



Karyn Biasca

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Karyn Biasca is Professor and Chair in the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point Paper Science and Chemical Engineering Department. She received her B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of California at Los Angeles and began her career at Kimberly-Clark Corporation as a process engineer. When her work with Kimberly-Clark sparked an interest in a deeper understanding of pulp and paper manufacture, she moved to Wisconsin to attend graduate school. After earning her M.S. and Ph.D. from the Institute of Paper Chemistry (Appleton, WI), she accepted a faculty position at UWSP.

Biasca has expertise in both pulping and papermaking. Her current research interests include the application of data analytics to pulping and papermaking, as well as the application of life-cycle assessment to industrial processes. Her true passion, however, is teaching. She received the 2004-05 UWSP Excellence in Teaching Award and the 2015-16 University Service Award.

Biasca provided leadership for the initial accreditation of the Paper Science and Engineering program by ABET (www.abet.org) in 2008. After assuming the role of department chair in 2013, she led the development of a Chemical Engineering major. The new major was approved by the University of Wisconsin Board of Regents in 2015 as the second Chemical Engineering major in the UW System. The major was reviewed for ABET accreditation in November 2020, with a favorable decision anticipated in August 2021.

Biasca has been a TAPPI (Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry) member since 1985 and has been involved in several TAPPI committees. She has served as the faculty advisor to the TAPPI student chapter at UWSP for over ten years and is involved in planning the TAPPI Student Summit event. She was nominated for a position on the TAPPI Board of Directors in December 2020, and if elected will serve a three-year term. She is a senior member of AIChE (American Institute for Chemical Engineers) and serves as the faculty advisor for the UWSP student chapter of AIChE.

“The paper industry has been very good to me, and I’ve done my best to be an advocate. I find great satisfaction in preparing students for careers in the manufacturing industry, where we make a difference in people’s lives every day. What could be better than that?”