Joint Engineering Program

University of Missouri–St. Louis ■ Washington University in St. Louis

PATHWAYS

2013-2014

UMSL, WUSTL celebrate 20 years of engineering education

The originators and current stewards of the University of Missouri–St. Louis and Washington University Joint Undergraduate Engineering Program gathered to mark its 20-year anniversary. **READ MORE**

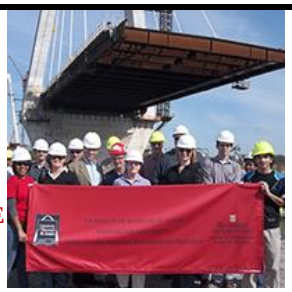
Photo album: UMSL/WUSTL Joint Undergraduate Engineering Program 20th Anniversary Celebration

View photos from the celebration on Facebook.
VIEW PHOTOS

Student organizations provide networking opportunities, leadership skills

Students in the Joint Program are encouraged to join student organizations as a way of supplementing their engineering coursework. **READ MORE**

Out of classroom experiences supplement education



Last fall, students, faculty, alumni and guests received a firsthand look of the new Mississippi River Bridge under construction just north of downtown St. Louis. **READ MORE**

UMSL/WUSTL Joint Undergraduate Engineering Program Brochure

Take a look at the new UMSL/WUSTL Joint Undergraduate Engineering Program brochure. **READ MORE**

DEAN'S MESSAGE

Joseph O'Sullivan, PhD
Dean, UMSL/WUSTL Joint Undergraduate Engineering Program

"As the UMSL/Washington University Joint Undergraduate Engineering Program enters its 20th year and UMSL celebrates its Jubilee, I am pleased to share some thoughts with you regarding this unique partnership.

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MORE INFORMATION

For more information regarding admission to the Joint Undergraduate Engineering Program, contact the UMSL Office of Admissions: (314) 516-5451 or **umslengineering@umsl.edu**

If you are an employer and are interested in hiring students in the program, contact UMSL Career Services: (314) 516-5111 or **careerservices@umsl.edu**

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Message from the Dean

The Joint UMSL/Washington University Engineering Program continues to gain momentum as we strive to meet the needs of both students and employers of the St. Louis region. This past academic year, 61 students graduated from the Program bringing the total number of graduates to 704 since the program's inception in 1993. During the same academic year period, 54 students began their pre-engineering coursework on the UMSL campus while 96 students began their upper-level coursework on the Washington University campus.

Whether you are a prospective student, counselor, teacher, or employer of engineers, we hope this newsletter will provide you with additional information regarding the Program. Please do not hesitate to let us know how we can help serve your needs.

In this issue we welcome Greg Mayhew, PhD as electrical engineering advisor to students in the program. Greg's experiences in electrical engineering and his knowledge of the St. Louis engineering community will be a great asset to the Program. Additionally, we address the Programs efforts to help students network with professionals in the St. Louis engineering community. Aimed primarily at prospective engineering students and counselors is a new segment called "Spotlight on Engineering". In this segment, we hope to educate our constituents about a certain aspect of engineering and its impact on all of our lives. We hope you find it informative and enlightening. Also included in this newsletter are links to news stories about some of the people and events that make this Program so special.

UMSL and Washington University are committed to the mission of educating engineers for St. Louis. Stop by or call to see if our 'Pathway' is right for you.

Joseph A. O'Sullivan
Dean, UMSL/Washington Joint Undergraduate Engineering Program

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UMSL, WUSTL celebrate 20 years of engineering education

Oct 21, 2013

The originators and current stewards of the University of Missouri–St. Louis and Washington University Joint Undergraduate Engineering Program gathered to mark its 20-year anniversary at a reception Oct. 17 at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center.

"No one has had a greater impact on education in our region than these four chancellors," said Joseph O'Sullivan, dean of UMSL/WUSTL Joint Undergraduate Engineering Program as he introduced UMSL Chancellor Tom George, Washington University Chancellor Mark Wrighton, UMSL Chancellor Emeritus Blanche Touhill and Washington University Emeritus Chancellor William Danforth.

Recognizing a need to offer educational opportunities to place-bound and minority students looking for a career in the engineering field, the two universities partnered in 1993 to fill that void. They created the UMSL/WUSTL Joint Undergraduate Engineering Program, which offers bachelor of science degrees in civil, mechanical and electrical engineering. The partnership has allowed the two universities to work together and accomplish what neither could have done separately.

"We've fulfilled a need," George said. "The program feeds the work-force, economy and social well-being of St. Louis. That makes UMSL, Washington University and our region stronger."

Touhill and Danforth led the formation of the program, which saw its first class in the fall of 1993. Fast-forward 20 years and it has graduated nearly 650 students. Since 2008 the program has grown nearly 50 percent, and about 75 percent of the graduates stay in the St. Louis area.

"This program was well conceived," Danforth said. "But it wouldn't have lasted unless it was good for the people of the region, unless it was good for the people of our community and the people of the state of Missouri. And it has been."

St. Louis is fast becoming a hub for science, technology and engineering, and one of the program's missions is to prepare the talent to further fuel that progress – a goal the program is easily meeting.

"I'm proud that Washington University and the University of Missouri–St. Louis are partnered to prepare for a brighter future for St. Louis," Wrighton said.

Two individuals were also honored during the anniversary event. William Dick, who is now retired from teaching at Washington University, was awarded the Dean's Teaching Award.

"He was a central fixture in our program, especially in our teaching laboratories for the first 18 years," O'Sullivan said as he presented the award.

Kevin Deppermann (BS electrical engineering 1998) received the Dean's Alumni Award for his outstanding contributions to engineering. He is a chief engineer at Monsanto and a senior fellow leading the Crop Analytics Automation and Engineering Team. Deppermann said he was drawn to the program because of the two entities involved.

"It provided instant credibility," he said.

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Student organizations provide networking opportunities, leadership skills

Students in the Joint Program are encouraged to join student organizations to supplement their engineering coursework. For the second time in less than 12 months, students from the Joint Program traveled to Mekelle, Ethiopia, as part of Washington University's student chapter of Engineers Without Borders. Students played active roles in designing and constructing a concrete-reinforced water tower and the corresponding water distribution system for the community.

The student chapter of the Institute of Transportation Engineers recently had its official chapter renamed to include both University of Missouri-St. Louis and Washington University in its title. Students in this group are interested in the application of scientific principles applied to research, planning, and design in any mode of ground transportation, be it by highway, light-rail, or bicycle. The name modification highlights the partnership between both universities even at the student group level.

The newest group formed with Joint Program students in mind is St. Louis' only Associated General Constructors (AGC) Student Chapter. The Chapter, known as Washington University Constructors Association (WUCon) brings together undergraduate students in the Joint UMSL/Wash U Program, graduate students in the Masters of Construction Management Program, and students in the School of Architecture (Wash U). This vibrant, networking-based organization helps students appreciate the interdisciplinary aspects of engineering and introduces students to some of the major parties involved in the St. Louis construction arena

Out of classroom experiences supplement education

Last autumn, students, faculty, alumni, and their guests received a first-hand view of the new Mississippi River Bridge under construction just north of downtown St. Louis. Activities such as this allow students to see the practical side of their studies. Students met with engineers and constructors on the site and asked questions about what life is like on a real project.

In March of this year, Frank Wilson, professor in construction operation and management for the Joint Program, guided students on a tour of one of the sites for which he is currently a project manager. Students gained firsthand views of an active construction site and asked questions about what is involved in constructing an office building in mid-town St. Louis.

Fortunately, the proximity of the Program's offices and coursework allow students to participate in many experiences available in the St. Louis area. Recently, students toured the Metropolitan Sewer District's Fenton Wastewater Treatment Plant. The plant engineer detailed the facility he manages and the way in which wastewater is collected from residential and commercial users. Throughout the tour he demonstrated the various processes the water goes through before it is discharged into the Meramec River.

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