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JANUARY 2019

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Interview with Dr. Bill Scott, '62

By Steve Sena, '95

I had the pleasure of sitting down with Dr. Scott recently to find out what he's been up to since fully retiring from teaching in the department in 2006. His affiliation with Miami's Paper Science department spanned 46 years — beginning in 1960 as a Junior in undergraduate school. He was part of the second class of graduates with a new Paper Technology degree.

Dr. Scott is enjoying an active, vibrant retirement with Ginny, his wife of 54 years. He rides 2500 miles a year on his road bike with a riding group of friends ranging in age from 40 to 80. He also visits his 102 year old mother regularly.



Dr. Bill Scott at home

Since leaving Miami, Dr. Scott took on several civic and church leadership roles. For example, for 10 years after retiring from Miami he chaired a program called Summertime Kids that provides summer enrichment programming for underprivileged kids. He was also an officer and board member at the Methodist Church in Oxford. Time spent in his vacation home in North Carolina a few months out of the year is less frequent now that he and Ginny prefer to visit grandkids in Northern Ohio and Virginia. Unfortunately, his knees won't allow him to hike as much as he would like to anymore. Now Dr. Scott fills his

time with some serious birdwatching in his beautiful, park-like yard. So serious in fact that he officially reports bird counts to a wildlife organization tasked with monitoring trends and species.

How Did It All Start?

In 1958, a young Bill started down his path into the paper industry. At that time, Western Michigan University recruited recent high school graduates in the Miami Valley. A crop of 26 students from this area, including Bill, enrolled at Western Michigan. The school also provided assignments for work experience in the paper mills in SW Ohio during summers and semesters off. Bill's first job was a 5th hand on a paper machine at Champion in Hamilton, OH.

Western Michigan really pushed students toward business classes and careers in sales, which did not suit Dr. Scott. By the time his junior year rolled around, back in Oxford, Ed Brandon - professor, department chair, and original Paper Foundation Executive Director - had already formed a solid nucleus of classes in pulp and paper at Miami University with the help of local industry engineers and businessmen teaching specific courses. Dr. Scott decided to finish undergraduate studies at Miami. After receiving his BS in Paper Technology in 1962, he proceeded to spend the next two years obtaining a Master's degree in Chemistry from Miami in 1964. Doctoral studies were calling, so he went to the Institute of Paper Chemistry in Appleton, WI. Four years later in 1968, he managed to put the "Doctor" in Dr. Scott.

Post-doctoral studies were conducted in Scotland for two years at the University of Edinburgh. To get back to the USA, Dr. Scott took a teaching position at Purdue University and studied the structures

of polysaccharides from 1970-74. Just after starting his new job at Purdue, Dr. Scott was contacted by Miami's department chair Ed Brandon for a teaching role in Paper Technology at Miami. He graciously passed. With the retirement of another professor in 1974, Ed Brandon again approached Dr. Scott to come teach paper courses at Miami - which, this time, he accepted. Good thing too, because Dr. Mike Kocerek (of NC State fame) was just starting up the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point paper program and wanted Dr. Scott teaching there.

After a few years of teaching 'Intro to Paper' to "all the Harvard MBA's working for Champion Paper", continuing research, and writing books on Chemistry and Paper Properties, Dr. Scott was



Ed Brandon, Paper Science Department Chair 1958-81, Paper Foundation Executive Director 1960-1987

enticed back into private industry in 1978 to work in the research department of Champion International, based out of the Knightsbridge campus in Hamilton.

In 1981 Ed Brandon decided to retire as the Paper Science department chair at Miami and asked Dr. Scott if he would entertain a return to Miami to replace him. Around this same time, there was turmoil brewing at Champion after the St. Regis acquisition where research departments were being consolidated in New York State. Rather than uproot the family from Oxford, Dr. Scott resigned his job at Champion and returned to Miami as a professor again and its newest department chair. Ironically, Dr. Scott's replacement in the research department at Champion did make the move to NY and was laid off 6 months later. (continued on Page 2)

Interview with Dr. Bill Scott (cont.)

Looking Back

In the late 70's and early 80's Dr. Scott was gaining much respect for his teaching, published research, and the textbooks he authored. During this time Dr. Scott also chaired the TAPPI short course in Wet End Chemistry for 16 years – a week-long course held twice a year with 8 other instructors for 80 professionals all over the country. Popularity of the short courses was good for Dr. Scott too since the course utilized his Wet End Chemistry book. To this day, he still sees a few "Properties of Paper" book sales every year and astonishingly, 25-30 Wet End Chemistry book sales a year. He says, "I guess some course somewhere in the world still uses it." He has no idea how many of those books have sold in aggregate. Even I still have two sets on my bookshelf (since I married a paper scientist).

Many alumni from Miami learned a great deal from Dr. Scott. Even more industry professionals used his textbooks or continued their education through TAPPI short courses he taught. "I knew a lot of people in the industry" was how Dr. Scott put it.

After spending some time discussing the cast of characters who taught classes right beside him for decades, Dr. Scott summarized it by saying, "I cherished the great faculty in Paper Science at Miami. We were all very close. Very collegial." His favorite classes to teach were, of course, Wet End Chemistry, and surprisingly, Materials and Energy Balance. The worst course he taught was the time he filled in for Dr. Springer, who was on sabbatical, teaching Environmental. "I had no business teaching that course and the only saving grace was that the students knew less than I did – because I read the book." I am still laughing.

Looking Forward

Given his 46 year association with students at Miami, I asked for his perspective on how things have changed. "I think students are still hardworking, industrious, smart, and respectful as they have always been. They have never whined about anything." Then I did hear some cunning insight; courses were traditionally content heavy – i.e. memorization. But as the courses changed from Paper Tech, to Paper Science, to chemical engineering, he said that there is much more critical thinking taught through the lectures and problem sets.

Then we discussed innovation in the industry and the need for new ideas. "Young people entering this industry are never going to be taken seriously, and that's a problem." He continued, "I don't ever remember providing the tools to INNOVATE." I could not disagree more, Dr. Scott – you gave us plenty of knowledge and curiosity to build upon throughout our careers in this industry, or even outside the industry. We are very thankful for that.

Lastly, he reminded me that "Research shows that taking old fashioned handwritten notes on paper is more beneficial than typing info on a keyboard."

I am happy to report that Dr. Scott is staying busy and enjoying the fruits of a great career in the paper industry.

After reading Steve Sena's feature article, don't you agree that it is about time we honor Dr. Bill Scott? Dr. Scott has had an affiliation with Miami's Paper program longer than any other human being - 46 years - as student, professor, chair of the department, supporter of the Foundation, and interim Executive Director. For many, many alumni, he made strong contributions to our careers through the academic programs and the knowledge he imparted to us. His ambassadorship for the industry and Miami through all his TAPPI affiliations, technical papers, and textbooks really expanded the respect for Miami's Paper program in the industry. For many years, he shepherded the program that has given many of us

successful careers and comfortable lives.

Three years ago, the Paper Science alumni community stepped up in a big way to honor Dr. Chris Peterson with a named endowment scholarship, which received overwhelming support. This year, we are establishing an endowed scholarship in Dr. Scott's name. We hope you will join us and do your part to honor him, and give back to the Paper program, through your contribution to the Bill Scott Honorary Scholarship with your donation. Just go to Givetomiamioh.org/PSEFindividual and designate the Bill Scott Honorary Scholarship Fund.

Interesting Activities for Our Paper Professors



Dr. Steve Keller presented a technical paper at September's 2018 Progress in Paper Physics Seminar in Lodz, Poland. Also, he takes a cohort of students during the January term on a bi-annual trip to Europe for a paper industry experience. Last January, the 18 students toured many paper mills across Europe, completed Paper academic coursework at the Graz University of Technology in Austria, and enjoyed experiencing the best that the culture of Europe has to

offer....including skiing! This January, Steve is using the month of January to catch up on research and other scholarly pursuits.



Dr. Doug Coffin also presented a technical paper at September's 2018 Progress in Paper Physics Seminar in Lodz, Poland. He also is organizing the International paper physics conference to be held at PaperCon in May. On campus, Doug is leading the effort to formulate the academic response to the paper industry's desire for graduates capable to serve the needs of automation and advanced process control in the Industry 4.0 manufacturing environment. He has

successfully navigated the process to get the Institute for Industrial Process Automation (IIPA) into the final round for university funding. Stay tuned about this exciting initiative!

Julie Bischoff Named Assistant Director



The Board of Trustees of the Paper Science & Engineering Foundation at Miami University is pleased to announce Julie Bischoff as our new Assistant Director, effective on December 3, 2018. In her new role, Julie will be responsible for a

broad range of duties that include financial management, student recruitment and retention, and corporate relations support. She will be responsible for the daily operation of the Foundation, reporting to the Executive Director, Dr. Gary Rudemiller. We are excited to be making this transition and ask that you welcome Julie as our new Assistant Director.

Congratulations to the 2018-19 Bob & Barbara Williams Leadership Scholarship Recipients!

The Paper Science & Engineering Foundation at Miami University awarded eight *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 full tuition scholarships. Recipients of these highly competitive awards were selected by a committee of nine and the 2018-19 winners are:

First Row: Catherine Fitzgerald Andres, Caleb Wright, Olivia Koury, Isabelle Tessier

Second Row: Madison Ryan, Delaney Brown, Hayden Hoogerhyde, Anthony Weise

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 foundation's encouragement of high leadership standards for graduating engineers.



Kadant's Woody Tyler Memorial Scholarship



Riley Docherty, a current Paper Engineering senior, was selected as the 2018-19 Woody Tyler Memorial scholarship recipient. Riley spent the summer interning with Avery Dennison in Mentor, OH. Congratulations Riley!

Bob and Sue Feeser Scholarship



Olivia Albers is one of our current Paper Engineering seniors and was selected as the recipient of our 2018-19 Bob and Sue Feeser Scholarship, awarded this academic year for the very first time. Olivia spent the summer interning in Circleville, OH with Solenis. Congratulations Olivia!



Scholarships — The best gift students receive!





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~SAVE THE DATES~



Miami University Spring ICE
Spring Internship & Career Expo 2019
Thursday, February 21st, 2019
1:00 pm - 5:30 pm
Millett Hall, Oxford, OH 45056

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.

PSEF Student Recognition Banquet Tuesday, April 9th, 2019 5:00 pm Miami University Armstrong Student Center

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 awarded \$277,000 in scholarships in the 2018-19 academic year!







2nd Annual TopGolf Networking Event

In conjunction with September's Fall Career Fair.

Mingle with the students for a relaxed and fun afternoon.

More details to come later!

2019 Banquet Speaker Annnouncement



We are very pleased to announce that Mr. Steve Voorhees will be our keynote speaker for the 2019 Student Recognition Banquet. Steve Voorhees is Chief Executive Officer of WestRock, a leading provider of differentiated paper and packaging solutions and one of FORTUNE's World's Most Admired Companies. Prior to his current role, Steve was CEO of RockTenn and also served in various executive leadership roles, including President and Chief Operating Officer; Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer; and Chief Administrative Officer.

His previous experience includes his work in operations and executive roles at Sonat Inc., a diversified energy company headquartered in Birmingham, AL.

Steve is a member of the Board of Directors of WestRock, SunTrust Banks, Inc., the National Association of Manufacturers, 3DE, the American Forest & Paper Association and the Paper and Packaging Board.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics and mathematics from Northwestern University and a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Virginia Darden School of Business.



2019 TAPPI | PIMA Student Summit

Submitted by Delaney Brown, Treasurer and Haden Hoogerhyde, Underclassmen Liaison

Eleven of our aspiring paper engineers attended the TAPPI/PIMA Student Summit in Kalamazoo, MI from January 19 - 21. We attended technical presentations and participated in networking events with representatives from fifteen different companies. We had the opportunity to hear from industry professionals on topics such as management, leadership, and transitioning into the workforce. While the focus of the summit was on professional aspects, we also had the opportunity to engage with undergraduates from thirteen schools through team building exercises and an engineering competition. The conference concluded with a tour of Pratt's paper mill in Valparaso, IN. This experience was invaluable toward our development as industry professionals, and we hope to have an even greater presence at summits in the future!





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Over 50 Years of Educating Paper Engineers

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