup> UMPFF scholarship recipient in a row to win this award is pictured with Tom Crosby.

## UMaine's FBRI Technology Research Center Opens This Summer



Equipment set-up at UMaine's FBRI Technology Research Center in Old Town, ME.

Companies on the verge of sending cutting-edge, forest bioproducts-based technologies into the marketplace will have new commercialization testing and demonstration capabilities when the University of Maine's Technology Research Center (TRC) opens this summer at 880 Main St., in Old Town, Maine. A grand opening will be held on June 18. TRC, a component of the University of Maine's Forest Bioproducts Research Institute (FBRI), is located on the grounds of Old Town Fuel & Fiber, a pulp mill purchased in 2008 by private equity firm Patriarch Partners.

The 40,000-square-foot fee-for-service center will serve as a manufacturing demonstration facility where industrial groups collaborate with UMaine researchers to validate, demonstrate and help commercialize fuels, chemicals and materials technologies from forest biomass, at an industrially relevant scale. Product developers have access to the latest physical and virtual tools — from design to process evaluation — in a center that facilitates the development of energy-efficient, rapid and flexible manufacturing technologies, and promotes broad and rapid dissemination of technological advances into the relevant markets. The TRC has the ability to handle any cellulosic feedstock, from forest residue to switchgrass. From those feedstocks, companies could experiment on dozens of bioproducts, including precursors for drop-in fuels such as gasoline, diesel and jet fuel; nanocellulose fibers and carbon fibers; and high-value industrial chemical byproducts and coproducts.

"The Technology Research Center allows us to take the R&D from the lab and assist with rapid commercialization," says Hemant Pendse, director of FBRI and chair of UMaine's Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering. Amy Luce, a graduate of UMaine's chemical engineering program and a 13-year industry veteran, oversees day-to-day operations at the TRC.



## Alumni Personals

**Michael R. Webber**, '76 has joined New-Page Corp., as Dry End Superintendent at their Rumford, ME mill.

**Peter W. Hart**, '84, has been named a TAP-PI Fellow for 2012. He is currently Senior Technical Manager with MeadWestvaco Corp. Fellow is an honorary title bestowed upon a very small percentage of TAPPI's membership. It is given to individuals who have made extraordinary technical or service contributions to the industry and/or the Association. Peter was also inducted into the University of Maine's Francis Crowe Engineering Society at graduation 2013.

**Timothy Pomerleau**, '89 has joined BASF Corporation as an Account Manager.

**John R. Pelletier**, '90 is now Paper Applications Lab Manager at BASF in Charlotte, NC.

**Wade Amos**, '93, has joined the Cabot Corporation as a Senior Process Engineer.

**Jonathan P. Labonte**, '97, is now the mayor, Auburn, ME, and Executive Director of the Androscoggin Land Trust.

**Lou Ortiz**, has joined Rock Tenn Company as the Manager of Paper Ctr. Excellence.

## Faculty/Student Awards

**Hemant Pendse**, Chair, Chemical & Bio-Engineering Dept. received the 2012 Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award. Through his leadership, especially in the area of forest bioproducts, Pendse has inspired innovative research and creativity in other UMaine faculty and in industry. His influence extends far beyond campus in ways that have a positive, lasting impact on the university, our state and the nation. He is a consummate visionary and, based on his creativity and leadership, a role model for young faculty and students.

Pendse's research has put UMaine on the national map of leading research institutions in wood-based biofuels. He brings a sense of mission and personal drive to his research team, making UMaine a stronger institution.

**Joseph Genco**, Professor of Chemical Engineering and Louis G. Calder Professor in Chemical Engineering, was presented the 2012 Distinguished Maine Professor Award. See full story and picture on page 11 of this newsletter.

**Prajesh Gongal**, '12, was the recipient of the President Winthrop C. Libby/Reverend Pavlos Taiganides Award for a student who has contributed to international relations on campus and the University community through participation in activities, scholastic achievement and leadership.

**Jakob C. Low**, '13, and **Scott Grillo**, '13, both received Hovey Awards. There are 6 awards yearly. Faculty members recommend students from their department to the Dean of the College of Engineering.

**Nathan Frazier**, '13, has been named a Senior Skull, the highest non-academic honor a male student can receive at UMaine.

**Laura Donovan**, '13 and **Jennifer Leach**, '13, were both named All Maine Women, the highest non-academic honor a female student can receive at UMaine.

**Laura Duran**, '13, and **Lucas Mathers**, '13, were inducted into Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society.

**Andrew Gwarjanski**, '13, and **Nathaniel Cyr**, '13, were inducted into Pi Tau Sigma, Mechanical Engineering Honor Society. Nate is also a Presidential Scholarship Award Recipient.

**Eve Jordan**, '13 was inducted into Chi Epsilon Engineering Honors Society.

**Spencer McElwain**, '13, was Captain of the UMaine Cross Country Team, 4 year scholar athlete award winner and a Pi Tau Sigma member.

**Gretel Breton**, '15, was named a Rising Star by the Athletic Dept. and is a Presidential Scholarship Award recipient.

**Christopher Desmond**, '15 received the Sigma Phi Epsilon Balanced Man Award.

**Caroline Hetterman**, '15, was chosen as a Sophomore Eagle.



University of Maine Pulp & Paper Foundation Senior Scholarship Recipients are called to the stage and introduced to Foundation Company Members and Friends as part of the 2012 Paper Days Honors Banquet activities. Each student was presented a gift by Foundation Chairwoman, Barbara Hamilton.



## 2012 Joseph M. Genco Award Presented to Dr. Hemant Pendse



Dr. Joe Genco (left) presents Dr. Hemant Pendse the 2012 Genco Award at Paper Days

The Joseph M. Genco Award was created by the UMaine Pulp & Paper Foundation to award to a University employee who has demonstrated exemplary support of the Pulp and Paper Industry through either outstanding research that has the potential to significantly improve the industry, and/or through innovative student recruitment to help provide the next generation of engineers to our industry.

Jeff Hamilton and Joseph Genco were on hand at the Foundation's Paper Days Banquet to announce the 2012 recipient, Dr. Hemant Pendse, Chair of UMaine's Chemical and BioEngineering Department, and Director of FBRI. Award benefits include a \$1,000 stipend.

If newsletter readers would like to suggest nominees for the 2013 Genco Award, please contact Foundation Director Jack Healy at (207) 581-2298 with your nominations.

### FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION ABOUT

- Consider Engineering
  - Upperclass Scholarships
  - First Year Scholarships
- [www.maineulpaper.org](http://www.maineulpaper.org)

## Ralph Keef Named Recipient of the Pulp & Paper Foundation's 2012 Honor Award



From left to right, 2012 Honor Award Recipient Ralph Keef with Jack Healy and Allison Keef.

The recipient of the 2012 Honor Award, Ralph Keef, was greatly influenced by his family's forest based business interests, which also involved his father's family and their close friends. Raised in Vanceboro, ME he was inclined to study forestry or wildlife after high school. His father's gentle persuasion that "there must be a better reward in the manufacturing end of the pulp and paper business" convinced Ralph to try engineering at the University of Maine.

Following graduation from UMaine with a B.S. ChE and a Fifth Year-Certificate Ralph joined the staff of Alaska's first pulp mill located in Ketchikan. After army duty Ralph returned to UMaine where in 1959, he received an M.S. in Pulp and Paper Technology. From there he joined the Alaska Lumber and Pulp Company in Sitka to participate in the start up of the new MGO bleached sulfite dissolving pulp mill. In 1961, Ralph returned to Maine and joined the St. Croix Paper in Woodland, and through a company merger in 1963, was employed by Georgia-Pacific when he was transferred to their kraft mill in Toledo, OR. In 1967 Ralph again returned to Maine and joined Great Northern Paper in Millinocket, ME as Pulp Mill Superintendent and then, in 1973, became Resident Manager and Chairman of the Executive Committee of Nova Scotia Forest Industries, a mill complex owned by the Swed-

ish company "Stora Koppaburg". He later transferred to their paper mill in Newton Falls, NY as Vice President where he stayed until retirement in 1987. Ralph cut retirement short to return to work as Vice President of Kruger Paper and as Senior Consultant for Sandwell Engineering in Montreal. Following a second retirement in 1994, Ralph moved back to Maine and settled in the Bangor area.

Ralph served for many years as a member of the Foundation's Investment Management Committee and became the committee's Chair in 2001.

The citation on the 2012 Honor Award reads: *A model graduate of the University of Maine and a distinguished leader who has exerted a strong influence on the paper industry, his community, and this Foundation. A champion of this Foundation's providing scholarships to students and strengthening the University of Maine and its chemical engineering faculty. Through his efforts, and those of other scholarship recipients, the University of Maine has become well known throughout the paper and supplier industries as a source of capable engineers and managers. This Honor Award is presented as a token of our deep appreciation and to recognize his many valued contributions enhancing the University of Maine's reputation for excellence throughout the paper and related industries. Presented this 5<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2012.*



## Dr. Joseph Genco Receives UMaine Distinguished Professor Award



*UMaine Distinguished Professor Award recipient, Joe Genco.*

Professor of Chemical Engineering and Louis G. Calder Professor in Chemical Engineering, Joseph M. Genco was presented the 2012 Distinguished Maine Professor Award on May 4th, as part of the Academic Recognition Convocation.

The award is presented by the University of Maine Alumni Association to recognize outstanding achievement in UMaine's tripartite mission of teaching, research and public service. As part of his award recognition, Joe was invited to speak at the University of Maine's 2012 Commencement. Dr. Genco's presentation follows:

### REFLECTIONS ON CHANGE

I very much appreciate having the opportunity to speak to the new graduates, and I am even more grateful to all of you for listening. It is an honor for me to share in one of the most memorable days of your lives.<sup>1</sup> I bring you congratulations and good cheer from the faculty. I asked my youngest daughter, Angela, who is not too far removed from graduating from college, what she thinks young people would like to hear from a gray-bearded faculty member. Her quick response was; "please Dad not more than 5 minutes". "You know how your sermons bored us to tears when we were young". Mercifully, I will be short, especially since I am short.

Today is a goal you once set for yourself and, congratulations because you all have

accomplished that goal. I am of course referring to all the proud parents in the audience whose goal it was to maintain some modicum of sanity while watching their hard earned savings gradually diminish after paying each semester's tuition.

To the new graduates, the faculty congratulates you too! In all seriousness, you shouldn't hesitate to boast about your accomplishments since it has taken much hard work, diligence and perseverance to get to this day.

For many of you, this is indeed a period of change in your lives – one chapter ending and another beginning. Over a century ago, Benjamin Disraeli, the Prime Minister of Great Britain, addressed the subject of change in the House of Commons. I quote, "Change is inevitable. In a progressive country, change is constant." Marcus Aurelius, the Roman Emperor in 160 A.D. wrote of change; and I quote, "The universe is change." "Observe always that everything is the result of change, and get used to thinking that there is nothing nature loves so well as to change existing forms and make new ones". If we accept these comments, we agree that change is constant, progressive, and universal, then we must learn to adapt to the changes that are occurring about us, most often incrementally, but sometimes precipitously.

You are now competing in a global economy which is a far different situation than when I graduated from college in 1960. Get used to rapid change and global competition. Along with the competition for our jobs coming from "offshore", there are also new, unheard of opportunities. With the incredible transformation in how we communicate, a person living in Maine can literally have a business partner half way across the world. A friend of the family, not more than 25 years old, is starting a home health care business together with a long-time friend from his college days. What I found remarkable about this is the fact that the home health care business that these two young people are starting is to be located in India and managed from the U. S. and India. This would have been unheard of in my generation but will be commonplace in yours.

A Wall Street Journal poll conducted a few years ago concluded that most people change jobs more than five times in their

lifetime and 40 percent change their entire profession at some point. This statistic will, most likely, increase in the future. Since the world is changing so rapidly you must be concerned with obsolescence.

The way to avoid obsolescence is through continuing education – be it self-education, which is clearly the most profitable and long lasting, or by additional formal education. I strongly urge you to make continuing education a part of your everyday life. For those people receiving advanced degrees today, I salute you for improving your skills in your chosen profession.

I hope many of you will make your lives in Maine. Maine is a wonderful place to live, but you cannot have a decent standard of living without a growing economy. The kind of well paying environmentally sound jobs we want and need will be created and staffed by highly educated people like you; fueled by teachers, scientists, engineers, people skilled in the professions, the arts, the humanities, social sciences and business. Such people developed their skills at dynamic universities. The state needs a strong University of Maine, so I encourage you to support this great University.

Lastly, I wish to extend congratulations again to you the new graduates for all of your accomplishments, and our utmost thanks to the parents and loved ones who have encouraged and supported you. Best wishes and a fond farewell from the faculty. Thank you.

<sup>1</sup> Wells, Owen, University of Maine Commencement Speech, December 15, 2001.

**Mark Your Calendar**  
*Plan to Attend*

**PaperDays 2013**

**April 3 & 4, 2013**

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

**Return Service Requested**

## Bowden Family Scholarship Presented at Paper Days 2012

The Bowden Family Scholarship to honor his parents, Thelma and Donald Bowden, was presented at Paper Days 2012 by Philip and Nancy Bowden. Phil graduated from the University of Maine in 1963 with a B.S. in Chemical Engineering, a Fifth Year Certificate and a M.S. in Chemical Engineering.

In making his presentation Phil mentioned growing up in rural Maine and how important home life and his parent's values were to him and his siblings. He went on to say his parents instilled in him a work ethic he carries with him to this day. Establishing this scholarship with his family is their way to honor their parents.

Phil's told the audience high school was challenging, but a great socializing experience. It wasn't until he started college that he got down to the business of focusing on his career. Phil always liked chemistry so Chemical Engineering was his chosen path. Phil mentioned he was poor with little money saved, but with the financial help offered through the UMaine Pulp & Paper Foundation, the University of Maine was his clear choice, he didn't apply anywhere else.

Phil went on to state, "the Foundation

opened many doors for me. I was able to get summer work at the Eastern Corp. in South Brewer. With that income along with the aid of money from the Foundation, I was able to afford school without debt."

The summer before completing his fifth year certificate, thanks to a Foundation grant of \$1,500, Phil worked with St. Regis on the West Coast. This was a life changing experience. After completing his summer position Phil opened up his job search opportunities to the entire United States rather than limiting himself only to Maine.

Phil's career included Westvaco in Covington, VA, Union-Camp Corporation in Franklin, VA. In 1999, International Paper finalized the merger with Union-Camp. While a transfer to IP's Corporate Engineering in Cincinnati, OH was offered, Phil elected to retire.

In closing, Phil said, "Without question, my preparation at the University of Maine, and the assistance from the Foundation were key elements to my success. Could I have done the same somewhere else? Probably, but I am eternally grateful for the "doors" opened for me at Maine."

The first award of the Bowden Family

Scholarship to a student interested in the opportunities available in the pulp, paper and supplier industry will be made in the fall, 2012.



*Pictured above, Philip and Nancy Bowden present the Bowden Family Scholarship at the 2012 Paper Days Honors Banquet.*

The UMaine Pulp & Paper Foundation Newsletter is published two times a year (spring/summer and fall/winter) by the UMaine Pulp & Paper Foundation, 5737 Jenness Hall, Orono, ME 04469. Jack Healy, Executive Director; Faye Woodcock Murray, Editor.