

PAPIER NEWSLETTER

No. 1 – October 2006

As a member of PAPIER, you have been learning about PAPIER's activities in various ways over the past few years. Our activities are growing, and to keep members informed, we felt that our communications needed to be increased. To accomplish this, we have decided to start a newsletter. This is the first issue. We hope you enjoy it.

First, we should recap the past year's events. In late 2005, PAPIER adopted a simple organizational structure as an association. We defined our objective as:

"to undertake initiatives for the benefit of the pulp and paper academic community in Canada that no one university can best do on its own, and to act as the voice of this academic community when needed."

A governing council was formed consisting of the directors of Canada's 7 pulp and paper centres and the VP research of Paprican:

Prof Yonghao Ni, University of New Brunswick,
Prof Patrice Mangin, Université du Québec à
Trois-Rivières
Prof Theo van de Ven, McGill University,
Prof Jean Paris, École Polytechnique,
Prof Honghi. Tran, University of Toronto,
Prof Robert Pelton, McMaster University,
Prof Guy Dumont, University of British Columbia,
Dave McDonald, Paprican.

Paprican committed to supply Infrastructure support in the form of part-time personnel – Dick Kerekes (Director) and Heather Avedesian (secretary) as well as other administrative services. The head of PAPIER is its Chair, elected by the directors. The current chair is Prof. Honghi Tran of the University of Toronto.

In addition to the student events at PAPTAC, PAPIER undertook a major new activity in early 2006. At the request of the Canadian Forest Innovation Council (CFIC), PAPIER produced two of the four white papers on "transformative technologies" for the forest sector. These two white papers, co-authored by Dick

Kerekes and Andy Garner, were on pulp and paper and bio-chemicals.

As one outcome of these white papers, PAPIER was asked to work with Paprican to prepare a proposal for a major Forest Biorefinery Network. A proposal was produced by a Task Force consisting of Tom Brown (Paprican), Jean Paris, Honghi Tran and Dick Kerekes. It was submitted to the Forest Products Council of Canada in June, 2006. The scope of the Network is large – a \$300M effort encompassing research, development, and demonstration technology. It includes industry, institute and university work. We anticipate that support for this will be forthcoming from federal funding allocated to transformative technologies for the forest industry, likely to be administered by the new combined forest industry research institute.

Jean Paris has traveled to universities to ascertain interests and capabilities of academics in participating in the biorefinery network. Many have done so. We could not reach all potentially interested parties, so if you would like to signify your interest, please communicate this to Jean Paris.

Another major event currently in the planning stage is a "Forest Biorefinery Symposium" to be held at the upcoming PAPTAC Meeting in February 2007. This Symposium was initiated by the Task Force and is now being organized by a larger Organizing Committee. More information on the Symposium will be forthcoming in the near future.

Other exciting things are happening with PAPIER, and these will be communicated to you in upcoming newsletters.

We hope you found this newsletter interesting and useful. Please do let us hear from you. We welcome your suggestions.

Dick Kerekes,

Director, PAPIER

Email: kerekes@chml.ubc.ca

PAPIER NEWSLETTER

No. 2 – May 2008

Our New Chair

Patrice Mangin was elected the new chair of PAPIER at the directors' meeting on 6 Feb 2008. He succeeds Honghi Tran, who completed his two-year term as the founding chair of PAPIER. At this meeting, the directors recognized Honghi's outstanding contributions by expressions of thanks and a plaque commemorating his role in PAPIER.

Patrice is Professor and General Director of the Centre Intégré en Pâtes et Papiers at the Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières. He was formerly a researcher at Paprican, and later president of France's Centre Technique de Papier. Patrice brings a new European and International perspective to PAPIER, as will be evident in the coming years.

PAPTAC Events

This was another successful year of PAPIER events at the PAPTAC Annual Meeting. We had the usual poster session and seminar day, as well as a mixer preceding the meeting and a tour of École Polytechnique following it. This year the student-faculty banquet was held at Thompson House, McGill Post Graduate Centre. A good time was had by all. Prizes were given out as follows:



Students and faculty at PAPIER Awards Banquet

H I Bolker Prizes:

Zhuo Li, McGill University
Sabrina de Riso, University of Toronto
Nicholas Wood, University of Toronto

Alkis Karnis Prizes:

Leo Hui, University of British Columbia
Jens Heymer, University of British Columbia
Laleh Kobari, University of Toronto

In addition, a new prize of \$600 for best seminar or poster related to recycling donated by **Paper Recycling Association**

was presented by Mme. Renée Mailhot-Power, Managing Director of the association. The winner was *Carlos Gomes, Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières*.

Website Update

We are currently in the process of updating the PAPIER website to reflect the many changes in the organization and its activities since it adopted its current organizational structure in January 2006.

Submission to Parliamentary Committee

On March 6, Prof. Bob Pelton made a submission, endorsed by PAPIER directors, to the Standing Committee on Forest Resources on "The Role of Canadian Universities in Revitalizing the Forest Sector". The submission emphasized the strengths of Canada's universities and the proven track records in effective university networking. The submission made two recommendations: a) NSERC funding be increased, and b) that some sector-specific funding be allocated to the forest sector.

Directory of Biorefinery Research

Given the growing interest in biorefinery research in Canada and around the world, last year PAPIER created a university-based network called CUFNet (Canadian University Forest Biorefinery Network). It is aimed at promoting common interests in this area, for example as a single-source access to information in Canadian university research in this topic. CUFNet will interact with FPInnovations and other bodies. A first objective is to compile a directory of the large range of activities in this area in Canadian universities. This has been undertaken by Prof. Jean Paris, and he may be contacting you in the near future. Or, you may contact him if you have interests in this area. Email: jean.paris@polymtl.ca.

FPInnovations Application for NCE

PAPIER has supported a letter of intent submitted by FPInnovations for a "Business-Led Network of Centres of Excellence". The Network will focus on development of high value products made from Nanocrystalline Cellulose (NCC) and other nano-materials, as well as chemicals from the forest biorefinery. Partnerships are currently being sought with companies outside the forest sector to develop a customer base for NCC and products from the forest biorefinery. If the application is successful, the Network would start in early 2009.

In closing, we hope that you have found this newsletter interesting and useful. Please do let us hear from you. We welcome your suggestions.

Dick Kerekes,

Director, PAPIER

Email: kerekes@chml.ubc.ca