

PAPER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FOUNDATION

AT MIAMI UNIVERSITY

DECEMBER 2020

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Packaging Corporation of America Granted Naming Rights



At the April 2019 annual meeting of the Foundation, Mark Kowlzan, CEO of Packaging Corporation of America (PCA), announced his pledge of \$1M from PCA to enhance the PCA scholarship endowment with the Foundation. And in July 2019, the donation was received. This generous donation from a corporation is unparalleled in the history of the Foundation and was acknowledged by Miami with the feature article in the July 2020 edition of the Miami's *Giving Tribute* magazine (see the framed article in the photo to the right). In recognition of this significant financial support, Miami has agreed to name, for a period of five years, the paper machine lab space in honor of PCA. A sign signifying this was created by Lawrence "Larry" Beer, one of Miami



University's sign shop employees, and was mounted in the lab in a prominent space that maximizes visibility (see the photo to the left). This lab space holds the pilot paper machine and associated equipment, so it is a very appropriate physical space to honor PCA with the naming rights. This is the first physical space within the Engineering Building that has been named for recognition purposes, and for other companies or individuals who might be thinking of similar financial support, there are other spaces available for naming rights. With this financial donation, the PCA scholarship endowment is now the second largest in the Paper Science & Engineering Foundation endowment and currently funds three full in-state tuition scholarships for Paper Engineering students. Thank you, Mark Kowlzan and PCA!

We Remember and Honor You, Chris Peterson

By Bill Scott & Mike Waller, retired professors who were contemporaries with Chris Peterson in the Paper program

Retired professor Dr. Chris Peterson passed away on September 12, 2020 at the age of 84. He was born on May 18, 1936 in Tappan, NY, and married Sharon on December 26, 1963. He is survived by his daughter Deborah and son Christopher. We are saddened to report that Sharon died on October 20, 2020.

Chris started academic life as a Forestry major, earning a B.S. degree from Michigan Technological University in 1957, then another B.S. degree from the State University of New York (SUNY) College of Forestry in 1960. Chris worked as a Research Chemist at ITT Rayonier in Whippany, NJ from 1960 to 1962, then as a Technical Service Engineer at the St. Regis Technical Center at West Nyack, NY from 1962 to 1967. He then received an M.S. in Industrial Chemistry from New York University in 1967 and earned his PhD in Environmental Science and Forestry from SUNY in 1972. His dissertation title was "Defibering Ammonia Plasticized Wood Chips and the Effect of Drying From Ammonia on Pulp Properties."

Chris came to Miami's Pulp and Paper Technology Department in 1971 as an Assistant Professor assigned to the Hamilton, Ohio Regional Campus where he started an associate degree program in paper technology. He joined the Oxford faculty in 1973. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1975, became Full Professor in 1980, and retired from Miami in 2007.

Chris served the PSE Department in many different capacities during his career. He directed the department's highly successful co-op education program from 1983 to 2007. He supervised the Contract **Research and Testing Program and** chaired the department during 1987 and 1988. He again chaired the department from 1993 to 1997, during which time the department carried out the preparation needed to receive the first ever ABET accreditation. His leadership was instrumental in the success of the annual International Symposium held by the PSE Foundation and Department from 1974 to 1985. He also served on several Foundation committees. He was awarded the **PSE Foundation Industry Partner** Award in 2004.

Chris made several significant contributions to Miami University during his career. From 1979 to 1980 he served on the Executive Committee of the Miami University

Institute for Environmental Sciences (IES) in the early days of the program's existence. He also was **Deputy Director for Academic Affairs** of IES from 1979 to 1982 and Deputy Director of Research 1982 to 1983. In addition to his IES service, Chris served the University in other ways by chairing the Sigma Chi William P. Huffman Committee and being a member of the Instrumentation Laboratory Advisory Committee and Manufacturing Engineering Review Committee. He participated in the Miami Freshman Summer Orientation Program for many years.

During 1983 to 1984, Professor Peterson joined colleague Allan Springer in helping to reinvigorate the Ohio Local Section of the Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Association (TAPPI). They served as members of the Executive Committee of the Local Section Operating Council, and created many programs for its members. In addition to TAPPI. Christ maintained membership in the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the American Institute for Chemical Engineers (AIChE), and the Society for Manufacturing Engineers (SME).

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Professor Peterson was an active researcher. He published papers and gave presentations in the areas of energy, pollution, pulp and paper processes and resource recovery. He directed the dissertation research of many paper science and IES graduate students. He also consulted with local and regional companies in the areas of heat pump technology and novel packaging for tree seedling growth. He served on the Governor's Acid Rain Task Force.

Professor Peterson's teaching was guided by his intense love of students and a great concern for their future careers. His teaching portfolio contained a wide range of course subjects including Introduction to Paper Science and Engineering; Environmental Engineering – Air and Water; Pulping Processes and Technology, and Engineering Economics. He directed many senior capstone projects. He was a strong believer in providing students with a "real world" view of industry early in their academic careers and escorted students on many field trips to pulp and paper mills, waste treatment facilities, and converting plants in pursuit of this goal.

Professor Peterson believed strongly in the value of international experiences. He was a visiting Fulbright Lecturer at the School of Applied Sciences, University Sains Malaysia, Minden, Penang, Malaysia from 1974 to 1975. From 1983 to 1985, he served as a university consultant in pulp and paper engineering under the Purdue/AID Portugal University Institutes Development Project. In 1991, he went back to Portugal and helped organize a course in paper science at the Univesidade da Beira Interior, Covilha.

Chris and Sharon Peterson believed in the strength of social gatherings by hosting many faculty and student parties at their home. They contributed greatly to the warm collegiality that existed throughout their time in the PSE department. They will be greatly missed.

THE ENDOWMENT GROWTH CAMPAIGN

A Call to Leaders: Shaping our Industry's Future Leaders

Over the past 20 years, the cost of tuition at Miami has risen by 150%, outpacing the Foundation's endowment growth of 10%, meaning that the Foundation scholarships are less material to students today. To restore the luster of scholarships to attract students into the Paper program, the Foundation embarked over a year ago on this campaign with the sole purpose of increasing the scholarship endowment principal. We had secured nearly \$2.0MM in funds before COVID hit, and since then, our efforts with corporate endowment donations have been halted due to the uncertain business climate. These efforts will resume as economic uncertainty subsides. Individuals can also support the objective of this mission. Have you considered creating an endowment in your name or your family's name? Have you thought about including the Foundation into your estate planning? \$25,000 is what it takes to establish an endowed scholarship. This can be the result of one large donation, regular donations made over a period of years, or a donation earmarked as part of an estate. Please consider your legacy in giving back to the program that contributed greatly to your career.

And now for an update on two scholarship endowments that we intend to get funded before year's end ...

Mike Waller Honorary Scholarship Endowment

After his many years as a professor in the Paper program, Mike Waller is enjoying his retirement. It's a pleasure for me to get to see him around campus periodically. What a great professor, and an even better man! For those of us who had the opportunity to be instructed by him, he really challenged us to think about the fundamentals of a problem. We benefited greatly from his mentorship and care for our intellectual development. What better way to honor him than to make a donation to the endowment established in his honor. In January of this year, we embarked on the effort to fund this endowment, and I am pleased

teport that we are within striking distance of having this endowment funded by year's end. And, with the incentive of a matching fund from generous benefactors, the first \$2,500 we collect before year's end will be matched dollar for dollar. So, please consider a donation and multiply your gratitude for Mike Waller, and let's get this funding complete this year so that we can award the first Mike Waller Honorary Scholarship in April of 2021!



Professor Mike Walle

Williams Appreciation Scholarship

Since 1998, 61 Paper students have enjoyed the generosity of Bob and Barbara Williams and the substantial scholarships they provided covering 168 semesters in total, most of them full-tuition. In 2016, the Williams Appreciation Scholarship Endowment was established to create the opportunity for these fortunate graduates to show their appreciation for the generosity of the Williams'. And after four short years, this endowment is almost to the point of being awarded as a scholarship to a deserving student. With the funding goal in sight, four Williams graduates are leading a campaign to achieve this funding mission before the end of the calendar year: Kyle Collett ('99), Brett Jenkins ('11), Kelley McGill Parham ('14), and Victoria Farhat ('17). Once this campaign is complete, the scholarship will be awarded for the first time, and in future years, Williams graduates can continue to fund this endowment and help it grow to perhaps funding a full-tuition scholarship some day. We invite our select population of Williams grads to support this effort with their donations.

TO DONATE NOW, GO TO: GiveToMiamiOH.org/PSEFPaperPledge

Dr. Steve Keller began 2020 leading a group of 19 students on the biennial study abroad workshop in Central Europe. The month-long excursion began two days after Christmas 2019 and involved long hours of classroom lecture, mill and manufacturing facility tours, and visits to cultural sites in four countries. The pandemic introduced

a bit of pandemonium as classes required transition to online and research slowed without student support. Steve gave an online presentation at the Progress in Paper Physics Seminar, Jyvaskyla, Finland in June. The Fall brought more stability with F2F lectures and resumption of research progress.



Dr. Doug Coffin delivered, remotely, the keynote opening talk at the 2020 Progress in Paper Physics Seminar in Jyväskylä, Finland at the end of August. With the time difference this was from 2:00 to 3:00 AM! In 2020, Doug was named Associate Editor of TAPPI Journal. In addition, Doug was awarded a research grant from APPTI for a project on modeling corrugated container performance, and is collaborating with researchers in Sweden

and New Zealand. He continues to plan for the 17th Fundamental Research Symposium being held in Cambridge England, which has now been postponed until September 2022. Doug continues to lead the charge for integration of Industry 4.0 into Miami's engineering education, and J-term 2021 will be the inaugural offering of the Systems Automation Springboard for Internships (SASI).

Inaugural Session of SASI Set for Jan-Term

As an outgrowth of the Foundation's efforts to strengthen the process control program offerings at Miami, the Systems Automation Springboard for Internships (SASI) will have its inaugural session from January 4 through 22. Envisioned under the leadership of Dr. Doug Coffin, the program will strengthen the capability of students minoring in Process Control to execute their internships for next summer through this intensive workshop combining academic knowledge with extensive hands-on labs in controls and automation. Companies sponsor students by hiring them for a summer'21 process control internship and paying the \$1,500 SASI program fee. Seven students in this pilot program are being sponsored by PS&E Foundation companies, and all seven students are also Paper Engineering minors. Three additional students are being sponsored by Career Services at Miami University. As this program grows in size each year, participation by companies from other industries will be encouraged.

Instruction by industry process control professionals (Pat Dixon ('87), Patrick Tessier, Bill Levenderis ('98), and Drew Grippa) will complement the instruction provided by two Miami professors (Dr. Jason Berberich and Dr. Giancarlo Corti) to complete the ambitious curriculum designed by Pat Dixon. The Foundation extends its thanks to Dr. Coffin for being the internal champion over the past two-plus years to make this program become a reality.

2020 - 21 Recipients of Premium Scholarships

PCA Scholarship

The Paper Science & Engineering Foundation at Miami University awarded 3 Packaging Corporation of America (PCA) scholarships to students in the paper science and engineering curriculum who demonstrate superior leadership, creativity, and academic achievements. These prestigious awards are full tuition scholarships. Recipients of these highly competitive awards were selected by a committee and the 2020-21 winners are:

Austin Bayus, Madelyn Holthouse, and Oliver Miller





Kadant's Woody Tyler Memorial Scholarship

Martin Sanderson, a current Paper Engineering senior, was selected as the 2020-21 Woody Tyler Memorial scholarship recipient. Marty spent the summer interning with Solenis in Middletown, OH. Congratulations Marty!



Paliwal Foundation - Dr. Bill Scott Leadership Scholarship

Jace Vu, a current Paper Engineering junior, was selected as the first recipient of the 2020-21 Paliwal Foundation - Dr. Bill Scott Leadership Scholarship. Jace spent the summer interning with Greenpac Mill in Niagara Falls, NY. Congratulations Jace!





Gabrielle Herbert is one of our current Paper Engineering seniors and was selected as the recipient of our 2020-21 Bob and Sue Feeser This award is a full tuition scholarship provided through the generosity of Bob and Sue Feeser. Gabby spent the summer Norcross, GA with EDT. **Congratulations Gabby!**

Bob and Barbara Williams Leadership Scholarship

The Paper Science & Engineering Foundation at Miami University awarded 5 Bob and Barbara Williams Leadership Scholarships to students in the paper science and engineering curriculum who demonstrate superior leadership, creativity, and academic achievements. These prestigious awards are \$5,000 per semester scholarships. Recipients of these highly competitive awards were selected by a committee and the 2020-21 winners are listed below.

The scholarships are provided through the generosity of The Bob and Barbara Williams Foundation. Mr. Williams was a force in the global pulp and paper industry as co-founder of the James River Corporation. His legacy continues to be felt through his scholarship endowment's encouragement of high leadership standards for graduating engineers.



From left to right: Will Cotter, Sydney Dowden, Madeline LaBouf, Trevor Schmehl, Rebecca Wolf



PSEF Corporate Partners



Warmest Regards to Dr. Marek Dollár and Dr. Shashi Lalvani



Gifts presented to Drs. Dollár and Lalvani

For the past twenty years, the Foundation has had a constant and consistent partner in Dr. Marek Dollár, who in July stepped down as Dean of CEC after 20 years in that role, the longest run for any Dean in the modern history of Miami University! And for 16 years, Dr. Shashi Lalvani was a good partner for the Foundation in his role as Chair of the Chemical, Paper and Biomedical Engineering Department, a position from which he stepped down in August of 2019. Both were supportive partners of the Foundation and our mission during their tenure, a time during which the engineering programs experienced significant change under Marek's leadership, changes that impacted the Paper program, and Shashi navigated the program through these



Gary Rudemiller and Shashi Lalvani

changes. Both have been supportive partners, and in their new roles as professors and researchers, we look forward to continuing our relationship with them. The Foundation has presented each of them with a gift of our appreciation, as you can see in the photos. Thank you, Marek and Shashi!

The PS&E Foundation Welcomes Dr. Beena Sukumaran

With the transition of Dr. Marek Dollár, the Foundation extends a hearty welcome to Dr. Beena Sukumaran, who took the reins of the College of Engineering and Computing as the new Dean on August 1, 2020. And what a time it has been for her to assume this leadership role, amidst the major impact that the COVID-19 crisis has had on all college campuses. She has been baptized by fire, and she has shown her metal. She is a person of cheery disposition, a feature of her character that has served her well in navigating the College through these unprecedented times. She has provided a steady hand on the rudder in her first five months.

Beena earned her Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from Purdue University. She was a professor in and then Department Head of the Civil and Environmental Engineering department in the College of Engineering at Rowan University for 19 years before serving as a President's Fellow at Rowan University for one year with a focus on diversity issues. Prior to joining Miami University, Dean Sukumaran served as the Vice President of Research for Rowan University. Her pedagogy research involves leading and revolutionizing engineering diversity. Her engineering research focuses on flood mitigation, shore protection, and earthquake engineering with a particular emphasis on liquefaction. The Women in Engineering ProActive Network (WEPAN) awarded Dean Beena Sukumaran with the 2020 WEPAN Inclusive Culture and Equity Award.

Early in her time at Miami, Beena reached out to the Foundation to continue the partnership between academia and the paper industry that has been instrumental in the long-standing presence of the Foundation at Miami. We look forward to forging a strong relationship of mutual benefit so that Miami can continue its tradition of supplying talented engineers as the next generation of leaders to the paper industry. Welcome, Beena!

TAPPI Student Chapter Activities

Submitted by Oliver Miller, President

Despite the unusual circumstances of the Fall Semester, the Student Chapter of TAPPI hosted two chapter meetings. In the first meeting, we learned about fluff pulp in a presentation from Paul Rodock of IP's New Bern, NC mill. As students, we don't hear much about fluff pulp, so it was great exposure to an important part of the pulp and paper industry. And then, we held a session to assist students with resume writing and job hunting strategies. For this year, we had an ambitious and well-organized plan for fundraising, but that got side-tracked as well with the COVID situation. We regret that we did have to skip September's third annual TopGolf networking event with industry representatives. We look forward to whatever normalcy Spring brings us to get our activities for our student chapter of TAPPI back on track. We also look forward to the Spring recruiting season as the seniors pursue permanent jobs, and the underclassmen pursue internships and co-ops.



2020-21 Student TAPPI Officers Oliver Miller, Madelyn Holthouse, Rebecca Wolf, Gabby Herbert, Bailey Feeney

PSEF Student Recognition Dinner

Tuesday, April 6st, 2020 5:00 pm Miami University Armstrong Student Center

This is an impressive event to cap off the Foundation's Annual Meeting where we recognize our talented paper engineers and generous supporters who make it all

possible. Thanks to you, we will be awarding around \$265,000 in scholarships in the 2020-21 academic year!



SAVE THE DATES

& Internship Fair Wednesday, February 25, 1-5 pm To Be Held Virtually



Paper Engineering students will be polishing their resumes and preparing to meet with you to discuss your internship, co-op, or full-time job opportunities. Let the Foundation assist you in connecting with the best and the brightest students at Miami University.



Dr. Beena Sukumaran



Paper Science & Engineering Foundation 650 E. High Street 66A Engineering Building Oxford, Ohio 45056

Over 60 Years of Educating Paper Engineers



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