



Student committee NANO 360°

Newsletter highlights

Prepare yourself for an exceptional experience at TAPPI Nano Conference 2024! Explore our lineup of student activities and dive into the dynamic technical program.

TAPPI Nano Conference 2024

Atlanta, GA | June 10th – 14th

[Register now](#)

Student Committee Coffee Break

Mohamed Naceur Belgacem
Professor at Grenoble INP
Pagora

Diego Gomez-Maldonado
Researcher at Northeastern
University

March 21st, 2024 11:30 AM (ET)

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Open-Ed

Student Events at TAPPI Nano Conference 2024

By Ariane Fernandes and Anderson Veiga



From panels to mentorship opportunities, competitions, and more, there's something for everyone to learn, network, and showcase their research. Here's a breakdown of the planned activities from the TAPPI Nano Student Committee for this year's conference:

At the **Career Panel**, gain insights from industry, academia, and government professionals about their career paths. This is a unique opportunity to learn about their personal backgrounds and the decisions that led them to successful careers. Join us to hear from Dr. Keith Gourlay (Director of Technology Development), Dr. Nathalie Lavoine (Assistant Professor), and more, to gain inspiration and discuss your next steps after graduation.

Looking to boost your networking and support during the conference? The **Mentor-mentee Program** pairs student and professionals for ongoing support and networking opportunities during and beyond the conference. For those eager to share their research and develop their oral presentation skills, register for the **Student Rapid-Fire Session**. This dynamic and fast-paced presentation allows poster presenters to quickly speak in front of a conference room. Additionally, the **Student Spotlight** offers the opportunity for students attending the conference to share their research and express their interest in job positions. More information will be shared closer to the conference.

Remember, the **Student Booth** is our student hub during the conference. Come to talk with the Student Committee members and find ways to get involved.

Nano Conference 2024: Building a Sustainable World with Renewable Nanomaterials

By Anderson Veiga

We're thrilled to unveil the technical program for the upcoming **Nano Conference 2024, in Atlanta, Georgia**. Atlanta is a city featuring cultural significance and innovation, and boasts the presence of the renowned Renewable Bioproducts Institute (RBI) at the Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech). During the conference, attendees can have the opportunity to participate on the **Academic Tour of RBI**, delving into its history of innovation and education in the pulp and paper industry since its establishment in 1929.



In addition to the academic insights, Atlanta offers a myriad of sightseeing opportunities, including the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site, the Civil Rights Museum, Centennial Olympic Park, Atlanta Botanical Gardens, and the Georgia Aquarium, providing a rich cultural backdrop for conference attendees.

While the full technical program will be announced shortly, check what the activities and speakers already lined up:

Keynote Speakers

Carson Meredith - Executive Director of the Renewable Bioproduct Institute at Georgia Tech. With a focus on biomass-derived renewable polymers, Carson has led groundbreaking research in utilizing chitin and cellulose for alternative packaging materials.

Heli Kangas - Development Manager at Valmet, presenting "Forward with MFC - Valmet's latest technology development." Heli's extensive background in biomaterial innovations, particularly in cellulose nanomaterials, promises insights into cutting-edge technology applications.

Kenneth J. Zwick - Assistant Director of the USDA Forestry Products Laboratory. Ken's research delves into converting biomass into valuable products such as nanocellulose, contributing to sustainable material solutions and new market developments.

Workshop Sessions

Advanced Opportunities for Cellulose Nanomaterials in Packaging Applications Workshop: Explore the potential of cellulose nanomaterials in packaging, covering properties, barrier applications, biodegradability, and emerging trends in the packaging industry.

Cellulose Nanomaterial Safety and Regulatory Update Workshop: Stay updated on safety and regulatory requirements for cellulose nanomaterials, presented by Vireo Advisors, providing practical insights for compliance and policy adherence.

Cellulose Nanomaterial (CNM) Characterization Workshop: Delve into characterization techniques essential for understanding and utilizing cellulose nanomaterials effectively, featuring expert-led discussions on best practices and limitations.

Research Panel - June 11 (Tuesday):

The panel will focus on "**Nanocellulose Characterization: Industry Needs, Methods, and Technology Gaps**," aiming to address crucial challenges and opportunities in commercializing nanocellulosic materials.

End User Panel - June 12 (Wednesday):

Featuring success stories and challenges in utilizing cellulose-based materials, the panel will provide insights into commercial applications and future trends. Join **Yitzac Goldstein** (co-founder and director at Earth Protex Corp) and other industry leaders to explore the potential of cellulose nanomaterials in enhancing product performance sustainably.

Don't miss this opportunity to engage with leading experts, network with peers, and explore the latest advancements in renewable nanomaterials. Save the date and stay tuned for further updates!

Student Committee Coffee Break

Meet our next speaker



Mohamed Naceur Belgacem: Professor Belgacem received his Engineering diploma in wood science at Saint Petersburg’s Forest Academy in 1986 (Russia), and a PhD in Material Engineering and Science from the Polytechnic Institute of Grenoble, France in 1991. He has published more than 350 scientific papers, including three books and ~ 25 book chapters with around 20,000 citations (H-Index ~ 70). Professor Belgacem was one of three Editors-in-chief of an Elsevier Journal: Industrial Crops and Products from 2007 to 2020.

Diego Gomez-Maldonado: Gomez-Maldonado is a researcher at the Materials for Tissue Engineering at Northeastern University in Boston, where he focuses on the sustainable use and design of bioproducts for water treatment, biosensors, slow-release systems, and tissue engineering. Gomez-Maldonado received his undergraduate degree (2015) in Biological Engineering and master’s degree (2017) in Material Design and Engineering from the Universidad Autonoma Metropolitana in Mexico City and his PhD (2021) from Auburn University in Forestry. He served as Co-vice chair of the TAPPI Nano Student Committee from 2018-2021, and currently is the chair of the Products and Applications: CNC, Lignin, and other Renewable Nanomaterials subcommittees.



Register now

Our next coffee break is scheduled for March 21st at 11:30 AM (ET) and we'll be happy to see you there!



Emillien Freville,
Chair
Grenoble INP-Pagora



Anderson Veiga,
Engagement Chair
University of British Columbia



Ariane Fernandes,
Engagement Chair
University of British Columbia



Gregory Moore,
Co-Vice Chair
University of Washington



Sydney Brake,
Co-Vice Chair
Auburn University



Mariana Frias,
Secretary
University of British Columbia



Javier Rodriguez,
Secretary
University of Birmingham



Eupídio Scopel,
Member at Large
University of Campinas



Yufei Nan,
Member at Large
Auburn University



Xia Sun,
Member at Large
University of British Columbia



Giuliana Franco,
Member at Large
Federal University of São Carlos

Meet the committee

Stay connected!

We hope to meet you soon! but in the meantime, follow us on social media to get the latest information.



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