

UMSL

magazine

Spring 2014



Bosnians'
road to success passes
through UMSL



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The University of Missouri–St. Louis publishes **UMSL** magazine for alumni and friends. The magazine highlights excellence at the university. Circulation is 86,000, and the magazine is released twice a year.

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Program offers people with disabilities tools for independent life.

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More than 400 veterans are finding a home on the UMSL campus, aided by the Veterans Center and a new academic department.





Dear Readers

Reading UMSL Magazine makes me proud – not just as chancellor, but also as an individual who appreciates the way in which people strive and succeed. And then help others do the same.

Certainly the men and women of our armed forces understand that success requires great effort and sacrifice. That's why the University of Missouri–St. Louis has opened a new Veterans Center and established the Department of Military and Veterans Studies to better support veterans seeking advancement in and out of uniform. Ron Yasbin, dean of our College of Arts and Sciences, deserves much of the credit for pushing these projects from the administrative side, as does Jim Craig, former U.S. Army lieutenant and founding department chair, for coordinating day-to-day activities.

The story of Bosnian refugees relocating to St. Louis in the 1990s to escape the ravages of war is an inspiring tale of resilience. Now well established in St. Louis, the Bosnian community is helping revive neighborhoods and revitalize the regional economy. I'm delighted to say that UMSL has had a hand in their early and continuing success.

Speaking of success, the story that probably touches me most is about the SUCCEED Program started on our campus this fall for people with developmental or intellectual disabilities. These students – 16 in the first cohort – have assimilated to campus life exceedingly well. And the way in which the campus community has accepted them is heartening and not really surprising. UMSL promotes and embraces opportunity, diversity and inclusion.

These stories – all of the stories in this magazine – do make me proud. Each reminds me that UMSL is at its best when helping people to discover and nurture their talents as they pursue a better life for themselves and the communities in which they live.

Sincerely,

Thomas F. George
Chancellor

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UMSL's Bosnian students and alumni make their mark on the campus and the region.
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Happy 20th to UMSL's joint engineering program with Wash U, which has reshaped engineering education in the region.



On the cover

See what these brothers did when they were still students at UMSL.



Building for the future

The University of Missouri–St. Louis is experiencing a building boom comparable only to its first 10 years of existence. UMSL broke ground on two buildings in the fall of 2013 and will start construction on two buildings in fall of 2014 – representing more than \$105 million of new construction.

“These facilities will enhance our ability to serve and educate students,” Chancellor Tom George says. “They will make UMSL a more inviting place to live and learn.”

Recreation and Wellness Center

Cost: \$36 million

Source: Student fee approved through student referendum

Timeline: December 2013 to fall 2015

99,000 gross square feet

- 3-court gym
- 3-lane running track
- 4 group fitness rooms
- Fitness/recreation pool
- Juice bar
- Climbing wall



Recreation and Wellness Center



Business Administration Building



Science Learning Center

Business Administration Building

Cost: \$20 million

Source: \$10 million from gifts and seeking \$10 million in state-matching funds

Timeline: fall 2014 to fall 2016

46,000 gross square feet

- Classroom and unique learning spaces
- Social spaces and trading room
- Faculty offices

Science Learning Center

Cost: \$32 million

Source: Campus funding secured through reallocation

Timeline: December 2013 to fall 2015

75,000 gross square feet

- Advanced teaching laboratories
- Solarium/town center [serving as crossroads of the science complex]

Optometry Patient Care Center

Cost: \$17 million

Source: College reserve funds, internal reallocation and student fee approved by students

Timeline: fall 2014 to fall 2016

48,000 gross square feet

- Optometry clinical care rooms
- Leasable space for other health-related services



Unique media merger is gaining listeners and clickers

"News that matters" is the new marketing slogan for St. Louis Public Radio | 90.7 KWMU. Catchy and accurate, it underscores that the station has doubled the number of journalists in its news operation – bucking a national trend of layoffs and closures.

The expanded newsroom is the result of a merger that integrated 13 veteran journalists from the online news service The St. Louis Beacon into St. Louis Public Radio – the local NPR affiliate licensed to the University of Missouri–St. Louis. The Board of Curators of the University of Missouri System approved the consolidation late last year.

The station is now broadcasting and posting more and better news content that is reaching a record on-air and online audience, according to the station's General Manager Tim Eby. And no one is happier than UMSL Chancellor Tom George.

"We've created a national model for a sustainable, multiplatform news operation that can provide in-depth coverage of issues important

to a vibrant democracy and flourishing region," George said. "We're also developing unique opportunities for UMSL and University of Missouri–Columbia journalism students to learn and apply issue-based journalism in an urban setting across multiple delivery platforms. The potential for collaborative academic programs emanating from this partnership is as exciting as it is limitless – including social media, public relations, journalism and nonprofit business management."

Among the other determining factors for approval was a commitment from donors to provide \$3 million to cover the added expense to the university while the new enterprise solidified its financing.

The list of donors includes 24 individuals, four foundations and two trusts. A \$1 million lead gift came from Emily Pulitzer, a longtime benefactor of St. Louis Public Radio and the Beacon.

Donors contributing more than \$100,000 include Richard Weil, Connie Burkhardt,



Ken Kranzberg, William Danforth, Leon Felman and the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. Reflecting on donor support, Eby said, "This is a unique endeavor that might not have been possible without the generous support of individuals and foundations whose interest is community development and an informed democracy."

The combined news staff is located at UMSL at Grand Center, 3651 Olive St. in St. Louis, which houses university classrooms and St. Louis Public Radio. Grand Center is the region's largest arts and entertainment district.

BJC HealthCare establishes endowed chair in UMSL's College of Nursing

The College of Nursing at the University of Missouri–St. Louis is now home to the university's first endowed chair position.

BJC HealthCare made a contribution to create the Donald L. Ross Endowed Chair for Advanced Nursing Practice. It honors Donald Ross, vice chairman of Enterprise Rent-A-Car, who recently retired as chairman of BJC HealthCare's board of directors.

"I can say with certainty that BJC HealthCare made an excellent investment in the future of nursing and nursing education," said Susan Dean-Baar, dean of the College of Nursing at UMSL. "This gift will further our partnership with BJC HealthCare by providing many opportunities to develop new and innovative programs and initiatives for UMSL students and BJC HealthCare

staff to advance nursing practice. More importantly, it will improve care provided to those we serve."

The endowed chair will expand the opportunities to advance nursing practice and build and sustain a program of existing outside-funded research and/or educational programmatic funding in partnership with BJC HealthCare in St. Louis.

The faculty member will design experiences for nursing students and staff related to translating research to practice and developing population-based clinical innovations to address the needs of today and provide models for the future.

BJC HealthCare has been an important educational and research partner to UMSL for many years. And it's also been a significant employer of UMSL graduates – particularly in nursing.

In her own words

Optometrist talks evolution of college, contact lenses

By Ryan Heinz



There's a good chance no one knows the College of Optometry at the University of Missouri–St. Louis better than Vinita Henry. The alumna, 1985 OD, was one of 26 students in the college's second class ever. A residency and faculty position followed, leading her to be closely affiliated with the college every year of its existence except the first in 1980.

Today, Henry serves as a clinical professor of optometry and director of clinical operations overseeing the on-campus Center for Eye Care. She's one part of the renowned research duo known to many in the eye-care field as "Bennett and Henry," the other half being Edward Bennett, professor of optometry at UMSL. Henry also recently earned the prestigious Lester Janoff Cornea & Contact Lens Memorial Award from the Association of Optometric Contact Lens Educators for her education and research contributions.

What was optometry student life like when you started?

The faculty was a lot smaller. And there were only first- and second-year students, so there was a pretty close relationship between the faculty and students. We were all in this together to ensure the college made it. It was exciting. They were still converting Marillac Hall (previously a convent) to accommodate us. We'd start out doing courses in one part of the building. They'd move us to renovate it, and then we'd come back to the original area. It was a fresh start.

How did you get your start researching contact lenses and working with Edward Bennett?

Ed, who joined the faculty my second year as a student, would involve students in his research studies. I began working during my third year on one of his studies with about 20 patients. That led to my participation in a contact lens residency he helped start, which was among the first such residencies in the country. My love of contact lenses and research grew through my interactions with Ed and the patients. We continued conducting research together after my residency and published so much it just got to a point where it was always Bennett and Henry. It wasn't a bad name to be associated with. He's a fantastic writer and prolific researcher with many good ideas.

You started wearing contacts when you were 12. How much have they evolved since then?

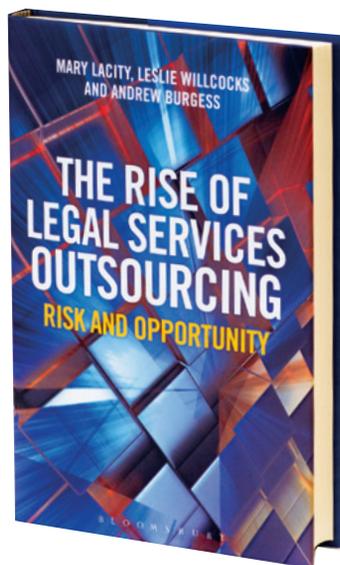
They were expensive and you used to wear them until they were well beyond their usable time period. Now we've got all these different designs in soft and gas-permeable lenses, and we throw soft lenses away on a daily, two-week or monthly basis. There are also lenses that can reshape the cornea to correct for myopia (nearsightedness). People wear the lenses when they sleep at night, and they don't have to wear anything during the day. We've progressed from limited contact lens materials and designs to lenses that are truly beneficial to the eye and much more comfortable.

You've seen the college grow from its infancy to what it is today.

What are you most excited about for the college's future?

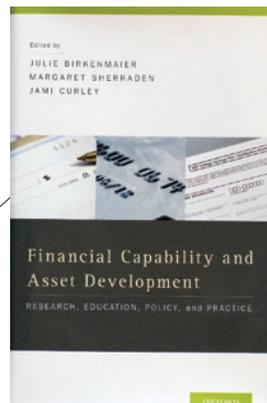
I think it would be wonderful to someday have a new building with an up-to-date clinic and classrooms. We're getting closer to that. The first phase of a planned three-phase optometry and nursing building could break ground as early as later this year. Marillac Hall was supposed to be temporary, so we've waited a long time for this. It will be great for our students to have an improved facility to learn and see patients in. Once we get patients and students here, they love it and have a great experience. But I think we're at a point where we need to overcome that first impression of our facility to continue to grow. ≡

Books by UMSL faculty



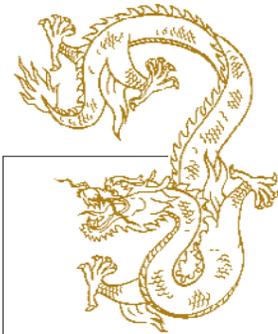
The Rise of Legal Services Outsourcing: Risk and Opportunity
CO-WRITTEN BY MARY LACITY
A&C Black Publishers, Ltd., April 2014

Mary Lacity, Curators' Professor of Information Systems, examines the challenges and opportunities presented by legal services outsourcing. A critical text for law firms and in-house counsel, it addresses the evolution of the sector, LSO strategy, provider selection and contractual governance. The book is based on data from 27 LSO providers, interviews with clients, consulting assignments and lessons learned from prior information technology outsourcing and business process outsourcing research. The other authors are Andrew Burgess and Leslie Willcocks.



Financial Capability and Asset Development: Research, Education, Policy, and Practice
CO-EDITED BY MARGARET SHERRADEN
Oxford University Press,
February 2013

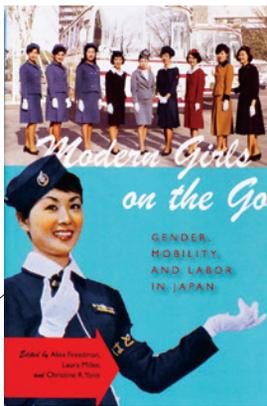
Helping low-income individuals and families isn't only about providing food and shelter during hard times. Social workers also deal with family finances and the pressure of poverty on opportunity. This book fills a gap in the field of social work, providing professionals with the financial knowledge, practices, policies and research that can help them guide families toward financial stability and growth. Margaret Sherraden, professor of social work, is joined in editing by Julie Birkenmaier and Jami Curley.



From Athens to Beijing: West Meets East in the Olympic Games, Vol. 1: Sport, the Body and Humanism in Ancient Greece and China

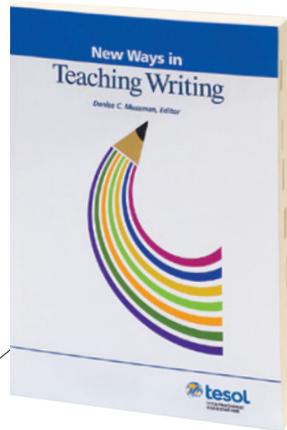
BY SUSAN BROWNELL
Greekworks, December 2013

Inspired by a series of conferences held at the first sites of the Olympic Games on the North American, European and Asian continents, this book compares ancient Greek and Chinese sports. It particularly highlights Eastern and Western concepts of body and sport. Susan Brownell, professor of anthropology, considers the cultural differences concerning sport, but also acknowledges the common goals in the pursuit of health and virtue that unite all athletes worldwide. She discusses Olympic sport specifically.



Modern Girls on the Go: Gender, Mobility, and Labor in Japan
CO-EDITED BY LAURA MILLER
Stanford University Press, April 2013

Whether shop girls, stewardesses, overseas teachers or soccer players, the Japanese women of these essays renounce the stereotypes of traditional gender roles. Laura Miller, the Ei'ichi Shibusawa-Seigo Arai Endowed Professor of Japanese Studies, helps create a new narrative that illustrates an evolving meaning of what "modern" was, is and can be as gender, mobility and labor undergo reformation in Japan during the 20th and 21st centuries. The other editors are Alisa Freedman and Christine R. Yano.



New Ways in Teaching Writing, Revised
BY DENISE MUSSMAN
TESOL International Association,
November 2013

Denise Mussman, associate teaching professor and coordinator of the English for Academic Purposes program, has updated more than 100 activities in her book on teaching writing. The updates incorporate new technological teaching methods in the classroom, but also provide options for when those methods aren't available. The text is great for low-resource classrooms, higher education, English as a second or foreign language, adult immigrant education, K-12 instruction, workplace literacy and corporate training.

Teaching Human Rights: Curriculum Resources for Social Work Educators
CO-WRITTEN BY UMA SEGAL

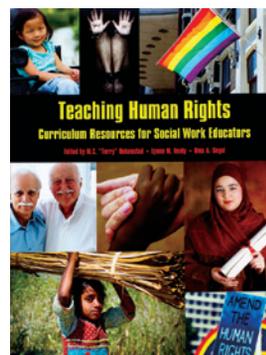
Council on Social Work Education, November 2013

Social work education in the U.S. is broadening its scope to incorporate lessons on international human rights. Uma Segal, professor of social work, compiles course outlines, case studies, exercises, course assignments and bibliographies to provide a text that guides American social work educators through teaching human rights content to their students. She draws from educational programs for social workers currently being taught in the U.S. The other authors are M. C. "Terry" Hokenstad and Lynne M. Healy.



Spaniards in the Colonial Empire: Creoles vs. Peninsulars?
BY MARK BURKHOLDER
Wiley-Blackwell, December 2012

Travel back to the time of colonization with Mark Burkholder, Curators' Professor of History. He examines Spanish colonial power from the 16th to the 19th centuries. His succinct and thorough synthesis explores the social tension between European-born (peninsular) and American-born (creole) Spaniards as they vie for power. The prejudices and privileges of some drive the two groups into a political feud that eventually sparks colonial bids for independence. Some coverage of Brazil and British colonies is included.





STUDIO SCHOOLS

provide new
model for
educating
teachers

By Jennifer Hatton

Parker Road second-grade teacher Heather Gain [left] and UMSL teacher candidate Sara Schroeder review weekly vocabulary words with students.

SARA SCHROEDER AND HEATHER GAIN stand before 18 wide-eyed and engaged second graders, as the two women feed off of each other's energy while reviewing the week's vocabulary words.

Schroeder, an elementary education major at the University of Missouri–St. Louis, is a teacher candidate spending a semester in Gain's classroom at Parker Road Elementary School in the Ferguson-Florissant (Mo.) School District.

Parker Road is just one of 32 schools to recently become a Studio School site for UMSL's College of Education students.

But it's not the student-teaching model of the past, which matched one student with one teacher for a semester and worked mostly with a watch-and-observe model. The Studio School model has the teacher candidates teaching from day one.

"Studio Schools are where design happens," says Stephanie Koscielski, director of clinical experiences and school partnerships in the College of Education at UMSL. "We place teams of candidates in a school, where they become co-professionals working alongside the teachers."

UMSL's College of Education faculty created the Studio Schools model as a way to better prepare future teachers for the classroom.

The framework of a Studio School is called Responsive-Design, which focuses on raising student achievement and deepening learning.

"It's a real data-driven process," Koscielski says. "And it's really powerful. The teacher candidates are continuously asked to analyze student learning outcomes and to differentiate their instruction to meet students' needs."

The team, which at Parker Road is 14 teacher candidates, spends a full school year teaching in several classrooms.

This gives UMSL teacher candidates the opportunity to teach in several different grade levels, alongside teachers with different teaching styles, while connecting to the school community as a whole.



Another component of the new model is the interaction teacher candidates have with students even before they get into the classroom.

"Leading up to that last year when they are placed in a school, our teacher candidates clock about 100 hours of service with a partnering youth-serving agency," says Ann Taylor, associate dean of the college. "They provide focused academic support for students outside the formal classroom setting. We are teaching candidates that students have lives outside of the classroom and in order to be a true educator they must understand each child and their whole educational experience. This also gives them a chance to get involved with the community and learn about the challenges each child faces outside of the classroom."

Parker Road Principal Kristy Houle couldn't be more thrilled with the change from traditional student teaching to the Studio School model. Houle says having a team of teacher candidates working with her experienced teachers has provided great flexibility.

"I treat them just like I do my certified teachers," Houle says. "They are involved with classroom management, lesson planning and professional development."

By doing this, the teacher candidates interact with everyone in the school, getting to know the environment and all the students. This not only better prepares the candidates, but helps certified teachers.

"It's opened up opportunities for me to hold workshops with our teachers," she says. "By allowing the teacher candidates to manage the classrooms, my teachers can be pulled away without taking away from the students. I can pull my third-grade teachers out to work on professional development and know that the class is still going on and students are still learning."

For Schroeder, the new model has given her confidence in her ability as a teacher.

"Having the chance to become comfortable in front of the classroom and feeling good about my ability as a teacher has been one of the greatest advantages of the Studio School," she says. "Outside of teaching, I've been a part of parent-teacher conferences and professional learning communities, and I also began coaching an afterschool program with other teacher candidates. This is an experience that has helped me be prepared for the real-life expectations that teachers face."

UMSL placed 300 teacher candidates in schools during the 2013-14 school year. Each Studio School has an embedded clinical educator to provide mentoring and guidance on-site.

"Having that embedded clinical educator in each school makes a huge difference," Koscielski says. "It gives our teacher candidates the support they need. If they are having a hard time figuring something out or working a lesson for a student, they can go to the clinical educators or other teacher candidates that are part of their team and get answers and problems solved together."

Gain, who earned her bachelor's degree in education from UMSL in 2000, said she's had several student teachers in her classroom, but feels the new model has been more beneficial for all involved.

"The new model is great for the student teacher. Sara gets a chance to become a part of the classroom and really learn about lesson planning and what works," Gain says. "She's brought in a new perspective and new ideas, and the students are benefiting from the additional hands-on teaching. Because the student teachers come into the schools as a group, they are able to have shared experiences and have the opportunity to learn from each other."

UMSL elementary education major Matt Johnson is also a teacher candidate at Parker Road.

Johnson said the model of the Studio Schools allows for preservice teachers to learn from doing instead of just observing.

"It gives me an enormous amount of time in a classroom environment, which I feel is better preparing me for the teaching field," Johnson says. ■■■





UMSL teacher candidates work with students at Parker Road Elementary School in Florissant, Mo. At left, Casey Knaust, upper right, Matt Johnson, and lower right, Sara Schroeder.

Award-winning SUCCEED

Program prepares people with intellectual, developmental disabilities for independent life

By Ryan Heinz

Tyler Fuchs resides in Oak Hall, takes University of Missouri–St. Louis classes and interns at UMSL’s Welcome Center. For fun, he might ride the MetroLink down to The Loop or hang out with his fraternity brothers at Sigma Tau Gamma.

The 21-year-old is like most UMSL students. He’s not, however, pursuing a degree. Not yet, anyway.

Independence, integration, inclusion

Fuchs and 15 additional students constitute the first cohort of SUCCEED, a two-year residential post-secondary program for people with developmental or intellectual disabilities. The goal of the program is to help the students achieve independence as they enter adulthood and prepare them to enter the work force or pursue an undergraduate degree.

The SUCCEED students’ college experience extends beyond the classroom. They participate in on-campus internships during the second semester of the first year and two off-campus internships during their second year. For example, Jarret Banks, Grayson Jostes and Abeo Thompson intern for Information Technology Services, the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center and University Child Development Center, respectively.

“I get to be around computers, and it gets me out of my room,” Banks says of his internship, which involves preparing computer labs for classrooms. “And this might help me get a job in the technology field.”

SUCCEED started with a lunch meeting between Deborah Baldini, associate dean for UMSL’s College of Arts and Sciences and School of Professional and Continuing Studies, and Kathy Meath, president and chief executive officer at the non-profit St. Louis Arc. The idea was that people with

disabilities generally have few services available to them when they age out of secondary education at 21, and a parent often has to quit his or her job to stay home and provide support for the child.

“The longer they’re at home, the greater the chances are that they’ll lose their social network and the skills they developed through high school,” Baldini says. “They may become unable to live independently, have a job and contribute to the community.”

Baldini estimates about 150 similar post-secondary programs exist nationally, but only about 40 of them have a residential component. SUCCEED takes it a step further; efforts to integrate students with disabilities into the larger campus community are a crucial part of the program.

Within six months of launching, SUCCEED had already garnered the attention of the

Missouri Governor's Council on Disability, which awarded Baldini and the program the Inclusion Award.

Kelly McGovern, a junior education major, took a course with SUCCEED students.

"SUCCEED gives them an opportunity to experience life as a college student, and they deserve that," McGovern says. "That's something they might not receive at other places."

The college experience

April Regester's students in her course Special Education 4342: Transition Issues and Planning stand at the front of the classroom. Half of them stand shoulder to shoulder, facing a parallel line of the other students doing the same.

At Regester's signal, the students in one line begin discussing homework with those opposite them. Regester, assistant professor of special education at UMSL, signals again and one of the lines shifts down one person to the right and the process begins again. Everyone seems to be smiling, and there is no shortage of sharing.

The lines comprise a mix of education majors and SUCCEED students. From an outsider's perspective, it's hard to distinguish one from the other. The same goes when Regester calls upon her students with questions.

"All the students are equals in my class," says Regester, who helped develop SUCCEED. "I have really high expectations for the students in SUCCEED."

One education student, senior Verkethia Cameron, says she sometimes forgets the SUCCEED students are integrated in her class.

"They're just like any other student," Cameron says. "They have goals, and they're motivated. Just because they have a certain disability that I may not have does not mean they deserve to be treated differently."

Regester says all of her students benefit from the arrangement. The SUCCEED students experience a college course. The education students, many of them seeking special education certification, learn alongside and from students with disabilities.

"This is an experience most pre-service teachers don't have," Regester says. "I think it's priceless."

Several students have also taken up social activities. Behle Jenkins has cheered with the UMSL Tritons cheerleaders. Ethan Schroeder is training to DJ for The U, UMSL's student-run radio station.

"One of SUCCEED's greatest benefits is that most UMSL graduates live and work in the St. Louis area," says Ann Wilkins, director of SUCCEED. "Developing relationships and a network of support creates an opportunity beyond the program."

The apple falls close to the tree

When Tyler Fuchs was a high school freshman, his parents, Dave and Liz, remember thinking "What's the next step?" Their older two children went to college. They didn't think that was an option for their youngest son.

Tyler was diagnosed with cerebral palsy. He says he has trouble learning new tasks, and communication was a challenge he's since overcome.

"A lot of doctors said I wasn't going to be able to ride a bike, and I wasn't going to be able to communicate with other people," he says. "I proved them wrong. I'm here at UMSL as a student. I've come a long way."

Dave and Liz were also students at UMSL and met through their Greek life connections. Liz, who earned a BSBA in 1985, was a member of Alpha Xi Delta. Dave pledged to Sigma Tau Gamma; more than 30 years later, Tyler did the same.

"I think the people at SUCCEED were apprehensive about Tyler joining a fraternity," Dave says.

"So were we," Liz says.

Concerned, Dave set up a meeting with the fraternity's executive council. It was immediately clear to him that the fraternity embraced Tyler.

"They've been wonderful," Liz says.

"They've added a dimension to this experience that I couldn't have ever imagined. They've been awesome," Dave says. "To be fair to Tyler, he surprises us all the time."

After SUCCEED, Fuchs wants to live on his own and pursue a bachelor's degree in communication. And he'd like to do that at UMSL. ≡



SUCCEED student Tyler Fuchs (center) poses with his parents, Dave and Liz, in front of the Sigma Tau Gamma house.



4000+ UMSL VETERANS

boosting enrollment,
settling in By Maureen Zegel

A few years ago you could find Senior Airman Josiah Hartline sitting at the open door of a Pave Hawk helicopter with his arms wrapped around a .50-caliber machine gun. As gunner on a U.S. Air Force combat search and rescue mission, he provided cover for medics as they evacuated casualties from the ground in Afghanistan.

In the same country at around the same time, you might have met Sgt. Courtney Williams. She was an Army paratrooper/medic traveling to villages to treat soldiers, contractors and locals, especially women.

Today, Hartline, 25, and Williams, 27, are among more than 400 student veterans at the University of Missouri–St. Louis, the highest percentage of vets among the four University of Missouri System campuses. Thanks to a beefed-up new GI Bill, these young men and women are challenging higher education in growing numbers.

“When I first showed up at UMSL, I was confused,” Hartline says. “I was having a hard time just getting enrolled. Someone suggested I go to the Veterans

Center. The vets working here can help you with Veterans Affairs or help you find answers at UMSL.”

UMSL opened the popular Veterans Center in December 2012, overseen by James Craig, a retired U.S. Army lieutenant colonel, former commander of the Gateway ROTC Battalion and chair of UMSL’s new Department of Military and Veterans Studies. Student veterans staff the center.

The transition from the intensity of military life to civilian life can be overwhelming.

Veterans are more likely to stay in college if they can connect with others, studies show. The center, with its never-empty coffee pot, comfortable chairs and tables, provides a home base to gather socially or to study.



Veterans are generally mature, goal-oriented, mission-driven and experienced leaders. They may have a spouse and young children, and they usually know what they want.

"Veterans want more bang for their buck," Craig says. "They're looking for a large university with programs that transfer training into credit. They want to be in large urban centers, close to VA facilities and jobs for their spouses."

Hartline is married and his wife works in a St. Louis veterinarian's office. He's coupled an ROTC scholarship with his GI Bill and studies military science along with his major in political science. He's leading younger ROTC cadets now and plans to graduate in 2015.

"I served four years and loved what I did," Hartline says. "I had the coolest job in the Air Force. Now, I'm looking forward to becoming an officer. And recently I was notified I'll start flight training when I graduate. UMSL has helped me do that."

Williams and her husband, Seth, also a UMSL student veteran, have two daughters, 3 and 2 years old. As one of those mission-driven soldiers the military touts, Williams earned an associate's degree while she was in the Army, even taking online classes while in combat. Nearly all her credits transferred to UMSL.

With two toddlers and a job at a women's shelter, Williams hasn't gotten to know many other veterans. But she has high praise for UMSL's officials.

"The return to civilian life and college all seemed overwhelming at first, but people here were so nice," says Williams, who will graduate in May with a bachelor's degree in psychology. "It was very easy working with UMSL."

Williams' interest in women soldiers suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder will take her to graduate school and a career in counseling or social work.

She is the kind of student Craig is looking for in military and veterans studies.

Josiah Hartline, a student veteran and senior political science major, sits front and center in class. Once he graduates, he will return to the Air Force as an officer.

"We're developing courses for veterans and non-veterans interested in professions that specialize in veterans issues," says Craig. "The other part of my job is to educate faculty and administrators about the military experience. I'm working on translating military education and training into academic credits. The College of Arts and Sciences, the faculty senate and the registrar's office are all working together. We're getting there."

The College of Arts and Sciences Dean Ron Yasbin is excited about the new department.

"The veterans initiative is a moral obligation on our part, but it's also helping us recruit new students," Yasbin says. "This new department sits in arts and sciences, but it functions across the university. The Veterans Center has a strong connection to student life. Given what we've been doing and the talent we have, I see us becoming a national model in two to three years."

Contact the UMSL Veterans Center at 314-516-5705 or veteransOffice@umsl.edu.





BOSNIAN

Giving back and moving forward **AWAKENING**

When drivers pass a semi on the highway, they don't usually think much about the story behind the truck. When it's a truck from Vega Transport, they're passing not just a truck, but the product of a journey that includes war, loss, survival, resettlement and rebuilding.

By Rachel Webb



Vega Transport is the product of Irfan and Nick Sinanovic, who started the company while students at the University of Missouri–St. Louis. In the '90s, the Sinanovic brothers were part of a wave that gave new starts to roughly 60,000 Bosnians. Most came through refugee resettlement programs as a result of the Bosnian War that took place from 1992 through 1995. In return, St. Louis' Bosnian residents have been credited with creating a strong community and successful businesses while reviving several St. Louis neighborhoods.

"You could just see the good in human beings," Pajazetovic says. "My life was saved by good people, so I want to give something back."

UMSL's community of Bosnian students like Pajazetovic is small but tightknit, says Adnan Smajic, a graduate student in psychology. Even though he works with Bosnian students and supports Bosnia's soccer team, he bears the markings of an American upbringing. His family was able to leave Bosnia early in the war, when he was a baby, because his father was working in Germany at the time.

"The St. Louis Bosnian community is not getting started any more. Now we're established."

"The St. Louis Bosnian community is not getting started anymore," Irfan Sinanovic says. "Now we're established."

Many members of the St. Louis Bosnian community have found an educational home at UMSL, although the university does not track students who are of Bosnian heritage. Stephanie DiPietro, assistant professor of criminology and criminal justice, has studied the Bosnian community and says the Bosnian students she has worked with exhibit an uncommon resilience.

Driving down Gravois Avenue in South St. Louis toward the landmark Bevo Mill, the streets are lined with restaurants, offices and other businesses bearing Bosnian names, while neighborhoods are lined with well-tended homes and yards.

"These people lived through incredible hardships and yet they've thrived in ways that not many other immigrant or refugee groups have," says DiPietro, who is currently conducting research in Bosnia.

Kadika Pajazetovic is one of DiPietro's students in the criminology department and feels she has more opportunities in the U.S. as a woman than she would in her home country. Pajazetovic moved to St. Louis in 1998 with her then-husband and infant son. She was initially homesick in her first apartment near Jefferson Avenue and Cherokee Street. Her new country felt isolating and strange, but after learning English, she became involved in the neighborhood and attended community college classes before starting at UMSL.

"I feel St. Louis is my home," she says. "I like to visit my mom and my family, but after a couple of weeks I'm ready to come back."

Today, she is most interested in working with women and children when she graduates in May. Her desire to work in law enforcement stretches back to her childhood during the chaos of the Bosnian War.

They moved to St. Louis in 1997 when Smajic was a second-grader speaking no English. By high school, he had assimilated enough to consider himself class clown.

Today, he is sandwiched between his Bosnian heritage and his American present. He looks forward to teaching his son, due in June, about the history and heritage he and his wife share. But the U.S. is home.

"I have an American accent when I speak Bosnian," Smajic says.

"I think it's important to remember where you're from but it's also important to assimilate."

The Sinanovics have worked hard on their path to assimilation, while continuing to honor their Bosnian heritage. They arrived in St. Louis with their mother in 1999, a year after Pajazetovic. The brothers grew up in Bratunac, an Eastern Bosnia town on the Drina River. Before the war started in 1992, they had a peaceful childhood in a town where their dad was once chief of police and kids spent most of their time playing outside.

Serbian forces took over their town early in the war, so the Sinanovic family fled a few miles away, to Srebrenica. As a 13-year-old, Irfan Sinanovic spoke some English and helped the local Doctors Without Borders mission as a translator. In return for his help, the doctor secured spots for Nick and their mother on a United Nations truck that was returning to Tuzla after delivering food to the besieged city. Irfan left about a month later, but their father stayed behind. He was killed in July 1995, during the Srebrenica massacre, believed to be the worst act of genocide in Europe since World War II.

The brothers arrived in the U.S. after spending time in Germany. After learning English through classes at the International Institute

and Forest Park Community College, the brothers enrolled at UMSL. Nick majored in computer science while Irfan studied engineering, but it was Nick's part-time job at the commercial drivers license bureau that set their next step in motion. Because the work put him into contact with many Bosnian truck drivers, Nick heard many tales of trucking company employers taking advantage of their employees. That's where Vega Transport started.

"We put all of our energy into doing the greater good, rather than thinking about negative things," Nick Sinanovic says.

Vega Transport has 50 trucks that send goods all over the country and is working on doubling its fleet while making it greener. The name of the company comes from a business their father had started before the war. It is a way to honor their father and their past while moving toward the future. ≡

Adnan Smajic, left, laughs while shopping at a Bosnian-owned market in south St. Louis County.





From left, Melissa Roth, Katlynn Huber and Katryn Dierksen talk in Oak Hall. Katricia Shucks picks up food at The Nosh. Far right, Ryan Brooks and Hung Nguyen hangout in the Pierre Laclède Honors College Living and Learning Community.

Some walls of fame are for athletic dominance.

Others are for academic success. But one elite display of greatness is for those brave enough to karaoke at the late-night pancake and pajama party during finals week or join the ranks of Triton Sound, the university pep band.

It's a collection of UMSL stars. And it's in the dorm room of sophomore Melissa Roth from Russellville, Mo.

LIVING LARGE

By Laurisa Mahlin

UMSL has an on-campus housing boom



The criminology and criminal justice major moved into Oak Hall in spring 2013 and happily re-upped to live on campus for a second year.

She enjoys Oak Hall's heated swimming pool, study lounges, rehearsal rooms with pianos, peer mentor labs and a walking commute that takes 15 minutes, max, to her classes or her job at the Welcome Center in the Millennium Student Center.



From left, Ryan Brooks, Michael Weaver, Evan Loveless and Heath Summers.

But that's not what she likes most.

"Living on campus has really helped with the transition between a small town and St. Louis," Roth says. "I honestly think that the reason why I have such a big group of friends and that I'm so involved in all the programs is because living on campus makes all of these activities so convenient."

Roth has a lot of company.

"All of our housing options opened fully occupied for the first time, which shows the growing student involvement that is taking place at UMSL," says Jonathan Lidgus, director of Residential Life and Housing at UMSL. "This is especially important as the residential life experience is shown to result in higher grade-point averages and to promote positive on-track graduation rates."

Chemistry major Hung Nguyen can relate. After living off campus for his first two years, Nguyen grew tired of his 16-hour days commuting to and from south St. Louis and opted to move on campus.

Now a resident of Villa Hall's upperclassmen Honors College Living and Learning Community, Nguyen can put the time he used to spend commuting toward even more activities like reporting for the student newspaper, *The Current*, going to campus events and occasionally participating in intramural sports.

But one of the greatest benefits he sees to living on campus is being part of the academic community at Villa Hall.

"You're motivated to study when you see others working hard around you," says Nguyen. "Sometimes our kitchen even doubles as a big study room."

Across campus, another kitchen contributes to education. Maria van der Walt likes to cook in her Mansion Hills apartment so that she and her husband, Tjaart, can take their meals with them to campus.

The South African couple has long days at UMSL. She's working on her doctorate in mathematics and he on his master's in computer science. They both believe that living on campus has helped their academic careers.

"Some of our fellow students can only get to campus once a week," said Tjaart van der Walt. "I think that impedes their progress because they don't get to talk to their professors often."

"Even on days when I don't have any classes, it's nice to go to campus and work there," said Maria van der Walt. "You get more done on campus – research, printing or talking to your adviser."

The Opportunity Scholars Program, which included money for living on campus, brought junior Briona Perry to UMSL. At the time, she recalls being one of only a few from her Francis Howell North graduating class who chose UMSL. But thanks to her great experience living on campus, she began recruiting future UMSL students.

Her younger brother enrolled in fall 2013. And he lives on campus.

Residents agree that the best piece of advice for students considering living on campus is to jump in and try everything that campus life has to offer.

Try the fantastic chicken po' boy at the dining hall in Provincial House ("Pro-Ho" – as the kids call it these days). Catch a step show at the Pilot House. Support the basketball team on Pack the Stands Night. And be sure to share those stories of success. ☰

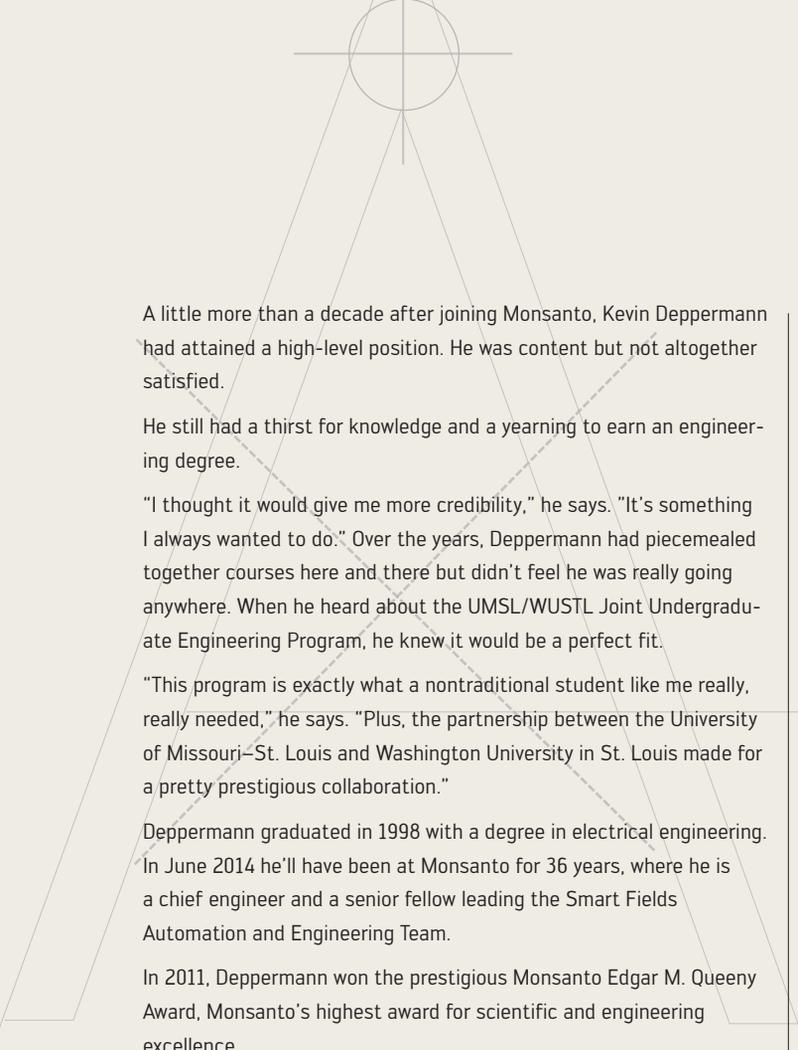
From left, Bernard Feldman, associate dean of the UMSL/WUSTL Joint Engineering Program; Kevin Deppermann, chief engineer at Monsanto; and Joseph O'Sullivan, dean of the UMSL/WUSTL Joint Engineering Program.

UMSL, WUSTL

Fast forward 20 years:
reshape face of engineers in the region

By Myra Lopez





A little more than a decade after joining Monsanto, Kevin Deppermann had attained a high-level position. He was content but not altogether satisfied.

He still had a thirst for knowledge and a yearning to earn an engineering degree.

"I thought it would give me more credibility," he says. "It's something I always wanted to do." Over the years, Deppermann had piecemealed together courses here and there but didn't feel he was really going anywhere. When he heard about the UMSL/WUSTL Joint Undergraduate Engineering Program, he knew it would be a perfect fit.

"This program is exactly what a nontraditional student like me really, really needed," he says. "Plus, the partnership between the University of Missouri–St. Louis and Washington University in St. Louis made for a pretty prestigious collaboration."

Deppermann graduated in 1998 with a degree in electrical engineering. In June 2014 he'll have been at Monsanto for 36 years, where he is a chief engineer and a senior fellow leading the Smart Fields Automation and Engineering Team.

In 2011, Deppermann won the prestigious Monsanto Edgar M. Queeny Award, Monsanto's highest award for scientific and engineering excellence.

Recognizing a need to educate place-bound and minority students looking for engineering careers, the universities partnered in 1993 to fill that void. They created the program, which offers Bachelor of Science degrees in civil, mechanical and electrical engineering.

Students complete their pre-engineering and general education requirements at UMSL before taking upper-level engineering classes in the evenings at Washington University.

"I see this as an excellent tool for a lot of different people," Deppermann says. "It's very cost effective and gave me a great world view in respect to engineering. I can't say enough good things about the program."

In the program's 20 years, nearly 650 students have earned degrees. Since 2008, the program has grown nearly 50 percent, and about 75 percent of the graduates have stayed in the St. Louis area. The percentage of African American graduates from the program is nearly double the national average.

Shirley Jenkins, an Instrumentation Operations Engineer at Boeing, who received her electrical engineering degree in 2004, initially wanted to be a lawyer, but she decided during her senior year in high school to pursue the engineering route.

"I love math," she says. "I did research and thought, 'Well I think I would make an excellent engineer.' I'm grateful the program came into existence. I don't think I would have become an engineer without it."

Jenkins has worked at Boeing since 2005, first in Cape Canaveral, Fla., then back in St. Louis. Recently, she temporarily relocated to Palmdale, Calif., to work on a Boeing project there. Reflecting on her career, Jenkins is amazed how far she's come and all she's accomplished.

"I'm definitely satisfied and appreciative for all I've been able to accomplish," she says. "You know, I'm an African American female who grew up in the city of St. Louis, downtown may I add. My education and perseverance has afforded me the opportunity to move out of that area, and make something of myself outside of what someone would have probably dreamed of."

In 2011, Jenkins won the Test and Evaluation Engineer of the Year Award from Boeing Space Coast Operations in Florida.

Cedric Cook always wanted to be an engineer but was footing the entire bill for his college education, so his options were limited. When a counselor at his community college recommended the joint engineering program, he found it to be a perfect fit.

"It's a top-notch program," he says. "You get the best of both worlds. All of the professors were willing to help. That's the biggest thing, having that support group."

Cook was also navigating uncharted waters and appreciated the extra guidance.

"The program was geared toward nontraditional students, which was attractive to me," he says. "Not that my family wasn't supportive, but I am a first-generation college graduate. I had to do it myself."

Cook graduated magna cum laude with an electrical engineering degree in 2001. He's been at Boeing for 13 years where he works as an engineer lead.

During a reception Oct. 17 at UMSL, the originators and current stewards of the joint engineering program marked its 20-year anniversary.

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

"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."

During the event, Deppermann, the UMSL alumnus working at Monsanto, received the Dean's Alumni Award for his outstanding contributions to engineering. ■■■

UMSL helped
NOELLE LAUDON
 find her true calling



By Myra Lopez

Noelle Laudon was a senior enconced at the University of Missouri–Columbia when she had a life-changing revelation. She was about to embark on the wrong career path. So she shifted gears and set her sights on her true calling – nursing.

“I just realized that business wasn’t what I wanted to do. I didn’t want some desk job crunching numbers. I’m more of a people person,” she says.

After graduating in 2010 with a business marketing degree she started researching nursing programs in the state. She was inter-

ested in accelerated programs, which are tailored for people with a bachelor’s degree in a discipline other than nursing.

“I wanted to get it done quickly,” she says. “I had already done the college thing; I just really wanted to dedicate all my time to getting this nursing degree and doing it so I could start my career. The University of Missouri–St. Louis was the perfect choice because it’s very affordable compared to other schools.”

She also was attracted to UMSL’s College of Nursing because of the 15-month timeline for a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. For her, it was not too long but not too short.

“A lot of the other accelerated programs are 12 months. And I thought that would be a little too fast paced,” she says.

In August 2013, Laudon graduated magna cum laude with a BSN. That September, she started her job as a registered nurse on the mother and infants floor at Mercy Hospital in Chesterfield, Mo. She takes care of mothers and babies post-delivery.

“I just love it,” she says.

Laudon credits UMSL and the nursing faculty that mentored her with providing a solid educational foundation and giving her the confidence to pursue her true passion.

“I really didn’t know much at all about health care, and I was coming from a business background. I feel like I learned so much throughout the program. The teachers were excellent and really involved, and they cared about how we were doing. They were always available off hours if you needed help,” she says.

While change can be a scary prospect, for Laudon it was the right thing to do.

“I would definitely say I’m happy with the path I chose. I just started my nursing career, but I have so many different pathways within the nursing field that I can explore.” ☰

Alumnus JOHN NATIONS

rides successful law, political careers to Metro Transit chief

By Ryan Heinz

John Nations doesn't claim to be "a transit guy." Sure, the University of Missouri–St. Louis alumnus, BSPA 1985, oversees Metro Transit, which operates the MetroLink light rail system and MetroBus. But for Nations, who became Metro's president and chief executive officer in 2010, it's always been about community improvement.

"I spent a huge portion of my life promoting economic development and job creation, which in turn leads to a higher quality of life," he says. "Public transportation is an essential element of a successful economic development strategy."

Nations grew up in Webster Groves, Mo. His mother was a regular volunteer, and his father was a lawyer, mayor of Webster Groves and chairman of the St. Louis County Board of Police Commissioners. His community-conscious parents had a simple philosophy that Nations shares.

"If you want to make your community a better place, get up and go do it," he says.

Nations and all but one of his six siblings took classes at UMSL.

"UMSL then, as now, was a very attractive opportunity to get a good education at an affordable price," he says.

Nations began as a business major with an eye toward law school and a general interest in politics. He switched majors when UMSL began offering a bachelor's degree in public administration. He was among UMSL's first to earn the degree.

Following in his father's footsteps, Nations worked as a lawyer and entered the political arena. He ran for the Chesterfield City Council in 1994 on the platform of developing the municipality's valley. This was a year after it suffered devastating floods and his position proved unpopular.

"I went down in a landslide," Nations recalls.

Nevertheless, his vision for the valley as a mixed-use tax base materialized with his help, and he won a council seat in 2000. Nations was elected mayor a year later and held the position until stepping down to join Metro. In between, he had his first major interaction with the transit agency when plans were announced to cut MetroBus services west of Interstate 270.



Chesterfield was home to 26,000 jobs, Nations says, and many employees relied on the buses. So he reached a deal with Metro in which Chesterfield pledged \$173,000 to keep some of the buses running. That helped bridge the gap until St. Louis County voters approved a half-cent transit sales tax increase, a campaign Nations led.

Funding, he says, remains the biggest challenge for Metro, which also oversees Metro Call-A-Ride, St. Louis Downtown Airport in Cahokia, Ill., the Gateway Arch trams and the Gateway Arch Riverboats. The silver lining is that demand for public transportation appears to be increasing.

Nations regularly rides MetroLink from Metro's headquarters in downtown St. Louis to meetings throughout the region. And if one of those meetings happens to be near UMSL, he can take advantage of two MetroLink stations on campus to visit his son, Jack. He is a junior education major and Pierre Laclède Honors College student.

"I'm delighted to see what the university has become, what it means to the region now and to know it's my alma mater," he says. "It's something I'm proud of, and I'm proud my son sees the same value I did in receiving an education from UMSL." ≡

STEVE & ILENE NOVACK

credit UMSL for their success



Photo by Yvette Ostroff

By Jennifer Hatton

High school sweethearts Steve and Ilene Novack credit the University of Missouri–St. Louis with helping them become who they are today.

The couple, who began "going together" in ninth grade, came to UMSL with very different goals. Steve was focused on playing basketball, while Ilene's love for teaching drove her to pursue an education degree.

"UMSL helped me become serious about academics," says Steve, who serves as a member of the UMSL Chancellor's Council. "In high school, I was an underachiever academically. I didn't care about school work and rarely studied."

However, a political science class changed all that. Inspired by his professor, Steve declared political science his major and, along with Ilene, excelled academically at UMSL.

The couple married during their senior year, and in 1968 they both graduated magna cum laude with bachelor's degrees – Steve's in political science and Ilene's in education.

Steve attended Northwestern University School of Law while Ilene taught in the Skokie (Ill.) School District. She taught for several years until the birth of their first child.

"While I never returned to work in the schools after my son's birth, I feel that my UMSL studies and training in education served me well in my many volunteer leadership positions," says Ilene, a trustee of the Chicago Jewish Women's Foundation. "I am gratified that I've instilled in my children the values of giving back to their community."

After graduating third in his law school class, Steve became a partner in a small, prestigious Chicago law firm. Then, in 1984, he joined colleague Eric Macey to start Novack and Macey LLP, a business litigation boutique firm that now has more than 30 lawyers.

He has won many cases, including his headline-making victory for real estate giant and television celebrity Donald Trump last year.

"It was fun coming home after a day of trial to turn on the TV and see a report – usually inaccurate – on what happened that day at the trial," Steve says. "I have been fortunate to have many cases that caught the interest of print and television media, but that was the most intense."

Most of his cases deal with business and financial issues, but he is especially proud of one case that brought not only money, but also social and safety change.

"We took on a wrongful death case against the city of Chicago as a favor for a single-parent friend whose 13-year-old son was killed at a party in a gun accident," he says. "He was shot by the son of a Chicago policeman who brought his father's police revolver to the party and was showing off. The most rewarding part is that as a result of the case, the city changed its policy and now requires officers to use trigger locks at home."

But Steve says his greatest accomplishment is the family he created with Ilene. After 46 years of marriage, they have four married children and (so far) six grandchildren.

"It's easy to see why it's important to me to try to give back to UMSL," Steve says. "My academic and athletic experience there helped me become who I am today." ■■■

TRACY MULDERIG: UMSL student takes seat at the table

By Maureen Zegel

After months of paper work, interviews and waiting, Tracy Mulderig smiled broadly when she learned in late February that she had been nominated by Gov. Jay Nixon to be the next student representative on the University of Missouri System Board of Curators. Her confirmation by the Missouri Senate came a few weeks later.

The process to choose the student representative for the UM System's governing board began last September. The student representative, a non-voting member of the board, speaks for the more than 75,000 students on all four campuses of the system. The student representative seat rotates every two years to one of the four campuses in the system.

"I saw this as a rare opportunity to sit on a board at this level," says Mulderig, a doctoral candidate in industrial/organizational psychology at UMSL. "I couldn't pass up a seat at this table. I have a lot to offer having done my undergraduate work at Truman State University and now my graduate work at UMSL. They are two very different cultures and I feel I can connect to both experiences."

Mulderig, 26, was one of three UMSL finalists for the position. They were asked to submit a vita, essays, letters of recommendation and then were interviewed by the governor's staff.

The finalists were invited to the board meeting and dinner in November hosted by UMSL. Mulderig also went on her own to another meeting in Columbia.

"I wanted to watch Amy (Johnson, the student representative before Mulderig's appointment) to see what she did, how she handled herself. She's pretty wonderful," Mulderig says.

Mulderig works as a research assistant at the Missouri Institute of Mental Health and is in the dissertation stage of her doctorate. She said her schedule allows her to attend curator meetings and work with the students she will represent.



"I want to make myself available to the students on all campuses," she says. "I'm becoming more Twitter savvy. I want them to know I'm their advocate and that I will make sure their voice is heard."

Mulderig grew up in St. Louis and went to Lindbergh High School. She said she looked at several graduate programs, but chose to "come home" because of her attachment to UMSL and the St. Louis region.

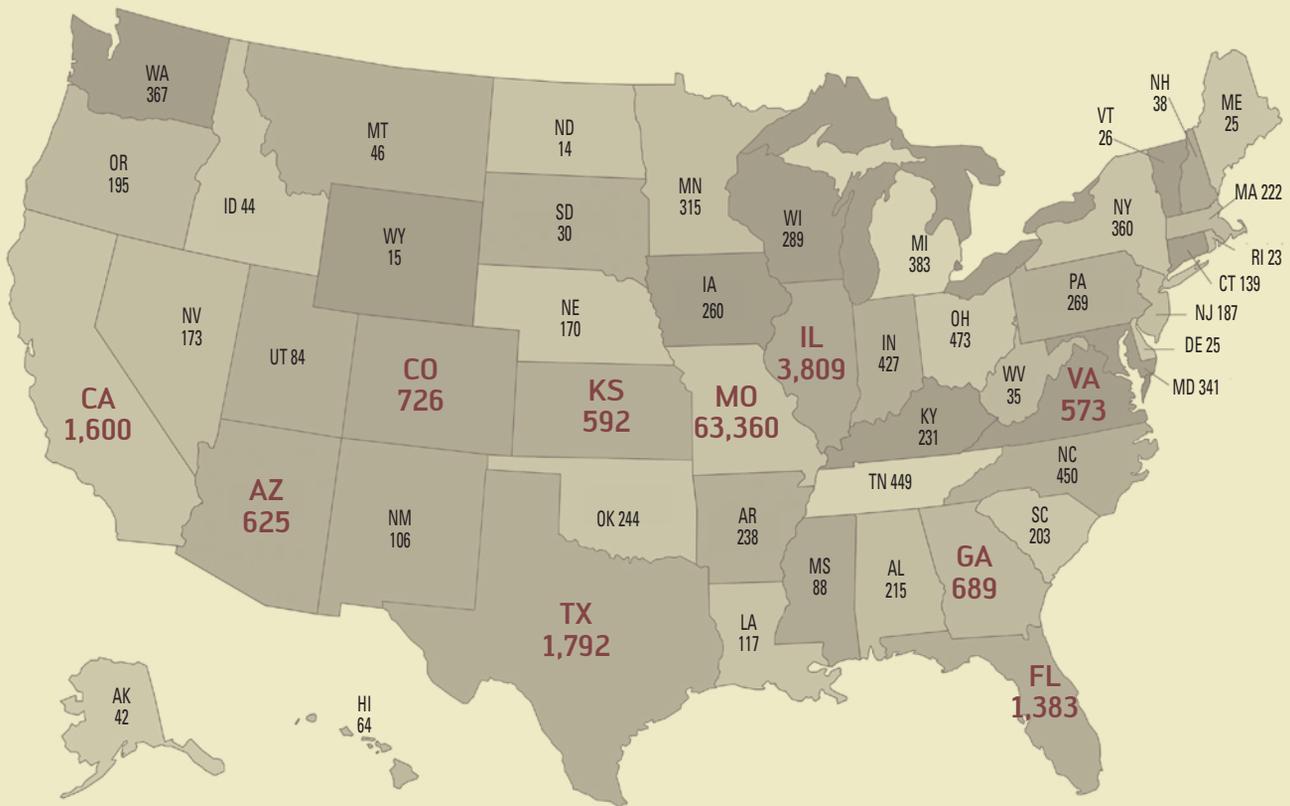
"My father graduated from here along with lots of aunts, cousins and an uncle," she says. "I loved the idea of being a second-generation graduate."

Find Tracy Mulderig on Twitter at @UMStudentRep. ≡

UMSL ALUMNI

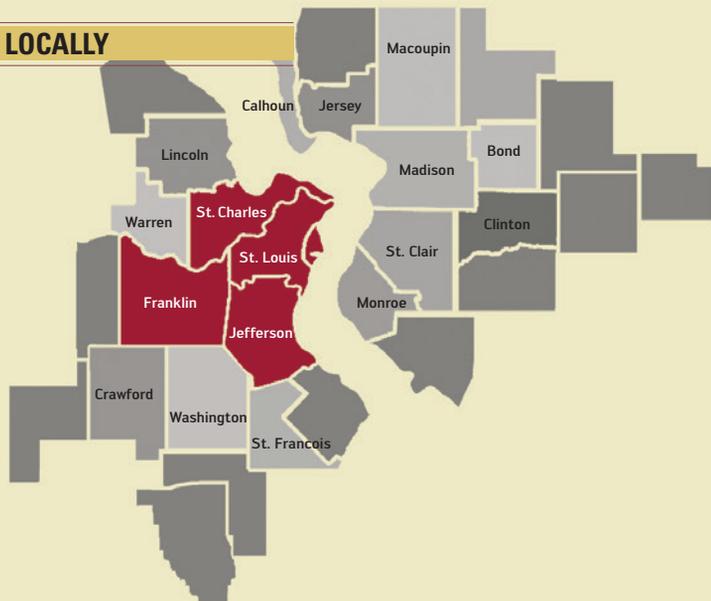
everywhere but mostly here

TOP 10 NATIONALLY



Top 5 LOCALLY

IL-Bond County	32
IL-Calhoun County	13
IL-Clinton County	45
IL-Jersey County	30
IL-Macoupin County	37
IL-Madison County	965
IL-Monroe County	263
IL-St. Clair County	802
MO-Crawford County	101
MO-Franklin County	1,279
MO-Jefferson County	2,955
MO-Lincoln County	528
MO-St. Charles County	12,822
MO-St. Francois County	362
MO-St. Louis City	5,751
MO-St. Louis County	35,150
MO-Warren County	367
MO-Washington County	81



Linda Carter explains new alumni
engagement model

Get engaged with UMSL

Linda Carter is a matchmaker. She devotes her career to helping alumni and students forge relationships with each other and the University of Missouri–St. Louis that last a lifetime. What makes those connections tried and true has everything to do with her unique take on how alumni engage with their university. It's been a year since Carter stepped in as associate vice chancellor for alumni engagement, and with the help of her team, she is really changing UMSL's perspective on alumni relationships versus relations.



By Marisol Ramirez



In this past year, what ways have alumni and university relations positively progressed?

We're shifting the culture from a transactional to a relational approach that focuses on celebrating and nurturing lifelong relationships between alumni and the campus community. It's an exciting change. Our alumni earnestly want to be a part of making UMSL a better place for today's student and an even better place for our future students.

You like to think of alumni engagement in terms of a life cycle. Why choose this paradigm?

The life cycle helps us consider alumni engagement as a continuum of involvement with the university, beginning well before a student enrolls, developing a meaningful and relevant relationship with that student and then nurturing that rela-

tionship over a lifetime. The opportunity to engage in a lifelong relationship begins the very first moment a person becomes aware of UMSL.

I could not have been more than 4 or 5 years old the first time I was exposed to a university campus. I remember holding my father's hand and looking up at him, asking questions. Even at that young age, I was mesmerized by the energy, vibrancy and awesomeness of that place. Growing up, I would daydream about living in a dormitory, going to class and studying in a big library.

My childhood experience is not unique. UMSL begins developing relationships with people long before they pay that first tuition bill. When a young musician performs with his middle school ensemble at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center, a relationship is born. When an alumnus brings his daughter to the library, a connection with UMSL is forged. When an alumni couple brings their children to a basketball game, future Tritons are in the making. These opportunities for connection are endless.

How does one meaningfully engage students at his or her alma mater?

Alumni can focus on recruitment, welcoming prospective and new students to campus, serving as career networkers, offering internships, speaking in the classroom and on alumni panels, mentoring, job shadowing and joining the UMSL Alumni LinkedIn group to connect with students and other alumni. All of this supports students during their educational journey.

What are other ways to engage UMSL beyond connecting with students?

The opportunity for engagement does not end at commencement. A strong alumni network offers benefits that transcend the continuum. New graduates can make value-added connections with established UMSL alumni who are willing to guide them professionally. Engagement occurs in many forms – advocating for new UMSL graduates, forming a network through professional and cultural affinities, reconnecting at class reunions and exploring the world through the alumni travel program.

Alumni should come back to campus for themselves, too. With more than 70 percent of our alumni remaining in the St. Louis area, our alumni can continue their lifelong learning through a variety of programs the university makes available to our community, including free lectures, professional and continual learning courses and cultural performances at the Touhill.

What do you see is the end reward for UMSL and its alumni with this new engagement model?

Meaningfully engaged alumni who are continuously investing in the present and future of the university will create a vibrant, growing and relevant place of higher learning. When they invest in their university with passion, generosity and care, they increase the value of the education they earned at UMSL.



UMSL alumnus comes full circle

By Alexis Nugent

Every commencement, graduates conclude their time at the University of Missouri–St. Louis as students and begin their journeys as alumni. Patrick Gadell, BA political science 1973, may have continued on to Saint Louis University for his juris doctor and become a well-respected attorney at the Thomas R. Green Law Offices in St. Louis, but UMSL was never far from his heart or his helping hand.

With the professional network he built over his career, accrued experience and spirit to make things happen, Gadell offers a lot back to UMSL for giving him his start. As one of the many members practicing the new alumni engagement model, he has thrown himself into connecting students and alumni with UMSL in meaningful ways at all points in the engagement life cycle.

Pass along UMSL pride

Gadell knows first hand the importance of exposing up-and-coming high school students to UMSL.

"My mother instilled in me the importance of a good education," he says. "She had to drop out of high school during the Great Depression, but took and passed the GED exam at the age of 56. She hadn't set foot in a classroom for over 40 years."

For him, a college education was a necessity. Born into a large family, Gadell is one of six kids. Money was scarce, and UMSL was the affordable four-year university for many middle-class families in the area.

Not only did Gadell choose UMSL, but his brother, two nieces and two nephews are all alumni as well.

He even met his wife, Marietta Abele, BA history 1974 and MEd 1986, at UMSL, so there is no shortage of Triton pride in his family.



Birth to High School

UMSL Student

Patrick Gadell

Open doors

Philanthropy, as Gadell likes to note, is derived from the Greek word "philanthropos," meaning "love of mankind." He holds that message dear and is truly concerned with the betterment of lives, especially those of UMSL students.

Some find themselves in the unfortunate situation where they need only a few credits more to graduate, but have no way of paying for their final educational expenses. Without financial aid, many times these students drop out. Gadell, aware of this trend, led the effort to pool university resources from the Division of Advancement and Student Affairs to create the *Finish Your Degree* scholarship. It enables students to apply for a one-time grant that provides tuition assistance, allowing them to re-enroll and "finish" their education.

The first year, 12 students, who had left the university because of financial obstacles, were awarded the *Finish Your Degree* scholarship. All 12 returned and completed their undergraduate education.

"It was extremely gratifying to see those 12 students succeed when they were so close to the finish line," he says.



Post
Career

Celebrate in red and gold

Gadell's relationship with UMSL isn't all work and no play. Currently, he is a member of the steering committee for the 50th Anniversary Celebration of UMSL's first graduating class. The reunion will take place in 2017.

"The planning is in its early stages," he says. "But you only get one opportunity to be the first — as in the first Golden Jubilee Class — so it is important to get it right."

He spoke about the many accomplished alumni locally and outside the St. Louis area who he believes deserve a special night of recognition and the occasion to recall their college days as one big, joyous group.

"It's not just for the 'rich and famous,'" Gadell says. "We hope to have many of the graduates return to campus — some for the first time since graduating. It's a chance to see all the wonderful changes that have transpired."

Career
& Family

Join the club

As second vice president of the Alumni Association, Gadell is on the task force proposing to change from a dues-paying system to an all-inclusive membership. If passed, all UMSL alumni, as well as students, will automatically become members of the Alumni Association. There would be no further solicitation for dues, encouraging participation levels to greatly increase.

"This will be a fundamental change, which benefits alumni and students alike," Gadell says. "UMSL is and will always be a vital force in the economic well-being of the St. Louis area. It is well past time for us to exert the strength our numbers provide to the community."

The hope is that bringing current students into the association will foster a closer relationship with alumni so that as students graduate, they already have essential professional contacts often resulting in internships and job placement.

New
Grad

Build a network

Gadell is a man who unites people. He recently organized a dinner to introduce pre-law students to local established lawyers and fellow alumni. John Weller, with John C. Weller Law Firm in St. Louis, and Rob Strobing, vice president and chief financial officer of Connectria Hosting in St. Louis, answered questions and shared their knowledge of the field with the soon-to-be graduates.

"I wanted the dinner to encourage students, allay any anxiety they may have about their futures and about what it means to be UMSL alumni," he says.

The students, anxious to begin their legal careers, formed lasting professional connections. With more than 88,000 alumni, the UMSL network continues to grow with each new graduate.



1960s

Steven A. Mestemacher, BA 1969, retired in January 2012 after a 38-year distinguished career with DuPont. He resides in Parkersburg, W.Va.

Douglas G. Nuelle, BS 1969, is an orthopedic surgeon at Blue Ridge Orthopedics in Blue Ridge, Ga.

Sympathy is extended to

Stephanie K. Haffer, BSEd 1967, MEd 1982, on the death of her husband, Herman F. Haffer.

1970s

Eugene F. Halet, BS 1970, is a technical sales representative with the Hilson Company located in Wheaton, Ill.

Robert Lindsley, BA 1970, retired after a 43-year career in the grocery industry. He was a union representative for United Food and Commercial Workers Local 655 and a member of Arnold, Mo., City Council from 1983-93 and 2009-11.

Rita M. Hoff-Scott, BSEd 1974, was inducted into the St. Louis Sports Hall of Fame for her accomplishments in racquetball.

H. Dennis Mollman, BS 1974, joined SLUCare, the Physicians of Saint Louis University, as a neurosurgeon.

Kenneth A. Slavens, BA 1974, MA 1976, was featured in Best Lawyers in America magazine as one of St. Louis' best lawyers for 2014 in the area of construction law. Kenneth is an attorney for Husch Blackwell LLP, concentrating on real estate, development and construction law.

Leah Amir, BA 1976, MS 1980, was named one of the 2013 Most Influential Business Women by the St. Louis Business Journal. She is president of Vantagelinks LLC in St. Louis, executive director of Vantage View's Institute for Quality Resource Management and founder of the startup company XCellCure in St. Louis.

John R. Halpern, BA 1976, was featured in Best Lawyers in America magazine as one of St. Louis' best lawyers for 2014 in the areas of admiralty and maritime law. He is an attorney for Goldstein and Price, L.C. in St. Louis.

Thomas J. Minogue, BA 1976, was featured in Best Lawyers in America magazine as one of St. Louis' best lawyers for 2014 in the areas of mergers and acquisitions. Tom was previously named best corporate compliance lawyer of the year for 2013 and best corporate lawyer of the year for 2011. Tom is chairman of Thompson Coburn in St. Louis and specializes in corporate law and governance, mergers and acquisitions, and finance.

Cathy F. Hartmann, BSW 1978, became executive director of Springboard in St. Louis in July 2013. Cathy served as director of mission delivery for the American Diabetes Association prior to her new role.

H. Peter Kleine Jr., BS 1978, MS 1982, is an instructor and manager of science labs at Maryville University in St. Louis.

Minga M. Furr, BSBA 1979, was honored at the St. Louis Community Empowerment Foundation's 10th Annual Salute to Women in Leadership. Minga was awarded the Community Leadership Award for her active role in the community. She is also co-founder of St. Louis CARES and Furr Strategy Group LLC in St. Louis.

Sympathy is extended to

Dorothy C. Cooke, BS 1971, on the death of her brother, Lawrence J. Larry Cooke, Sr.

Linda Brown Reed, BA 1976, on the death of her husband, the Honorable Phillip E. Jones, Sr.

1980s

Brian J. Goodman, BSBA 1980, received a law degree in 1993 from the University of Richmond in Virginia. He is the in-house counsel for the Virginia Retirement System and served on the executive board of the National Association of Public Pension Attorneys. He and his wife live in Goochland, Va.

The Honorable Brenda Stith Loftin, BGS 1980, recently retired as a judge from the St. Louis County Circuit Court. Since, she has volunteered at the 2014 Girls' Summit hosted by UMSL's Sue Shear Institute LEAD program.

Barbara K. Thompson, MEd 1980, was appointed president of the board of directors for Good Shepherd School for Children. Before retiring, she served as assistant superintendent for the Hazelwood School District and was the governor of the Missouri-Arkansas Kiwanis, an organization dedicated to serving children.

Grayling O. Tobias, BSEd 1980, received the 9th annual North County Churches United Outstanding Education Award on Oct. 13, 2013 for his commitment and leadership in promoting racial harmony and social justice in schools and the community. Grayling is the superintendent of the Hazelwood School District, has more than 25 years of experience in education and is actively involved in the community. He is married with two sons.

Christine E. Smith, BA 1981, was named one of the 2013 St. Louis Business Journal's Most Influential Business Women. Christine is the vice president of biotherapeutics pharmaceutical sciences for Pfizer. She lives with her husband and daughter in Des Peres, Mo.

Kenneth Slavens



Leah Amir



Thomas Minogue



Barbara Thompson



Grayling Tobias

1960s – 1990s



Warner Baxter



Jane Fedder



Edward Campbell



Kenneth Kruse

Steven R. Sullivan, BSBA 1981, MBA 1994, began as president and executive director of Provident, Inc. in St. Louis.

George Paz, BSBA 1982, was appointed to the St. Louis Federal Reserve Board of Directors as deputy chair for 2014. George is the chairman and chief executive officer of Express Scripts.

Warner L. Baxter, BSBA 1983, became president of Ameren Corp. and was also elected to its board in February. He became Ameren's chief executive on April 24 and was also recognized in the January edition of Small Business Monthly as one of the most admired business leaders in the St. Louis area.

James F. Essinger Jr., MS 1983, is a research fellow at Scotts Miracle-Gro LLC., in Cincinnati.

Laura M. Rexroat, BA 1983, is a chemist at Mallinckrodt Pharmaceutical in St. Louis.

Perry D. Drake, BS 1984, is academic director in the School of Professional and Continuing Studies at UMSL and launched UMSL's first social media courses in January 2013.

Jane E. Fedder, BA 1984, joined Polsinelli, a St. Louis business and litigation law firm, as a shareholder. Jane is an environmental litigator.

Sharon D. Fiehler, MBA 1984, was appointed to the St. Louis Federal Reserve Board of Directors as chair for 2014. Sharon is the executive vice president and chief administrative officer of Peabody Energy.

Rajiv M. Banavali, PhD 1985, was promoted to chief technology officer, fluorine products at Honeywell in Morristown, N.J. He previously served as director of technology with the company.

Edward L. Campbell, Jr., BSBA 1985, is senior vice president of commercial banking at St. Louis Bank. Edward has 25 years of experience in many areas of commercial and consumer lending.

L. Jeanette Hencken, BA 1985, was honored with the Peabody Energy Leaders in Education Award. She is a chemistry, forensic science and FIRST Robotics teacher at Webster Groves (Mo.) High School and an adjunct professor of forensic science at Saint Louis University.

Susan L. O'Leary, BSBA 1988, was named one of the 2013 Most Influential Business Women by the St. Louis Business Journal. Susan became chief financial officer of Total Hockey.

She is active in her family's parish, Most Sacred Heart in Eureka, Mo., and has three sons with her husband Tom.

Kenneth R. Kruse, BSBA 1989, is president of Payne Family Homes in St. Louis. In December 2013, his company was featured in the St. Louis Business Journal as one of the fastest growing companies in the city.

Deaths

Barbara J. Sonneborn, BSBA 1980, MEd 1989, on Dec. 15. Barbara served as senior academic adviser in the College of Nursing before she retired. Barbara is survived by her husband the Rev. George Sonneborn, four daughters, two sons, six grandchildren and one brother.

James C. Simpson, BS 1984, on Dec. 14, in Rockledge, Fla. James was a physicist for NASA and enjoyed his animals, music and working in his yard and pond. He is survived by his wife Amy, his son Jeremy and two grandchildren.

The Honorable Lawrence E. Wines, BA 1984, on Feb. 18. He was a judge and attorney and lived in St. Charles, Mo. Lawrence was a proud member of the University of Missouri Alumni Alliance and UMSL Alumni Association. He was deeply devoted to his family.

1990s

Timothy Green, BSBA 1990, was appointed director of governmental relations in April 2013 at Electrical Connection in St. Louis. Timothy monitors and lobbies legislative proposals at the local municipal, regional, county and state government levels.

Christopher H. Morris, BA 1991, is a licensed psychologist and executive director at Open Skies Healthcare in Albuquerque, N.M.

Timothy J. Desmond, BS 1993, became a chemist II at Monsanto in October 2013.

Elizabeth L. Jones, BA 1993, is a doctoral student in rhetoric and composition at Illinois State University in Normal, IL and will present at the Rhetoric Society of America's 2014 conference in Houston. Elizabeth is a teacher at the University of Illinois at Springfield, teaching composition and lower-division literature courses.

Angela M. Ridenhour, BSBA 1993, is an accounting manager at Geotechnology Inc.

in St. Louis. Angie resides in Ballwin, Mo., with her husband and their two children.

Sean D. Dingman, BS 1994, is the sales and new market development manager for Carbonyl Iron Powders North America. Sean is also the secretary for the St. Louis section of the American Chemical Society.

James A. Price, MEd 1994, was honored as one of the St. Louis Business Journal's 2013 Diverse Business Leaders for his role in promoting diversity and inclusion in the workplace. James is the vice president of support services for the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis and a board member for Youth in Need in St. Charles and St. Louis' Head Start.

Julie K. Hiblovic, BSBA 1995, was promoted to partner at Anders CPAs & Advisors in St. Louis in January. Julie joined the firm in 2010.

Jonathan S. Lycan, MBA 1995, joined St. Louis CPA firm Schowalter & Jabouri, P.C., as manager in the corporate governance-audit department.

Deborah L. Maret, BSBA 1996, was promoted to principal at Stone Carlie Wealth Advisors, LLC, in St. Louis. Deborah is a certified investment management analyst. She holds a Series 65 License from the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority and is a level two candidate in the chartered financial analyst program.

Robert A. Stockland, Jr., MS 1996, PhD 1999, was promoted in September 2013 to full professor in the chemistry department at Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pa.

Jeannie M. Aumiller, BA 1997, was awarded the 2014 St. Louis Business Journal's 40 Under 40 award on Feb. 13. Jeannie is the associate general counsel at McBride & Son Homes.

Rebecca L. Boyer, BSBA 1997, was awarded the 2013 40 Under 40 award by the St. Louis Business Journal on Feb. 13. Rebecca is the chief financial officer and vice president of KellyMitchell.

Craig A. McElroy, BS 1997, was awarded the 2014 St. Louis Business Journal's 40 Under 40 award on Feb. 13. Craig is the co-founder and chief technology officer of Contegix, a cloud computing and colocation service provider in St. Louis.

Sarajeni A. Hammond, BSBA 1998, was honored as one of the St. Louis Business Journal's 2013 Diverse Business Leaders for her role in promoting diversity and inclusion in the work-

1990s – 2010s

place. Sarajeni is director of talent management, global supply chain at Monsanto and serves on various boards in the St. Louis area.

Laura B. Montgomery, BSEd 1998, was appointed interim director of education resources at the Lutheran Elementary School Association in St. Louis.

Kathleen M. Walters, BSAcc 1998, was named one of the 2013 St. Louis Business Journal's Most Influential Business Women. Kathleen is the chief financial officer at CR Metal Products Inc., a family-owned company in St. Louis.

Marriages

Jill S. Hentz Moise, BSEd 1993, to **Tony Moise** on July 5, 2013. Jill is a financial professional at UBS Financial in St. Louis. The couple resides in Ladue, Mo.

Cheryl Uthe Stadler, BSBA 1993, to **John Stadler II** on Aug. 10, 2013. Cheryl is an internal audit manager, certified internal auditor and certified public accountant for Reliv International Inc. in Chesterfield.

Births

Brigid Williams, OD 1999, and husband **Troy Wieberg** welcomed **Evan Joseph Wieberg** on Oct. 19. Brigid is an optometrist at Eola Eyes in Orlando, Fla.

Deaths

Elizabeth A. Mason, BA 1990, on Feb. 8, 2012. Elizabeth was born in Columbia, Mo., and grew up in St. Louis. She worked as an information technology contractor specializing in planning and scheduling software. Elizabeth was an avid reader, competitive swimmer and an outstanding soccer and basketball player. She is survived by her husband.

2000s

Art J. McCoy II, MEd 1999, PhD 2002, received the North County Churches United Outstanding Education Award for his commitment and leadership in promoting racial harmony and social justice in schools and the community. Art is recognized as a leader, scholar and advocate for education. He is married to his high school sweetheart and UMSL alumna **Belinda McCoy**, BSAcc 1999, and they have a daughter.

Bryan Abney, MS 2000, is a quality technical leader at Catalent Pharma Solutions in Lexington, Ky.

Opal M. Jones, BSBA 2000, was awarded the 2014 St. Louis Business Journal's 40 Under 40 award. Opal is the president and chief executive officer of DOORWAYS, a St. Louis organization dedicated to providing housing to those with HIV/AIDS.

Katherine M. Block, BS 2001, presented at UMSL's chemistry department's 27th Annual Distinguished Alumni Lecture on May 5, 2013. Katherine is a senior scientist at Genoptix Medical Laboratory in San Diego.

Paul P. Brittain, BGS 2001, relocated to Charlotte, N.C., as a claims representative with the Railroad Retirement Board.

Paul E. Johnson, BS 2001, MS 2004, is a global product manager II, lab chromatography at Bio-Rad Laboratories in Hercules, Calif.

William D. Carson, MA 2002, was appointed to the advisory board of the St. Louis Crisis Nursery. William is the chief of police with the city of Maryland Heights, Mo., police department.

Matthew J. Dunn, BA 2002, is a quality manager at St. Louis Cord Blood Bank in St. Louis.

Alyssa Gratz, BA 2002, was promoted to coordinator of special services for the Parkway School District in St. Louis County. Alyssa began her career with Parkway School District as a school psychologist in 2007.

Mark Paluczek, BSBA 2002, BSAcc 2002, was promoted to senior manager of tax and business services with Stone Carlie Wealth Advisors, LLC, in St. Louis. Mark has been with the company for eight years. He oversees the Professional Athlete Service Group and is a member of the Stone Carlie Litigation Support Services Group specializing in domestic matters.

Jeffrey Stahlhuth, BSMIS 2002, MS 2012, was promoted to associate vice president/director of information technologies at Horner & Shifrin, Inc. in St. Louis. Jeffrey has been with the firm since 1995 and has more than 17 years experience in network and software design, wide area network layout, telecommunications strategies and mobile computing strategies.

Cherise S. Pruitt, BS 2003, is a quality systems manager at McNeil Consumer Healthcare in Fort Washington, Pa.

Jason Salzman, BSEd 2003, joined the St. Louis Office for Developmental Disability Resources as a service advocate in December 2012. Jason has worked in the field for 10 years.

John T. Shaw, MPPA 2003, was a recipient of the 2013 UMSL Public Policy Administration's Distinguished Alumni Award. John served as vice president of the St. Louis Area City Management Association and is the practitioner-adviser for the UMSL student chapter of the International City/County Management Association. John is the city manager for Ferguson, Mo.

Greg Wagener, BA 2003, BSEd 2003, MA 2007, was named assistant principal of Parkway North High School in St. Louis County.

Patrick F. McNichols, BSBA 2004, is president of Innovative Construction & Roofing in St. Louis. In December, Patrick's company was featured in the St. Louis Business Journal as one of the fastest growing companies in the city.

Peter M. Blumeyer II, BSBA 2005, was awarded the 2014 St. Louis Business Journal's 40 Under 40 award on Feb. 13. Peter was named president of UMB Bank in St. Louis in January.

Shu Yao, BS 2005, obtained her PhD at the University of Wisconsin–Madison in 2012 and is a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Calgary in Canada. Shu married **Johnathan Hudson** in 2013.

Hui Zhao, MS 2005, PhD 2006, is a senior analytical scientist with Covance in Madison, Wis.

Saibal Bandyopadhyay, MS 2006, PhD 2008, is a postdoctoral fellow at The Ohio State University in Columbus and is a part-time lecturer in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

Lindsay R. Bowling, BSAcc 2006, was promoted to tax supervisor at Brown Smith Wallace in St. Louis. Lindsay was previously a tax services senior with the company.

Katie A. DeClue, BSEd 2006, MEd 2009, was selected to serve as an administrative intern with Bellerive Elementary in Creve Coeur, Mo. Katie began her career with the Parkway School District in 2008 at South Middle School in Manchester, Mo., where she served as a math intervention specialist.



Timothy Green



Laura Montgomery



Alyssa Gratz



Mark Paluczek

Class notes



Katie DeClue



Gwendolyn Packnet



January Realista



Erin Schulte

Mary G. McMurtrey, MPPA 2006, was a recipient of the 2013 UMSL Public Policy Administration's Distinguished Alumni Award. Mary is the director of community engagement of the Greater Saint Louis Community Foundation. She is also a member of UMSL's Nonprofit Management and Leadership Program's Advisory Board.

Nongnuch Sutivisedsak, MS 2006, PhD 2008, is a product development chemist at United Suppliers, Inc. in Peoria, Ill.

Tegan L. Klevorn, BA 2007, MEd 2009, was published in the National Association for Campus Activities magazine. Tegan is the coordinator for student activities in Student Life Operations at UMSL.

Ashley G. Smith, BSAcc 2007, MAcc 2008, was promoted to tax manager at Swink, Fiehler & Company, P.C. in St. Louis. Ashley served as tax staff accountant with the company prior to her new role.

Andrew Benz, BSIS 2008, MBA 2011, was named a senior software engineer for ShipWorks in St. Louis.

James B. Carroll II, BS 2008, MS 2010, PhD, 2013, is a scientist at Chemir EAG in St. Louis.

Stephen Costin, MS 2008, PhD 2010, is a chemistry instructor for Louisiana School for Math, Science and the Arts in Natchitoches, La.

T. Christopher Peoples, BS 2008, was awarded the 2013 St. Louis Business Journal's 40 Under 40 award. T. Christopher is president and chief executive officer of Pitzman's Company of Surveyors & Engineers in St. Louis.

Erin Schulte, MEd 2008, became coordinator of counseling for guidance and character education with Parkway North High School in St. Louis County. Erin has worked with the district since 2010 as a guidance counselor and is a PhD candidate in educational psychology at UMSL.

Sean Whittemore, BS 2008, is a postdoctoral fellow at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in Richland, Wash.

Justyce J. Jedlicka, BS 2009, was promoted to tactical marketing manager for North America Consumer Products at Sigma-Aldrich in St. Louis. Justyce joined the company in 2010.

Sneha C. Ranade, MS 2009, PhD 2012, Sneha is a senior research associate at SAI Life Ltd in Pune, India and recently married.

Jill L. Reiniger, MA 2009, was named assistant principal at Southwest Middle School in Ballwin, Mo.

Jeffrey R. Withers, MS 2009, is a chemist at Alltech, Inc. in Nicholasville, Ky.

Marriages

Kara M. Kinzel Lang, BS 2008, to Joshua Lang, BS 2007, Aug. 10, 2013. Kara is an analytical chemist at Elantas PDG in St. Louis and Joshua works for Ameren.

Births

Jennifer L. Weeks Kiernan, OD 2008, and husband Ryan welcomed Caroline Rose Kiernan on Oct. 7. Jennifer is an optometrist for Eye Consultants in Conifer, Colo.

Kelly S. Smiley Bugg, OD 2011, and husband Wes welcomed Keightly Sue Bugg on Sept. 3. Kelly is owner of Mayfield Family Eye Care in Mayfield, Ky.

Sympathy is extended to

Jeanine S. Arrighi, MPPA 2010, on the death of her mother, Ella Mae Seifert.

2010s

Girija P. Katragadda, MS 2010, is a scientist for Bayer CropSciences in Research Triangle Park, N.C.

Gwendolyn D. Packnet, PhD 2010, was honored as a 2013 Leader of Distinction by the YWCA Metro St. Louis for her contributions in empowering women and eliminating racism in adherence with the YWCA mission. Gwendolyn is the assistant vice chancellor of academic affairs at UMSL.

Nicholas Bardol, BS 2011, MS 2013, is a process chemist at Sigma-Aldrich in St. Louis.

Mark Hannemann, BSEd 2011, was appointed operations manager for Clafin Medical Equipment in St. Louis.

January Realista, MBA 2011, was named a board member of the Institute for Family Medicine in St. Louis. January is senior director of strategic planning at Express Scripts.

Jeremy Powers, BFA 2012, along with UMSL faculty, helped launch a learning website that will be a resource for art teachers and French language instructors in the St. Louis area.

Andrea L. Sullivan, BS 2013, is studying dentistry at Midwestern University in Downers Grove, Ill.

Births

Brooke L. Reynolds, OD 2013, and husband Brian welcomed Brielle Margaret on Aug. 13. Brooke is an optometrist at Clarkson Eye Care in St. Louis.

Spring *has sprung at UMSL*

Student enjoys springtime on campus at Bugg Lake in the early 1970s.



Photo from University Archives

Students and ducks have long flocked to Bugg Lake at the University of Missouri–St. Louis. In fact, its banks were not only a springtime haven, but also a speaking ground for the earliest student body. They often met to discuss the emerging university's development and fought to preserve Bugg Lake and its ducks in the wake of an evolving campus. Located behind Benton and Stadler halls, the lake's name may seem inspired by insects but is actually named after James Bugg, the university's first chancellor.

Tell us your UMSL story

What was spring like on campus for you? Have any memories of Bugg Lake to share? Did you ever feed the ducks or hangout lakeside? If not, no worries. Tell us about your UMSL niche. Your response could be in the next issue! Send your comments and photos to donna_carothers@umsl.edu or by mail to: Donna Carothers • UMSL Alumni Engagement & Community Relations • 414 Woods Hall • 1 University Blvd. • St. Louis, MO 63121 | 314-516-6453