

## **Brief History on the Establishment of the Paper Technology Department and the Paper Technology Foundation INC.**

The paper industry began in Kalamazoo in 1867. The Kalamazoo River Valley provided all of the necessary resources to establish the paper industry in 1867; ample water and timber was readily available. Talented men with names like Lyon, Bryant and Gibson combined the ample resources and immigrant labor force available in the Kalamazoo Valley into a thriving industry serving the markets in the greater Midwest and in particular, Chicago; a world leader in printing at the time.

A report by the W.E. Upjohn Institute written in 1958 cites the importance of the paper industry in Kalamazoo County. "Yet so deeply is the paper industry imbedded in the Kalamazoo area that in 1954 approximately 32 percent of the combined sales of all the manufacturing, distributive, and service industries and 24 percent of total personal incomes in Kalamazoo County came directly or indirectly through its activities. Through its effectiveness in the use of the natural and human resources of the area, together with its extensive use of national and world markets the paper industry touches the lives of almost all of us." It is with that backdrop that the industry leadership supported a school for Paper Technology at Western Michigan University in 1948.

Initially the school was part of the Chemistry Department and operated that way until 1953, in 1953 it became part of the school of Applied Arts and Sciences and a separate department; the Department of Paper Technology at Western Michigan University. Today the department has the title Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging and operates within the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences at Western Michigan University.

The industry leadership that supported the establishment of the Paper Technology Department in 1948 had the motivation and foresight to take another important step in 1958. In 1958 they established the Paper Technology Foundation with the mission of recruiting students and providing scholarships for students interested in careers in the Pulp and Paper industry. The Paper Technology Foundation was officially incorporated on April 28, 1958.

Since 1949 the department has established and maintained a worldwide reputation for producing high-quality students who start in the paper and allied industries after graduation. The department has graduated more than 1200 students since its inception. The disciplines of those students varies somewhat; most have graduated with degrees in paper science or paper engineering and in recent years, a sales option, pollution prevention option, or chemical engineering option. The department offers a comprehensive curriculum providing a background in the pulp and paper industry. Educational emphasis is on mathematics, chemistry, and engineering as it specifically relates to the unit processes of our industry. Most graduates also participate in industry internships that further qualify them to step into the industry and become productive contributors for their employer immediately after hire.

One of the great features of education at Western Michigan University is the fact that the university has four pilot plant facilities. Today the pilot facilities consist of a complete recycling capability, a pilot paper machine, an extensive pilot coating and calendering capability plus rotogravure and flexographic printing presses. Many students have the opportunity to work in these pilot facilities and gain hands-on experience.

Each of the paper schools in the U.S. have areas of particular strength and Western Michigan University's greatest area of excellence and experience lies in the coating field. The combined focus of pulping, paper manufacturing, coating and printing is unique and provides students with comprehensive knowledge of the industry. Today the university has an area of distinction in barrier coating and the application of nanotechnology in coatings. Dr. Margaret Joyce, member of the faculty, is an industry leading researcher in the area of coatings and coating application methodology.

Dr. Joyce has established a Center of Excellence in Printed Electronics; CAPE. Team members are Dr. Erika Hrehorova, Dr. Marian Rebroš, Dr. Valery Bliznyuk, Dr. Sasha Pekarovicova, Dr. Dan Fleming, and Dr. Brad Bazuin. The purpose for the Center of the Advancement of Printed Electronics, initially housed in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences at Western Michigan University, will be to provide a facility for research, development, and application of materials for the fabrication of flexible electronic devices on printing press. The Center will contribute to the advancement of the printing, paper, and electronics industries, and their suppliers through the material design and analysis, device prototyping, device testing, press engineering, press-setup, education and training. Examples of printed flexible electronic devices include sensors, organic photovoltaics, intelligent packaging, radio frequency identification devices, and flexible displays. The Center's goals are as follows:

- To become a world recognized research center for the advancement and development of printed flexible electronic devices.
- To engage industrial partners in the research and development of state-of-the-art printed flexible electronic technologies.
- To become a world recognized training and education center for printed flexible electronic technologies.

The Paper Technology Foundation and its leadership have provided the university with a liaison to the industry which has allowed the university to update and maintain the relevance of its pilot facilities and its educational program.

Our endowments today are valued at 5 million dollars; they are the combination of industry, foundation, and alumni support. The foundation's endowment was doubled during Campaign 2000 under the leadership of Dick Wagner, President of the foundation and Wes Smith, Campaign 2000 Chairman. The 5 million is composed of many separate endowments both restricted and unrestricted that are used to support students and to advance the mission of the Paper Technology Foundation.

The work of the Paper Technology Foundation is never complete. As we compete for the best and brightest students we have found that we must be more aggressive and proactive in recruiting. To that end, we have hired a part-time recruiter to assist the faculty and to produce effective recruiting materials that actually reach the attention of today's students. This has increased our Foundation costs. Educational costs are actually escalating at a greater rate than the economy in general or even health care costs. This demands continued efforts to raise funds that will meet the tuition needs of our future students. Now is the time to establish those endowments; not waiting until we cannot be competitive in our scholarship offerings.

Our foundation leadership provides support in many other venues. Many foundation members provide cash, equipment and/or materials to the department. Others underwrite education and research programs and still others donate their time assisting in recruiting career counseling and development of new programs and curricula. On an individual level many member companies offer some of the most viable assistance by providing co-ops, internships, and summer employment for students. Providing these opportunities not only allows a student to finance their education but allows them to truly understand what their responsibilities will be when they enter the workplace on a full-time basis. The work experience is often an extremely valuable tool for our member companies as well; it provides an opportunity to look at each student and assess their talents and capabilities and decide whether or not they would be a proper fit for employment in their organization.

Western Michigan University established the Parkview campus in 2002 where the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences now resides; it is indeed a world-class facility. The Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging Department as well as the \$20 million state-of-the-art pilot coater plant are part of that campus. These facilities assure that our students, supported by the foundation scholarship monies, are being provided a relevant education utilizing state-of-the-art lab, pilot and computer equipment in an environment conducive to a positive educational experience.

## Timeline of Department of Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, & Imaging and Paper Technology Foundation

Year	Date	Event
1948	Feb. 5	Proposal and introduction to establish School for Paper Technology at WMU <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Met with executives and technical directors of mills located in Southwest Michigan</li> <li>- Supported by Kalamazoo Valley section of TAPPI and Michigan Division of Superintendents Association of Pulp &amp; Paper Industry</li> </ul> Department founded as part of Chemistry Department and was operated until 1953 School of Applied Arts & Sciences- Department of Paper Technology
1948-1953		Initial monies and equipment from Callighan and industry
1948-1960	Sept.-Dec.	Dr. Alfred H. Nadelman served as Department Chair
1949		Building I- McCracken Hall- state provided basis labs, staff, and secretarial (2500 sq. ft.)
1950	April 6	Dedication of Pulp & Paper School
1953		Established as separate department in the College of Applied Sciences
1957		Paper Laboratory Building Equipment Fund Money and equipment was donated by paper companies, suppliers, and private contributors
1957		Paper Technology Foundation Inc. began as an Advisory Committee of dedicated industry people with their time, money, and equipment
1957	Jan. 25	Ceremony of Dedication to Paper Industry Laboratories
1957		Building II- McCracken Hall addition \$250,000 (\$125,000 state fund drive with Cooper leadership)
1958	April 28	Paper Technology Foundation, Inc. Charter of Incorporation granted by the State of Michigan
1958-1960	Oct.-May	Alfred H. Nadelman served as Executive Secretary to the Foundation
1958-1967		Bert H. Cooper served as Foundation President
1959		Dedication of Fourdrinier paper machine (\$85,000) Coater and Supercalendar Bldg. 4000 feet
1959?		Building III- McCracken 20,000 sq. ft. addition (state contribution)
1960-1961	Dec.-Sept.	John R. Fanselow served as Department Chair (Acting)
1960-1963	May-Dec.	Earnest E. Ludwig served as Executive Secretary
1961-1963	Sept.-Aug.	Russell H. Savage served as Department Chair
1963-1977	Aug.-Aug.	Raymond L. Janes served as Department Chair
1964-1968	June-Dec.	Ronald G. MacDonald served as Executive Secretary
1967-1970		Martin F. Schnauffer served as Foundation President
1969-1977	Jan.-Sept.	Paul W. Bartholomew served as Executive Secretary
1970-1973		Carlton H. Cameron served as Foundation President
1972	Jan. 14	Louis Calder Dedication of Paper Science facilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Calder Foundation made a \$30,000 donation for two laboratories at beginning and</li> </ul>

		- \$75,000 for the Fourdrinier
1973	Sept. 27	Conference room in McCracken dedicated as the Olin W. Callighan Conference Room
1973-1977		James S. Stolley served as Foundation President
1977	Sept. 22	Dedication of Recycling pilot plant facility
1977-1979		Richard N. VanBuren served as Foundation President
1977-1988	Aug.-June	Richard B. Valley served as Department Chair
1977-1988	Sept.-Dec.	Richard B. Valley served as Executive Secretary
1978	June 16	Fiber Recycling Project- used in research, teaching, and individual development. Funds turned over
1979-1981		William H. Trice served as Foundation President
1981-1983		Gordon H. Kettering served as Foundation President
1983-1985		William P. Peters served as Foundation President
1985-1987		William A. Long served as Foundation President
1987-1990		Frank A. Somers served as Foundation President
1988-1990	July-July	Arvon D. Byle served as Department Chair (Interim)
1989-1993	Jan.-June	Richard W. Flores served as Executive Secretary
1990-1995		John T. Bales served as Foundation President
1990-1996	July-June	Arvon D. Byle served as Department Chair
1994-2004	Feb.-Mar.	John A. Ferguson served as Executive Director
1995-1999		A. Richard Wagner served as Foundation President
1996-2001	July-June	Thomas W. Joyce served as Department Chair
1999-2006		John F. Bergin served as Foundation President
2001-Present	July-	Said AbuBakr served as Department Chair
2002		Established the new \$72 million dollar College of Engineering and Applied Sciences academic building on the Parkview Campus
2003	March	The new state-of-the-art Coater Pilot Plant opens on the Parkview Campus as the only paper coating research facility in North America to feature a modern, high-speed and non-affiliated paper coater.
2004-2006	April-Oct.	Glen A. Tracy served as Executive Director
2006-2008		Jack B. Treas served as Foundation President
2006-Present	Oct.-	John F. Bergin served as Managing Director
2008-Present		Charlie Young served as Foundation President