



UMSL

MAGAZINE

SPRING 2016

Watery Reflections

UMSL student
preserves
local museum
after flooding

SHUTTER STOP





As the sun set at the University of Missouri–St. Louis, Campus Photographer August Jennewein stopped to catch the searing red, pink and orange sky stream to the tip of the iconic pyramid on North Campus. Just below is a favorite study spot for many UMSL students – the St. Louis Mercantile Library. See page 26.

DEPARTMENTS

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A new space showcasing the award-winning work of Campus Photographer August Jennewein

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ON THE COVER

Tarnished only by age, an antique mirror hangs again in the Bolduc House Museum, which reopened with the help of UMSL intern K.C. Strittmater after winter flooding.

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The Current



CURRENT

UMSL  **CURRENT**

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CURRENT

⦿ The Current ⦿

The University of Missouri–St. Louis publishes **UMSL MAGAZINE** for alumni and friends. The magazine highlights excellence at the university. Circulation is 92,000 and the magazine is released twice a year.



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The small things Preserving everyday French Colonial America and its stories took new meaning for UMSL Museum Studies student K.C. Strittmater with the threat of floodwaters.

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Webbing success

UMSL's computer science program introduced Tim Hebel to the four other students he now employs at his startup, Beanstalk Web Solutions.

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Happy birthday

UMSL's student newspaper, The Current, celebrates 50 years. Hear from students and alumni who helped shape its success.

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Oh the possibilities

Two-time Student Government Association President Cameron Roark gives us a glimpse into his student experience and the opportunities open to those who choose UMSL.

Express Scripts

gift creates access for north St. Louis County residents

A new partnership with Express Scripts will allow the University of Missouri–St. Louis to expand its efforts to help local young people thrive.

Focused particularly on north St. Louis County high school students, the \$2.5 million investment by Express Scripts promises to bolster UMSL’s Bridge Program, which annually equips hundreds of area youth for college and career success. In addition, the gift will fund up to 20 active UMSL scholarships with preference given to Bridge participants from public high schools in north county.

“The need for strong, sustainable pathways to education and employment for young people in our community is urgent,” said UMSL Chancellor Tom George. “With this generous commitment, Express Scripts helps us reach significantly more students in our region and prepare them for leadership and service throughout their lives.”

The gift is one of three recent corporate partnerships aimed at fostering opportunity in the north-county area in collaboration with UMSL. The Emerson Community Scholarship Program was established fall 2014, and fall 2015, Ameren announced a similar initiative to boost access to higher education and professional development opportunities in the region.

“Investing in education is one of the most valuable investments we can make,” said Express Scripts Chairman George Paz. “We are proud to partner with UMSL to create more educational opportunities for deserving students in north county. Together, we will help change the trajectory of an entire region through greater access to higher education.”

Presently, the Bridge Program’s Saturday Academy alone enrolls 570 high school students, who spend many Saturday mornings on the UMSL campus sharpening their academic skills as well as developing profes-



Assistant Dean of Students Natissia Small, pictured here with UMSL Chancellor Tom George, oversees the precollegiate UMSL Bridge Program that is expanding with support from Express Scripts.

sionally and personally. With Express Scripts' new support, that intensive academy will grow to serve 690 students each year, along with their families, to increase college matriculation and persistence.

"To have a strong partnership with Express Scripts is an honor," said Natissia Small, assistant dean of students and director of Bridge, which is in its 30th year of existence at UMSL. "They're leading the way in demonstrating how corporations can not only provide financial support but also impact the lives of students who seek higher education by providing professional development, mentoring and internship opportunities."

UMSL's current first-year freshman class of 507 includes 29 graduates of the free-of-charge Bridge Program. Campus leaders expect the new funding to enhance the university's efforts to recruit and reward top students from the precollegiate program – particularly from the Ferguson-Florissant, Hazelwood, Riverview Gardens, Jennings, Normandy, Ritenour and University City school districts.

Along with supplying up to \$15,000 a year toward each student's tuition and student-housing costs, the new scholarships will provide recipients with peer mentors at UMSL and with mentors and networking and internship opportunities at the neighboring Express Scripts headquarters.

The Bridge Program received the 2015 FOCUS St. Louis "What's Right with the Region" Award for Promoting Stronger Communities.

"Bridge has a rich history in the St. Louis community and nationally by consistently demonstrating our commitment to bulldoze barriers that impede college access and promote college persistence," Small said.

"This new partnership further demonstrates Express Scripts' leadership and strong social values as we seek to strengthen the St. Louis community by increasing the pipeline to college."

Express Scripts is the largest corporate donor to UMSL, surpassing \$6.6 million in its philanthropy to the university with which it shares a campus. Express Scripts' support has focused on the Bridge Program, a new business building, various research projects and scholarships.

UMSL alumnus lands CFO post

The chief financial officer for the Phantom Works Air and Space unit of Boeing Defense, Space and Security, **Richard Baniak**, retired from the company to become the **new vice chancellor for administration – CFO** at the University of Missouri–St. Louis. Baniak holds both a bachelor's and master's degree in economics from UMSL. His appointment was effective May 1.



"Recruiting someone with Rick's professional experience to run campus operations and oversee our budget is a real coup for us," said Chancellor Tom George. "UMSL is in a transition phase to create a sustainable budget and remain focused on educating and graduating outstanding students. Rick can relate as he's one of the those outstanding alumni who benefited from our first-rate educational programs."

"UMSL has always been important to me," said Baniak. "I grew up in St. Louis and received my degrees from UMSL. The quality of the education that I received enabled me to succeed in my career – from my first job at McDonnell Douglas to this current opportunity to come back to UMSL."

"During my freshman year, I took Dr. Howard Baltz's Business 131 Statistics course," said Baniak. "After getting to know him as my professor, he hired me to be his lab instructor, which I did for the remainder of my undergrad program. His influence on my education and development during those years were an important part of my UMSL experience. He was my boss, my mentor, and he and his wife, Sylvia, remain dear friends today. I would imagine that many of the alums have similar stories. The culture that I experienced at UMSL was one of involvement and caring by the faculty. It's what makes this a special place."

Baniak started his career with McDonnell Douglas Corporation in 1984 as an estimator on the F/15 production team in St. Louis. McDonnell Douglas and Boeing merged in 1997. Through the years, Baniak accepted elevated assignments that took him and his family to multiple locations – including a stop in Chicago, where he also served as an adjunct faculty member at DePaul University.

As UMSL's vice chancellor for administration – CFO, Baniak will oversee accounting, budgeting, business and cashier services, facilities management, human resources, information technology services, institutional research and institutional safety. He replaces longtime campus vice chancellor and business instructor James Krueger, who announced his retirement last year.



Jennifer Jezek-Taussig takes over UMSL alumni operations

St. Louis is a large metropolitan region with a know-your-neighbor, Midwest vibe. So it's no surprise that the University of Missouri–St. Louis has tapped nearby Webster University veteran Jennifer Jezek-Taussig as its **new associate vice chancellor** for alumni engagement and annual giving programs.

"Jennifer is a great hire for UMSL," said Vice Chancellor for Advancement Martin Leifeld. "She has experience, energy and imagination. That's a perfect combination to work with the largest alumni network in the St. Louis region."

For more than 20 years, Jezek-Taussig was a fixture in alumni and development at Webster. She said leaving wasn't easy, but "the opportunity to work at a public institution with a teaching, research and service mission with excellent accreditations and rankings just seemed too good to pass up."

UMSL's impact on the region and the fact that it has more than 66,000 alumni living and working in the St. Louis region also were factors.

"UMSL's alumni network is large and diverse," she said. "And those 'I Chose UMSL' billboards – well, they're everywhere. You can't miss the effect UMSL has on St. Louis, and I'm extremely excited to be in the family."

Excited, as well as challenged to accomplish great things.

"The UMSL Alumni Association underwent a transformation last year when it dropped its dues-paying model and launched the 'You Belong' campaign," Jezek-Taussig said. "Every graduate is a member without paying dues. We will continue to build this foundation and do more outreach to connect alumni in many different ways with their alma mater. We will also work to integrate annual giving into alumni engagement."

Hear from UMSL Alumni Association President Kirk Richter on the "You Belong" campaign rollout. See page 32.

By Jennifer Hatton

Navy pilot turned accounting professor

Michele Meckfessel

talks aviation, teaching

Michele Meckfessel, who joined the University of Missouri–St. Louis Department of Accounting as an assistant professor last year, never saw herself in a classroom. She wanted to fly, and that love for the air led her to the Aviation Officers Candidate School in Pensacola, Fla. She joined the Navy and began flying Caribbean missions to recover smuggled drugs.

How did you first become interested in aviation?

As a kid I designed, built and flew model airplanes. I can't remember a time when I wasn't fascinated with airplanes and flying. I was working on a small wooden model plane in my dorm room one day, and I realized that what I really wanted to do was fly. I called the Navy recruiter in St. Louis. They invited me to take the aptitude tests. I graduated from Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington and entered the 17-week aviation school.

Tell me about your career in the Navy.

I was a naval aviator and flew the SH-60B helicopter, working my way up to the rank of commander. Over the course of my career, I served in a variety of roles as an active duty and reserve service member. My most frequent deployments were for counter drug operations, and I personally recovered over 910 kilos of raw, uncut cocaine.

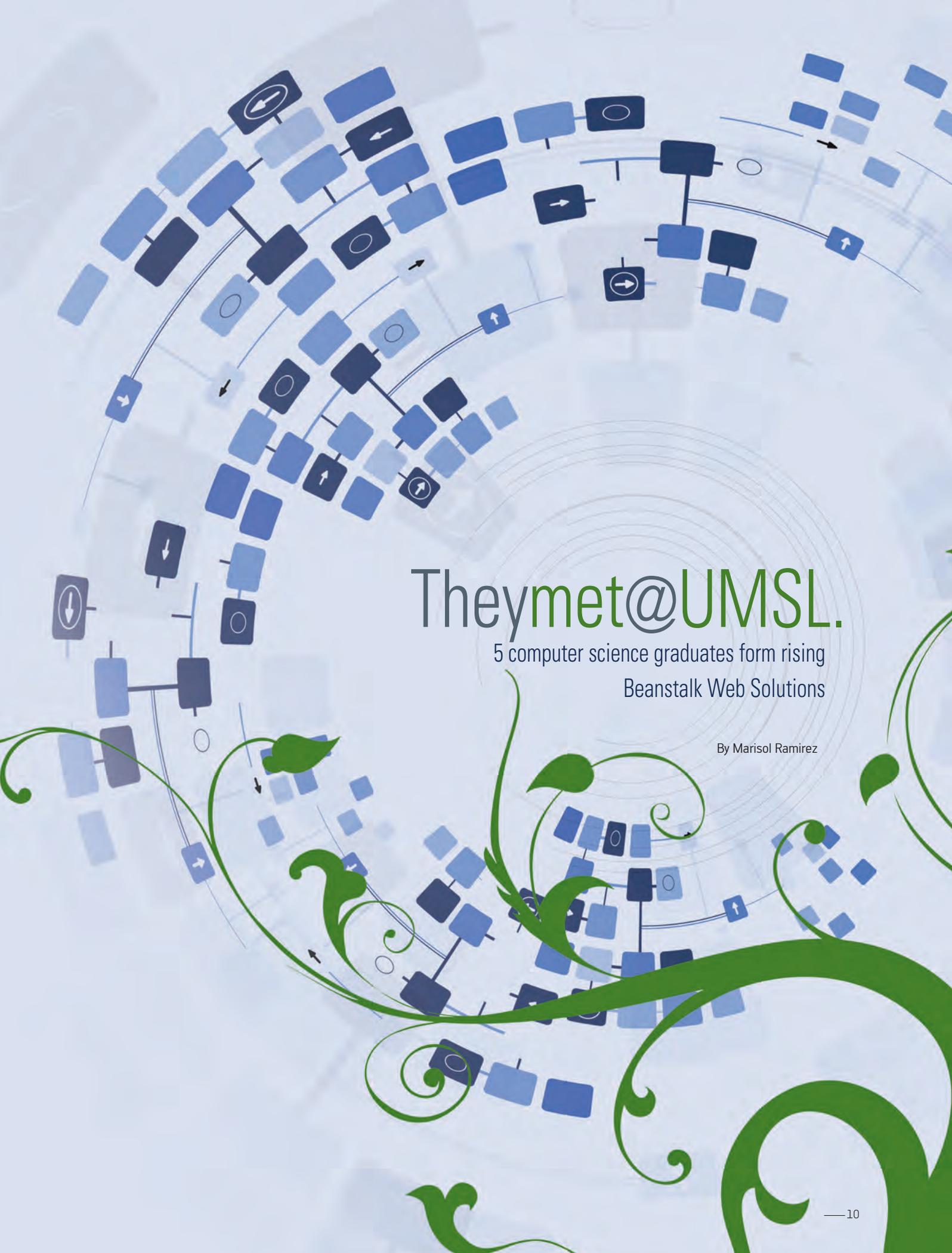
How do you go from Navy pilot to accounting professor?

I was always interested in math and wanted to learn more about our family's tax issues, so I decided I would take some tax classes. I earned my master's degree in accounting, accepted a position at McGladrey & Pullen, LLP, and later with Grant Thornton. Although I enjoyed my tax work very much, I was traveling extensively for both Grant Thornton and the Navy. All of the travel did not give me much opportunity to spend time with my family. In 2007, I began working on my doctoral degree in accounting, knowing I wanted to teach.

How has your Navy training shaped your teaching?

Naturally, flight instructors are not always patient or polite. It was not uncommon for flight instructors to yell and sometimes throw things when you were making a mistake or not thinking quickly enough. In order to be an aircraft commander, you have to pass a board test, the culmination of a tremendous amount of training, written exams, check flights and simulators in a tactical aircraft. The oral exam is several hours in which the other aircraft commanders in the squadron ask the candidate questions about the helicopter systems, emergency procedures, ship systems, tactics and multi-layered situation "what if" scenarios. The Navy has taught me to think on my feet and realize what is a crisis and what is not. System failures in a helicopter while flying can be a crisis. Technology issues in the classroom while teaching are not a crisis. ☰





Theymet@UMSL.

5 computer science graduates form rising
Beanstalk Web Solutions

By Marisol Ramirez

A decorative graphic on the left side of the page features a stylized computer keyboard. The keys are represented by blue and dark blue rectangles, some with white symbols like arrows and a power button. Green vine-like elements with leaves and swirls are overlaid on the keyboard, extending from the bottom left towards the center. The background is a light blue gradient with faint, larger-scale keyboard patterns.

IN THE REHABBED BASEMENT OFFICE

of a quaint historic downtown Webster Groves building, you'll find five young men making some of the finest websites you can buy in town.

Cory Cross, Dan Gray, Dan Reller and Jeremy Stumbaugh all work for Beanstalk Web Solutions, the ambitious web development and internet marketing startup of Tim Hebel, who says business is booming.

The common denominator for these men: The University of Missouri–St. Louis. All five took computer science classes together at UMSL, where they met, worked on team projects and formed friendships throughout their time in the computer science program.

"I asked Tim what he was doing in class one day," says Reller, who graduated with his bachelor's degree in May 2015. "He was looking up something to do with bitcoin. Ever since then we've been working together."

"I was pretty notorious for going around and trying to get dudes' numbers," Reller teases.

With four computers side by side, the group of guys kid around while getting some serious work done. This day, Cross fine-tunes the Fur Clearinghouse site, featuring Katt Williams on the homepage in a custom-made fur.

"This is actually one of our most complex projects," Hebel says. "It's an e-commerce store that has multiple storefronts. When products are added, they are also automatically added to eBay and Amazon. That makes it fairly large and complex. If someone buys a product on one site, we've made it so that product is automatically removed across all sites."

The programmers attribute their knowledge of how to build these more complex functionalities and high-quality sites to the UMSL computer science program.

"API calls, server-side scripting, databases, advanced web development languages – that's really what I have the computer science department to thank for," Hebel says. "A lot of web developers can just do front-end design and real basic stuff, but because everyone here took the CS classes, we can deliver top-tier websites."

One such example is Beanstalk's work on Metro Christian Guide, the largest database in the nation with 305,000 businesses and churches.

“We wrote search engine algorithms for that website and created a custom code so that on that site you can ‘lift’ a business or a church, which acts like an internal ‘tweet’ or ‘like’ of that particular church,”

Hebel says. “We had our code reviewed by Facebook, which then let those ‘lifts’ be automatically posted to Facebook walls. That’s not something just any front-end web developer can do for you.”

While Reller already graduated, the rest of the crew graduates this May. That includes Hebel himself, who has built his company and chiseled away at his degree all at the same time.

“It was stressful and drained away part of my life,” he says, “but I thank my family and my girlfriend, Asher Kerr, for the support.”

For Hebel, studying computer science and starting his own company was more about “going with the flow” of the opportunities at his fingertips.

Around the age of 10, his parents enrolled him in a local HTML coding class for kids. That translated into designing games on his graphing calculator in high school. But when it came time for college, Hebel chose to study ocean engineering at Florida Atlantic University.

“While I was there, I started to realize that my favorite classes were the ones that involved programming,” he says. “All engineers have to take basic programming classes, and I really liked that a lot more.”

That’s when Hebel chose UMSL. It made no sense for him to continue to pay out-of-state tuition when he didn’t need to be oceanside for his new degree track – computer science.

“I feel like with computer science, Washington University [in St. Louis] is just unaffordable, and I don’t think Saint Louis University has a better CS program than UMSL,” he says. “UMSL also specializes in artificial intelligence. So that was a big attraction. And of course, it’s very affordable.”

It was a choice that seems to be paying off. For the time being, the Beanstalk group is happy and the guys consider it a pretty sweet deal to be working with friends.

“I knew when I applied here that I’d be working with people that actually got stuff done,” Gray says. “And honestly, it was a relief to know they are smart, too.”

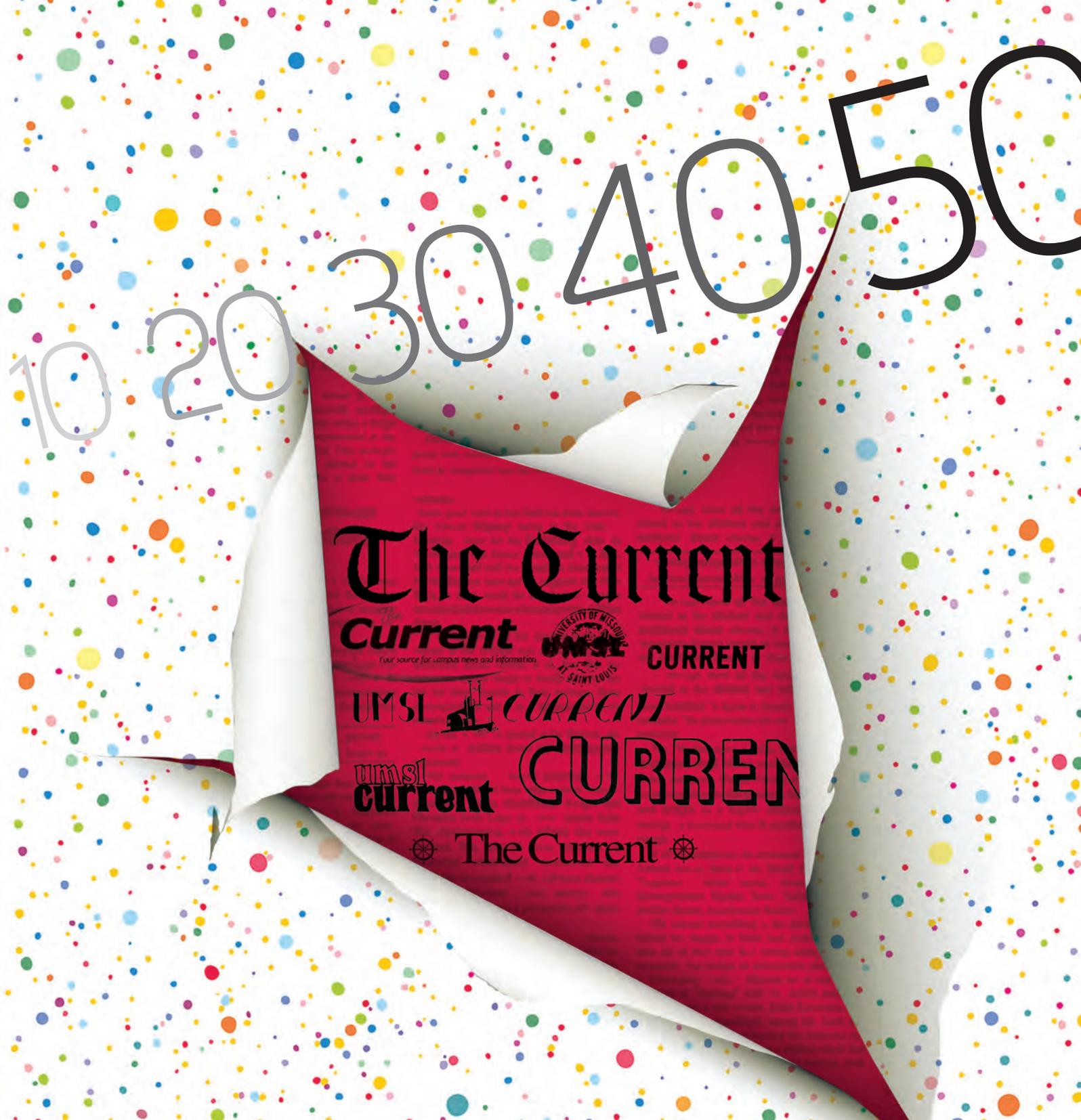
They say they get sick of each other, but as Reller points out, that’s to be expected. And they even tease about the amount of time they spend together.

“It’s a pretty open relationship,” he jokes.

The same openness and honesty is what you’ll find in their business motto, too. The guys know all the technical computer science terms and strategies to impress, but Beanstalk prides itself on translating programming into web solutions that make sense to anyone. ≡

The UMSL computer science program’s (from left) Cory Cross, Tim Hebel, Dan Reller, Jeremy Stumbaugh and Dan Gray make up Beanstalk Web Solutions, the web development and Internet marketing company Hebel grew while completing his bachelor’s degree at UMSL.





STUDENT NEWSPAPER CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

The Current's masthead has taken on a variety of forms and fonts over the years, from a steamboat-themed version in 1968 to 2016's commemorative script. (Masthead images courtesy The Current)

Barbara Duepner Named Editor

Student publications on the UMSL campus seem to be in for a very bad year.

As late as Freshman Orientation the very existence of a newspaper was in doubt. The lack of a qualified editor had blocked any consideration of the future of the publications. After surviving for two years in spite of many setbacks, the newspaper seemed headed an untimely end.

Early in September, a qualified applicant was brought before the sub-committee on student publications. The applicant, Miss Barbara Duepner a junior at the University, was interviewed by the committee concerning her plans for newspaper. Later that week Miss Duepner was informed that the committee had approved her application, and that she could proceed with her plans.

The first staff meeting was held on October 16, and was to the help of Mr. Robert Spitzfaden and Mr. Jean Philippe of the University of the newspaper was able to appear one month later.

Many staff positions are still open, and applications are being accepted in the Publication Office, room 210 Administration Building.

At the present it seems unlikely that the yearbook will appear before September if it appears at all. Students will be polled through Senate newsletter about their willingness to purchase a yearbook. The Students must indicate that they are willing to purchase a yearbook before university will contract a printer.

Heavenly!

What are you doing on the night of Dec. 31? Want a date with an Angel? All you have to do is buy a chance for \$1.00 or \$1.00 and you can be lucky winner of an evening with the Angel of the night.



The Current's first issue, published on November 18, 1966, includes a front-page illustration of UMSL's former mascot with the caption, "MEET THE RIVERMAN!"

THE CURRENT, PAST AND PRESENT

By Evie Hemphill

Small, independent and nearly as old as the University of Missouri—St. Louis itself, the student newspaper that has regularly filled campus racks since 1966 marks a major milestone this year. And looking back on The Current's half century of existence, there's much to applaud: 1,500 (and counting) issues worth of

UMSL history, for starters.

But The Current is more than the persistent weekly product itself, an important and evolving document of the campus and its people. The deep friendships, life lessons and unexpected opportunities the paper has made possible over the past 50 years are also cause for celebration.

"It was really one of the best experiences of my life," says former editor-in-chief **Michelle McMurray**, who worked on the paper in the early 1990s while earning her bachelor's degree at UMSL in 1992 and then a master's in criminology in 1993. "You just learn so much."

Her involvement with the paper overlapped with that of Missouri State Treasurer **Clint Zweifel**, BA 1997, who considers his experience at The Current vital to his own professional development. Pulling together the paper required a lot of independence as well as collaboration week after week. It's what former editor-in-chief **Sharon Lynn Pruitt**, BA 2014, describes as "journalism boot camp."

"Some of my fondest moments were the most difficult moments, to be honest," says Pruitt, who now writes for Oxygen and other outlets. "The other editors and I spent a lot of late nights putting the paper together. It was hard work, and I'd be going home at like 1 a.m. on a Sunday night. But even though I had a Monday morning class and was totally exhausted, I'd still be feeling really pleased and just content. That's when I knew that this was something I wanted to stick with."

Many former Current reporters, photographers and editors have continued on in the field, which may seem surprising, since UMSL doesn't have a journalism program.

"The Current is unique in that there's only one way to learn journalism at UMSL, and that's to work at The Current," notes former editor-in-chief **Josh Renaud**, BA 2003, who also began working for his current employer, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, in college. "For the right student, because The Current is a relatively small paper and it's independent, you really have a chance to learn everything."

Veteran photojournalist **Wiley Price** says he got exactly the training he needed at The Current, where he first started taking pictures in the spring of 1979 after being given a 35mm camera for Christmas.

By Linda Lind

The mascot issue that caused such a storm of controversy last year was recently brought to a quiet close with the selection of "Riverman" as UMSL's mascot. According to the University's administration, the mascot was chosen primarily for its historical significance in this area.

"St. Louis is rich in the lore of the river," stated Dr. Harold Eichhoff, Dean of Student Affairs. "The glamour of stern wheelers and booming river

Birth Announcement

For the third time in four years the student newspaper of the University of Missouri at St. Louis will have a new name.

The Missouri News, formerly the Tiger Cub, will now be called the UMSL Current, with **Sharon Lynn Pruitt** as Editor-in-Chief.

The change resulted from pressure put on the newspaper by some administration members and students who wished to see a connection between the paper and the Columbia River. They felt the use of the word "Missouri" implied a connection to the state, not for its association with the river.

Traffic Regulation Outlined

By Ken Knapp

The University of Missouri at St. Louis has outlined a plan for traffic regulation on campus.



Before its offices moved to a house along Natural Bridge Road (which an arsonist targeted in 1997), The Current's operations were housed in the memorably named **Blue Metal Building** on North Campus.



University Archives' **digitized collections** (umsl.edu/library/university-archives) house nearly 1,500 past issues of the student newspaper, and The Current's latest content is also easily accessible at thecurrent-online.com.

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A few of the faces behind The Current over the years (clockwise from upper left) include Clint Zweifel (foreground) and Matt Forsyth; Michelle McMurray (far right) - pictured here interviewing Tipper Gore; Sharon Lynn Pruitt; and McMurray pictured with Vince Schoemehl (center) and KC Clark.



Top left: Alumna Michelle McMurray applied for the position of editor-in-chief in 1992. Her formal presentation for the job, captured here, proved successful. (Photo courtesy Michelle McMurray)

Top center: A familiar face on KTVI (Channel 2) as host of Fox 2's "9AM show," Kim Hudson, BA 2000, is one of many Current alumni who have gone on to become professional journalists.

Top right: Several members of The Current staff – (left to right) Rhashad Pittman, Inshirah Bawazir, Erin Dominguez (in front), Tom Wombacher and Josh Renaud – pose in front of the White House during a trip to Washington D.C. for the annual Associated Collegiate Press convention in November 2000. (Photo courtesy Josh Renaud)

"I had a great start at UMSL," says Price, who majored in music but eventually left the university to pursue a job at The St. Louis American. Like many other Current alumni, he didn't enroll at UMSL intending to get involved at the student paper. But the photo editor at the time, Romondo Davis, asked him to give it a try and introduced him to the wonders of the darkroom.

"I said, 'Sure,'" Price recalls. "If it hadn't been for him, I probably never would have worked for The Current."

Beginning with what seems a minor decision to give it a try, such involvement has often grown into a major commitment for UMSL students over the years – and a centerpiece of their experience on campus.

"I still remember walking into the Blue Metal Building and saying I'd like to volunteer to write stories," says Zweifel, who soon was spending countless Sunday nights dealing with a wax machine, exacto knife and other tools of the ever-evolving trade. "I think about the process now and how it compares to that, and it makes me chuckle a bit."

But to hear contributors past and present tell it, investing all of that energy has proved well worth the effort.

"While the classes that I had at UMSL were valuable," says Renaud, "even more valuable was the time I spent at The Current, practicing my craft."

Along with crucial skills, Current staff members have gained close friends and even spouses in a few cases.

"There's just some very close bonds," says McMurray, who also points to interviews with Tipper Gore and Jacques Cousteau plus press passes to U.S. presidential campaign events as highlights during her time with the paper. "And every now and then, I go by The Current office and introduce myself, see how things are going. It's neat seeing how the paper has evolved."

Its former and current contributors have seen themselves change as well. UMSL alumna **Kim Hudson**, BA 2000, host of Fox 2's "9AM show" on Channel 2 in St. Louis, says it was during her Current years that she came out of her shell.

Inset: Photojournalist Wiley Price moved on from The Current to work for The St. Louis American.

Graduate student Kat Riddler, editor-in-chief of The Current, leads weekly meetings where the student newspaper staff members discuss what's working well and what they can further improve on.

During what one former Current editor terms “a confluence of millenniums” in the fall of 2000, the paper published its 1,000th issue – a commemorative 30-page section, all told – and moved to the third floor of the then-newly opened Millennium Student Center.



Among other **accolades** over the last two decades, The Current has won “Best in State,” “Best Overall Newspaper,” “Best Page One Design” and other awards from the Missouri College Media Association.



“I learned that sometimes you have to risk rejection to get what you want – I wanted a quote,” Hudson says. “So, I had to approach people. I had to put in that work. I also learned that I am a decent photographer. Once, I took pictures of a UMSL nursing student fighting his own brain tumor while he toured Children’s Hospital ... That opened new possibilities for me.”

Click through the online archives of The Current’s 49 (and soon to be 50) volumes, and a vivid picture of the last half-century appears. In addition to capturing UMSL history, The Current offers a glimpse into broader, shifting cultures and contexts.

Its timely coverage during the fall of 2014 is just one recent example. The Current’s present editor-in-chief, **Kat Riddler**, was still adjusting to a new role as news editor when Michael Brown was killed in nearby Ferguson, Mo., in August 2014. As the St. Louis region loomed large on the world’s radar, Riddler and other members of The Current crew got busy.

“I had to learn about my job very quickly and adapt my writing to relay facts,” says Riddler, a graduate student in the Department of English who earned her bachelor’s degree from UMSL in 2014. “In many ways the national news media was feeding people their opinion, making for a very tense community climate. I decided to condense all of my reporting for a timeline for students for the first issue that semester.”

Riddler has seen The Current make strides and overcome new challenges in recent years. She says she’s especially proud of the paper’s expanding online presence (thecurrent-online.com) and podcast collaboration with the U, UMSL’s student-run radio station.

For Renaud, who has watched with interest and affection as The Current fords ups and downs, the paper continues to be “really kind of a strange beast on campus” – as well as an essential one.

“Like any organization that has been around 50 years,” he adds, “it has a colorful history.” ☰

*"You have brains in your head.
You have feet in your shoes.
You can steer yourself any direction you choose.
You're on your own.
And you know what you know.
And YOU are the one who'll decide
where to go."* –DR. SEUSS



Brains. Shoes. Choices.

CAMERON ROARK EXCELS AT UMSL

By Bob Samples

As a prominent student leader, Cameron Roark has become skilled at addressing university officials. Here, he presents to the University Assembly and Faculty Senate at UMSL.

A three-foot by four-foot window in a small office on the third floor of the Millennium Student Center at the University of Missouri–St. Louis looks out over campus. Green leaves. Falling leaves. Sunshine. Rain. And, often, stunning western sunsets.

For two years, the window has been symbolic of Cameron Roark's view of UMSL.

He is a two-term president of the Student Government Association, criminology and criminal justice major, honors college mentor, student manager at the new Recreation and Wellness Center and frequent user of Dr. Seuss quotes.

And despite all that, Cameron feels "humbled" as he's interviewed for UMSL Magazine. While eating a stir-fry dish from the Nosh, he says he considers himself a typical UMSL student.

So what's typical?

BRIGHT LIGHTS, BIG CITY

Cameron was born and raised in Jefferson City, the state's capital situated in mid-Missouri along the banks of the Missouri River. The younger of Alan and Susan Roark's two children, Cameron is a first generation college student.

"My parents were high school sweethearts who were married at 19," he says, noting that they decided to stay put working and raising a family in Jefferson City.

Cameron considered his upbringing fairly idyllic, with a high school football injury the first notable setback, but also the impetus for setting a new course in his life. Instead of athletics, Cameron decided to focus on public affairs. His college search centered on finding a place that could nurture his new passion. He also sought a larger environment, a place with more diversity and opportunities.

Nearby St. Louis was an obvious option – UMSL not so much.

UMSL WAS AN ACCIDENT

Growing up, Cameron remembers watching the St. Louis Cardinals play at Busch Stadium and the animals roaming at the Saint Louis Zoo.

Saint Louis University was his first visit, but something just wasn't right about the fit. So he turned to the Internet, where he found UMSL and was intrigued. A campus visit sealed the deal.

"The people I met just seemed to care," Cameron says. "Now – just about four years later – it has been one of the best decisions of my life."

BONDING AT OAK HALL

Nervous and excited, Cameron started his college career in a new city on a fairly large campus. But he adapted early, he says, because of the friends he made in Oak Hall – the campus' largest residential building.

"One of my most enjoyable experiences was living in the dorms during my freshman year," Cameron says. "It was just a great time getting to socialize and make friends – friends that I still have today."

Cameron rents a house in Florissant, Mo., with two UMSL alumni he met in Oak Hall – both now professionals in the criminal justice field. It's a quick commute, and he loves being with people he trusts.

Not all of the people he met ended up housemates, obviously, but most have remained close and many became allies as he entered campus politics.

RUNNING ISN'T GOVERNING

Getting involved in UMSL's Student Government Association was "natural," Cameron says, for someone interested in politics and public policy. He ran for and was elected to the Student Government Senate – serving as the Senate chair as a sophomore.

The next natural progression was seeking the SGA presidency, which Cameron did with Oak Hall friends Deja Patrick and Dominic Margherio as his running mates for vice president and comptroller, respectively.

"Student government is what you make of it," Cameron says. "If you put a lot into it, you'll get a lot out of it."

Cameron's initial platform was to improve communication between students and administrators, increase student participation at events and make the SGA process more efficient. His second term has proven even more challenging, as well as more enlightening.

This year, UMSL has faced the fallout of racial tensions on the Columbia campus and a budget shortfall of nearly \$15 million on its own campus. Both issues pushed Cameron into hyper-drive, gauging student sentiments and working to ensure students were involved in the decision-making process.

"The protests at MU [in November] were very challenging from a governing perspective," he says. "I learned that people want you to take sides. But we felt improving the future was more important than pointing fingers."

Cameron met with student organizations to determine if the same issues expressed in Columbia existed at UMSL. He said that students did not give UMSL an A+, but felt the situations were different. Cameron credits in large part the staff of Student Affairs and Chancellor Tom George, who meet frequently with him and other students to address concerns.

The process to realign UMSL's budget – a situation caused primarily by declining state support and flat or decreased student enrollment – has proven the most stressful for Cameron. He's responded by advocating student concerns and setting up a forum to

ensure students could speak directly to Chancellor George and other top administrators.

"Throughout the budget issues, I have learned so much," Cameron says.

Among those lessons were that individuals with vested interests guard those interests and that the process moves slowly – especially for someone who describes himself as "impatient." He's also learned that there are limits to anyone's power, including an SGA president.

"It took some time to realize I could not just make policies happen," Cameron says, adding that he's still developing his negotiation skills.

TAKING ADVANTAGE OF OPPORTUNITIES

One of the contributing factors in choosing UMSL, Cameron says, was the Pierre Laclède Honors College, a small liberal arts college within the larger university that specializes in seminar-style, writing-intensive classes of 18 or fewer students.

As a mentor in the college, Cameron encourages students to become involved in campus organizations and to take advantage of internships – such as he did when working in the office of U.S. Rep. William Lacy Clay Jr.

"I found out there was a lot of bureaucracy-red tape [in government], and ways to get through it," Cameron says. "I felt good resolving problems for people and realized that I was pretty good at it. They gave me more cases [to resolve] as time went along."

Honors college students seem to appreciate Cameron's insights and advice, as do the instructors.

"Individually, his most important message to students has been one of campus involvement," says Kimberly Baldus, teaching professor in the honors college. "He's passionate about how such opportunities to contribute to

"Student government is what you make of it," Cameron says.
"If you put a lot into it, you'll get a lot out of it."



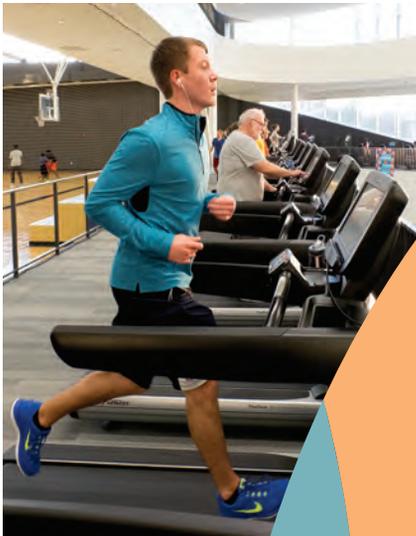
campus life benefit both the university and the students themselves.”

MOVING FORWARD

Four years and three UMSL elections later, Cameron is running fast toward spring commencement to receive his bachelor’s degree in criminology and criminal justice and minor in political science. He’s also finishing the acceptance process to study law at the University of Missouri–Kansas City in the fall.

It’s natural to think, given his history, that law is ultimately an avenue to elective office for him. But maybe not.

When asked, Cameron just smiles. And why not? His experiences and education provide him with lots of choices. ☰



Above: Cameron speaks to students in Teaching Professor Kimberly Baldus’ Pierre Laclède Honors College class. He makes frequent class visits as an honors college mentor so that he is available to his peers.

Left: At the Recreation and Wellness Center where he works as a student manager, Cameron gets a run in on a second-floor treadmill overlooking the weightlifting area on the ground floor below.



BOLDUC HOUSE MUSEUM



"The cookware and furniture are things that your great-great grandmother could have used. These objects are very human."





K.C. Strittmater > the Flood

Cherishing everyday French Colonial America...

By Ron Austin

Late December flooding in the historic French colonial district of Ste. Genevieve, Mo., could have destroyed the Bolduc House Museum and 300 years of antiquity along with it.

The nearby Mississippi River swelled to heights not reached since the Great Flood of 1993. Fortunately, the home of Monsieur Louis Bolduc survived with only minimal damage. University of Missouri–St. Louis Museum Studies graduate student and Bolduc House intern K.C. Strittmater admits she would have been devastated.

"These items are irreplaceable. They're coming from a time period that's long gone. These were living objects, things that were used every day," she says. "We're not looking at a gilded clock that was used once in a while by King Louis XIX. The cookware and furniture are things that your great-great grandmother could have used. These objects are very human. They share stories and life lessons, and to lose them suddenly would be tragic."

...and retelling tales of humanity.





K.C. Strittmater stands on the steps of the Bolduc House Museum. The extensive gallery porch and window placement served to circulate airflow and keep the house cool, an architectural innovation French traders learned from Haitians.

Strittmater's undergraduate work in philosophy, classical history and religion at Carthage College in Kenosha, Wis., cultivated her interest in the stories artifacts can tell. Moving forward in her academic career, she found herself searching for ways to make museum experiences accessible and relatable.

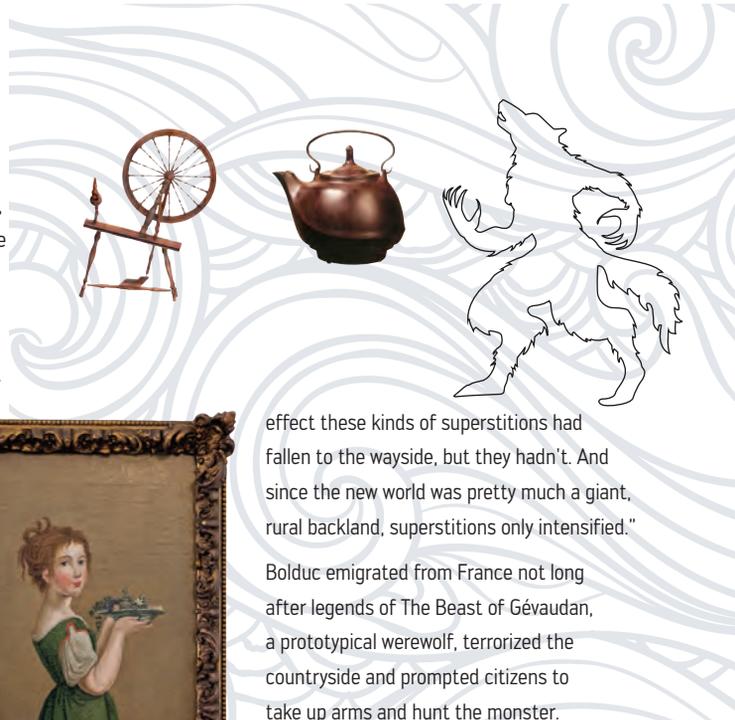
"I really wanted to help expand the field. I felt that museums appeared to be for either the very young, the very old or the elite," she says. "I really wanted to figure out how to make historic spaces more inviting for a diversity of people. Walking through a museum and learning the personal mythologies behind unassuming objects can give you a kind of strength to face the day."

Strittmater came to UMSL in 2015, started her internship at the Bolduc house and took on a variety of roles, searching for the skillset she wanted to master. She has worked with documentation, reconstruction, collections and historic preservation, yet she did not anticipate taking a crash course in disaster management.

"I called my supervisor after winter break to get back to work, and he told me 'Don't come down here. It's dangerous, and we don't want you to come down here and get stuck in the flooding and ice,'" she says. "All of our objects were moved to the top floors of the Bolduc house or offsite to St. Louis. Once the waters receded, and it was safe to return to work, we had to clean the house and reset the exhibits."

Now that the threat of catastrophe has passed, Strittmater can resume refining the unique events she has planned to attract and engage visitors. Drawing on her experience in Renaissance reenactment, she has introduced a werewolf hunt to the Bolduc house's annual Halloween festival.

"Strangely enough, the fear of werewolves was a big problem in colonial France," she says. "Superstitions and such were still very prevalent during this time period. People today believe that since the Enlightenment was in full



effect these kinds of superstitions had fallen to the wayside, but they hadn't. And since the new world was pretty much a giant, rural backland, superstitions only intensified."

Bolduc emigrated from France not long after legends of The Beast of Gévaudan, a prototypical werewolf, terrorized the countryside and prompted citizens to take up arms and hunt the monster. And like all American settlers, Bolduc would have brought his worldview to his new home, right down to the fear of supernatural creatures.

For the Bolduc house event, a gracious volunteer played the werewolf, costume and all. And instead of hunting for a ravenous beast with swords and pistols, Strittmater armed participants (ages 16 and up) with garlic rods and led them on a game of hide and seek in the Bolduc house backyard.

"Once the werewolf was captured, we had a local militia member unmask him and bring him back to his humanity," she says. "It's a very interesting story, and I wanted people to experience this in a fun way. Popular mythologies evolve over time. And at its core, the werewolf represents our fear of losing our humanity and rational thought. Are we animals? Or are we more? This fear and questioning has remained consistent over the centuries. Only our perceptions change."

Maris Boyd Gillette, E. Desmond Lee Professor of Museum Studies and Community History at UMSL, counts herself as a fan of Strittmater's energetic approach to complex theory and subject matter.

"K.C. loves to ask challenging questions and engage in deep discussions about controversial topics," Gillette says. "She is a creative thinker who puts her strong historical research skills to use in public history and cultural heritage projects that combine education and entertainment. She is a can-do person and very open to new ideas and ways of doing things."

As Strittmater dreams of working at Spain's La Sagrada Familia Basilica, she will continue to expand her skillset and invite visitors to explore minute and sweeping historical themes.

"If you take an object like your great-great-grandfather's pocket watch and put it in a museum, you make it meaningful in a broader context," she says. "It becomes more – a part of culture for your community, your country and the world." ≡



UMSL's St. Louis Mercantile Library

170 years and counting

800+ visitors to the annual **Fine Print, Rare Book & Paper Arts Fair** each May

It's been **18 years** since the Mercantile relocated to the UMSL campus, where it continues to serve scholars, library members, students, faculty and the general public.



Some **30,000** volumes relating to **railroads**, dating from the early 19th century to the present day

3,800+ objects and **150,000+** pages on the UMSL Digital Library (dl.mospace.umslsystem.edu/umsl/)

Established in **1846** along the St. Louis riverfront as the **oldest library west of the Mississippi**

200+ portraits of historical figures ranging from **Christopher Columbus to George Washington to President Obama**

600 original John James Audubon prints, including a complete set of his masterpiece double-elephant-folio **"Birds of America"**

15,000 historic river postcards from the St. Louis area river boats dating from the 1880s to the 1940s

5,000 **spit wheels** from St. Louis area river boats dating from the 1880s to the 1940s



Columbus



Optometrist Julie DeKinder offers new contact lens technology for all eye shapes, sizes

By Liam Cassidy



Associate Clinical Professor Julie DeKinder holds a mold of an eye, which started as a compound applied over the entirety of the eye and solidified to capture the corneal shape.

Contacts or glasses? It's a new and happy dilemma for patients with irregularly shaped corneas. Thanks to EyePrintPRO™, a new contact lens technology offered at the University of Missouri–St. Louis, contacts are now an option for patients with uniquely shaped eyes.

"EyePrintPRO™ is an optically clear prosthetic scleral cover shell designed to match the exact contours of the individual eye," says Julie DeKinder, associate clinical professor in the College of Optometry at UMSL. "For most patients with irregular corneal shape, a specialty contact lens will work to improve their vision. However, in some special cases, the anterior surface of the eye is so irregular not even a specialty contact lens will work."

DeKinder, along with the college's Dean Larry Davis, began work on bringing the EyePrintPRO™ technology, developed at the University of Iowa,

to UMSL after a marathon of unsuccessful contact lens fittings on several patients.

"We had been working to fit one patient for several years, and we had ordered 22 different scleral lenses," she says. "After all that, we still had not achieved an adequate fit."

But the EyePrintPRO™ solves this problem by creating a mold of the eye prior to the creation of the contact lens in the laboratory. "The eye molding is a very simple process," DeKinder says. "A gentle compound is applied to the front of the eye, much like a large contact lens. The compound sets up in about a minute and is removed. The impression process only takes a few minutes and provides the exact shape of the eye to the laboratory for duplication."

Chief of contact lens services, director of residencies and coordinator of the contact lens residency, DeKinder knows all the ins and outs

of contact lenses and their application, but she is most fascinated by specialty lens work.

"Fitting specialty contact lenses is challenging and rewarding," she says. "There are many patients that are unable to see without a specialty contact lens."

It also offers DeKinder options when she's trying to diagnose and improve a patient's vision.

"You never know what condition is going to be sitting in the exam chair," she says. "It is an amazing opportunity to figure out what is going to help each patient see the best, but more importantly, be able to live their life to the fullest. That is my goal with every patient."

And for more than 10 years DeKinder has pursued that goal at UMSL.

"I have a great deal of pride for UMSL College of Optometry," she says. "In my time here, I've seen positive change, made life-long friends and shaped a career that I am proud of." ■■■

Gordmans CEO Andrew Hall chose UMSL for accounting program, outstanding value

By Jennifer Hatton

Andrew Hall looks back on his days at the University of Missouri–St. Louis with fond memories.

“What I liked about UMSL was the real emphasis on education,” says Hall, who earned a degree in accounting in 1983. “I’ve always been thankful to the professors for the outstanding education I received.”

In August 2014, he became president and chief executive officer of Gordmans, an Omaha-based apparel and home décor chain. He is the first non-family member to lead the company.

“Thinking back, there were many professors who made an impression on me,” Halls says. “Dave Ganz, Jim Krueger, Jack Cox and Wayne Winter to name just a few. They provided their students with not only an education but the real-world tools needed to be successful.”

While attending McCluer North High School in Florissant, Mo., he knew his future included accounting, and he began looking at colleges and universities to see where he could find the accounting program that best fit him.

“UMSL was the obvious choice,” Hall says. “The strong accounting and business program, location and value proposition made it an easy decision.”

After graduation, he spent 10 years at Arthur Andersen, at the time one of the “Big 8” accounting firms. Hall was then recruited away by his largest client, May Department Stores. His time at May included stints with the operating divisions in Washington D.C., Pittsburgh and Houston. Hall ended his May career as the chairman of Foley’s, the May division in Houston.

“What I like about the retail environment is that it is a very dynamic

business, and you learn something new every day,” he says.

Since taking the helm of Gordmans, which operates 102 stores in 22 states, Hall has put the company’s focus back on its “everyday value price market proposition” and has launched an e-commerce website.

“In 2015, we made tremendous improvement in our comparable store sales trend,” he says. “The launch of our e-commerce site has helped increase sales

and makes our products more convenient and accessible for our guests.”

Even with his busy schedule and the long distance between his job in Nebraska and UMSL, Hall has continued to support his alma mater.

He’s been an active member of the Chancellor’s Council and Building and Grounds Committee since 2013.

“I think it’s important to give back to UMSL,” he says. “I credit the university for helping me achieve my goals, and I hope that I can help others to do the same.” ☰



Photo by John Mazzei

Amy Hunter

promotes understanding, peace through courage and activism

By Ron Austin

"Where we stood when it mattered will make the difference," says Amy Hunter, who has devoted herself to a vision of an inclusive society.

As director of racial diversity at the Young Women's Christian Association, she has introduced programs to the St. Louis community that promote equality regardless of race, gender or socioeconomic status. Hunter, who earned a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Missouri–St. Louis, is now working towards her MEd in social justice at UMSL. Following the events in Ferguson, Mo., she pursued her goals with new conviction.

"During this time of change, I feel that I went from just living to living with a purpose," she says.

Born and raised in University City, Mo., Hunter grounds her mission with genuine connections to her community. The University City School District Board of Education awarded her the 2016 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Spirit Award, and FOCUS St. Louis included Hunter in its prestigious 2016 list of "What's Right With The Region." Appreciative and humbled by the recognition, Hunter directs the attention from herself to her work.

"We can all make contributions toward social justice," she says. "You don't need a job in social justice or a degree."

And while a degree is not the path for every person, Hunter's studies and knowledge base reaffirm her belief that cultural awareness across the country starts with promoting equality in the classroom – a goal she says is at the core of bringing about real change.

"Strategically speaking, we need to support everyone better, teachers and students," she says. "Ninety percent of teachers are not culturally competent in a field where 36 percent of the kids are of color. Systemically, we haven't done a good job of preparing teachers for those spaces and how to be bi-cultural."

She also asserts that her time in the College of Education at UMSL with Educational Leadership Professor Matthew Davis helped shape her confidence and her voice.



"During this time of change, I feel that I went from just living to living with a purpose."

"Matthew Davis introduced me to critical race theory and how it explains why we are the way we are as a society," she says. "UMSL totally gets credit for the Amy you see now. I would not have been prepared for public engagement without practice and encouragement."

Fifteen years of organizing diversity initiatives for companies such as Edward Jones, Monsanto and Bank of America have helped Hunter develop her approach to broaching necessary dialogues.

With her communication skills in hand, Hunter shares her insights with local and national media outlets. She has written about the Ferguson

demonstrations for Essence Magazine, given a TEDx Talk on how zip codes are an indicator of systemic discrimination and discussed the Michael Brown case with CNN, CBS, PBS and the Wall Street Journal.

"As a mother of three sons and a daughter, I understood where the activism came from," Hunter says. "What happened to Mike Brown was a reminder to people of color that no matter your station or education, your child could be hurt for being black. But what might not be obvious is the hopefulness that was displayed during the protests." ≡

John Waterhouse and Kasey Woods bring renewable “energy highway” to Midwest

By Marisol Ramirez



As Ameren Corporation constructs the Illinois Rivers Transmission Line to address regional reliability needs and provide Missouri and Illinois with greater access to renewable energy resources, a pair of University of Missouri–St. Louis alumni will help guide the project to completion.

John Waterhouse and Kasey Woods are two of the three project managers overseeing the construction of the 385-mile, high-voltage power line approved by the Midcontinent Independent System Operator. The 345-kilovolt power line will travel from eastern Missouri across the state of Illinois and will consist of nine line segments with three major river crossings and 10 substations.

It's what Waterhouse calls an “energy highway.”

“A new transmission line project is usually much shorter – maybe 20 to 30 miles at the most,” Waterhouse says. “When we work on those, we are trying to improve reliability or congestion issues in that immediate area. This is much bigger. More than providing benefits to Ameren customers, it will carve out a path for renewable energy for the region.”

“It's the largest transmission investment Ameren has ever made,” Woods says. “And it's the second

largest project Ameren has ever invested in – second only to Callaway Nuclear Generating Station [near Fulton, Mo.]”

It's not the first time Waterhouse and Woods have worked together either. They met in the UMSL/ Washington University in St. Louis Joint Undergraduate Engineering Program, where they had classes together and took advantage of the exact same co-op position arranged through the program's partnership with Ameren. Each graduated in 2006 with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering.

Their co-ops turned into full-time jobs at Ameren, where they worked their way up to project management roles. Now they're in charge of the second largest project ever for the corporation.

Waterhouse is responsible for the 10 substations, which serve as integration points into the existing electrical grid.

“Lines can split off, redirect and extend into different areas,” he says. “The substations also transform the 345 kV down to 138 kV for more manageable use.”

Woods oversees all three river crossings, which have transmission towers that dwarf typical transmission steel pole structures, usually 160 feet tall.

“The shortest structures for these river crossings are 190 feet tall, and the tallest will be about 490 feet when we're done,” she says.

The nine line segments are overseen by their fellow project manager, and in all, the entire Illinois Transmission River Project is slated for completion in 2018.

“Currently two substations are completed with the remaining eight under construction,” Waterhouse says.

For Woods, the Mississippi River crossing is in the final phase. It has six tower structures, the most at any one river crossing for the project, but not the tallest. The other two crossings, still underway, have four taller towers each.

When Waterhouse and Woods aren't teaming up to help bring renewable energy to Midwest households, they team up for other important activities – like volleyball.

“Volleyball is serious,” Waterhouse teases as they both look ahead to the game later.

“We're on the same team,” Woods explains.

UMSL classmates. Co-op students. Ameren project managers. And now volleyball? It seems they've always been a team, and a good one at that. ■■■

Love for Syria, children's health inspires pre-med student Alaa Kuziez

By Evie Hemphill

Four years ago, like most seniors in high school, Alaa Kuziez faced big changes. But in addition to the usual challenges, she and her family had just fled their home country of Syria.

"The hardest part of it is you're leaving family behind, and you're leaving your friends that you've spent all your childhood with, for a strange place called Missouri that you've never been to," says Kuziez, now a senior biology major at the University of Missouri–St. Louis. "It was definitely a huge transition."

On top of adapting to a vastly different home and language, she had unexpected academic decisions to make. In Syria, Kuziez had pursued Arabic poetry, fully intending to continue down that track. But that no longer seemed feasible upon landing in English-speaking St. Louis in the wake of her home country's civil war.

"That's something I couldn't continue," says Kuziez, who was born in the U.S. but moved back to Syria with her parents and sisters when she was very young. "So I thought,

'I want to try something new.' I didn't know what I was about to get myself into."

In the summer of 2013, after graduating from Parkway West High School in Ballwin, Mo., she volunteered at a free health clinic, which set her on a path toward becoming a doctor.

"The clinic was founded by Muslim physicians, and I was able to talk with them about how they built themselves up here and went through the same process. I felt like, 'That's me right now,'" she says. Along with checking patients in and recording medical histories, Kuziez served as a translator, drawing on her bilingual abilities.

"That was the changing moment, because it was very satisfying for the patient, and I was able to bridge that gap between the patient and the physician," she says. "I wanted to contribute to that and have an impact on someone's life and make it better."

After a year at St. Louis Community College–Meramec, Kuziez received a scholarship through Phi Theta Kappa to attend UMSL, and in the fall of 2014 she took an introductory biology course that put her resolve to the test.

"I set high standards for myself, and one day I was crying, because I couldn't do it," she recalls. "My instructor saw me very frustrated, and he talked to me and reminded me that I was a good student and always going for excellence. That was a real encouragement that sticks in my mind."

Her professor's uplifting words about her are also very true, judging from her early acceptance into the highly selective UMKC Medical Scholars Program. That tentatively guarantees her a spot in the school's M.D. program after she graduates from UMSL this fall. Still, she keeps a tattered MCAT study manual close at hand, with that key exam looming.

Hoping to one day return to Syria as a pediatrician and help to alleviate the suffering that some loved ones are still experiencing, Kuziez is full of gratitude about her own journey.

"Coming to the United States, my biggest fear was that I look different and speak a different language, and with all of the conflicts going on, sometimes you feel unwanted," she says. "UMSL provided a safe atmosphere to acquire knowledge in. They didn't judge me based on my religion or any of that. I felt equal and very welcomed, and UMSL also opened my eyes to science and helped me explore my options." ■■■



THERE FROM THE BEGINNING

Biz wiz, Alumni Association President Kirk Richter gets new inclusive membership model rolling

By Marisol Ramirez



Kirk Richter, BSBA 1968, has a history of getting in on the ground floor. He declared his accounting major at the University of Missouri–St. Louis in 1964, only one year after UMSL was officially established. After 10 years in public accounting, Richter started as an accounting supervisor at a budding Sigma-Aldrich in 1978, a St. Louis-based chemical, life science and biotechnology company.

“Sigma-Aldrich was kind of like UMSL – I watched them both grow up,” he says.

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Richter stayed at Sigma-Aldrich for 34 years, moving through a variety of finance roles and serving as treasurer and vice president, until he retired in 2012 after a year as interim chief financial officer.

"Sigma-Aldrich was only \$30 million in chemical sales when I started," he says of the company recently bought by Merck in Germany. "Even though it was a publicly traded company, the family owned 80 percent of the stock at that point, so it really was more of a private company. When I left, we were \$2.5 billion in annual sales. I truly got in on the ground level."

And Richter's doing that yet again at UMSL with the Alumni Association's new all-inclusive membership model. His term as the association's president began in July 2015, coinciding with the rollout of the new membership model, which declares all alumni members by virtue of their UMSL degree. The shift away from a dues-paying model has long been in the works, but establishing the new model is Richter's primary goal as president.

"We've roughly doubled the membership," he says. "But just because we flipped the switch doesn't mean all alumni will engage. We're still trying to find ways to enhance engagement. First and foremost, we're encouraging alumni to activate their new membership card, which you have to have in order to take advantage of exclusive on- and off-campus offers available to members."

Richter also says alumni can look forward to increased variety in affinity groups.

"We're looking at things like athletics, lawyers with UMSL undergraduate degrees, honors college alumni, an

“**...ENGAGING WITH THE UNIVERSITY IS NOT A ONE-TIME TRANSACTION. WE WANT TO ENCOURAGE A LIFETIME CONNECTION.**”

engineering group," he says. "We'll see where we go from there. The point is that engaging with the university is not a one-time transaction. We want to encourage a lifetime connection."

That's not just a line from Richter either. He's made it a point to maintain a connection to the university throughout his career and retirement. He first returned to campus in the '70s as a member and multiple-term president of the business alumni chapter.

"I decided that it was important to give back to something that had helped me with my career and helped shape my values," he says. "That's why I'm still doing that today."

It also led him to get involved with the larger UMSL Alumni

Association, which he says he's proud to be a part of, especially since the restructuring of the governing board.

"We'd like to be more representative of the alumni population," Richter says, "so we're making sure we're diverse across the three generations of alumni, the different colleges as well as backgrounds. We're not all the way yet, but we've taken some great first steps."

Maintaining his connection to UMSL has Richter visiting campus weekly, whether for his input in the Chancellor's Council, his duties as Alumni Association president or his involvement with the business alumni chapter and the College of Business Administration leadership council. He says campus has come a long way since 1968.

"It's amazing, especially with the new Recreation and Wellness Center," he says. "But we've also been working on a new building for the business college. It goes back three deans ago when we first started talking about the college needing its own facility, so it's nice to finally see it coming to fruition and the dirt beginning to be moved on West Drive.

"It is an exciting time to be part of the UMSL community," Richter says. "UMSL alumni represent the past, present and future of what UMSL is all about."

Check out the UMSL Alumni Association online at umslalumni.org/youbelong or call **314-516-5833**. Tell them Kirk sent you!

60s

Harvey L. Yusman, Esq., BSBA 1969, joined St. Louis-based Lathrop & Gage as a counsel specializing in domestic and international businesses regarding trademark, copyright, licensing, transactions and trade secret issues.

Deceased

Gail D. Lewis, BSEd 1967, on July 19, 2015. Gail is survived by her husband, Walter Lewis.

Douglas R. Lund, BA 1967, on Sept. 21, 2015.

Thomas M. Mayer, BSBA 1968, on Dec. 3, 2015. Thomas is survived by his wife, Rita.

Frank A. Lipski, BS 1969, on Nov. 28, 2015. Frank is survived by his wife, Carolyn, two sons and two grandchildren.

Mark A. Lause, BA 1976, wrote "The Collapse of Price's Raid: The Beginning of the End in Civil War Missouri," published by University of Missouri Press. Mark is a senior professor of American history at the University of Cincinnati in Ohio, specializing in social and labor history.

Deborah J. Patterson, MA 1976, retired from a 17-year career as the president of the Monsanto Fund.

Jeffrey A. Daniels Sr., BSBA 1977, was named general manager at Ruth's Chris Steak House in Clayton, Mo.



Ann M. Frey, BSEd 1979, MA 1992, joined St. Louis-based Greensfelder, Hemker & Gale as an associate attorney.



Deceased

Richard M. Engelhardt, BSEd 1971, on Nov. 23, 2015. Richard is survived by his wife, Nancy, four children and five grandchildren.

Charles W. Yates, MEd 1971, on Dec. 6, 2015. Charles is survived by his wife, Sally, two children and four grandchildren.

Roger J. Statler, BSBA 1973, on Jan. 20. Roger is survived by his wife, Sheryl; three children, Andrew, Erik, and Molly; and four grandchildren.

Emile G. Woolley, BSBA 1973, on Jan. 10. Emile is survived by his wife, Carol.

Elaine C. Childress, BSEd 1974, MS 1990, on July 18. Elaine is survived by her husband, Douglas Kurka, mother and ten siblings.

Ginni W. Bowie, BA 1977, MEd 1986, on Dec. 19, 2015. Ginni is survived by her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and many friends.

Emily F. Christensen, MEd 1977, EdD 2002, on Sept. 29, 2015. Emily is survived by her husband, John, two children and two grandchildren.

Donald P. Hanlon, BSBA 1977, on Jan. 12. Donald is survived by his wife, Maureen; four sons, Steve, Rick, Matt, and Tim; and ten grandchildren.

Paul B. Friedrich, BSEd 1978, on Jan. 14. Paul is survived by many family and friends.

Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to **John W. Ruggeri**, BS 1972, on the death of his wife, Cynthia.

Sympathy is extended to **Dorothy L. White-Coleman, Esq.**, BA 1973, on the death of her mother, Willie Neal White.

70s

Sanford A. Asher, PhD, BA 1971, received the 2016 Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh Analytical Chemistry Award. Sanford is a professor of chemistry at the University of Pittsburgh and director of the Asher Research Group.

John E. Rossfeld, BA 1971, was appointed chief executive officer of Antelope Valley Hospital in Lancaster, Calif.

Phyllis M. Smith, BSEd 1972, was presented with the Annie Award by the Los Angeles branch of the International Animated Film Association for outstanding voice acting in a feature film for her work in Pixar's "Inside Out."

Jere I. Hochman, BA 1974, MEd 1978, was named deputy secretary for education in New York by Gov. Andrew Cuomo.



Janet M. Duchek, MD, BA 1976, was awarded a 2015 Excellence in Teaching Award by Emerson. Janet is an associate professor of psychology at Washington University in St. Louis.

80s

George E. Bardenheier Jr., BSBA 1980, joined Web Decisions, Inc., in Greensboro, N.C., as president.

Nancy J. Hoeing, BA 1980, BSBA 1989, was promoted to vice president of finance at Intelica Commercial Real Estate in Chesterfield, Mo.

Kevin P. Brueseke, BSBA 1981, was named president of Conservation Employees' Credit Union in Jefferson City, Mo.

George Paz, BSBA 1982, was appointed to the Prudential Financial, Inc., board of directors. George is chairman of Express Scripts in St. Louis.



Susan M. Benton, Esq., MBA 1983, joined the Chicago law firm Butler Ruben Saltarelli & Boyd as a partner. She focuses on labor and employment law.

Timothy D. Meyer, BSBA 1983, was promoted to managing broker at RedKey Realty Leaders' west St. Louis county's branch.

Jeffrey B. Connelly, BSBA 1984, joined EPIC Insurance Brokers and Consultants as senior vice president and client executive in EPIC's Greyling Insurance Brokers Division in St. Louis.

Amy B. Kveskin, BSBA 1985, was named vice chancellor for finance and chief financial officer of Washington University in St. Louis.



Laurie A. Roades, BA 1985, MA 1989, PhD 1994, joined California State University, Fullerton as dean of the College of Health and Human Development.



Mark J. Arnold, BA 1986, MBA 1990, was awarded a 2015 Excellence in Teaching Award by Emerson in St. Louis. Mark is a professor of marketing at Saint Louis University.

Matthew D. Shank, MA 1986, PhD 1988, was inducted into the Ritenour School District Hall of Fame. Matthew is president of Marymount University in Arlington, Va.



Matthew J. Aubuchon, MBA 1987, was appointed to the FOCUS St. Louis board of directors. Matt is vice president of employee relations at Boeing.

Raymond H. Bayer Jr., BSBA 1987, joined the First Bank of St. Charles (Mo.) board of directors. Raymond is the executive director and chief executive officer of the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority.

Jane A. Spooner, BA 1987, was promoted to director of development and growth at RedKey Realty Leaders in St. Louis.



Thomas D. Darrough, BSBA 1988, was appointed by Gov. Jay Nixon to serve as the new Boone County treasurer in Columbia, Mo.

Scott A. Graves, BSBA 1988, joined St. Louis-based Armstrong Teasdale as chief financial officer.

Suzanna K. Long, MA 1988, was named an American Society of Engineering Management Fellow. Suzanna is interim chair and associate professor of engineering management and systems engineering at Missouri University of Science and Technology in Rolla, Mo.

Patrick T. Dorsey, BA 1989, wrote the book "Haunted Webster Groves," published by Factual Planet.

Edward H. Protzel, MA 1989, wrote "The Lies That Bind," published by TouchPoint Press.



Deceased

Charles F. Ruzicka, BGS 1980, on Dec. 18, 2015. Charles is survived by his wife, Esmeralda, and many family members and friends.

Kay M. Karras, BA 1983, on Aug. 18, 2015. Kay is survived by her mother, Frieda, and two sisters.

Wilbur G. Ericson, BA 1985, on Feb. 7. Wilbur is survived by three sons, Kevin, Gary and Kyle, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Beckie A. Hillstead, BSEd 1986, on Sept. 8, 2015. Beckie is survived by her husband, David, two children, and three grandchildren.

Frances G. Burlis, BSN 1987, on Jan. 4. Frances is survived by her husband, Norbert, seven children, eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Linda L. Pflueger, BSEd 1987, MEd 1996, on Oct. 8, 2015. Linda is survived by five children and six grandchildren.

Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to **Ivann E. Greene**, BA 1980, on the death of his brother, Walter C. Greene, Jr.

Sympathy is extended to **Robert D. Gaddie**, BSBA 1981, on the death of his father, Robert E. Gaddie.

Sympathy is extended to **Sandra A. Van Trease**, BSBA 1982, on the death of her mother-in-law, Vernell Van Trease.

Sympathy is extended to **Mark G. Scheele**, BS 1984, on the death of his mother, Elizabeth Scheele.

Sympathy is extended to **Sheryl M. Statler**, BSBA 1988, on the death of her husband, alumnus Roger Statler.

90s

Donald E. Cwikowski Jr., BA 1990, joined Siemens Product Life Management Software's St. Louis branch as a senior information developer.

Marialana S. Speidel, BS 1990, MS 2004, was awarded a 2015 Excellence in Teaching Award by Emerson. Marialana is an associate professor of biology at Jefferson College in Hillsboro, Mo.

Tracie I. Berry-McGhee, BA 1991, MEd 1998, was honored by the National Council of Negro Women, Inc. Gateway Metropolitan Section. Tracie is the founder and executive director at SistaKeeper Empowerment Center in Florissant, Mo.

Mark A. Greenley, BSBA 1991, was promoted to regional president at Pulaski Bank in St. Louis.

David T. Byrd, BSBA 1992, was named chief financial officer for The Hospitals of Providence Transmountain Campus in El Paso, Texas.

Julie E. Fletcher, BEd 1992, was awarded a 2015 Excellence in Teaching Award by Emerson. Julie is a K-12 teacher for the Special School District of St. Louis County.

Sally K. Black, BEd 1993, MEd 1996, was awarded a 2015 Excellence in Teaching Award by Emerson. Sally is a special education teacher at Henderson Elementary School in St. Charles, Mo.

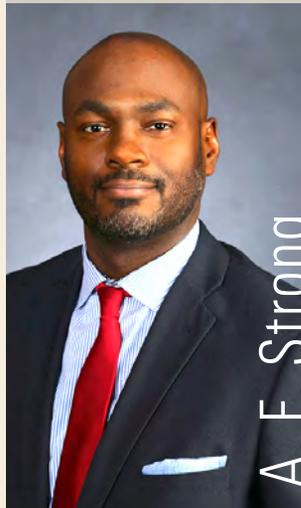
Colleen T. Condren, BA 1993, was selected to participate in the spring 2016 class of Coro Women In Leadership program through FOCUS St. Louis. Colleen is the director of community outreach programs at Youth In Need, a local nonprofit.

Mark Anthony Jones, BEd 1993, joined St. Louis-based Smart Kids, Inc., as program executive director.

Daniel D. Horridge, BEd 1994, was awarded a 2015 Excellence in Teaching Award by Emerson. Daniel is a seventh-grade math teacher at Festus (Mo.) Middle School.

DeJeanette R. Williams, BEd 1994, MEd 2004, was honored by the National Council of Negro Women, Inc. Gateway Metropolitan Section. DeJeanette is a counselor at Carr Lane Middle School in St. Louis.

Robert A. Stockland Jr., MS 1996, PhD 1999, wrote "Practical Functional Group Synthesis," published by Wiley Press. Robert is a professor of chemistry at Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pa.



A. F. Strong

Antonio F. Strong, BSBA 1996, was promoted to deputy director of finance and administration at Lambert-St. Louis International Airport.

Joseph L. Yancey, MPPA 1996, was appointed to the newly created crime-fighting strategy commission by St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay. Joseph is executive director at Places for People in St. Louis.

Julia Burke, MEd 1997, was appointed associate superintendent for human resources in the Hazelwood School District in Florissant, Mo.



J. Burke

Shaughnessy H. Daniels, BA 1997, was named vice president of community support at St. Louis Arc.

Lisa A. Meadows, MSN 1997, was selected to participate in the spring 2016 class of Coro Women In Leadership program through FOCUS St. Louis. Lisa is the manager of Healthy Kids Express at St. Louis Children's Hospital.

Joseph L. Reilly, BSBA 1997, was promoted to chief technology strategist at Zions Bancorporation in Salt Lake City. Prior to this position, Joseph served as chief information officer for the company.

Joseph C. Blanner, BSPA 1998, received a 2016 St. Louis Business Journal's 40 Under 40 award. Joseph was also selected for the Client Choice Awards by Lexology, an e-resource and legal newsstand. He is a partner at McCarthy, Leonard & Kaemmerer in St. Louis.

Mary Harris, MEd 1998, was promoted to school superintendent for the Francis Howell School District in St. Charles, Mo.

Mary D. McGuire, MA 1998, PhD 2001, was awarded a 2015 Excellence in Teaching Award by Emerson. Mary is an associate professor of criminology and criminal justice at Saint Louis University.

James T. Murphy, BSACC 1999, joined St. Louis-based Foresight Energy as principal financial officer.



Leigh A. Rolnicki, MEd 1999, PhD 2004, was honored by the National Council of Negro Women, Inc., Gateway Metropolitan Section. Leigh is the founder and executive director of LoveU2Pieces in St. Louis.

David G. Spear, BFA 1999, painted "Tribute to Blind Boone," which was selected for the 2015 Commemorative Poster for the City of Columbia, Mo.

Marilyn L. Wilson, BGS 1999, was selected to participate in the spring 2016 class of Coro Women In Leadership program through FOCUS St. Louis. Marilyn is the hospital liaison for Amanda Luckett Murphy Hopewell Center in St. Louis.

Deceased

Norka R. Maldonado, BA 1990, on July 20, 2015. Norka is survived by her husband, Craig, five siblings and daughter.

Gary E. Bischoff, BA 1994, on Dec. 11, 2015. Gary is survived by his parents and brother.

Gail F. Babcock, BA 1998, on Dec. 14, 2015. Gail is survived by her son, Zachary, and three grandchildren.

Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to **Paul J. Niggemeier**, BSBA 1990, on the death of his father, Joseph Niggemeier.



00s

Christine K. Hustedde, BSW 2000, was selected to participate in the fall 2015 class of Coro Women In Leadership program through FOCUS St. Louis. Christine is executive director at Crime Victim Advocacy Center in St. Louis.

Tyler D. Roy, MEd 2000, joined the Southern Illinois Healthcare Foundation as a licensed clinical professional counselor at the Mother & Child Center in Centreville, Ill.

Ruth E. Thaler-Carter, BGS 2000, was awarded a 2015 Big Pencil Award from Writers and Books in Rochester, N.Y.

G. C. Mitten



Gina C. Mitten, BGS 2001, was awarded the 2015 Missouri Bar Legislative Award. Gina is a Missouri State Representative for the 83rd district.

Nikedra D. Doughty, BA 2002, received a 2016 St. Louis Business Journal's 40 Under 40 award. Nikedra is the chief operating officer at City Academy in St. Louis.

Orvin T. Kimbrough, MBA 2002, was named one of the "Most Successful 40 Under 40" honorees by the St. Louis Business Journal. Orvin was named to the weekly newspaper's "40 Under 40" list in 2010 and is president and chief executive officer of United Way of Greater St. Louis.



Heather J. Rodgers, BA 2002, MA 2004, was awarded a 2015 Excellence in Teaching Award by Emerson. Heather is a professor of English at St. Charles (Mo.) Community College.

Kelly L. Pollock, MPPA 2003, was selected as a 2016 Eisenhower Fellow. Kelly is the executive director of Center of Creative Arts in St. Louis.

Daniel C. Reynolds, MPPA 2003, was promoted to managing partner at Holmes, Radford & Avalon, a St. Louis-based fundraising and capital campaign consulting firm.

Christopher M. Young-El, MEd 2003, EDSP 2008, joined Barack Obama Elementary School in St. Louis as assistant principal.

E. A. Ashwell



Elizabeth A. Ashwell, MPPA 2004, joined the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget in Washington, D.C. as the manager for strategic initiatives.

Jeffrey A. Herman, BA 2004, joined the St. Louis Law Firm Greensfelder, Hemker & Gale as an attorney in the employee benefits practice group.

W. Covington Jr.



Wendell Covington Jr., MEd 2001, was named president and chief executive officer of the Mathews-Dickey Boys and Girls Club in St. Louis.



N. Ramic

Nedim Ramic, BSBA 2004, was appointed to the newly created crime-fighting strategy commission by St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay. Nedim is a personal injury attorney at Bajric & Ramic Law Office in St. Louis.

Andre Stevens, BSBA 2004, was honored at The St. Louis American Foundation's 6th Annual Salute to Young Leaders Awards and Networking Reception. Andre is the manager of Daugherty Business Solutions in St. Louis.

Christine E. Syron, BSEd 2005, was awarded a 2015 Excellence in Teaching Award by Emerson in St. Louis. Christine is a language arts teacher at Pacific (Mo.) High School.

Brenda C. Talbot, BLS 2005, joined The Simon Law Firm in St. Louis as a marketing manager.

Heather D. Thompson, BSN 2005, MSN 2008, joined St. Luke's Hospital in Chesterfield, Mo., as director of nursing.

Deborah D. Weber, BSBA 2005, was appointed to the board of directors for Kids In The Middle, a St. Louis nonprofit that counsels children and families during and after divorce. Deborah is a real estate agent at Keller Williams Realty Southwest in St. Louis.



Alison M. Engelhardt, BA 2006, joined US Bank's St. Louis office as asset manager of new markets tax credits and historic tax credits.

Brian R. Salmo, BSBA 2006, joined LMI Aerospace in St. Louis as the assistant general counsel.

Justin M. Bennett, BSW 2007, MSW 2010, was appointed by Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon to the State Committee for Social Workers.

Lawanda M. Jones, MBA 2007, received an Alumni Merit Award from Missouri University Science and Technology. LaWanda is a project lead and corporate marketing manager for ABNA Engineering in St. Louis.

Justin P. Marty, BSACC 2007, MAcc 2009, was promoted to supervisor at St. Louis-based Anders CPAs + Advisors.

Milton Muldrow, MS 2007, was appointed chair of the science department at Wilmington University in New Castle, DE.

Julie E. Turner, PhD 2007, was awarded a 2015 Excellence in Teaching Award by Emerson. Julie is an associate professor and chair of nonprofit administration at Lindenwood University in St. Charles, Mo.

Brunetta Blackshear, MEd 2008, was awarded a 2015 Excellence in Teaching Award by Emerson. Brunetta is a fourth-grade teacher at Barack Obama Elementary in St. Louis.

Matthew E. Chrapek, BSCIE 2008, joined St. Louis-based Thouvenot, Wade & Moerchen as the railway engineering manager.

Lisa D. Clancy, BSW 2008, was selected to participate in the spring 2016 class of Coro Women In Leadership program through FOCUS St. Louis. Lisa is the program manager for the social innovation district at Wyman Center.

Antionette D. Carroll, BS 2009, MA 2012, was named president of AIGA-Saint Louis.

Lauren C. Collins, BA 2009, joined HeplerBroom's Edwardsville office as an associate attorney.

Stephanie M. Lumms, BA 2009, was awarded the YLS Pro Bono Award for 2015. Stephanie is a staff attorney at ArchCity Defenders in St. Louis.

Marriages

Michael P. Blum, BFA 2003, to Yaimairis Matos on Sept. 20, 2015.

Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to **Curtis E. McClanahan II**, BSBA 2006, on the death of his mother, Teresa Sartors.

10s

Angela T. Haywood-Gaskin, MEd 2010, was honored by the National Council of Negro Women, Inc., Gateway Metropolitan Section. Angela is principal at Better Learning Communities Academy in Florissant, Mo.

Susan R. Jones, BA 2010, joined Emed Medical in Bridgeton, Mo. as supplier diversity manager. Susan is also the newly reelected president of the St. Louis Board of Education.

Angela M. Perkins, MEd 2010, was selected to participate in the spring 2016 class of Coro Women In Leadership program through FOCUS St. Louis. Angela is a university relations recruiter at Monsanto.

Daniel P. Pimmel, MAcc 2010, was promoted to manager of assurance services at RubinBrown in St. Louis.

Kelly B. Harrell, BSACC 2011, was promoted to senior accountant at St. Louis-based Kiefer Bonfanti & Co.

Leonora C. Muhammad, BSN 2011, was promoted to senior clinical education and training specialist at Corizon Health in St. Louis.

Sharde D. Waller, BSACC 2011, joined St. Louis-based Brown Smith Wallace as a financial operational auditor.



Joe A. Wilson, MS 2011, PhD 2014, was awarded a 2015 Excellence in Teaching Award by Emerson. Joe is a professor of chemistry at St. Louis Community College – Forest Park where he was also honored as 2015 Forest Park Teacher of the Year.

Akif Cogo, BA 2012, received a 2016 St. Louis Business Journal's 40 Under 40 award. Akif is an assistant director at Saint Louis University. He is also the historian and archivist for St. Louis Bosnians.



Jennifer L. Morton, BA 2012, MA 2014, joined St. Louis-based Colarelli, Meyer & Associates as an associate consultant.

Brian P. Riggs, BSBA 2012, joined St. Louis-based Wamhoff Financial Planning and Accounting as an analyst.

Darmawan Triwibowo, MPPA 2012, was appointed to serve as executive director of the TIFA Foundation, overseeing the Open Society Foundation's efforts in Indonesia.

Shajara Williams, BA 2012, joined Nestle Purina's St. Louis office as a human resources analytics contractor.

Matthew E. Wood, BSACC 2012, MAcc 2015, joined KPMG's St. Louis branch as a federal tax associate.

Dongxue Zhao, MS 2012, PhD 2015, joined Greenville College in Greenville, Ill., as an assistant professor of engineering and physics.



Leonard Johnson, MPPA 2013, was honored at The St. Louis American Foundation's 6th Annual Salute to Young Leaders Awards and Networking Reception. Leonard is the deputy chief of staff at the City of St. Louis Treasurer's Office.

Lexis M. Riter, BS 2013, joined the Missouri Department of Conservation as the new Jefferson County conservation agent.

Ciera L. Simril, BA 2013, was selected by Mayor Francis Slay to serve on the Civilian Oversight Board in St. Louis City.

Lindsey M. Weatherby, BSEd 2013, MEd 2015, was selected to participate in the fall 2015 class of Emerging Leaders through FOCUS St. Louis. Lindsey is a special education teacher in the Special School District in St. Louis.

Pamela Westbrook-Hodge, MBA 2013, was appointed to Normandy (Mo.) Schools Collaborative's Joint Executive Governing Board by the Missouri State Board of Education. Pamela is a senior director of governance and systems for corporate procurement at Express Scripts in St. Louis.



Alexandra K. Willis, BSW 2013, was selected to participate in the fall 2015 class of Emerging Leaders through FOCUS St. Louis. Alexandra is a social worker at Fathers' Support Center in St. Louis.

Samir Alic, BSBA 2014, joined Edward Jones in St. Louis as an insurance service specialist.

Nikolaus C. Brym, BSACC 2014, joined St. Louis-based Anders CPAs + Advisors as a tax supervisor.

Jason L. Emmerson, MPPA 2014, was named executive director of United Caring Services in Evansville, Ind.

Sharonica L. Hardin, PhD 2014, was chosen to serve as the next superintendent for the University City (Mo.) School District.



S. Hardin

Eric C. Jones, BSACC 2014, joined St. Louis-headquartered World Wide Technology as an international tax accountant.

Brian T. Lovinguth, MS 2014, joined MilliporeSigma's St. Louis branch as an account development specialist.



Y'Londa Mitchell, MEd 2014, was selected to participate in the fall 2015 class of Emerging Leaders through FOCUS St. Louis. Y'Londa is a case manager and support services therapist at Safe Connections in St. Louis.

Deryk A. Weber, BS 2014, joined the Missouri State Highway Patrol Troop C. Deryk has been assigned to Zone 13, serving Jefferson (Mo.) County.

Ashley K. Conine, MPPA 2015, was promoted to associate director of events at Pedal the Cause St. Louis.

Dustin J. Hetke, OD 2015, joined Kivlin Eye Clinic in Menomonie, Wis., as an optometrist.

Marriages

Lyndsey E. Auer, BA 2010, to Eric Evans on Aug. 8, 2015.

Emily L. Augustyniak, BA 2011, to Joshua Resch on July 18, 2015.

Amanda M. Beard, MBA 2012, to David Amoroso on Oct. 3, 2015.

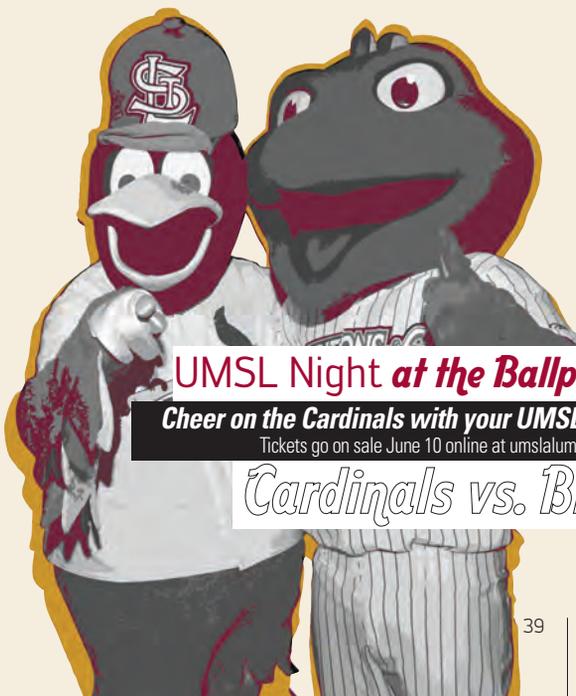
Deceased

Pete Chang, BS 2010, on Dec. 12, 2015. Pete is survived by his fiancée, parents, family and friends.

Eric T. Weston, BLS 2011, on January 5. Eric is survived by his parents and five siblings.

Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to **Richard J. Edmiston**, BA 2012, on the death of his mother, Sally Ann Edmiston.



UMSL Night at the Ballpark Sept. 9

Cheer on the Cardinals with your UMSL family!

Tickets go on sale June 10 online at umslalumni.org/Cardinals2016.

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*It won't be a golden
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Plan to be there! The University of Missouri–St. Louis' first graduating class is coming up on its 50th anniversary next year. The class of 1967 will celebrate a Golden Reunion Weekend in May of 2017 during the university's commencement ceremonies. Class reunion co-chairs are **Lois Brockmeier Schoemehl**, BA English, and **Jack Sieber**, BSBA.

Are you a member of the class of 1967? Join the UMSL Office of Alumni Engagement and the UMSL Alumni Association in planning the big bash.

Contact Donna Carothers at 314-516-6453 or by email at donna_carothers@umsl.edu.