

UMSL

magazine

Spring 2013



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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 83,000, and the magazine is released twice a year.

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Departments

- 4 In brief
- 7 In his own words
- 8 In print
- 26 UMSL people
- 28 Alumni news
- 29 Class notes

10 decade by decade

Take a look back at the University of Missouri–St. Louis through the eyes of six alumni.

18 umsl ancestry

Legacy families point to the university's maturation and success.



Dear Readers



Dear Readers

The University of Missouri–St. Louis was dedicated in September 1963 on the former site of the Bellerive Country Club. Classes were initially held in the former clubhouse and nearby storefronts along Natural Bridge Road. There were 32 faculty members, 672 students and no colleges or schools.

Today, we're stronger than ever with nearly 17,000 students, more than 85,000 alumni and 2,700 faculty and staff members. We have an annual budget of \$200 million. We're home to 10 colleges and schools, and we offer 91 degree programs.

Turning a golf course into a nationally recognized research university in 50 years is no small feat, and there's no shortage of heroes and heroics. Hundreds of thousands of people have contributed to, and benefited from, our growth. You've read about some of those heroes in past issues of this magazine, and you'll find more of their stories in this one.

But over the years, two individuals have drawn universal praise – Normandy (Mo.) School District Superintendent Ward E. Barnes (c. 1904-1993) and University of Missouri President Elmer Ellis (1901-1989). Respected educators and longtime friends, Barnes and Ellis were persistent and persuasive in making the case for a University of Missouri campus in St. Louis.

It's hard to imagine the solidarity they generated for UMSL being replicated today. They convinced Normandy residents to give away 128 acres of prime real estate. They created nearly unanimous political support throughout Missouri to change existing laws to make the land transfer legal, and they secured startup funding for buildings and faculty.

Barnes and Ellis were visionaries. In fact, all of our university founders were visionaries. Even so, I doubt any of them fully realized what would be accomplished in 50 years.

Ellis said as much at the campus' dedication. He outlined the foundation for a strong liberal arts curriculum but added, "What our successors in another generation will see to build [UMSL] into only time can tell."

Those successors have achieved great things and continue to do so. And you and me and every alumnus and the entire St. Louis area – we're all the beneficiaries.

Sincerely,

Thomas F. George

Chancellor

24

22 **committee of 28**

Residents of the Normandy School District work to transform a golf course into a leading university.

24 **our founders**

Determined lawmakers and one piece of legislation help create UMSL.



On the cover

UMSL opened in 1963 on the grounds of a former country club. Celebrating our 50th anniversary, we take a look back.



A brew for the U

At 50 years old, the University of Missouri—St. Louis has cemented its status as a significant part of St. Louis history.

In a nod to UMSL's half century of scholarship and community building, Ferguson Brewing Company created Jubilee Brew, a special release Irish red ale. Ferguson Brewmaster Josh Wilson (pictured left with brewery owner Joe Lonero) selected the style based on red being UMSL's

official color and the ale's accessible flavor profile. Wilson describes the beer as having a subtle hop presence that takes a back seat to caramel and biscuit flavors.

Want to try the beer? Jubilee Brew will remain on tap throughout 2013 at Ferguson Brewing, located just down the road from UMSL at 418 S. Florissant Road in Ferguson, Mo. Visit fergusonbrewing.com for more information.

Jubilee Kickoff: University celebrates 50 years in spectacular fashion

The University of Missouri–St. Louis threw quite the party Feb. 1 to mark its 50th anniversary. More than 1,600 alumni, friends, students, faculty and staff turned out for the Jubilee Kickoff at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center. The night was filled to the brim with bestselling author and critically acclaimed motivational speaker Shep Hyken (BA communication 1982), a champagne reception, music by The Fabulous Motown Review and a fireworks display. Frank Cusumano (BA communication 1984), sports anchor at KSDK (Channel 5) in St. Louis, was the master of ceremonies.



Communication researcher says 'Biggest Loser' stokes anti-fat attitudes

From tears to treadmill falls, NBC's popular reality weight loss show "The Biggest Loser" packs an emotional punch. But instead of fostering empathy for people struggling to shed pounds, the show actually has the opposite effect on viewers, according to a study by Jina Yoo (pictured).

The associate professor of communication at the University of Missouri–St. Louis found that "The Biggest Loser" foments anti-fat attitudes by leading viewers to believe weight control is up to the willpower of individuals. This negative perception is fueled by the fact viewers repeatedly watch obese contestants lose up to 100 pounds in three months.

"The show frames obesity as a matter of personal responsibility and behavioral solutions, ignoring societal or environmental contributors," Yoo says.

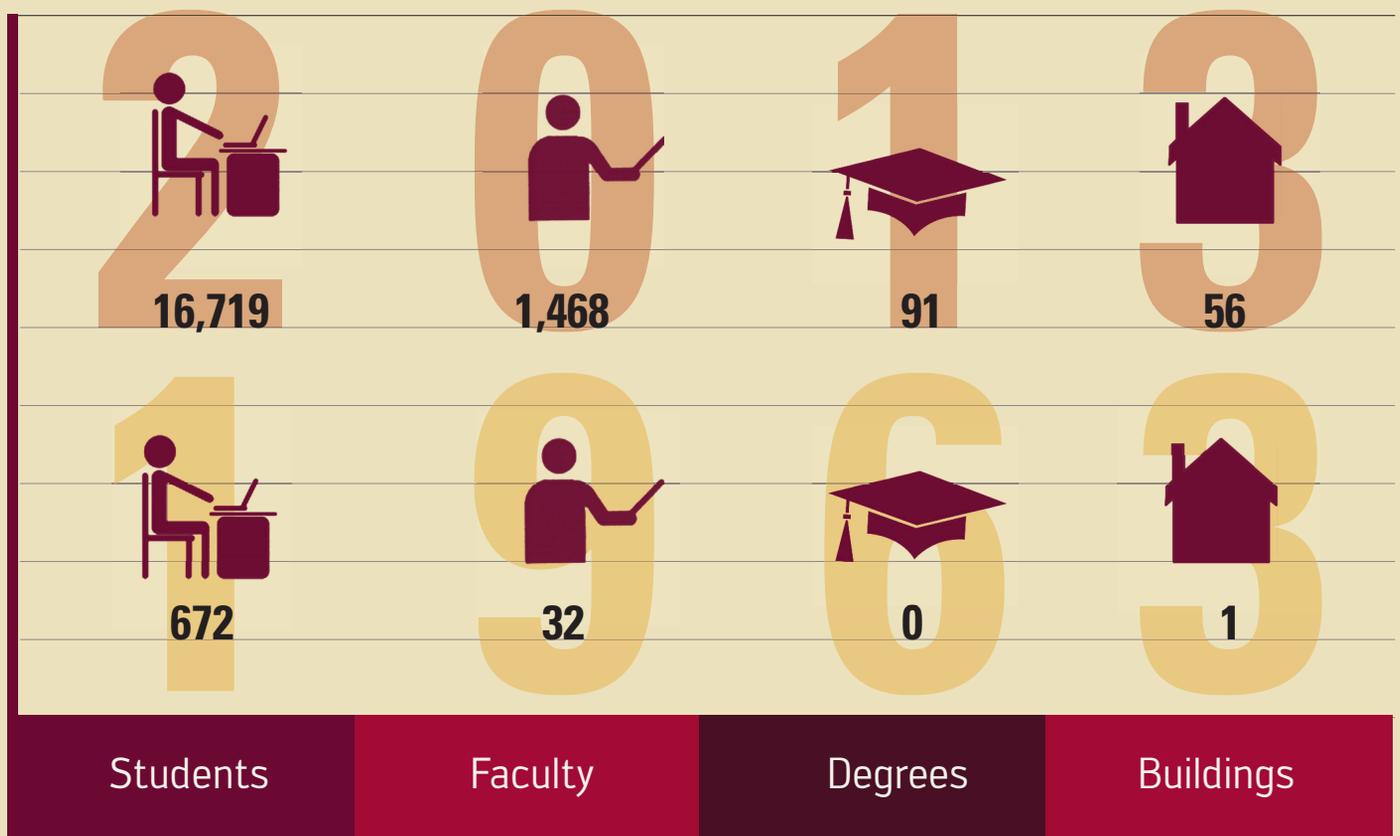
She also found that individuals who are more concerned with their weight watch more episodes of the show.

The study, "No Clear Winner: Effects of The Biggest Loser on the Stigmatization of Obese Persons," was published in June in the journal Health Communication.



UMSL@50

Look how far we've come



We educate St. Louis



61,000 in the St. Louis area alone, giving UMSL the **largest alumni population** in the region.

In his own words

Veteran faculty member discusses a maturing metropolitan university

By Tom Hockett

With time comes perspective, and the 44 years that Terry Jones has worked for the University of Missouri–St. Louis have provided the political science professor with a view that's unique and revealing.

Still in his twenties, he joined UMSL in 1969 – six years after it opened. Jones grew up in St. Louis and earned a bachelor's degree in economics at Saint Louis University. He edited the student newspaper there, worked as a stringer for the St. Louis Globe-Democrat and planned to pursue a career in journalism.

But in the early 1960s, the higher-education community and the federal government recognized that, without action, there wouldn't be enough university faculty to handle America's oncoming wave of college students who were baby boomers. Strong undergraduates, like Jones, were recruited into doctoral programs with offers of assistantships and fellowships. He went on to earn a doctoral degree at Georgetown University in Washington.

At UMSL, he's been the chair of the Department of Political Science twice, including his current stint, which began in 2010. Jones directed the Public Policy Administration Program, and he was the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from 1983 to 1997.

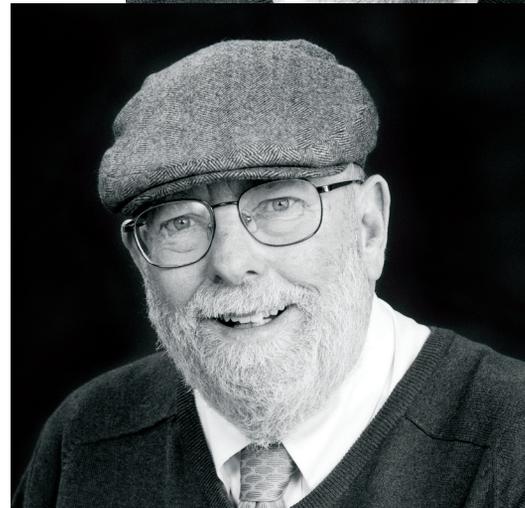
His research covers public policy, metropolitan governance, public opinion, strategic planning and surveying. He's written three books, including "The Metropolitan Chase: Politics and Policies in Urban America."

UMSL was in its infancy when you came here in 1969. What was attractive about joining the university?

It was an emerging metropolitan public university, and that's the type of university I wanted to be a part of. We were developing a public university in a metropolitan area that serves the area primarily through teaching and research but also by extending that teaching and research into the community. It was exciting. At that point, I was 28 years old. I was very eager to make a difference – not simply as an individual scholar but in shaping an institution. UMSL offered me the opportunity to do that at a young age.

The College of Arts and Sciences evolved quite a bit under your leadership. What was your focus then?

I had a passion about connecting the university to the community. There were 18 departments in the college. I worked with many of them to help them think through what being in a metropolitan area meant, how that was different for them and how they might adjust their programs and approach to take advantage of our location. For example, we really built the criminology and criminal justice department. Safety is an important issue in a metropolitan area and to have a program that researched in that area and delivered advice was critical.



There have been many changes to the university since it was established. What's an important one that comes to mind?

I think one very significant change is that about 15 years ago we very consciously, as an institution, said, "We don't have enough international students on campus." For a lot of our students it's not feasible to study abroad, so if you can't send students overseas, then you bring overseas to the students. Now we're up to around 1,000 international students, so if you're teaching a class, there are two to five international students in the classroom. The face of the campus is different and better.

What about students overall? Have they changed much in 44 years?

This is not every UMSL student, but the prototypical UMSL student remains the same. They are between 25 and 35. For one or another reason, they didn't go to college right away or more frequently went a bit and got distracted. But then they come here, and they're very serious about education and somewhat concerned about their ability to succeed. We are a bootstrap for them, and they are a joy to not only teach but to watch develop in the community. It's very satisfying to see our alumni in those pictures of St. Louis leaders in a publication like the St. Louis Business Journal and say, "That's what we were thinking of in the 1970s and 1980s." ☰

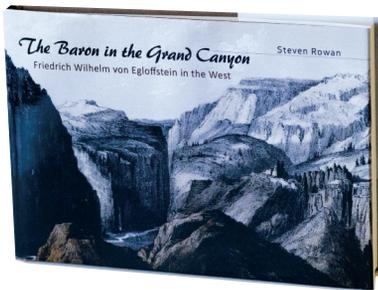
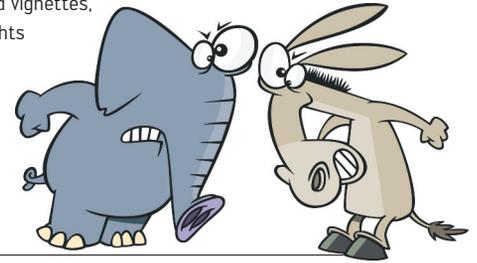
Books by UMSL faculty

“Stuff ‘n’ Nonsense: A Hodge-Podge of Whimsical, Sober and Politically Incorrect Musings”

BY HARRY H. BASH

Inkwater Press, November 2011

Harry Bash, associate professor emeritus of sociology, tells it like it is in his comically frank book about society and political events of the past two decades. The book includes blatantly opinionated vignettes, essays and snippets focused on social persona and thoughts on current affairs. Bash views these happenings through a sociological lens but maintains a humorous tone with a cynicism that verges on satire.

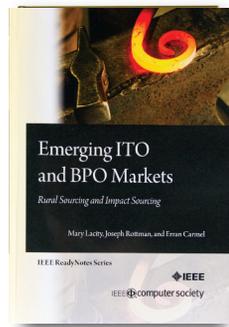


“The Baron in the Grand Canyon: Friedrich Wilhelm von Egloffstein in the West”

BY STEVEN ROWAN

University of Missouri Press, August 2012

When considering the American West, the name Friedrich Wilhelm von Egloffstein probably doesn't come to mind. Professor of History Steven W. Rowan delves into the German artist and cartographer's explorations of the mountain west between 1853 and 1858, as well as Egloffstein's photographic printing process and production of maps – two of which are considered classics of American art and cartography from the 19th century. Accompanying Rowan's rich account are numerous images, including a photograph of Egloffstein himself in 1865.



“Emerging ITO and BPO Markets: Rural Sourcing and Impact Sourcing”

CO-WRITTEN BY MARY LACITY AND JOSEPH ROTTMAN

IEEE Computer Society Press, October 2012

Mary Lacity, Curators' Professor of Information Systems, and Joseph Rottman, director of the International Business Institute and associate professor of information systems, explore two overlapping niche sourcing markets, specifically those that practice information technology outsourcing or business process outsourcing to low-cost, non-urban areas and those that hire and train marginalized people in outsourcing services. The authors discuss challenges, best practices and lessons based on 62 interviews with providers and clients in the U.S., Israel, India and China. The third author is Erran Carmel.

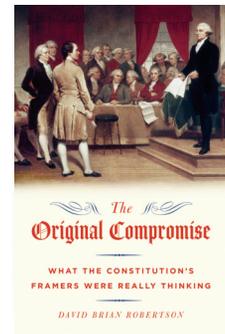


“Reasons”

BY ERIC WILAND

Continuum Press, July 2012

People do things for reasons. Everyone has heard or said this before, but Eric Wiland, associate professor of philosophy, explains the ethics behind the statement. Why do reasons justify actions? What do reasons have to do with being good or bad? He fleshes out and critically reviews some of the most popular philosophies on the ethics of reasons, including psychologism, factualism, primitivism and constitutivism. A guide for further reading accompanies the material.



“The Original Compromise: What the Constitution's Framers Were Really Thinking”
BY DAVID B. ROBERTSON
Oxford University Press, January 2013

The Federalist Papers tell only one side of the story about the intentions and politics that framed the Constitution, according to David Robertson, Curators' Teaching Professor of Political Science. The papers capture the political sensibilities of Alexander Hamilton and James Madison, leaders of larger states for increased government power. Robertson unravels the series of arguments and compromises between state leaders and how those compromises formed the backbone of government today. Using primary sources, he covers a crucial constitutional issue in each chapter.

A portrait of Jack Cox, an older man with glasses, wearing a dark suit, light blue shirt, and a patterned tie. He is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is a blurred outdoor scene with a city skyline and a large cactus in the foreground.

Jack Cox

makes an enduring impact
on UMSL students

What will your legacy be?

Jack Cox taught accounting and auditing to thousands of University of Missouri–St. Louis students before retiring in 1995. To honor their teacher and mentor, his former students started the Jack Cox Accounting Scholarship Fund. After making annual contributions since the fund began, Jack added a significant planned gift last year. With it, the fund will provide \$27,000 in scholarships to accounting students. Every year. Forever.

“Teaching is something I always enjoyed,” Jack says from his home in Henderson, Nev. “I was student oriented as a teacher, and many UMSL students need financial help in order to attend the university.”

Like Jack, you can make an impact on the future of countless students when you establish a scholarship fund through an estate gift, a life income plan or other planned gift opportunities. And you’ll gain financial and tax benefits for you and your family.

So what will your legacy be?

Please call Kent Krober, director of planned giving at UMSL, at 314-516-4115 or send a message to kroberk@umsl.edu to learn more about the many planned giving options we offer.

Decade by decade

From the 1960s to the 2010s, UMSL alumni tell the story of a university that's celebrating its 50th anniversary

More than 600 students attended the first classes at the University of Missouri–St. Louis way back in 1963. In the 50 years since we opened our doors, annual enrollment has grown to nearly 17,000 students, and we have more than 85,000 alumni, who are doing great things around the world.

We're proud of every alumnus. So for this story, we selected one to represent each decade of our past, from the 1960s to the 2010s. There's a chemist, an optometrist, an engineer, a high school athletics director, a food entrepreneur, an engineer and a law school student.

Together, these alumni offer a glimpse at some of our history. And they do a great job of illustrating what matters most to us: UMSL provides exceptional learning opportunities to tens of thousands of students – opportunities that prepare those students to define and attain success in their lives.

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Jack Crosby, Myra Lopez, Marisol Ramirez and Maureen Zegel contributed to this story. Photos by Wayne Armstrong/University of Denver and August Jennewein. Historical photography courtesy of the State Historical Society of Missouri, Blanche Touhill and University Archives. Timeline information gathered from Touhill's "The Emerging University: The University of Missouri–St. Louis, 1963-1983" and other sources.
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1960s

Harold Messler

How carpooling turned into a chemistry career



Harold Messler says he wasn't destined to go to college, but his introduction to the University of Missouri–St. Louis – a beginning that he calls “a real fluke” – ended up expanding his horizons further than he could have imagined. And it all started with chemistry.

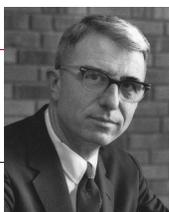
“I was the first person in my family to get a high school diploma, never mind go to college,” says Messler, who grew up above a tavern his parents owned on Cherokee Street in south St. Louis.

He arrived at UMSL in the fall of 1965 because he says a friend wanted company in the car on the way to and from school. Messler, BS chemistry 1970, took an entrance exam and was accepted to the university.

“I kept thinking, ‘I don't have any money, and I don't know how to be a college student,’” he says. “Somehow, my mother came up with the \$130 or whatever it was for me to come to school that semester.”

Messler says as a kid he always wanted to know how things worked but hated homework. Luckily, he discovered chemistry in high school. He liked it and was good at it. After years of barely passing, he earned his first A, then another and another. Chemistry drove up his GPA enough to keep him from flunking out of high school.

1963: The University of Missouri–St. Louis is founded and led by James Bugg, dean of faculty.



1965: James Bugg begins as UMSL's first chancellor.

1965: The College of Arts and Sciences is founded, and the university begins offering upper-division courses.



1966: The School of Education is founded.

Bob Bone

Three-time All-American made lifetime friends at UMSL

You might think an accomplished athlete like Bob Bone looks back on his college days as a series of memorable achievements. It's understandable. There are many accomplishments to remember.

With 2,678 career points, Bone is the all-time leading basketball scorer at the University of Missouri–St. Louis. He's a three-time All-American and holds the university's career records for field goals (947) and assists (446) and single-season records for points (787) and points per game (30.3) for his 1976-77 season.

He was an Academic All-American three times in basketball and two times in baseball, where he started at second base for a team that amassed a 30-13 record and finished third at the NCAA Division II College World Series.

But Bone puts his stats and records aside. His time at UMSL was special for other reasons. Among them are Grayling Tobias and Jim Goessling. Bone, Tobias and Goessling played basketball together on the 1975-76 and 1976-77 teams, and all three are members of the UMSL Sports Hall of Fame.

"For me, the people I got to meet stand out more than any specific memories," Bone says. "I was developing friends for a lifetime."



In addition to the relationships he formed with his teammates, he says the campus had an intimate nature, and his teachers were more than accessible.

"There were so many instructors who were willing to have a personal relationship with the students," Bone says. "To have a visit with an instructor or have a conversation away from class was a common thing."

Bone earned a bachelor's degree in education 1977. He spent 21 years at Collinsville (Ill.) High School, where he served as athletics director and boys' basketball coach. Under his leadership, Collinsville won 10 Southwest Conference championships and 13 Illinois High School Association Regional championships.

Bone was named director of athletics at Clayton (Mo.) High School during the 2006-07 school year, and he's a member of the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame. –JC

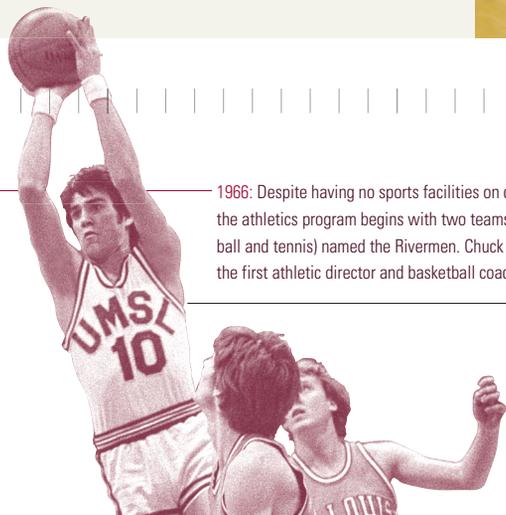
When he got to UMSL, he zeroed in on the sciences and sunk his teeth into college life. He made new friends, joined the fraternity Delta Xi Kappa and got a job in the chemical storeroom working for Jack Coombs, a former pharmaceuticals salesman.

"He was my boss, my mentor," Messler says. "Jack was a master at chemicals and human beings. If things weren't going well, he always knew ways to smooth things out."

Messler says he also has fond memories of Robert Murray and Alan Berndt, professors of chemistry. He says both men pushed him with research work that went beyond classroom assignments, and it was work that he loved.

"I remember thinking, 'I could do this for the rest of my life,'" he says.

And he did. Messler became a well-known forensic scientist and chief criminalist for the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department. After working for the department for 40 years and helping to solve some of the city's toughest criminal cases, he retired in 2010. He also ran youth programs for the American Chemical Society and Saint Louis Science Center. Today, Messler is an active member of the UMSL Alumni Association, ensuring a place for students like him. –MZ



1966: Despite having no sports facilities on campus, the athletics program begins with two teams (basketball and tennis) named the Rivermen. Chuck Smith is the first athletic director and basketball coach.

1966: The Extension Division moves to campus. The division changes to Continuing Education-Extension later in the decade and continues to evolve throughout the years to its current incarnation - the School of Professional & Continuing Studies.



1967: Construction is completed on Benton Hall, UMSL's first new building. More than 70 structures make up the campus today.

1980

Karen Rosen

Alumna was among university's first optometry graduates

Optometry awards line the hallway leading to Dr. Karen Rosen's office. She was one of Vision Monday magazine's 50 most influential women in optical, the 2006 St. Louis Optometrist of the Year and one of the St. Louis Business Journal's most influential business women.

"Optometry has been my life," Rosen explains. But before 1980, that wasn't the case. Rosen had worked a few jobs, including teaching. It's not that she hadn't considered optometry as a career. After all, her husband was an optometrist, and she had the perfect background for the profession with a bachelor's degree in biology from Indiana University Bloomington. Rosen simply had yet to choose the optometry path.

So with some encouragement from her peers, she applied to the budding optometry program at UMSL. Dr. Jerry Christiansen, the first dean of what was the School of Optometry at UMSL, recruited her over the telephone, and her answer was yes.

In fall 1980, Rosen started classes in Marillac Hall, a former convent turned optometry school.



She says she remembers the long days in a single classroom where professors rotated teaching the first cohort of 32 students.

"We were a tight-knit class," Rosen says.

And they had to be with a more intensive curriculum, 23 hours a semester, pre-clinics and limited rotation opportunities. All of this was complicated by the lack of optometry teaching materials and tools. She joked about what became a common phrase for her professors.

"We often heard, 'If we had this tool, then you would do it like this,'" Rosen says.

"Back then the school was feeling its way."

Her fourth and final year wrapped up in spring 1984. By then, she was teaching pre-clinic to students in their third year of coursework, and she completed an optometry degree as a member of the College of Optometry's first graduating class.

"The education I got from UMSL was terrific," Rosen says. "Absolutely top-notch."

She spent the first 25 years of her career working at LensCrafters as an independent contractor. She and her husband now run Rosen Optometry, their private practice in south St. Louis County.

Besides her work in the states, Rosen has gone on 19 international missions to developing countries, where she conducted examinations for people in need. She helped bring new and recycled eyeglasses to people in India, Ecuador, Mexico, Tunisia, Chile and Thailand.

"I like taking care of patients," Rosen says. "You only get one set of eyes and you have to take care of them. I want to make sure that patients can see for as long as possible and hopefully the rest of their lives." –MR



1967: UMSL's first graduating class comprises about 250 students [about 200 in June and about 50 in August].

1967: The School of Business Administration begins.

1968: The Graduate School is established.

1969: Sixty-eight students earn the first UMSL master's degrees. All are in education.



1969: Glen Driscoll begins as UMSL's second chancellor.



1973: Joseph Hartley begins as UMSL's third chancellor.

Jason Jan

FroYo founder's entrepreneurial roots began at UMSL

Jason Jan, a soft-spoken, 36-year-old entrepreneur from Malaysia, credits the University of Missouri–St. Louis with many of the good things in his life, including his career, a new home and a beautiful wife.

Jan earned a bachelor's degree in business administration in 1999 at UMSL. He launched the frozen yogurt store and brand FroYo in 2008. In less than five years, he opened six more stores in prime retail spots around the St. Louis area and two in California.



"This is what I've always wanted to do," Jan says. "My friends and I used to sit around the table in The Underground cafeteria [at UMSL] during the 1990s and talk about being entrepreneurs. We'd plan our own startup companies."

He stays in touch with former classmates, still visits campus and credits retired Instructor in Finance Kenneth Locke for much of the knowledge and insight that Jan says has made him successful.

He was born and raised in Malaysia, but when his best friend left Southeast Asia to attend UMSL, Jan says he was determined to follow.

"I didn't want my parents to spend a lot of money on private education," he says. "I came to the U.S., visited my friend, toured the UMSL campus and found people to be very welcoming."

During his second day on campus, Jan met Yen Luu, who he would eventually marry. After graduation, he went to California and partnered with family members and operated two barbecue restaurants.

"I learned about the restaurant business in Orange County," Jan says. "I also discovered how popular frozen yogurt was becoming. You can indulge yourself with a delicious frozen dessert, filled with probiotics [microorganisms that can provide health benefits] and only 120 calories for eight ounces."

But Jan says he knew he wanted to return to St. Louis, with its reasonable cost of living and family friendly communities, so he brought his entrepreneurial spirit and business savvy back to the place he now calls home.

Jan is a father of three small children and says buyers of FroYo tend to be younger. He often promotes his business to families and kids. One of his promotions is a contest that asks middle and high school students to design FroYo T-shirts. The winner gets an after-hours FroYo party, and the community gets to buy fun, customer-designed T-shirts.

"I like giving back to my community and its schools," Jan says. "I'm a local owner-operator. That's what we do." –MZ

1975: Arnold Grobman begins as UMSL's fourth chancellor.



1976: Richard Garnett, a staff psychologist in the juvenile court system, earns the first doctorate at UMSL.



1976: The South Campus is created with the purchase of the Marillac College campus just south of Natural Bridge Road.

1980: UMSL establishes the School of Optometry, which remains the only optometry school in Missouri.

1981: The School of Nursing begins.



1986: Marguerite Ross Barnett begins as UMSL's fifth chancellor.



The daily commute from his home in north St. Louis to his high school in Kirkwood, Mo., was an opportunity for T. Christopher Peoples to contemplate. The student's mind often juxtaposed the two communities.

"Kirkwood was nice and beautiful, kind of like Pleasantville," he says. "But no one was really fixing up places in the city of St. Louis."

Peoples, 33, is now the president and chief executive officer of Pitzman's Company of Surveyors and Engineers in Maplewood, Mo., but he says it was that car ride in high school and the disparity he observed that turned on his interest in engineering.

"I thought, 'What can I do, and what can I go to school for that would allow me to make my neighborhood like Kirkwood?,'" he says.

He eventually enrolled at the University of Missouri–St. Louis as a civil engineering major. Through a partnership with Washington University in St. Louis, UMSL offers an engineering program in which students take pre-engineering and general education courses at UMSL and upper-level engineering courses at WUSTL.

"You basically get a Wash U engineering education for UMSL prices," Peoples says.

T. Christopher Peoples

Part-time student gets full-time opportunities through engineering education



"I felt UMSL was offering me everything I needed."

Almost all of the engineering classes are taught in the late afternoon or evening – a schedule that worked for Peoples who was a part-time student, full-time worker and a single parent.

"Despite having to attend school part time and at night, I still felt like I was getting an equal education," he says. "I didn't feel like I was being cheated out of any opportunities."

Peoples completed a bachelor's degree in 2008. But while he was still a student, he applied for an entry-level surveying position at Pitzman's Company. Roy Leimberg, the owner at the time, hired the 20-year-old.

"I was only his second African American employee ever," Peoples says. "He took a chance on me and gave me an opportunity, and for that I was extremely grateful and tried to work as hard as I could for him."

Since joining Pitzman's Company, Peoples has held nearly every position there. In 2010, he purchased a majority stake in the firm and became president and CEO. –ML

AJ

1990: UMSL establishes the Pierre Laclède Honors College.



1991: Blanche Touhill begins as UMSL's sixth chancellor.

1992: The UMSL/WUSTL Joint Undergraduate Engineering Program is established.



1996: Through the generous contributions of philanthropists E. Desmond and Mary Ann Lee, the Des Lee Collaborative Vision is created. Today, it's made up of more than 35 endowed professors who work with more than 100 partners and community organizations to enrich the quality of life throughout the St. Louis area.



Jerichah Selby

Future lawyer sets the bar high

Jerichah Selby is one for the books, not only for the countless number of hours she spends in the library but also for the lasting impression she has made on the University of Missouri–St. Louis.

Selby was a student who shined, graduating top of her class last year with a bachelor's degree in criminology and criminal justice.

But for Selby, being a student embodied more than reading books and writing essays. It encompassed an active role in campus life. Among other activities, she was president of the Student Government Association, president of the Phi Alpha Delta pre-law fraternity and chair of the UMSL Homecoming Committee.

As SGA president, she launched the "Check the Rec" campaign in support of a student referendum to build a recreation and wellness center on North Campus.

"We were encouraging students to vote," Selby says. "Not to vote yes or vote no. Just to vote!"

The referendum passed with overwhelming support, and the recreation center is expected to open in fall 2015.

A first-generation college graduate, Selby attributes her drive to values she learned from her mother.

"We live in a place where opportunities are at arm's reach," she says. "Of course it may be difficult to grasp what you want, but if you make sacrifices and fill your life with dedication and passion, you can do anything."

That dedication and passion helped her achieve another goal – getting accepted to law school. She's now pursuing a degree in the Sturm College of Law at the University of Denver. She says she wants to be a prosecutor and hopes to gain experience this summer through an externship at the District Attorney's Office in Denver.

"I've always wanted to help others, especially when they cannot help themselves," Selby says.

At UMSL, she studied criminal conduct and deviant social behavior, and she credits the university for preparing her for law school.

"I received the best education for the best value and was able to stay in St. Louis to maintain my part-time employment," Selby says. "This put me in the best financial position to attend law school."

Since she started law school in the fall, Selby won Best Defense Team with her partner in a mock trial competition and has been appointed student representative for the Colorado Women's Bar Association. In other words, she's doing what she does best – setting the bar and setting it high. –MR



2000: The 165,000-square-foot Millennium Student Center opens, pulling together student services that had been spread across campus.

2001: The College of Fine Arts and Communication begins.



2003: Thomas George begins as UMSL's seventh chancellor.

2007: Express Scripts becomes the largest company in the nation with its headquarters located on a college campus when it opens its new headquarters at UMSL.

2007: The Department of Athletics changes its team names to UMSL Tritons from the Rivermen and Riverwomen.



2012: UMSL at Grand Center opens. Home to UMSL media technology courses and award-winning St. Louis Public Radio 1 90.7 KWMU, the building puts UMSL in the heart of St. Louis' largest media and entertainment district.





Thank You.

The students of the University of Missouri–St. Louis honor and appreciate everything you've done to make UMSL what it is today.



Photos by August Jennewein

Three generations of Brenda Scott's family have called UMSL home. Scott (left), her granddaughter Jessica Lake (center) and Scott's daughter Deborah Lake each earned a bachelor's degree at the university.

UMSL and St. Louis have 'grown up together'

Legacy families point to university's success

By Jennifer Hatton

Jessica Lake has spent the past seven years at the University of Missouri–St. Louis. The 25-year-old graduate student says UMSL feels like home and for good reason.

"I was actually on the UMSL campus before I was even born," Lake says with a smile. "My mom was working on her degree in psychology when I was born. She even had to miss a few finals to have me."

Growing up at UMSL isn't unique to Lake, who earned a bachelor's degree in social work here in 2010 and is pursuing master's degrees in social work and public policy administration. The university celebrates its 50th anniversary this year and boasts more than 85,000 alumni and more than 500 families that include multiple generations of alumni.

For Martin Leifeld, vice chancellor for advancement at UMSL, two and three generations of family members choosing and graduating from the university is, perhaps, the best indicator of UMSL's success and strength.

"It demonstrates the impact we've had throughout the region and that we're doing

what we were created to do," Leifeld says. "We – UMSL and St. Louis – have grown up together."

The Scott-Lake family: 3 pathways for 3 women

Jessica Lake's mother is Deborah Lake, BA psychology 1989. Deborah's mother and Jessica's grandmother is Brenda Scott, BSN 1990. And despite being part of a family with three generations of UMSL alumni, the notion of a legacy family was one that Deborah says she hadn't considered.

"I guess we really never thought about being a legacy family," she says. "We're very proud of, and thankful to, UMSL for making each of us successful in our given paths."

Those paths started to form in the 1960s when Scott began taking nursing courses taught by UMSL instructors at St. Louis City Hospital, a site that now houses the Georgian Condominiums on Lafayette Avenue.

"We really were the last of the Florence Nightingales," Scott says. "We wore starched uniforms and hats. We practiced strict hand washing to prevent transfer of disease. In addition, we had strict curfews."

After taking a few UMSL courses and earning a registered nursing degree at the city hospital, Scott began working as a registered nurse and

says she was in no rush to complete a bachelor's degree in nursing. She continued to work, got married and started a family.

But when her daughter Deborah began working toward a bachelor's degree in psychology in the 1980s at UMSL, Scott says she decided it was time to go back to school and complete a bachelor's degree in nursing.

"Deb was going to school, she got married and was pregnant with Jessica," Scott says. "She had Jess and graduated in 1989. I then earned my BSN in 1990."

Deborah went on to earn a law degree from Saint Louis University in 1993 and has practiced law ever since. She focuses on family law.

Jessica says knowing her mother and grandmother had found a home at UMSL made the decision to pursue her first degree here easy.

"Choosing UMSL for the second time was also right for me, because I wanted to study both social work and public policy administration," she says. "These two departments had an overlapping concentration – nonprofit management and leadership, which helped me to combine the two programs into one that met all my educational goals."

continued

The Steimel family: love and marriage, twice

Norman Steimel grew up in Black Jack, Mo., the oldest of 11 children. After graduating from Rosary High School in Spanish Lake, Mo., in 1972, he was the first of his siblings to attend college.

He was on his own to fund his education, so Steimel searched the St. Louis area and says UMSL was the right fit for him. He started his first classes and continued to work part time.

In fall 1973, after struggling through several semesters of college preparatory mathematics in high school, Steimel says he needed to find an alternative to math to fit his general education requirements. He enrolled in French 101.

"After the first test, I spied a big red A on the paper of a petite blonde in the first row," Steimel says. "A plan to successfully get through the course began to hatch in my mind. It involved me stopping that comely classmate to suggest that she and I study our French lessons together. The rest, as they say, is history."

That unsuspecting classmate would become Libby Steimel, BA psychology 1975, when the two were married in 1978. Norman went on to graduate that same year with a law degree from Washington University in St. Louis. He's an associate circuit judge for the 11th Judicial Circuit Court in St. Charles County, Mo. The couple had nine children between 1979 and 1993.

"I consider Norm the best thing that ever happened to me and that happened at UMSL," Libby says.

When it was time for Nathan, the Steimels' oldest child, to attend college, his parents encouraged him to look into UMSL, and he did.

While taking business courses here, Nathan met Melissa Shumate. The two began dating and were later married. Nathan earned a bachelor's degree in finance in 2002. He then attended law school and now has a private practice in St. Charles, Mo. Melissa earned a bachelor's degree in management information systems in 2001. She's a stay-at-home mother to the couple's three small children.

Libby says, "It is very touching to me to have met Norm at UMSL and have that common history, then to have Nathan and Melissa meet in similar fashion and have that further common history."

Following in the footsteps of the older Steimels, six of their nine children attended UMSL. Susanna Steimel Stark earned a bachelor's degree in communication and French in 2010. She works at FM

Global, an international insurance company in Creve Coeur, Mo.

Jason Steimel enrolled in 2004. He then enlisted in the U.S. Army and served for six years, including two combat tours in Afghanistan. He returned to UMSL and completed a bachelor's degree in marketing and management in 2012. He and Amber, his wife, have a son and are expecting their second child this summer.

Kathryn Steimel completed several semesters at UMSL in the College of Nursing. She was on schedule to complete a bachelor's degree in nursing in 2012, but after enlisting in the U.S. Navy, her orders took her to Great Lakes, Ill., for training before her final semester was complete. She's an electronics technician in the Navy and says she plans to finish her degree once her naval training is complete.

Norman and Libby Steimels' two youngest children are also students at UMSL. Marissa, a junior communication major, and Priscilla, a sophomore nursing major, say they almost didn't choose UMSL specifically because of their family's history with the university.

"It was both an easy and a hard choice," Priscilla says. "On the one hand, I knew it would be cool to be going to the same university as my parents and siblings because that would create an even stronger bond or connection between us all. On the other hand, I wanted to be unique and not just be another Steimel."

Marissa agrees. She wanted to make her own mark, but after touring campus, she says she was hooked.

"I chose UMSL, because I loved the atmosphere here when I first visited," she says. "I immediately felt welcomed. Everyone was willing to talk to me and make me feel like part of the UMSL community. It just felt right." ≡





"It is very touching to me to have met Norm at UMSL and have that common history, then to have Nathan and Melissa meet in similar fashion and have that further common history." —Libby Steimel

The Steimel family is: (front row, from left) Melissa, nine-month-old Anna, Susanna (Steimel) Stark, Priscilla, Marissa, five-year-old Elle, Kathryn and Nathan and (back row, from left) Jason, Libby, three-year-old Ryan and Norman. Libby and Norman met at UMSL, and Anna, Elle and Ryan are the children of Melissa and Nathan, who also met at the university.



Committee of 28

The group that helped turn a golf course into a university

By Ryan Heinz

By the fall of 1959, the Normandy (Mo.) School District's oft-discussed desire to develop a junior college appeared close to a reality. The district had acquired the needed land, but was now faced with an important question: How does a public school district establish an institution of higher education when elementary and secondary education are what it knows?

The Normandy Board of Education assembled a group of 28 men and women to find the answer. They became known as the Committee of 28, and they played a key role in converting a golf course into the University of Missouri–St. Louis.

Golf course for sale

James Westbury was the director of special services for the Normandy School District when he was appointed to the Committee of 28. He says the district's students were capable of succeeding in higher education, but the college enrollment rate for Normandy High School graduates remained low, mainly due to the cost of matriculation.

In 1960, the Normandy School District converted the clubhouse of the Bellerive Country Club to the University of Missouri–Normandy Residence Center, which housed freshman- and sophomore-level courses offered by the University of Missouri–Columbia. The clubhouse was the only building on campus when UMSL was founded in 1963. Later named the Administration Building, the 66-year-old structure was demolished in 1977. (Photo courtesy of University Archives)

"They couldn't afford Washington University, Saint Louis University or housing at the University of Missouri in Columbia," he says.

The district flirted before with the idea of starting a junior college. Ward E. Barnes, then the Normandy School District superintendent, had publicly supported creating a state-funded university or college in the St. Louis area. Then in 1957, the Bellerive Country Club, a neighbor of the district's administration offices, announced it intended to sell its 128-acre, 18-hole golf course. The asking price was \$1.3 million.

The land drew interest from developers, but tough municipal zoning restrictions kept the property on the market. The club turned to the Normandy School District, offering the land for \$600,000 if its members could continue to occupy Bellerive Country Club for up to three years while constructing new club grounds in west St. Louis County.

A \$625,000 bond issue, supported by Barnes and the Normandy school board, went to ballot in September 1958. (\$25,000 would go toward converting the country club into a college.)

"If the land would be sold for residential use, we'd have to build a new school to accommodate new students," Westbury says. "So we were going to end up paying one way or the other. Our biggest selling point in the ballot issue campaign was to preserve this property for higher education."

After gaining the necessary two-thirds approval votes, the district had its land.

In the fall of 1959, the club notified the district it would vacate the Bellerive property the following May. With new urgency to deal with the land, the school board formed the Committee of 28 in October 1959.



From country club to college

The Committee of 28 included a doctor, a lawyer, an artist, the president of the May Company, Normandy school board members, Normandy School District administrators and parishioners from Catholic churches in the district.

Westbury says he remembers the plan was to establish some form of higher education, likely in the shape of a junior college, which would benefit students from the district and across the St. Louis region. Committee members went on information-gathering trips to junior colleges in Hannibal, Mo., and throughout Illinois.

A subcommittee traveled to Columbia, Mo., in February 1960 to discuss how to achieve accreditation from the University of Missouri, which was responsible for accrediting all of the state's junior colleges. During the conference, Elmer Ellis, president of the University of Missouri and a good friend of Ward Barnes, proposed that if the school district provide and maintain their new property, the university would provide an educational program.

"Normandy would cut the grass, keep the lights on and clean the building," Westbury says. "We'd be the landlord. The courses offered would be right out of the Columbia catalogue. There was nothing second rate or diminished about this."

The proposal meant instant accreditation for a two-year college, a quality education at an affordable price, minimal costs to taxpayers and the possibility of opening within months. The district would also have to ensure that at least 100 students enrolled at what would become known as the University of Missouri-Normandy Residence Center, a precursor to what is now UMSL. The committee's new tasks were to promote the center to St. Louis-area high schools and prepare the Bellerive Country Club Building for classes in the fall.

Enrollment opened in May 1960. More than 100 students enrolled the first day, and the center reached its enrollment cap by the end of day three. In June, the district began renovating the building.

The center appeared to be a success after enrollment doubled the next year, but expansion was a problem. As Westbury points out, the district had no money to grow the program, nor did the university have any incentive to do so because it didn't own the land.

The University of Missouri had a solution. In October 1961, the university proposed the start of a four-year university on the old country club grounds if the school district turned over the land to the university.

The Normandy school board agreed to sell the land to the University of Missouri for valuable considerations and a token payment of \$60,000.

"There were more than a few people who challenged the wisdom of that," Westbury says.

The Missouri Supreme Court ultimately voted down the sale 4-3. The district would have to follow the rules for selling public property, which involved accepting the highest bid. The Missouri General Assembly later intervened (see story Page 24), allowing the Normandy School District to sell the land to the University of Missouri.

UMSL begins, the Committee of 28 ends

With the property transferred from the district to the university and UMSL's opening in 1963, the Committee of 28 concluded its successful mission. Westbury was named superintendent of the Normandy School District in 1977, a role he continued until he retired in 1987. Two of his children went on to earn a total of three degrees at UMSL.

"It was a matter of timing and availability," he says, reflecting on the establishment of UMSL. "It was a unique and very unusual set of circumstances that caused it all to happen. The guiding light behind it all was Ward Barnes. I can't emphasize that enough."

Barnes spoke about the university's beginnings in a 1972 interview archived at UMSL.

"This is a success story that probably has not been equaled by many places in this country," he says. "There has developed here an institution that will make contributions to this metropolitan area and to the state for many, many years to come."

Barnes died in 1993. Westbury says he was a visionary but doubts if Barnes or anyone from the Committee of 28 could have envisioned what UMSL has become today. ≡



Committee of 28 members

A total of 29 individuals served on the Committee of 28, but only 28 served at any given time. James Westbury (pictured) is the last surviving member of the committee.

William F. Allison
Ward E. Barnes
Daniel F. Bauer
Roy W. Bergmann
Herman C. Bleckschmidt
Morris Blitz
Fred O. Coble Jr.
Roland L. Diehl
Mildred C. Erhart
Edward F. Ford Jr.

Irma G. Hill
Newell J. Holbrook
Gerald A. Koetting
Roland H. Kolman
Raymond N. Leach
C.R. McAdam
A.H. McKain Jr.
Fay McKinney
Edward Monaco
C.E. Potter

Geoffrey Probert
V.J. Rosengreen
Raymond M. Schmidt
Fred R. Small
Jerry W. Turner
Ben H. Walter
Harry T. Weeks
James Westbury
Ballard A. Yates

House Bill

78 words
that have
benefited
hundreds
of thousands
of people

By Bob Samples

The year was 1963, and it was all falling into place – the people of Normandy, Mo., were working to convey a piece of property owned by the Normandy School District to the University of Missouri in order to bring public higher education to St. Louis.

Led in large part by Superintendent Ward E. Barnes, district residents passed a bond issue to purchase the former Bellerive Country Club in north St. Louis County. Barnes and the district envisioned luring a higher education institution to the site as a way to offer more educational opportunities to St. Louis-area residents and stabilize nearby neighborhoods.

Simultaneously, the University of Missouri – headed by President Elmer Ellis – explored the possibility of opening campuses in Kansas City and St. Louis. The university ultimately decided the Bellerive site was ideal for a St. Louis-area campus.

So a deal was struck. Normandy would transfer ownership of the 128-acre country club for a nominal fee. In return, the University of Missouri would establish a campus at the Bellerive site.

Just one problem: The property deal was illegal.

State law mandated that public schools solicit competitive bids when selling excess property, but that process didn't appeal to either the district or the university. Competitive bidding would not guarantee the college or university that Normandy residents sought. University of Missouri officials had no interest in a bidding war with a potential developer, noting that its Columbia and Rolla campuses were built on donated land.

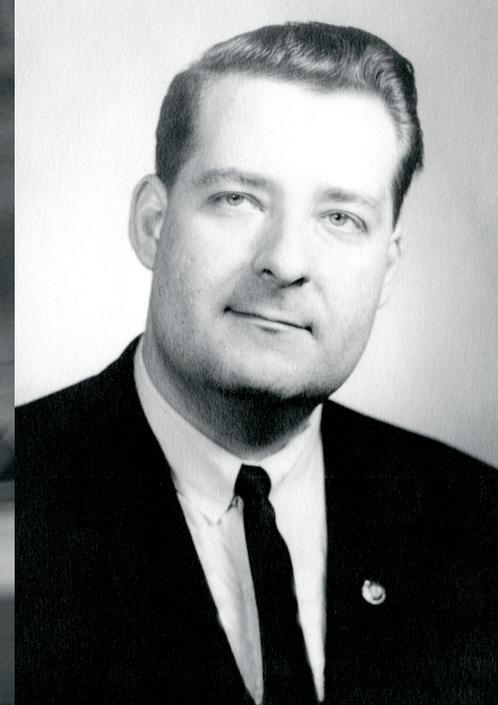
That's when lawmakers Wayne Goode, of Normandy, and Robert Young, of St. Ann, stepped in. In January 1963, state Rep. Goode introduced the 78-word House Bill 153, and state Sen. Young introduced a companion bill in the Missouri Senate to make the proposed land transfer legal. Both supported bringing the University of Missouri to St. Louis and were sold on the merits of creating that campus in the Normandy area, as was Missouri Gov. John Dalton.

Barnes' rationale for support was that St. Louis was the largest metropolitan region in the United States without access to public higher education, which did not bode well for local citizens or the overall regional economy. It turned out to be a winning argument.

"The key for passing this legislation through the General Assembly, particularly for a freshman representative, was cementing strong local support and then convincing our colleagues in rural Missouri," Goode says. "We had a good case, and I was fortunate to attract some very persuasive co-sponsors in introducing the bill to the House."

Among the co-sponsors of HB 153 were: Frank Bild, of Affton; Donald Galike, of Lemay; Pat Hickey, of St. Ann; R.J. King, of Clayton; Pat O'Connor, of Bridgeton; Walter Meyer, of Bellefontaine Neighbors; Peter Rabbitt, of Rock Hill; Jay Russell, of Florissant; Alfred Speer, of Glendale; Robert Snyder, of Kirkwood; Irvin Zwielman, of Olivette; and Ken Rothman, of University City.

"Part of the Normandy School District was in my House district," Rothman says. "I knew Ward Barnes well, and Wayne and I became good friends campaigning together. We both thought [the new university] was a good idea. It really became a team effort – with a lot of support in the community."



Missouri lawmakers Wayne Goode (left) and Ken Rothman worked on legislation that made it possible for the Normandy School District to transfer land to the University of Missouri. The deal made the creation of UMSL possible. (Goode photo courtesy of Blanche Touhill. Rothman photo courtesy of the Missouri State Archives.)

The House passed the bill on Feb. 5, 1963, on a vote of 150-3. Young allowed his bill to die and guided HB 153 through the state Senate for unanimous approval on March 27. Gov. Dalton signed the legislation into law on April 3, and the University of Missouri–St. Louis was dedicated in September.

Classes were initially held in the old Bellerive clubhouse and nearby storefronts along Natural Bridge Road. The new campus had 672 students, 32 faculty members and 10 staffers. Rothman says the statewide support was instrumental in securing startup funding as the young campus badly needed to hire faculty and construct buildings to accommodate an enrollment that would swell to more than 10,000 students by 1969.

It didn't hurt that three of UMSL's primary supporters were young men who would enjoy long, successful political careers. Robert Young became a U.S. Congressman. Goode served 42 years in the state House and Senate, primarily as chair or minority leader of the Appropriations Committee for each half of the General Assembly. He's currently chair of the University of Missouri System Board of Curators. And Rothman rose to become speaker of the Missouri House and lieutenant governor.

"I sleep well at night knowing we've given so many people an opportunity to succeed," Rothman says.

Goode expressed the same sentiment at the university's Jubilee Kickoff in February. He spoke of the many people who had helped create and build UMSL over the years. Goode also marveled at his long association with the University of Missouri in general – enrolling at the Columbia campus after graduating from Normandy High School in 1956.

"I've been connected to the university a long time," Goode says. "It will be over 60 years when I complete my Board of Curators term, and when I look back on introducing legislation to create UMSL 50 years ago, I never imagined I'd still be this involved with the university. I'm so happy to have been a part of this."

In response to his words that night, the large crowd at the 50th anniversary party rose in unison as he exited the stage at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center. A standing ovation well deserved.



Without HB 153, UMSL would not exist. This is the law:

Whenever there is within any school district any school property that is not required for the use of the school district and the property could be used for purposes of offering education beyond grade twelve by a public institution of higher education, the board of education is authorized to lease or convey the property to the public institution, and any proceeds derived from a conveyance shall be placed to the credit of the building fund of the district.

Honors College student **JOSEPH HENDRICKS** performs with St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra

By Myra Lopez

Joseph Hendricks first saw the St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra perform when he was a senior in high school. The connection was instant: "Oh, I should do this," he thought.

So he prepared and went in for an audition. He didn't make the cut. But he stuck with it, and a second audition a year later proved successful. Hendricks has played the bassoon for the youth orchestra throughout the 2012-13 season. Performances are held at Powell Symphony Hall, home to the St. Louis Symphony and one of the most renowned concert halls in the United States.

"Obviously, not everyone is into the world of classical music, but to us they're like celebrities," he says of working with members of the St. Louis Symphony. "It's a really, really cool experience."

The youth orchestra comprises about 100 musicians ranging in age from 12 to 22. Participants experience what it's like to work in a professional orchestra, and performances are free and open to the public.

Hendricks, of East St. Louis, Ill., is a junior majoring in music at the University of Missouri—St. Louis. He started his musical journey when he took up the saxophone in middle school. In high school, he made an unplanned move to bassoon.

"I started it completely by chance," Hendricks says. "I had never heard of it until my friend found out about the oboe and the bassoon. He wanted to do the oboe, and I figured, 'Hey, if I do the other one, we'll have a complete set.'"

"I loved it, and I stuck with it."

Hendricks says he knew mastering an uncommon instrument would help him attract college scholarships. Each of the past two years, he's earned the symphony's IN UNISON scholarship. The program funds music scholarships for minority students pursuing bachelor's degrees in music or music education.

At UMSL, Hendricks performs with the University Wind Ensemble and University Orchestra.

After he graduates, he says he's eyeing a career in veterinary medicine and he's wanted to be a vet since he was a kid. In addition to music courses, he's taking the science classes he needs to pass the exam that's required to get into vet school.

And when not in class, studying, practicing or performing, Hendricks works the front desk at Oak Hall, the university's newest residential living space, and as an usher at the Blanche M. Touhill



UMSL student Joseph Hendricks began playing the bassoon in high school and is playing for the St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra during the 2012-13 season. (Photo by August Jennewein)

Performing Arts Center. He's also excelling as a student in the Pierre Laclède Honors College, where he's on the dean's list. Robert Bliss, dean of the college, has high praise for Hendricks.

"If I had more students like him I might never retire," Bliss says.

As for what the future holds for Hendricks' music career, he makes one thing clear: His bassoon won't be relegated to the back of a closet. Even if he goes to vet school, he plans to play the instrument, whether in a university ensemble or community orchestra. One day, he says, he'd like to join a professional orchestra, like the St. Louis Symphony. ■

New partnership led by **PATRICIA KOPETZ** empowers individuals with disabilities



Patricia Kopetz, the E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor in Education for Children with Disabilities at UMSL, leads Project SEARCH, an initiative that helps recent high school graduates who have learning challenges transition to the work force. (Photo by August Jennewein)

By Jennifer Hatton

Patricia Kopetz is a crusader. She's a relentless and tireless advocate for the empowerment of individuals with disabilities.

For the past five years, Kopetz has thrown her energy behind her position at the University of Missouri–St. Louis. She holds the E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professorship of Education for Children with Disabilities. Her professorship, housed in the College of Education, is part of the Des Lee Collaborative Vision in connection with Variety the Children's Charity of St. Louis.

Kopetz's latest endeavor, the Project SEARCH high school transition program, is a collaboration with Epworth Children & Family Services in Webster Groves, Mo. Epworth provides services that have helped thousands of children overcome severe emotional and behavioral challenges.

Kopetz learned of Project SEARCH – a national program that provides real-life work experience to help youth with significant disabilities make the transition from school to the work force – when the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education provided startup grants for such initiatives in early 2012. After repeatedly reading data from the DESE website that showed individuals with emotional disturbance and

autism had the poorest outcomes of all individuals with disabilities, meaning they had the most disheartened futures after high school, she and others approached Epworth for the partnership.

"We realized there was a huge need for something to help transition students with significant learning challenges from school to the work force," Kopetz says. "We wanted to fulfill that need and offer a place that could help these students learn the skills that help them become more independent and gainfully employed."

Early in 2012, UMSL partnered with Epworth. That fall, eight Epworth students, ages 17 to 21, who were in their last year of high school, started the yearlong Project SEARCH school-to-work preparation program at UMSL. The students – all of whom were diagnosed on the autism spectrum and with related learning differences – became interns.

The interns partner with UMSL graduate students to learn specific, essential job skills. With the help of the graduate students, each intern applies for a job at various offices and departments throughout the UMSL campus. Once hired, they work 20 hours a week under the supervision of the graduate students and a job coach from Epworth and Vocational Rehabilitation of Missouri.

"Not only is Project SEARCH a wonderful asset to the students from Epworth," Kopetz says. "But this project gives UMSL graduates in special education a wide variety of experiences and the opportunity to work directly with these individuals with disabilities, their parents, Epworth high school personnel and local agencies as they set up the students' jobs and see to their needs throughout the program."

Three graduate students work with Project SEARCH. Nelli Phiri, Emily Durning and Chelsea Davis are in the UMSL master's of education program in special education, with an emphasis in autism and developmental disabilities.

"UMSL is providing authentic opportunities, and I have witnessed real transformation with some of the interns participating in Project SEARCH," Phiri says. "Every person regardless of ability, has the potential to learn, grow and become an expert in what they do best; even if what a person does entails mopping the floor, cleaning dishes or folding towels in a laundry."

With a successful first year of the project nearing its end, Kopetz says she's excited.

"I'd like to see Project SEARCH grow," she says. "Graduate students can be benefiting from these valuable learning experiences. The more graduate students we have to support the program, the better equipped we are to provide these interns with a life-altering opportunity that encourages them to grow and thrive." ☰

UMSL taps Linda Carter to lead alumni engagement efforts

By Jennifer Hatton

In high school and college, Linda Carter dreamed of, and worked toward, becoming a hymnologist and researching the history of church music. But a career assessment more than 25 years ago helped her discover her true calling.

"I realized that I wasn't as fulfilled in my career as I could be," Carter says. "I took an extensive evaluation and counseling assessment over several days, and concluded that I would be a natural in alumni and student relations."

And a natural she is.

Carter's first day as associate vice chancellor for alumni engagement at the University of Missouri–St. Louis was Jan. 28. She brings more than 20 years of experience in higher education advancement to UMSL, including the past four years as director of alumni relations at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro and executive director of the UNCG Alumni Association. She also served as the director of development at UNCG for seven years.

At UMSL, Carter leads the Office of Alumni and Community Relations, which works with the UMSL Alumni Association to engage and connect the university's more than 85,000 alumni. The office also supports university fundraising and communication efforts and builds partnerships with municipalities and businesses near campus.

"I'm excited to be a part of UMSL," Carter says. "I see wonderful changes coming in alumni relations, and I'm happy to be part of it. I'm interested, as is the university, in looking into offering value-added programming in which we create opportunities that add value to the alumni at any point in their cycle of life."

Before her time at UNCG, Carter worked at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, N.C., the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge and the University of Chicago.



What's new with you?

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The University of Missouri–St. Louis wants to be in the loop, and we value your accomplishments. So let us know what you're up to. Have you won an award, written a research paper or been promoted? Are you getting married or is there a future UMSL Triton on the way?

Visit umsl.edu/update and tell us what's new with you. We'll share your info with your fellow alumni on Facebook, in Class notes or on the Web.

Class notes

1969

Daniel Jasper, BSBA, joined the LandQwest Asset Recovery team as a consultant.

1970

Rita Swiener, BA psychology, was awarded the 2012 Community Service Award from Commerce Bank. She founded Santa's Helpers Inc. in 1968 and continues to serve as the volunteer executive director. She helps bring toys to children in need at Christmas time. She's a professor at St. Louis Community College-Wildwood and the faculty sponsor for student volunteer activities.

1972

Will Roth, BSBA, is one of Vital Voice's 2013 Icons for his service to the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.

1974

Joseph Larrew, BA political science, officiated Super Bowl XLVII in February in New Orleans. He's principal and vice president of Hammond and Shinnors Law Firm in St. Louis and a municipal judge in Bridgeton, Mo.

1977

Juli Niemann, MBA, is executive vice president of Smith, Moore and Co.



1979

Joe Gorder, BSBA, was named president and chief operating officer of Valero Energy Corp. in San Antonio. Gorder was chief commercial officer and president of Valero Europe. He was responsible for business activity and operations of Valero's assets in the United Kingdom and Ireland.

Stephen M. Stoll, MEd, was appointed to the Missouri Public Service Commission by Gov. Jay Nixon. Stoll was city administrator in Festus, Mo., and director of administration in Jefferson County. He was a teacher for 20 years and served in the Missouri Senate and House of Representatives.

1980

Steven Clark, BA English, took second place in the annual CinemaSpoke screenplay competition for his adaptation of Charles Brockden Brown's 1799 novel, "Edgar Huntly."

Kenneth D. Stephenson, BA music, was named the Weitzenhoffer Family College of Fine Arts' 2012 Irene and Julian J. Rothbaum Presidential Professor of Excellence in the Arts at the University of Oklahoma in Norman. He's been the Kenneth and Bernardine Russell Chair of Music Theory since January 2004 and chair of the Department of Music Theory since June 2003.

Grayling Tobias, BS education, was named superintendent of the Hazelwood (Mo.) School District. He most recently was the district's assistant superintendent for learning. Before that, he served as director of secondary education and assistant superintendent for accountability.



1982

Kevin Killeen, BA speech communication, wrote "Never Hug a Nun," a book about growing up in Webster Groves, Mo. He's been a reporter at KMOX (1120 AM) in St. Louis since 1995.

1983

Earl Swift, BA political science, received the Captain Donald T. Wright



Award for his book, "Journey on the James: Three Weeks Through the Heart of Virginia." He traveled the 435-mile journey with a photographer in a plastic canoe and chronicled the river's history.

1985

James Grimes, BS administration of justice, recently joined Rubin-Brown in Clayton, Mo., as a manager in the firm's Business Advisory Services Group.

Sandra Peters, BSBA, was named the number one realtor in Ohio by the Ohio Association of Realtors. She's an executive sales vice president with Sibcy Cline Realtors' West Chester Office.



1986

Philip Picardi, BA speech communication, is a newscaster and reporter for Minnesota Public Radio.

John A. Taylor, BA German, is managing director in Houlihan Lokey's Los Angeles office. He was managing director of Kroll Inc.'s Los Angeles valuation services practice and before that, president of JT Panglobal Consulting Inc.

1989

Patrick Dorsey, BA English, had his first novel, "God's Forge," published by Legendary Planet. He's a business writer and president of the St. Louis Fencers Club, where he also instructs.

1990

Cleta Null, BGS, runs the Adopt-A-Family program and substitute teaches kindergarten in the Meramec Valley School District in Pacific, Mo.

Class notes

1992

Dr. Karen Aldridge, OD, was recently named the 2012 Optometrist of the Year by the Kansas Optometric Association. She practices in Hill City, Kansas.



1994

Andy Masters, BA communication, wrote his fifth book, "Things Leaders Say." It's about professional development and leadership skills in business.



1995

Dr. Bonnie Chen, OD, owns Vision Loft at the Concord Mills mall in Concord, N.C.

1997

Terrence Rogers, BSBA, was appointed vice president of residential lending at Carrollton Bank. He was vice president at Regions Bank.



1999

Patrice Aitch, MEd, is the new principal of Parkway South High School in Manchester, Mo. She taught high school social studies for six years and served as assistant principal for the past 12.



2000

Robert Ricker, BS management information systems, was appointed principal of Commons Lane Elementary School in Florissant, Mo. He was an assistant principal at Drummond Elementary School in St. Ann, Mo.

2002

Dr. Brandon K. Hunter, OD, is serving on the board of the Kansas Optometric Association and the Medical Advisory Board for Alhaphointe Association for the Blind. For the past two seasons, he's been the team optometrist for the professional soccer club Sporting Kansas City.

Jamie Jordan, MEd, principal of Brittany Woods Middle School in University City, Mo., was named 2013 Missouri Middle School Principal of the Year by the Missouri Association of Secondary School Principals. She was also the 2012 Middle School Principal of the Year for the St. Louis Association of Secondary School Principals.



Brian Warner, BS education, was named assistant principal at Francis Howell Central High School in Cottleville, Mo., for the 2013-14 school year. Prior to his appointment, he served as the dean of students, and he's now interim principal.



2003

Matthew "Matt" Hirschfeld, BGS, is a caricaturist in Los Angeles. More than 20 pieces of his artwork were exhibited by the University City (Mo.) Public Library in December.

Ben Poremba, BA philosophy, owns and cooks for Elaia, his new restaurant in St. Louis. He also owns and operates Olio, the adjoining wine bar.

2004

Martha Harting, MBA and BSBA 1988, was appointed director of finance and administration for Boone Center Inc. in St. Peters, Mo. She was vice president of finance for the Technology Division



of MasterCard Worldwide. Before that she was manager of finance and inventory for Save-A-Lot Foods.

Shawn Stevenson, BSBA, is the resident nutritionist for BeWellBuzz.com and author of several health-care books. He is also the founder of the Advanced Integrative Health Alliance.



Kelley Wingbermuehle, MAcc and BS accounting 2003, was promoted to manager of Abeles and Hoffman PC. She began working there as a certified public accountant.



2005

Michael D. Thomas, MA economics, is a research professor at Utah State University in Logan. He studies transportation economics, regulation policies and welfare economics.

2006

Ryan Barker, MPPA, is director of health policy at the Missouri Foundation for Health in St. Louis. In the past few years, Barker gave more than 200 presentations about the Affordable Care Act to chambers of commerce, senior groups, hospitals and health systems.

Adam Hill, MBA, is now a certified public accountant at Mueller Prost PC.

Jordan P. LeMay, BFA studio art, is now a U.S. Air Force Reserve airman. He graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio.



Pamela Marsh, MA communication, is a 2012-2013 Luvabulls dancer for the Chicago Bulls.

2007

Steven J. Malter, PhD education, was named associate dean and director of the Olin Business School undergraduate program at Washington University in St. Louis. He was appointed interim associate dean in July and before that worked as the assistant dean for student development and strategic initiatives.

Philip Ragusky, EdS school psychology and MEd 1994, was appointed principal of Liberty High School, which will open in August in Wentzville, Mo. He's been principal of Frontier Middle School since 2005.



Dr. David Smith, OD, joined Mercy Eye Care. He interned at St. Louis Children's Hospital, Indian Health Service in Alaska and St. Louis Veterans Administration Hospital.



Dr. Jon Stoppel, OD, is an optometrist at the practice of Drs. Hawks, Besler & Rogers in Kansas.

2008

Alex Pepin Mooney, BS education, was inducted into the 2013 Kirkwood (Mo.) High School Athletic Hall of Fame. She was captain of the UMSL Tritons softball team and won the university's Athletic Academic Excellence Award in 2007.

Justin Streiff, BS public policy and administration, is a fundraising account executive for FLS Connect. He managed the re-election campaign of Minnesota Rep. John Kline and was a member of Kline's office staff.

2009

Benjamin Gillham, MBA and BSBA 2007, is a Web analyst at Scottrade in St. Louis.

Clark Porter, MSW, is a program support specialist with the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri.



2010

Timothy M. Good, MAcc and BS accounting 2008, works at Baldor Electric Company in the sales department and is an adjunct accounting professor at St. Louis Community College-Meramec.

Kenya Haney, BSN, was appointed cardiology manager at Barnes-Jewish St. Peters Hospital in St. Charles, Mo., and Progress West HealthCare Center in O'Fallon, Mo. Haney was a team leader on the orthopedics-medical surgical unit at SSM St. Joseph Health Center in St. Louis and a nurse manager of the medicine unit at St. Anthony's Medical Center in south St. Louis County.



Lisa Isenberg, MSN, is a pediatric nurse for EnVision Durango in Durango, Colo. She practiced pediatric primary care and adolescent medicine at Washington University in St. Louis.

Danielle N. Lee, PhD biology, is one of Chip Chick's Top 9 Inspiring Women of 2012. She's a biologist and writes a popular blog about animal behavior, mammalogy and ecology.



Jessica Simon, BSBA, is a recruiter with Hoecker & Kohl in Chesterfield, Mo.

2011

Dr. Jessica Carson, OD, is an optometrist at Tekwani Vision Center and an adjunct assistant professor in the College of Optometry at UMSL.

Kayla Cox, BS education, is a teacher in the Parkway School District in Chesterfield, Mo.

Rachel Heim, BFA studio art, is a quilt artist. Her work has been displayed around the St. Louis area, including at Gallery Visio, the Regional Arts Commission and the Koken Art Factory.

Lindsay Hellebusch, BSN, is a registered nurse at SSM Cardinal Glennon Children's Medical Center in St. Louis.

Emily Hoehne, BSBA, owns and manages Stash, a fashion boutique in Cape Girardeau, Mo.

2012

Mark Hyken, BS education, is a late-night on-air personality at WARH (106.5 FM) in Creve Coeur, Mo.

Sherry Masterson, MSN and BSN 2009, joined Hannibal (Mo.) Regional Medical Group as a nurse practitioner.

Margaret McCallum, MPPA, was named assistant to the city administrator of Maple Plain, Minn., in November.

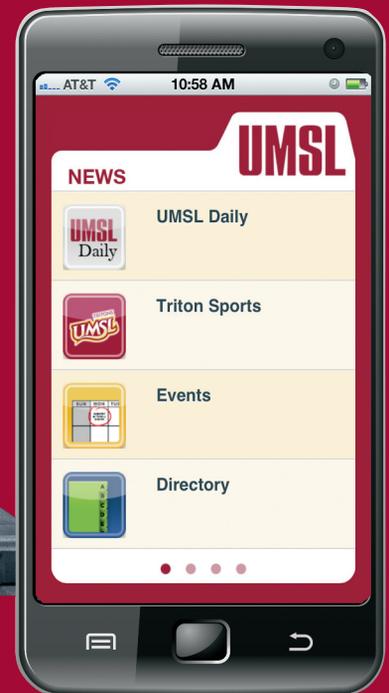
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