Wishing you a happy holiday season

The Sonoco Institute will be closed for Winter Break from Monday, December 24 to Friday, December 28 and again on New Year's Day. Happy holidays to you and yours!
Packaging seniors present final projects

In their final semester, packaging science seniors are required to take a capstone Package Design and Development course. Students team up into groups of four or five and each is sponsored by an industry organization that presents a unique packaging puzzle to solve. This year, seven teams were formed and the sponsors ranged from food and beverage, to medical packaging and more.

The semester-long process involves a series of phases including ideation, package design, prototyping, testing, documentation, cost analysis and reporting – all culminating in a final presentation to each of their industry sponsors. Among this year’s sponsors were Mondelēz International, Seaside Grown, Sealed Air, Club Car, Eastman Chemical Company, Newell Brands and International Paper.

“PKSC 4200 is great opportunity for students to apply and demonstrate what they have learned over the past four and a half years in a semester long, real world project,” said Haley Appleby, Clemson Packaging Science lecturer. Appleby and Dr. Robert Kimmel co-taught the course this semester.

Many of the packaging solutions that emerge from this course are used in-market if they fulfill a great need for the company sponsor. Currently, Dr. Kimmel has an archive of more than 170 projects accumulated from the past 15-18 years.

Courses such as this offer the opportunity for students to gain a holistic, hands-on approach to real-world problems, preparing them at a high level to be highly sought-after upon graduation. Clemson is known for taking this approach with many of its courses, especially in Graphic Communications (package printing) and Packaging Science (package structures) – the two programs associated with the Sonoco Institute.

Throughout the fall semester, these packaging seniors actively used the institute’s spaces to collaborate, plan, design, prototype and more. It is a great opportunity to be able to provide these spaces for the packaging industry’s future leaders.
Grad Student Spotlight: Himanshu Rana

B.E. Printing Engineering and Communication Technology, University of Pune, India [2014]

M.S. Graphic Communications, Clemson University [2019]

Himanshu Rana came to the U.S. in 2017 to earn his Master’s in Graphic Communications from Clemson. After earning his undergraduate degree in Printing Engineering and Communication Technology from India’s University of Pune, Rana worked in the labels and packaging materials industry for three years as a technical resource. Early in 2018, while at Clemson, Rana took on a role as pressroom assistant at the Sonoco Institute and has been working here since.

Rana’s current research is to determine if OBAs (Optical Brightening Agents) affect spot color tone value measurements, as part of an independent research study he has been undertaking for a seminar course this semester. Rana’s Master’s thesis will be an extension of this research, looking at colorimetric targets for spot color tones. Simultaneously, Rana is pursuing a Materials Science track at Clemson, dealing with polymers and UV-based technologies, which are prevalent in the printing field.

Over the summer, Rana participated in Idealliance’s G7 Certification course at the Sonoco Institute where he acquired his G7 Expert Certification for color management.

After Clemson, Rana intends to pursue opportunities in research and development or process improvement. His plan is to work in the U.S. for 3-5 years and eventually head back to India, where his family resides.

When asked why he values his Sonoco Institute experience, Rana gave five reasons:

1. The industry exposure is “unmatched” and people are so willing to help you knowledge-wise and resource-wise
2. The training with state-of-the-art technology and ability to learn the cutting-edge of what’s rolling out in the market
3. The ability to do hands-on work, because you “learn by doing” in this industry
4. The mentoring is great – Bobby, Kariahlyn and Shane are always close-by to help you troubleshoot and demonstrate
5. The working environment here is amazing. “We work hard, but play harder!”

Rana wishes to express his thanks to Clemson’s GC department as well for their constant support and faith in him. They do a great work making sure students like Rana get exposure and opportunities in the fields they are interested in.
Spring 2019 is full of industry training and networking opportunities hosted at the Sonoco Institute. Click the events below for more info or visit [www.SonocoInstitute.com/Events](http://www.SonocoInstitute.com/Events) for the full calendar!

**INTRODUCTORY COURSES**

FLEXO FOUNDATIONS SEMINAR  
*May 29-30, 2019*

PAPERBOARD PACKAGING SEMINAR  
*February 27-28, 2019*

**INTERMEDIATE COURSES**

INTRO TO PREPRESS WORKSHOP  
*April 30 - May 2, 2019*

**ADVANCED COURSES**

PROCESS CONTROL FOR FLEXO SEMINAR  
*February 19-21, 2019*

**SPECIALTY COURSES**

EXPANDED COLOR GAMUT SEMINAR  
*April 9-11, 2019*

**PARTNER EVENTS**

THE FUTURE OF FLEXO: NEW YEAR, NEW TECHNOLOGY PRESENTED BY OMET  
*February 6-7, 2019*

X-RITE FUNDAMENTALS OF COLOR APPEARANCE AND QUALITY CONTROL  
*March 6-7, 2019*

AICC FLEXOGRAPHIC PRINTING: RAISING THE STANDARD  
*January 23-24, 2019* • *May 22-23, 2019*