

# CU PACKAGING NEWS

June 2018

THE SONOCO INSTITUTE OF PACKAGING DESIGN & GRAPHICS at CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

## Clemson Alum Spotlight: Jason Cagle



**Q: Tell us a little bit about who you are and what you do. Include a fun fact about yourself!**

My name is Jason Cagle and I live in Atlanta, GA. A fun fact about myself is that many people don't know I am an identical twin! I graduated from

Clemson in 2016 and have been working for MacDermid since graduating. I'm currently an Application Development Specialist. I am responsible for supporting our customers, co-suppliers and internal Application Development efforts on a global basis. My typical day requires me to work directly with customers, R&D, field service, and sales personnel to ensure that customers and MGS interests are served while also helping to develop MacDermid's exclusive line of products.

**Q: What is your history with Clemson University and, specifically, the Sonoco Institute of Packaging Design and Graphics?**

I started out at Clemson as a freshman within the graphics program and, unlike a lot of kids, I came to Clemson out of high school knowing that I wanted to get into printing. I was very involved within the graphics program and competed in the Phoenix Challenge for all four years. At the end of my freshman year, I started working at the Sonoco Institute under Brad Gasque. I worked and spent a lot of hours there for the next three years while I was getting my degree.

**Q: How do you feel your educational experiences at Clemson equipped you for a role in this industry?**

I believe Clemson set me up well to enter the workforce. Because the printing industry is so large and diverse, it's hard for the program to create experts for every division of printing. However, the program does give the tools to be able to apply a methodological approach to problem solving issues. This is a skill I use every day helping customers. The program gives a great foundation to build your expertise upon. Working in the Sonoco Institute allowed me to build my expertise around flexography and set myself up to succeed after graduation. I credit a lot of my success to the Sonoco Institute and learning from the guys I worked with. A lot of students feel completely unprepared for a job because they believe they need to know everything possible before starting. I'm not sure why this is the case, but it isn't true at all! Companies look for students who are willing to learn with an open mind and give a 100% effort into the job.

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## WHAT IS A SONOCO INSTITUTE MEMBERSHIP?

Many companies have chosen to join the Sonoco Institute as a Corporate or Executive Member. Have you ever wondered what the member program is all about?

The Corporate Membership is a three-year commitment where the ascribing company receives physical benefits equal to the amount of their commitment. These "Tigerbucks" can be used for print testing at the Institute, seminar and workshop registrations (which includes a 20% discount) and discounts on any other Institute services.

Receive invitations to the Institute's annual, members-only events where you can network with other members, hear from students on their research projects and more.

Executive Members donate above and beyond what is required, to provide tools and equipment for students to gain valuable knowledge before entering the industry.

If you are interested in learning more about our memberships, please contact Bobby Congdon, Assistant Director at 864-650-2762 or [rcongdo@clemsun.edu](mailto:rcongdo@clemsun.edu).

[SonocoInstitute.com/Membership](http://SonocoInstitute.com/Membership)



Fox cleans a doctor blade in print lab

## New Student Pressroom Assistants

This summer the Institute welcomed three new student trainees who will be working in the pressroom. Get to know them here!

### Jordan Fox (left)

Junior, Packaging Science

Projected Graduation: Spring 2021

"I'm considering a number of possibilities after graduation, like maybe sales or structural package design or maybe quality control. At the Institute, I'm interested in the possibilities with expanded color gamut and learning about printing technology in general, like what capabilities we have here that I can use down the line to actually have a career. I got a chance to work with the corrugated press

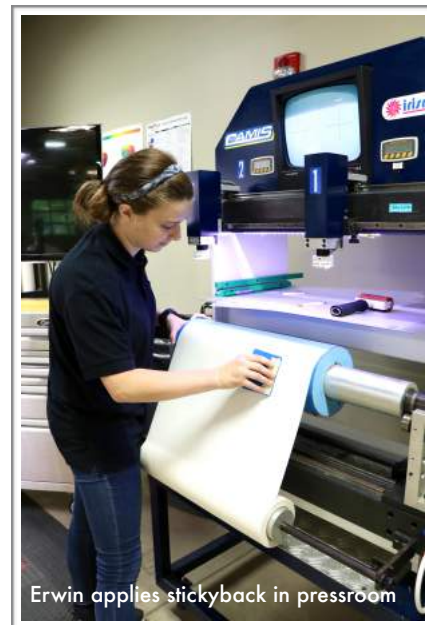
at one of our satellite locations and that was really fun, because I'm more interested in working on corrugated than I am with paper, films or paperboard."

### Amelia Erwin (right)

Sophomore, Graphic Communications

Projected Graduation: Spring 2021

"After graduation, I'm not sure what field I want to go into specifically, but anywhere within graphic communications. I'm really excited to learn how to run the press here at the Institute and be more independent. I think learning about the different types of inks and all of the preparation that goes into getting ready for print, and then setting up the press and making sure all of the impressions are correct is really useful for my major."



Erwin applies stickyback in pressroom

### Garrett Powell (left)

Junior, Graphic Communications

Projected Graduation: Spring 2020

"My current path is as a five-year student. Ideally, I plan to go straight to work after graduation. I would like to work in something more packaging-based rather than graphics-based. At the Institute, I'm most looking forward to gaining experience and getting my feet wet. It will be great to experience something outside of the classroom that is more hands-on. This is like a better version of Lab."



Powell reviews seminar trial prints

Mark your calendars!

## UPCOMING EVENTS at the SONOCO INSTITUTE

- Corrugated Packaging: June 6-7
  - Intro to Prepress Workshop: June 26-28
  - Orientation to the Flexo Workflow: August 13-16
  - Proofing & Visualization Seminar: September 12-14
- Learn more at [sonocoinstitute.com/events](http://sonocoinstitute.com/events)

### Orientation to the Flexo Workflow Workshop

The Sonoco Institute is hosting a workshop for industry professionals on August 13-16 at the beautiful Clemson University campus. Orientation to the Flexo Workflow is geared toward individuals in need of a fundamental knowledge of the flexographic printing process. It will be great introduction for those new to the industry or needing a refresher on flexo concepts and components, as well as for suppliers and manufacturers, sales and customer service professionals, plant managers and supervisors, and quality assurance and training staff.

Trainees will leave the class understanding the function of flexography in the printing industry, and all of the elements required for a company to produce a finished product. This includes layout, trapping and distortion, plate-making, proofing, ink station set up, ink maintenance, press operation, die-cutting and quality control. Gain a foundational understanding of concepts needed to flow from design planning to final printed and converted products.

Trainees will also learn terminology to better communicate on a professional level with other industry professionals, best practices in each step of the image reproduction process, and modern digital workflow. They will also understand the influence of all components of flexographic production and prepress decisions, and influences on color reproduction and color communication.

The benefits of attending this workshop include formalized training in an educational environment taught by professional instructors, hands-on teaching for each step of the process, a small class size to promote individualized instruction and ensure each participant practices the concepts, and immediate implementation of knowledge back at the trainee's facilities

The maximum class size for workshops at the Sonoco Institute is about nine individuals. Register early to claim your seat and receive a one-hundred dollar discount per person when registering three or more people. Contact [Bobby Congdon](mailto:Bobby.Congdon@sonoco.com) for details or register online at [SonocoInstitute.com/Events](http://SonocoInstitute.com/Events).



## INTRO TO PREPRESS WORKSHOP

JUNE 26-28

ONLY ONE  
SEAT LEFT!

[REGISTER ONLINE](http://sonoco.com/events)

## TECH CORNER

Check out what's new at the Sonoco Institute!

### The Esko Kongsberg X



Recently added to the Sonoco Institute's Advanced Print Lab is the Kongsberg X, placed by long-standing industry partner, Esko. The Kongsberg X cutting table is a versatile digital finishing device and is part of the Kongsberg X Series.

"We are grateful that Esko continues to update their hardware and software throughout the building," said Bobby Congdon, Assistant Director of the Sonoco Institute.

The Kongsberg X will be used for educational and training purposes at the Institute for both students and industry professionals.

More info on the [Esko Kongsberg X](#)

**STAY CONNECTED**  
We're always working on something new!

Cagle accepts FTA President's Award at Forum 2018. Photo credit: FTA.



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**Q: From your perspective, how valuable is the Institute to our industry and how do you think it's most beneficial to get involved?**

I believe the Institute is very valuable to our industry for two reasons: education and testing. The Institute is a great place to get involved with seminars to learn about topics that we always get asked about. I frequently help teach these seminars and I learn something new every time I go from listening to the other presenters. The other benefit to the Institute is being able to run testing. MacDermid takes advantage of this opportunity, and instead of asking a customer to stop production so we can test new products, we utilize the Sonoco Institute's resources to use the presses

that are available to us, so we don't disrupt our customers. This also gives us the ability to be flexible and think out-of-the-box when performing testing, which we aren't always able to do with a customer.

**Q: Congrats on recently winning the President's Award at the FTA Forum this year! Were you surprised? What does this mean to you?**

Thank you! I was very surprised when I received the award at the annual FTA Forum banquet—the FTA kept it a very good secret from me! It means a lot to receive this award. I look up to and have a high respect for the other men and women that have received this award before me, so to be a part of this club with them is a great privilege.

## THE SONOCO INSTITUTE OF PACKAGING DESIGN & GRAPHICS

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