

UMSL

magazine

Fall 2013

Clues to abuse
UMSL students
learn to help
children in need





12

The University of Missouri–St. Louis publishes **UMSL** magazine for alumni and friends. The magazine highlights excellence at the university. Circulation is 84,000, and the magazine is released twice a year.

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Departments

4 In brief

7 In his own words

8 In print

25 UMSL people

31 Alumni engagement

10 **hear me roar**

The role of women at UMSL is shifting quickly.

14 **fine-tuned program**

Collaborative wins award for enriching cultural community.

12 **excellence counts**

Accounting graduates are earning high marks.



Dear Readers

I want to thank the editors for letting me introduce you to this issue of UMSL Magazine – particularly as we bring the university's Jubilee celebration to a close.

Regular readers may know that I was intimately involved in the founding of UMSL and have been closely associated with its development ever since. This relationship has provided me unique access to UMSL's seven chancellors.

As you might expect, all of our chancellors have contributed greatly to the evolution of UMSL into a first-rate metropolitan university – building on the foundation left to him or her from their predecessor. I mention this, of course, because Tom George is celebrating his 10th anniversary as chancellor.

UMSL has made significant progress in serving the educational needs of St. Louis under Chancellor George. He's done much to improve academic programs and the university's connections to the community. An article later in this magazine touches on those accomplishments.

Among the highlights, UMSL's association with Express Scripts stands out because it was my first opportunity to see Chancellor George pull together a complex project.

Express Scripts is a prescription drug fulfillment company ... noted for making the use of prescription drugs safer and more affordable. And it must be doing a good job. Express Scripts is now the largest company in Missouri.

So, when Express Scripts decided in 2005 to relocate its headquarters from Maryland Heights, Mo., developers and economic development departments locally and nationally went after them. Governors were calling.

Chancellor George also made a call. He made a lot of calls – to the governor, UM System president, St. Louis County executive and others. Together, they crafted a proposal that won over Express Scripts and its world headquarters is now located on the UMSL campus.

Express Scripts and UMSL individually employ thousands of people in north St. Louis County and cooperate in numerous academic, research and community engagement projects. There is a partnership that benefits the campus and the community.

From the Express Scripts experience I learned that Chancellor George is about building and maintaining relationships more so than making deals. I think that's what has defined his tenure and success over the past 10 years. I think it's also what I respect most about him.

Sincerely,



Wayne Goode
Former state representative
Former state senator
Chairman, Board of Curators of the University of Missouri System



20

17 **modifying cells**

Student research becomes foundation for new business.

18 **decade of distinction**

Campus, community recognizes Tom George for 10 years of service.

20 **tracking parasites**

UMSL students lead research project in the Galapagos Islands.



On the cover

UMSL's Children's Advocacy Services of Greater St. Louis creates a mock house to train students how to detect abuse.

UMSL names 2 new deans

A new face and a familiar one have joined the University of Missouri–St. Louis. Jean M. K. Miller and Charles Hoffman were named deans of two UMSL colleges.

Miller became the dean of the College of Fine Arts and Communication in July. Prior to joining UMSL, she served as associate dean of administrative affairs in the College of Visual Arts and Design at the University of North Texas in Denton. She also headed the Design Research Center in Dallas and served as acting dean of UNT's Toulouse Graduate School.

"I was attracted to UMSL and the College of Fine Arts and Communication as both an administrator and an artist," Miller says. "A diverse and talented faculty, staff and student body, strong programs and being acknowledged by the Carnegie Foundation as an institution that is truly engaged with St. Louis and metro-area communities were just a few of my considerations."

Miller served as chair of the Department of Art and Design, Art History and Art Education at Towson University in Maryland and the Department of Art and Design at Marshall University in Huntington, W.Va.

She earned a bachelor's degree in painting at St. Cloud University in Minnesota and a master's degree in painting from California College of the Arts in Oakland.

Charles Hoffman, who is no stranger to UMSL, has taken over as dean of the College of Business Administration.

Hoffman, who began his new position Sept. 1, is a UMSL alumnus who earned a BSBA in 1974 and an MBA in 1976. He previously served as president and chief executive officer of Covad Communications, the national broadband carrier.

"When I look back on my business career I don't think about stock price increases or net income improvements, but I do think about, and often hear from, people I was able to influence and mentor," Hoffman says. "The exciting thing about businesses are the people and organizational development that lead to great results. One of my goals at UMSL is to help students realize that's what business is all about."

Hoffman began his business career with IBM, later joining Southwestern Bell, Sprint PCS and Rogers Wireless, the national carrier in Canada formerly known as Cantel. From there he joined Covad Communications as CEO, until its sale in 2008.

He has served on national and international corporate boards and on several UMSL committees including the Chancellor's Council, the College of Business Administration Leadership Council and the Capital Campaign Steering Committee.



Jean M.K. Miller



Charles Hoffman

UMSL makes 'Best Bang for Your Buck' list

Three years ago, the University of Missouri–St. Louis began using its trademarked positioning statement: "Serious education. Serious value." That statement has resonated well with prospective students and its validity has received another national endorsement.

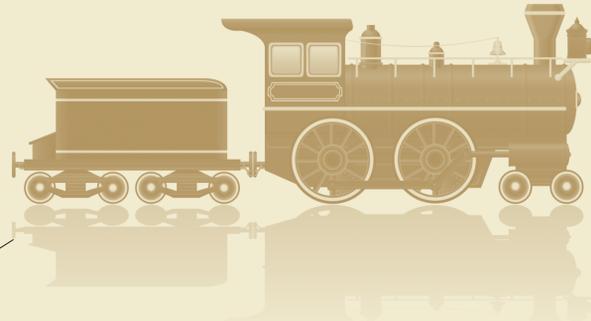
UMSL made Washington Monthly magazine's 2013 exclusive list of "Best Bang for Your Buck" colleges and universities. Only 349 colleges and universities rated "Best Bang for Your Buck" status out of 1,572 schools in the magazine's broader rankings. UMSL ranked 56 among national universities and was one of only three Missouri universities to make the list.

Washington Monthly said the list addresses the question most students should be asking: What colleges will charge people like me the least and give me the highest chance of graduating with a degree that means something in the marketplace?

Like many of the other schools on the "Best Bang" list, UMSL carries a low profile nationally. According to Washington Monthly, these schools may not be big names nationally, but they deliver for their students big-time.

"Washington Monthly confirms what we've learned through our alumni surveys and marketing research," says Senior Associate Vice Chancellor Ron Gossen. "UMSL prepares students well for their chosen careers at a reasonable and manageable cost.

"We receive a lot of feedback from local business and community leaders – many of whom our alumni – who rave about their experiences with recent graduates," Gossen says. "UMSL graduates are work-ready."



Railroad aficionado remembered, honored with Lee Medal

The late Robert McKnight, honorary trustee and longtime member of the John W. Barriger III National Railroad Library, will live on through his outstanding contributions to the University of Missouri–St. Louis.

In 1998 McKnight donated his railroad history collection to the John W. Barriger III National Railroad Library, housed in the St. Louis Mercantile Library on UMSL's North Campus. His collection helped grow the library into one

of the largest railroad history collections in North America. McKnight's contribution consisted of more than 100 magazines, books, studies and reports from 1830 to 2009 on railroad signaling. Prior to compiling his signaling collection during retirement, McKnight served as an editor for several railroad magazines. He spent countless hours in railroad and government libraries.

"Bob told me nearly 25 years ago that we should think big and plan big at the library, and that he was going to get around to underscoring that goal with a few extra nickels, as he put it," says John Hoover, director of the St. Louis Mercantile Library.

In addition to his donation, McKnight gave \$2.79 million to endow the position of the John W. Barriger III National Railroad Library curator.



The McKnight fund supports the costs associated with the curator as well as scholarly activity and expenses.

For his generosity, the university honored McKnight with the E. Desmond and Mary Ann Lee Medal for Philanthropy at the annual Founders Dinner on Sept. 19. The celebration was held at the Ritz-Carlton, St. Louis in Clayton, Mo., and attracted more than 800 people.

Hoover accepted the medal on McKnight's behalf.

"It is an honor to receive and hold this award in memory of Robert McKnight," says Hoover in his acceptance speech. "Bob understood from the outset that to fund the work of a curator helps pay the light bill; to endow positions and collections creates a future for a cultural institution; to give generously supports a thousand projects and above all our student scholars."

The Lee Medal was created in 2006 to honor Desmond and Mary Ann Lee for their extraordinary philanthropic support and visionary leadership of the university over the years. The Lees were the first recipients of the medal. It is awarded annually to individuals whose generous support has touched the lives of UMSL students, the university and the greater St. Louis area in exceptional ways.

UMSL Jubilee inspires 2 commemorative books

The University of Missouri–St. Louis is a success story.

Founded in 1963 on the grounds of a closed golf course in Normandy, Mo., UMSL opened with one building, a handful of faculty and less than 700 students. Today, UMSL is composed of nearly 17,000 students, 1,500 faculty, 1,200 staff and 87,000 alumni. It has a \$200 million annual budget, 10 schools and colleges and 91 degree programs.

The transformation of UMSL over 50 years and its impact on thousands of individuals is the subject of two books released this fall.

Edited by Ron Gossen, UMSL's senior associate vice chancellor for University Marketing and Communications, and written by faculty, students and staff, "First, A Dream: Reflection for a Golden Jubilee 1963-2013" is a collection of essays about the men and women who shaped UMSL over the last 50 years. The book is filled with the dynamic photographs of campus photographer August Jennewein and vintage photos from University Archives.

"This book captured the excitement of starting a brand new, major university," says Michael Murray, Curators' Teaching Professor of Media Studies at UMSL.

"Campus pioneers can be very proud."

The second book, "A Photographic History of the University of Missouri–St. Louis," is a 192-page publication compiled and edited by Blanche M. Touhill, chancellor emeritus and professor emeritus of history and education. Touhill served as chancellor at UMSL for more than 12 years. She joined the UMSL faculty in 1965, was named interim chancellor

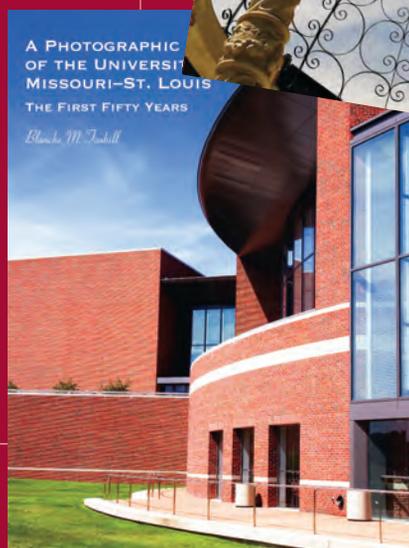
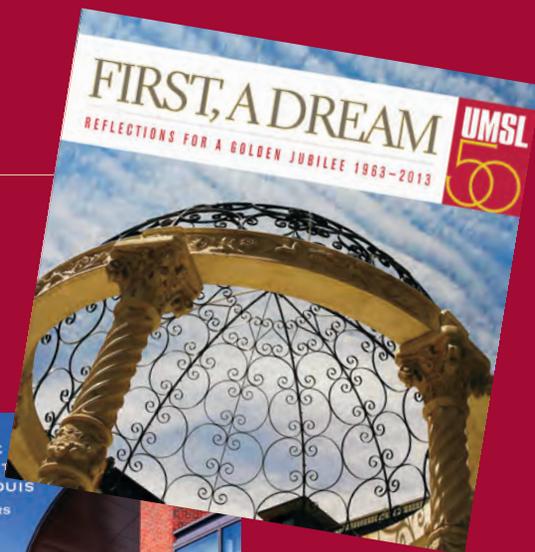
in 1990 and appointed chancellor in April 1991.

On Dec. 31, 2002, she retired.

"There are hundreds of faces in this book," Touhill says, holding the book close. "They're the people who worked together to make UMSL special.

"You could say it's UMSL's family photo album," she says, pausing for a few seconds, flashing a quick smile. "Yes, that's what it is; UMSL's family album."

Both books are available at the bookstore in the Millennium Student Center.



In his own words

Counseling educator discusses his contributions to LGBT community

By Jennifer Hatton

Being recognized as a leader in your field is an amazing honor. Being called a tireless crusader, founding father and advocate is humbling. But changing the world is empowering.

Mark Pope, professor and chair of the Department of Counseling and Family Therapy in the College of Education at the University of Missouri–St. Louis, has spent his career contributing to, fighting for and educating in the career counseling field with a particular focus on the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.

Known as the grandparent of career counseling for the LGBT community, Pope is a recognized international expert in various aspects of counseling with sexual minorities, including gay and lesbian career development, violence in schools against sexual minority youths, sexual behavior in aging gay men and psychological testing with sexual minorities.

He has advocated for LGBT individuals, as well as all members of underrepresented and culturally marginalized groups in American society for more than 35 years.

How did you become interested in career counseling?

There were several instances that reinforced my decision, but the bottom line for me was that career counseling was uncompromisingly positive, focusing on people's strengths rather than weaknesses. And that was very attractive to me.

What inspired you to focus on the LGBT community early in your career?

No one else was. Counseling with LGBT persons was in its infancy in 1973 when I began working on my master's degree in counseling. I had seen the injustice that was being perpetrated on gay, lesbian and bisexual people because of the inclusion of the diagnostic category "homosexuality" in the psychiatrists' list of mental disorders. I wanted to change that. It really was that simple.

You've received considerable recognition recently from your field and colleagues, what impact do you think you've had?

Simply by being "out" as a gay man, I have had a huge impact on the profession of counseling. In 2004, I was selected for the "OUT 100" as one of the major contributors to lesbian and gay culture in the United States in that year. Counselors rarely make such a high profile list, but I received this recognition for being elected as the first openly gay person to serve as president of a major mental health professional association, the American Counseling Association. It was exactly 30 years after the removal of "homosexuality" from the list of psychiatric disorders in the United States – repudiating once and for all the illness model used to limit the rights of gay, lesbian and bisexual individuals in the United States and around the world.



You've been called an inspiration to many, but who inspires you?

My mother inspired me to keep trying to reach my full potential as a human being through education and helping others. She spent her life as an elementary school teacher in rural southeast Missouri and she touched so many lives.

What would you most like to be remembered for at UMSL and in the field of career counseling?

We changed the world. My colleagues and I trained a hell of a lot of good counselors, who carried our work to the rest of the world. ☰

Over the last two years Mark Pope has received several career-highlighting awards, including:

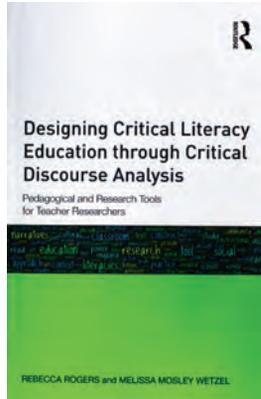
Named one of nine extraordinary leaders in the 100-year history of the career counseling profession by the National Career Development Association

Lifetime Career Achievement Award from the Missouri Career Development Association

2012 GLBT Educator of the Year Award from the National Organization of Gay and Lesbian Scientists and Technical Professionals, an affiliate of the American Association for the Advancement of Science

Inaugural Diversity Initiative Award from the National Career Development Association

Books by UMSL faculty

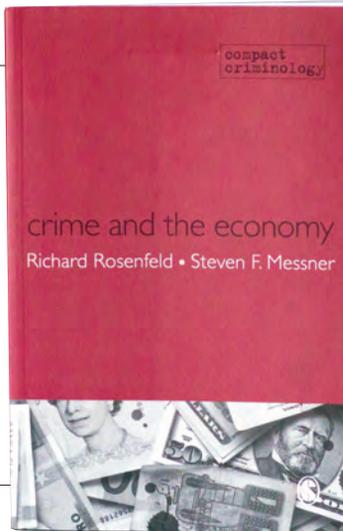


"Designing Critical Literacy Education through Critical Discourse Analysis: Pedagogical and Research Tools for Teacher Researchers"

CO-WRITTEN BY REBECCA ROGERS

Routledge, June 2013

Teacher educators, literacy researchers and discourse analysts will find this guide helpful for conducting critical discourse analysis and learning how to use the tools of discourse analysis to inquire into, critique and design critical literacy practices. Rebecca Rogers, professor of literacy education and discourse studies, provides step-by-step procedures for conducting each kind of discourse analysis (narrative, critically oriented, multimodal), sample analyses, and additional readings and resources for each chapter. The other author is Melissa Mosley Wetzel.



"Crime and the Economy"

CO-WRITTEN BY RICHARD ROSENFELD

SAGE Publications Ltd, April 2013

Richard Rosenfeld, Curators' Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice, tackles the classic relationship between crime and economic conditions. Broad in scope, this book considers the formal economy's effect on the illegal market, violent crime, burglary, drug crime, white-collar crime, fraud and corporate crime. It does so efficiently and effectively, making theory and technical terms easily understood. The other author is Steven F. Messner.



"Shattered, Cracked, or Firmly Intact?: Women and the Executive Glass Ceiling Worldwide"

BY FARIDA JALALZAI

Oxford University Press, March 2013

The idea of women in powerful roles is no myth, but the climb to executive leadership is still trying and does not necessarily correspond to a woman's social status and the existence of gender equality, according to Farida Jalalzai, associate professor of political science. Her book looks at women in the executive office in different nations over the past 50 years. While illuminating embedded gender roles in institutions and processes, she compares female and male leaders from the same country and analyzes failed female candidacies.



"The Banshees: A Literary History of Irish American Women Writers"

BY SALLY BARR EBEST

Syracuse University Press, October 2013

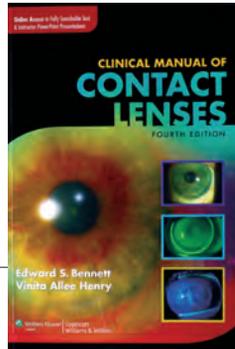
Sally Barr Ebest, professor of English and director of the Gender Studies program, unravels a rich literary turf yet to be explored in her book about Irish American women writers. The literary expedition unfolds decade by decade, placing books and themes in historical context. She reveals the influences of Catholicism, Irish American culture, American politics and society on women's writing of the time, creating an intricately layered and comprehensive understanding of a literary niche.

"Understanding Accounting Academic Research: Before and After Sarbanes-Oxley"

BY STEPHEN MOEHRLE AND JENNIFER REYNOLDS-MOEHRLE

Emerald Group Publishing Limited, June 2013

As the 15th volume in the "Studies in the Development of Accounting Thought" series, this book discusses the outcome of the Enron and WorldCom scandals that led to new regulations under the Sarbanes-Oxley law. Stephen Moehrle, professor and chair of the Department of Accounting, and Jennifer Reynolds-Moehrle, associate professor of accounting, weave their papers together chronologically to build a story of academic thought before and after the scandals in the hopes of better understanding accounting in its present state.

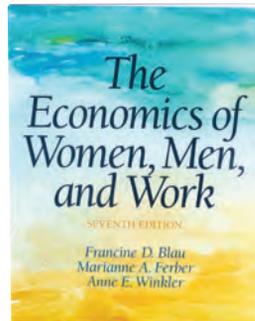


"Clinical Manual of Contact Lenses, Fourth Edition"

BY EDWARD BENNETT AND VINITA HENRY

Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, September 2013

Optometrists have a new guide for quick reference. Edward Bennett, professor of optometry, and Vinita Henry, clinical professor of optometry, have added new chapters and more solutions to their clinical manual on fitting contact lenses. Topics covered include: rigid gas permeable lens design and fitting, soft lens problem-solving, astigmatic management and bifocal correction. Each chapter offers sample cases to demonstrate solutions in real-life situations.



"The Economics of Women, Men, and Work, Seventh Edition"

CO-WRITTEN BY ANNE WINKLER

Prentice Hall, July 2013

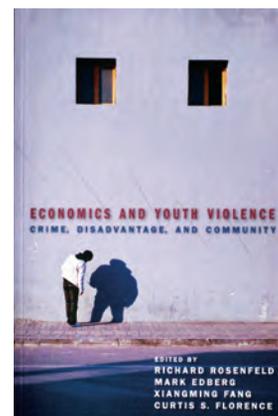
Perceptions of gender and gender roles weave themselves into all aspects of life including the workplace. This book examines how men and women's roles change in an ever-evolving economy. It does so across cultures and nations with new data that encompasses the Great Recession. Anne Winkler, professor of economics and public policy administration, discusses the allotment of time between work and the household environment, the dynamic of work roles and the family as an economic unit. The other authors are Francine Blau and Marianne Ferber.

"Economics and Youth Violence: Crime, Disadvantage, and Community"

CO-EDITED BY RICHARD ROSENFELD

New York University Press, August 2013

The formative experiences that result in youth violence do not stem from individual choices and behaviors alone. This volume combines expert thought on youth violence and its roots in the socioeconomics of family, neighborhood, community and larger society. Different leading experts across multiple fields in the social sciences author the chapters. Richard Rosenfeld, Curators' Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice, was joined in editing this groundbreaking text by Mark Edberg, Xiangming Fang and Curtis S. Florence.





Joining UMSL since fall 2011, Deans Carole Basile of education, Susan Dean-Baar of nursing and Jean M.K. Miller of fine arts and communication oversee colleges enrolling nearly 4,000 students.

St. Louis Business Journal Publisher Ellen Sherberg

received a warm welcome when she approached the University of Missouri–St. Louis in the late 1990s about sponsoring an event to highlight the outstanding achievements of women.

A longtime member of UMSL’s Chancellor’s Council, Sherberg was well acquainted with the university’s outstanding record in educating women and the influence its chancellor, Blanche Touhill, had attained in the business community.

As two of the region’s better-known female executives, Sherberg and Touhill understood, better than most, the need for an event that would recognize women leaders and inspire more women to seek similar roles.

Thus, UMSL became a founding partner of the St. Louis Business Journal’s Most Influential Business Women Awards. Dozens of women in wide-ranging fields from business, education and community service have since been honored – many of them UMSL alumnae.

The 2013 class of winners included four UMSL graduates: Leah Amir, president and chief executive officer

of VantageView and VantageLinks LLC; Sue O’Leary, chief financial officer of Total Hockey Inc.; Christine Smith, vice president of Biotherapeutics Pharmaceutical Sciences, Pfizer Inc.; and Kathy Walters, chief financial officer of CR Metal Products Inc.

“Blanche’s involvement brought instant credibility to the award, but UMSL’s stature in educating and graduating women has been one of the primary factors in the award’s continuing prestige,” Sherberg says. “It’s an association that works well for everyone.”

UMSL Provost Glen Cope concurs.

“The University of Missouri–St. Louis is proud to be a founding sponsor of this event and is delighted to be associated with Armstrong Teasdale, Deloitte, PNC Bank and the St. Louis Business Journal in its production,” says Cope, UMSL’s first female provost. “It reflects our influence. No university has more women graduates living and working in the St. Louis region than UMSL.”

More than 50,000 women have one or more degrees from UMSL – representing an astonishing 58 percent of all UMSL alumni. These women are significant players in the St. Louis regional work force. Many lend their expertise to help guide the future of UMSL as well, including Sandra Van Trease, group president of BJC HealthCare, and Kathy Osborn, executive director of the St. Louis Regional Business Council. Both serve on UMSL’s Chancellor’s Council and are recipients of the Most Influential Business Women Award.

Continuing involvement in the event also underscores a significant shift in women academic administrators and faculty at UMSL. Women account for more than half of the university’s full-time faculty today, as well as four of 10 academic deans. Women constituted

about 40 percent of full-time faculty when the influential women awards were introduced.

Cope fondly recalls being interrupted during a meeting with current Chancellor Thomas George by a reporter from the Chronicle of Higher Education. A survey had identified UMSL as an institution with an exceptionally high percentage of female faculty, and the reporter wanted to know how UMSL had achieved its lofty ranking.

“There wasn’t a specific plan,” Cope says. “We weren’t even aware that we rated so well. We were just filling open faculty positions with the best candidates possible. Most of those top candidates just turned out to be women.”

One of those candidates, Sha-Lai Williams, joined the social work faculty this fall as an assistant professor. Williams has more than 10 years of experience as a licensed clinical social worker and clinical supervisor, as well as a master’s degree from Yale University and a doctorate from Washington University in St. Louis.

“I moved to St. Louis in 2008 to attend Washington University with the intention of returning to my home state of North Carolina,” Williams says.

But like many who come to St. Louis, Williams soon established roots and wanted to stay.

“I wanted to work at an institution [in St. Louis] that was known for its research as well as its work in the community,” Williams says. “Several people felt that UMSL would be a good match for me, and I whole-heartedly agree.”

Williams was not aware of UMSL’s record of attracting female faculty, but expressed her pride to be “part of an institution that recruits, hires, and retains female faculty.” But what has impressed Williams most, she says, is the general supportive nature of the institution.

Longtime faculty member Mary Lacity appreciates Williams’ assessment of UMSL. Arriving here in 1991 as an assistant professor, Lacity today is a Curators’ Professor of Information Systems.

“I was attracted to UMSL because Ashok Subramanian, a friend of mine, worked here as an assistant professor of information systems. He and I had been office mates while earning our doctorate degrees at the University of Houston,” Lacity says. “He told me I would love it here. Because I trusted him, I accepted a position and I have been grateful to him ever since.”

So, to be sure, quality and diversity are not new concepts at UMSL. Neither is treating people fairly. They are all just complementary strategies that have placed UMSL in a pioneering position in education and in the community. ≡

INFLUENTIAL WOMEN

UMSL shows off its feminine side

By Bob Samples

Faculty members
Mary Lacity and Sha-Lai
Williams appreciate
UMSL’s supportive
environment.





When the economic downturn occurred, Benjamin Taylor's material business in the construction industry felt the impact.

"I knew it was time for a career change," says Taylor, who had always been good with numbers, doing the books and taxes for his business for many years. "I started looking into accounting programs and it was an easy choice."

Taylor chose the Department of Accounting at the University of Missouri–St. Louis.

"I wanted a program that was accredited, accomplished and would prepare me for a career," he says. "I found that program at UMSL."

Taylor earned his bachelor's degree in accounting in May 2013. He then spent the summer working a paid internship at Ernst & Young in St. Louis, one of the big four firms in the area.

"My internship, which UMSL helped me to earn, was amazing," says Taylor, who is currently working on a master's degree in accounting and was named the 2011-12 LEAP Student of the Year by the Missouri Society of Certified Public Accountants. "I was offered a full-time position when I graduated. I credit a lot of my success to the program."

So, what makes the accounting program at UMSL unique?

"It's hard to point to just one thing when discussing the impact the department has had on students and the community," says Stephen Moehrle, professor and chair of the department. "It's a combination of things, a tradition of excellence."

Moehrle, who earned his bachelor's degree in accounting from UMSL, said the foundation for the program was started by some of the first faculty members of the department.

"The tradition of excellence dates back to professors such as Dave Ganz (professor emeritus of accounting) and his colleagues in the 1970s, who established a rigorous program and a community around it, that prepares every student for a career," he says. "When I was here as a student, there was already a very special morale among accounting majors. We were all very proud to be a part of the UMSL accounting community and most everyone landed a very special career."

The accounting program in UMSL's College of Business Administration has a long-standing reputation for preparing exceptional accountants.

The department offers an undergraduate and graduate program, both of which are accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, the most prestigious business accrediting organization in the world.

UMSL is the only program in St. Louis and one of only five in Missouri to hold AACSB accreditation in both business and accounting. The dual accreditation places UMSL among only 10 percent of universities in the United States to have such distinction.

Many graduates are partners in Certified Public Accountant firms or chief executives and financial officers at well-known companies. And the department's success rate of graduates who score high on the four-part CPA exam is unmatched throughout the region.

In fact, in the last five years three UMSL accounting students have received prestigious honors for their abilities.

The Elijah Watt Sells Award is a national award given annually to candidates earning the cumulative highest score on the CPA exams. Brighton Ranney, MAcc 2012, earned the award in 2012. Nguyen Ngo, BSBA 2010 and MAcc 2011, earned the award in 2011 and Chris Leon, BSBA 2007, earned it in 2008. All three are currently working at renowned firms. Only a handful of universities in the world have had more students win this prestigious award during these years.



ACCOUNTING FOR EXCELLENCE: Preparing future leaders

By Jennifer Hatton

Steven Moehrle, professor and chair of the Department of Accounting at UMSL, discusses financial practices with students in his Financial Accounting and Reporting IV class

In addition to an outstanding curriculum that prepares students for the work force, the program has partnerships with area firms and businesses, including PricewaterhouseCoopers, Ernst & Young, Moneta Group, Edward Jones and many others.

"Community outreach is another big component of the entire academic experience for our students," Moehrle says.

For more than 40 years, UMSL students have participated in the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. Students undergo several weeks of tax preparation training, testing and certification. And then for several weeks, they offer their services to the community, preparing tax returns at no charge.

"It's these types of real-life experiences that give students the confidence and knowledge to enter the work force," Moehrle says.

Sue O'Leary, BSBA accounting 1988, chief financial officer of Total Hockey in St. Louis, says a degree from UMSL has meant a career doing what she loves.

"My favorite class and most impactful professor was my auditing class taught by Jack Cox," O'Leary says. "During that class, Professor Cox shared his passion for auditing and numerous real life examples. Part of the class involved working through a complete audit of a company. As we worked through the audit as a class, I knew at that time, that my first job after graduating would be as an auditor."

O'Leary, who was recently named one of the "Most Influential Business Women" by the St. Louis Business Journal, worked her way up the ranks at a couple of accounting firms and Wallis Cos. before joining Total Hockey, a company expected to top \$45 million in sales this year.

"UMSL has a proven track record for quality job placements for graduates with business degrees with an emphasis in accounting," she says. "That reputation is what sets it apart from others." ≡



UMSL collaborative brings dance,
music to area schools

By Myra Lopez

Merengue music blares out of a boom box as a group of about 40 fifth-graders at Buder Elementary School in south St. Louis walk arm-in-arm into the school gymnasium. The curriculum for the next hour – ballroom dancing.



Pictured above: Fifth-graders from Buder Elementary School in south St. Louis learn to ballroom dance courtesy of St. Louis Dancing Classrooms, which is part of the E. Desmond Lee Fine Arts Education Collaborative at UMSL.

Pictured left: Cameron Arnold, a fifth-grader at Jennings (Mo.) Northview Elementary School, dons the electric bass of musician Jeff Anderson in an impromptu meet and greet on stage at the Sheldon Concert Hall.

Putting the group through its paces is Angie Brooks, program manager for St. Louis Dancing Classrooms and a teaching artist.

“We’re going to have fun,” Brooks says to the students. “We’re going to enjoy ourselves, but we also still need to be serious about dancing.”

This is the third of 20 visits she will make to the school as part of the E. Desmond Lee Fine Arts Education Collaborative at the University of Missouri–St. Louis. Recently, the collaborative was selected by the Arts and Education Council to receive a 2014 St. Louis Arts Awards in the category of “Arts Collaboration.” The collaborative was honored for enriching St. Louis’ arts and cultural community.

This is Brooks' fourth year teaching dance in schools as part of the collaborative, and she's a huge fan of the program. She says while the kids think they're learning to dance, they're actually getting so much more out of the experience.

"I love the fact that St. Louis Dancing Classrooms is able to use dance to build character and promote positive interaction within the kids. It's not just about moving around, it's about getting along with one another and seeing your classmates in a different way."

Watching from the sidelines this morning is Robert Nordman, the director of the collaborative and the E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor of Music Education at UMSL. He even fills in as a dance partner for a young student who is sans partner.

"I'm constantly amazed by how quickly children in elementary school can learn things," he says. "They learn the dances much quicker than adults who spend a lot of money to go to ballroom dance lessons."

Generally fifth grade is that awkward stage where the girls are taller than the boys and touching the opposite gender elicits eye-rolling and facial grimaces. But the ick factor falls to the wayside as the students concentrate on nailing down the dance routines.

"They get over that really quickly with these dance instructors," Nordman says. "There is a considerable amount of social grace tied to this. In addition to learning the various ballroom dances, they also learn the 'old fashion' way of addressing each other."

And there's nothing but praise from the student dancers.

"My favorite part was the merengue," says Jonathan Samieth, 10, who used to get nervous about taking the dance floor, but not anymore.

John Nunn, 11, says dancing is "really fun." His classmate Katelyn Moore, 10, shares the same sentiment.

"I really like it. I mostly like the part when we twirl," she says.

Nordman says there is national anecdotal evidence about classroom behavior improving tremendously during and after this program.

"That's not its prime purpose of course, but it's a great result," he says.

In the three years the program has been at Buder Elementary, no child has opted out of the dance activity.

In addition to Nordman, the St. Louis Arts Awards also recognized E. Louis Lankford, the E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor in Art Education at UMSL. The pair was honored for their vision, leadership and generosity in linking key organizations, schools and individuals to facilitate creative arts programming and engagement opportunities for children, teachers, families and the community.

Nordman says he was pleasantly surprised to learn of the arts honor and is quick to point out that it's a communal effort.

"The collaborative deserves it and not because of me. We have a wonderful advisory board of 32 people.

They are very, very helpful to me in every sense," he says.

Established in 1996, the E. Desmond Lee Fine Arts Education Collaborative works in partnership with a myriad of St. Louis arts organizations including St. Louis Dancing Classrooms, Laumeier Sculpture Park, St. Louis Art Museum, St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, Dance St. Louis and the Sheldon Concert Hall and Art Galleries.

The collaborative has grown from three school districts to 15 and from three arts institutions to 17, which provide a wide range of in-school and off-campus fine arts learning experiences for students in addition to professional development opportunities for fine arts teachers.

The collaborative is part of the Des Lee Collaborative Vision, which is administered through UMSL. The DLCV brings together key educational, cultural, governmental and social service institutions to establish programs and share resources that benefit the St. Louis community. This is accomplished through the collaboration of more than 30 endowed professors with more than 100 partner and community organizations both in the St. Louis region and worldwide.

The St. Louis Arts Awards is the preeminent award ceremony honoring individuals who achieve a legacy of artistic excellence, and organizations and businesses that enrich St. Louis' arts and cultural community. ≡



Musician Randall Holmes explains to Isaiah Melton, a student at Loyola Academy of St. Louis, the different sounds his trumpets can make.



UMSL students create biotech startup business

By Myra Lopez

What began as a research project for University of Missouri–St. Louis doctoral students Mohit Patel and Jason Atkins grew into a passion, and eventually evolved into a business venture.

The duo, who earned their bachelor's and master's degrees from UMSL, met as research associates working in the laboratory of George Gokel, director of the Center for Nanoscience at UMSL. Along with Gokel, the students invented a new technology to transfer DNA into cells. The development is an inexpensive and nontoxic method to help DNA cross the cell membrane so that cells can be modified.

"The company was formed after we realized the commercial potential of the technology we had invented in Dr. Gokel's laboratory," Patel says.

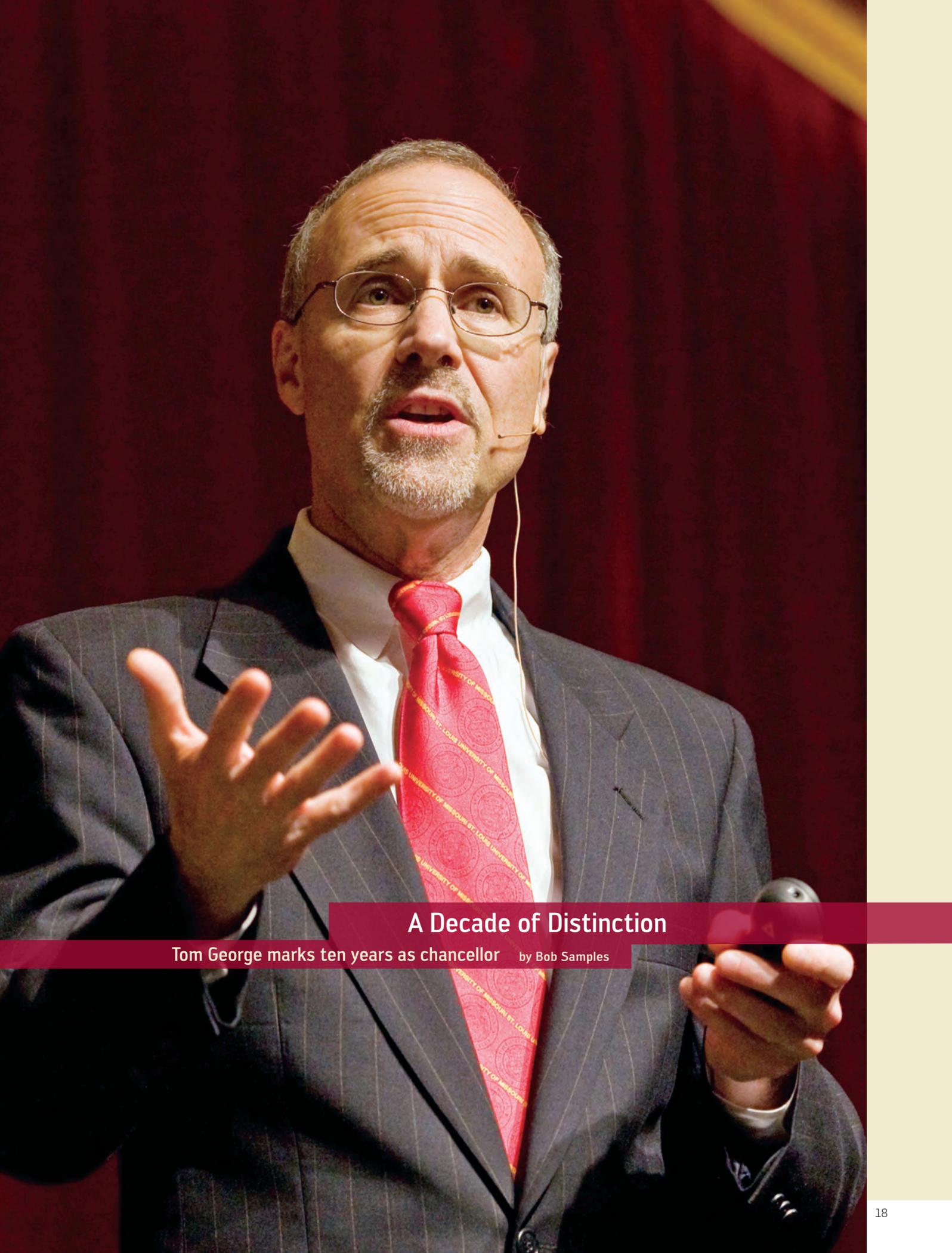
In 2012, Patel, Atkins and Gokel founded a biotechnology startup company called Genetix Fusion, which provides superior, nontoxic transfection kits for pharmaceutical and academic researchers. It's the first startup established by UMSL students to commercialize a University of Missouri–St. Louis technology.

This year the pair increased their profile with a slew of awards and grants. In April, they were inducted as honorary members of the UMSL chapter of the National Academy of Inventors and were presented the UMSL Student Inventor of the Year Award, which carried a \$500 prize.

Along with Gokel they shared in a \$50,000 grant through the University of Missouri System's Fast Track Funding program to conduct research and develop their products for commercialization. In May, they won a global business planning competition called Arch Grants, which brought \$50,000 in funding for their startup company. Patel also ranked among the St. Louis Business Journal's 2013 class of "30 Under 30" future business leaders.

"The grants and awards that we have received provide us validation for our idea and the progress we have made," Patel says. "It also motivates us to work harder and develop superior products."

Patel says the company hopes to launch its first product, the Janus Transformation Kit™, in early 2014. It will enable scientists to deliver DNA/RNA into cells with greater efficiency and less expense. ☰



A Decade of Distinction

Tom George marks ten years as chancellor by Bob Samples

Extraordinary Accomplishments

The accomplishments of Thomas George are numerous, diverse and meaningful to the campus and community. The following are just a few examples of his imprint on University of Missouri–St. Louis.

World Headquarters – Express Scripts Inc.

Missouri's largest company decided to locate on UMSL's campus instead of moving out of state.

Innovative Technology Enterprises at UMSL

Incubator for high-tech startups is located in north St. Louis County.

Oak Hall

UMSL built its first residential facility.

UMSL at Grand Center

The new facility houses UMSL classes and offices as well as St. Louis Public Radio.

Science Learning Building*

Attached to the science complex, the new facility will primarily contain teaching labs for chemistry and biology.

Recreation and Wellness Center*

A student-approved center will enhance UMSL's ability to create community among its students, faculty and alumni.

THE SEVENTH

chancellor of the University of Missouri–St. Louis, Thomas F. George, has led the campus through a period of evolutionary growth. Chancellor since September 2003, George's tenure has been marked by unprecedented improvements in the quality of incoming students, number of graduates, faculty accomplishments and philanthropy.

It's also been a period of relative calm as George has involved faculty, staff, students, alumni and community supporters in plotting UMSL's future – to the point that his name and shared governance are nearly synonymous. So it was ironic – and touching – when so many of George's partners in campus business recently conspired behind his back.

George knew September's Founders Dinner would serve as the university's Jubilee birthday party. But he had no idea he would be commemorated for his decade of service as UMSL's top leader. George was astonished and nearly brought to tears by the tribute.

First to the microphone was Ken Kranzberg, a community leader, George's good friend and a former member of the Chancellor's Council. He recalled a decade earlier when 100 applicants wanting to be UMSL's seventh chancellor were narrowed down to one person: Tom George.

"We got a real winner," Kranzberg says. "A brilliant scientist, jazz musician, community leader and collaborator, Tom's honors and accomplishments are well-known locally, nationally and internationally."

Vice Chancellor for University Advancement Martin Leifeld and Sara Foster, a member of the Chancellor's Council, presented George with a certificate signifying the establishment of the Thomas F. George Jubilee Scholarship.

"This special scholarship will enable students to fulfill their dreams and contribute to the betterment of the St. Louis community and the world," Leifeld says, also thanking council members for creating the endowed scholarship.

Leifeld, Provost Glen Cope and Vice Chancellor for Managerial and Technological Services Jim Krueger closed out the tribute by presenting George, on behalf of the UMSL faculty and staff, with a medallion to wear at commencement.

Visibly shaken, George thanked the audience as they gave him a standing ovation.

"I promise you I didn't know anything about this," George says. "This was a surprise – a great surprise. I'm not going to cry, but thank you. Thank you all." ≡

Numbers That Matter	FY94-FY03	FY04-FY13
Total Enrollment	15,600 Average	16,050 Average
Total Degrees	2,408 Average	2,964 Average
Total Philanthropy	\$9.6M Average	\$18.8M Average**

**UMSL is expected to break ground on its science addition and Wellness and Recreation Center in late 2013. UMSL has targeted 2014 to begin construction on Anheuser-Busch Hall.*

***During George's tenure, UMSL successfully completed a \$150 million fundraising campaign. Among the achievements was a 65% increase in endowed scholarships.*

mos•qui•to

1. a slender long-legged fly with aquatic larvae. The bite of the bloodsucking female can transmit a number of serious diseases including malaria and encephalitis.



Students conduct malaria research in the
Galapagos Islands

By Myra Lopez

“Do you know where her flies are?” Patricia Parker asks her lab assistant over the phone.

It might seem like an odd line of inquiry, but it's all in a day's work for Parker, the E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor in Zoological Studies and chair of the Department of Biology at the University of Missouri–St. Louis. For the past decade she has been leading research in the Galapagos Islands on plasmodium, the parasite that causes malaria.

Hours before, Mari Cruz Jaramillo, a graduate student in biology at UMSL and a native of Ecuador, returned to St. Louis weighed down with bird blood and mosquito samples. She was part of a six-member, all-female team that spent two months conducting research in the Galapagos Islands. Four of the researchers are current UMSL students and one is an alumna who works at the Missouri Botanical Garden.

What was unusual about this latest research trip was that Jaramillo and fellow graduate student Samoa Asigau, a native of Papua New Guinea, were shadowed for 10 days by St. Louis Public Radio I 90.7 KWMU science reporter Véronique LaCapra. A Public Radio Exchange competition funded the trip with support from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.

The outcome of LaCapra's journey was reflected in her radio feature “Two Young Women Scientists from UMSL Forge Their Futures in the Galapagos.” The story has aired on five other public radio stations, the farthest away KUOW (94.9 FM) in Seattle.

Parker, who joined UMSL in 2000, has been working with her students to study disease transmission in the Galapagos, specifically the threat avian malaria poses to native bird species. Understanding that piece of the puzzle was what Jaramillo and Asigau spent the summer trying to solve. The outcome could have a big impact and not just in the Galapagos.

The plasmodium parasite has caused some of the best documented extinctions of birds in Hawaii, another archipelago in the Pacific.

“Here we have this highly protected Galapagos archipelago which has been an icon of conservation success for decades. And now malaria is there,” Parker says. “Is it going to wipe out the birds there? How do we understand where it came from? Is there one kind? Are there multiple kinds? We know it's there and we know it's being transmitted there and that's what Mari and Samoa are trying to figure out. That's where our collective interest is focused right now.”

Asigau focused her research on mosquitoes – trapping and dissecting them to find out which species are transmitting the disease.

“It would be satisfying for me to find this piece of the puzzle, knowing that my work could potentially help eradicate a species that may cause destruction or extinction of native wildlife in that area,” she says.

Jaramillo's research involved mist netting birds, weighing and measuring them and taking a blood sample, and then testing those samples back in the lab at UMSL. The malaria parasite has been found in four native birds. The parasite is new enough that it hasn't adapted to those birds as host.

“Although infected, they are not transmitting it,” Parker says. “The fact that we find it year after year in them means it's coming through something successfully but not them. Mari is trying to find out what that something is.”

Jaramillo was the overall team leader, as she has extensive experience in the Galapagos. In fact, Parker and Jaramillo first met when Jaramillo was there as a volunteer working on another research project.

“Having spent so much time in the Galapagos I do feel this sense of protection, that I want to take care of the environment,” Jaramillo says. “For me it feels like home.”



UMSL biologist Patricia Parker (left) stands alongside doctoral students Samoa Asigau [center] and Mari Cruz Jaramillo.

Next spring, Asigau and Jaramillo will return to the Galapagos to continue their research. This time they'll be there from February through April, the rainy season for the islands. That's when the mosquitoes are more active and when transmission of the plasmodium will be at its peak.

The long-term goal is to identify how the malaria parasite is moving around. Depending on which species are involved in its transmission, it might be possible to eradicate it before it does massive harm to the Galapagos birds.

Once both women receive their doctorates from UMSL they plan on returning to their home countries to continue their research and inspire a new generation of scientists. ☰



Social work major Krista Liebrum looks inside a coffee table drawer in the mock house at the new Children's Advocacy Services of Greater St. Louis site in Kirkwood, Mo. The third location of the center, operated by UMSL, opened this fall and includes a simulation house that allows students to experience real-life training.

NEW CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY SERVICES of Greater St. Louis



Richelle

Moore took a deep breath before stepping into the home. She knew what she was about to see would impact her. She also knew how she handled it could save a child's life.

As she walked into the master bedroom, careful not to touch anything, she closely examined pills and other drug-related items scattered around. Moore scanned through the search history on the home computer and took note of sexual paraphernalia that was left out in the open. A report of child abuse had been called on the parents of the house, where three small children lived.

"I didn't want to miss anything," says Moore, who is a psychology and early education major at the University of Missouri–St. Louis. "These children are depending on me to find out the truth and make them safe."

Although it's set up to look like a real house, the site is a training tool for UMSL's Children's Advocacy Services of Greater St. Louis.

Dubbed the "mock-house," it's a simulation laboratory and part of the newest location of the center. CASGSL provides specialized individual, group and family counseling to children affected by traumatic events including sexual abuse, physical abuse and neglect.

site increasing training, services By Jennifer Hatton

continued



Richelle Moore examines the contents of a box in the room of a small child.

The new CASGSL opened in August and consists of homes at 121 and 115 W. Monroe Ave. in Kirkwood, Mo.

"This will be a collocated site so we will have forensic interviews as well as our clinical services here," says Jerry Dunn, director of CASGSL at UMSL.

The bigger house features a waiting area, therapy rooms, offices, a conference room and classroom space. The conference room allows for officials to monitor and record therapy sessions from another room. The adjacent smaller house is the mock house.

"It will give our students the chance to go on a home visit of a reported child abuse or neglect case," Dunn says. "Coming into a scene like this can be shocking for anyone. By simulating scenarios, some more obvious than others, we're preparing our students for real-world assessments."

With only three others like it in the United States, the mock house is a unique training tool and asset to the Children's Advocacy Studies Program.

Dorothy Denny, licensed clinical social worker and CAST program coordinator, agrees.

"The first year is the biggest challenge for individuals in child-serving fields," Denny says. "That is when they decide either this is too much or they make the commitment to do it and really do it well."

The Kirkwood site not only adds the simulator, but it will help increase the number of area families helped by CASGSL, which serves more than 800 children and families annually.

CASGSL's main location is housed on the university's South Campus in the Kathy J. Weinman Advocacy Centre and the second site is on West Pine Boulevard in the Central West End neighborhood in St. Louis.

"This new site will allow us to serve an entire section of the region that maybe, due to location or our limitations in space, were not served by the center before," Dunn says. "Our motto is 'Giving children voices. Helping families heal.' And this will allow us to do that even more." ≡

LOUISA WERNER

A day in the life of an international student-athlete

By Marisol Ramirez

Louisa Werner wakes up at 8 a.m. From 9 to 10:45 a.m. she fulfills her duties as a research assistant in the psychology lab on campus before attending her 11 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. class. Then it's on to tennis practice from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. She changes just in time for one more night class, officially concluding her day at 9:30 p.m.

How does she do it? Hot mochas, homemade to-go smoothies and some crazy determination to get the most out of her student-athlete experience.

Werner is a senior tennis player and finance and international business major at the University of Missouri–St. Louis. She is a three-time Great Lakes Valley Conference player of the week and a three-time Academic All-GLVC honoree. That makes her one of 39 repeat recipients from UMSL and one of 73 UMSL student-athletes honored for the 2012-2013 academic school year.

And the awards don't stop there. Werner's 3.9 GPA also makes her one of the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Scholar-Athletes and part of the UMSL Women's Tennis ITA All-Academic Team. They earned a cumulative GPA of 3.391 for the 2012-2013 academic school year.

With two to four matches a week during peak season, it's amazing how these young students balance their school and sport obligations.

"You get things done," Werner says. "You don't have a choice, so you just figure out your pattern, whether that's staying up until 4 a.m. or writing essays in the van and crunching numbers on hotel nights."

Focus becomes crucial. In the classroom she has to set aside her nerves over an upcoming match.

On the court, there's no place for school stress or personal distractions.

"Tennis is a mentally challenging sport," Werner says. "Each point counts and you can quickly get ahead or quickly be down. When I'm down, I take it one point at a time and remind myself to have fun."

It may be a rough pace to keep, but she wouldn't change a thing.

"It's stressful, but it's fun," Werner says. "You know, a fun kind of stress. It means I am out doing things with my life."

Werner is most certainly doing things. She moved to St. Louis from Dresden, Germany, on a tennis scholarship from UMSL. More than the scholarship, though, Werner chose UMSL because of its location near a major U.S. city and the international business program's 14th ranking by the U.S. News & World Report. Werner's parents, who started her playing tennis at the age of 5, remain back home. She texts her mom every-



day and video chats with her parents over Skype when time zones and spare time allow it.

After Werner graduates, she has two options. She will either find a finance internship with a bank in New York or London, or she will apply to graduate school in the U.S. or Germany. Werner wants to combine her business background and psychology minor and study business psychology. While she eventually plans to return to Dresden to be with her family, Werner is loving her time at UMSL.

"I came here when I was only 17, and I was a little scared," Werner says. "But I found that UMSL is a good school with a good tennis team and great teammates. It was a really good choice for me." ☰

JOE LARREW:

UMSL alumnus, lawyer, judge, Super Bowl official

By Ryan Heinz

More than 108 million people tuned in to watch the Baltimore Ravens defeat the San Francisco 49ers in the past Super Bowl. But few people watched the game as closely as Joe Larrew.

The University of Missouri–St. Louis alumnus capped off his 11th season as an NFL side judge by officiating the biggest game in professional sports. Film crews trained 60 cameras on the field, about three times more than a typical high-profile Sunday night game.

“When you’re out there for three hours, you have to be absolutely focused on every play,” says Larrew, BA political science 1974. “It’s physically demanding in that I cover six miles in a game, but I’m absolutely more mentally exhausted than physically tired by the end of a game.”

Larrew’s road to the Super Bowl was a long one with twists and turns that took him from football fields at high schools all over the St. Louis region to major cities throughout the world. That road began in his native Poplar Bluff, Mo., and next went through Normandy, Mo., where Larrew’s family moved in 1960.

He graduated from Normandy High School and accepted a full-ride scholarship to play football at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. His college football playing career was short-lived.

“When I got down there, I scared the hell out of them with my 170-pound, slow wide receiver talents, and they wanted me to red shirt, which means take an extra year,” he recalls.

Not wanting to tack on a fifth year to his bachelor’s degree pursuit, Larrew followed his NHS coach, who took a job at the University of Missouri–Columbia. After running into the same scenario, Larrew returned home and enrolled in the political science undergraduate program at UMSL.

“The campus was less than five minutes from my house, I could take a lot of credit hours, work on the side and the university was so affordable,” Larrew says.

He followed up his UMSL degree with a law degree from Saint Louis University and began working in the public defender’s office in St. Louis County. It was around this time, during the late 1970s, that Larrew’s past coaches encouraged him to get back into high school sports through officiating.

“I started sneaking out of the office at 4 o’clock every afternoon reffing basketball and then football,” he says.

Over the next 35 years, he simultaneously rose through the courtroom and football officiating ranks.

In 1983 Larrew joined what is now Hammond and Shinnars, PC, one of the state’s larger labor law firms where today he is a principal and president. He was then elected in 1986 as the municipal judge for Bridgeton, Mo., a post he still holds today.

As for officiating, he worked his way up to what is now the Missouri Valley Football Conference by 1992. That’s when the NFL took notice.

“I had not even thought about getting into the National Football League,” Larrew says.

It would be a decade before he officiated his first NFL game. The lengthy vetting process included regular NFL scout visits to his games, a psycholo-

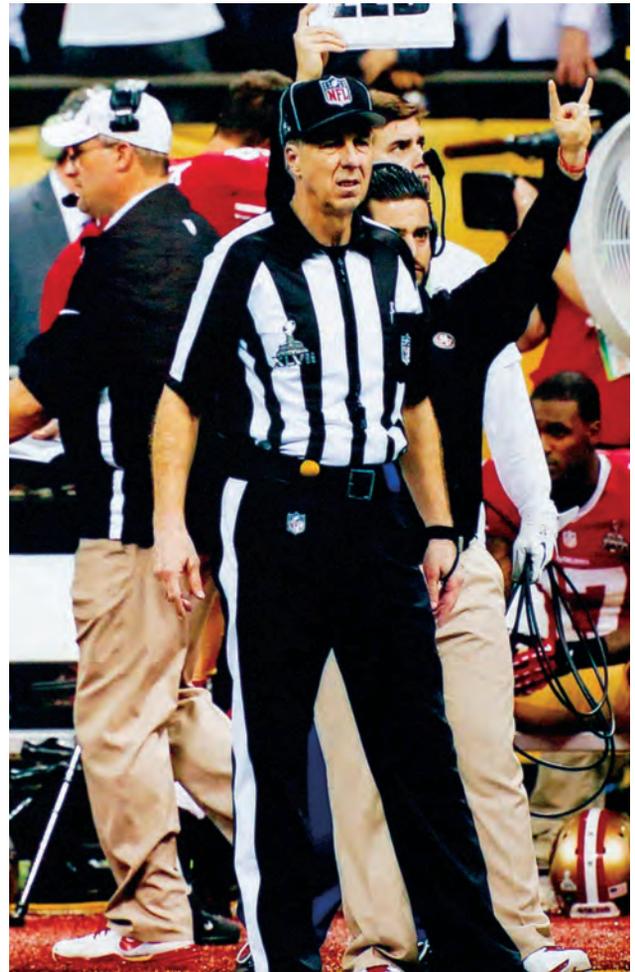


Photo Courtesy of Joe Larrew

gical evaluation and an in-depth background check before he was invited to begin officiating in the now-defunct NFL Europe. The transatlantic opportunity served as a training ground for the NFL.

“In 2002, I was hired into the league and I’ve been there ever since,” he says.

In the NFL, Larrew serves as a side judge with a seven-person officiating crew. He works 22 yards down field and is responsible for the wide receiver from the line of scrimmage, all runs and pass plays to his side, the sideline and coaches on his sideline.

At 61, he’s not sure how many more years he’ll work as an NFL official despite staying in great physical shape and working out with a trainer three times a week.

“The fact of the matter is, every year, I get one year older and the players stay the same age,” Larrew says. “But as long as they give me a 22-yard head start, I’ve got a chance to stay ahead of them.” ≡

Optometry student DEVIN SASSER leads at local, national levels



By Ryan Heinz

Devin Sasser was a determined child. When most 6-year-old boys wanted to be a baseball or football player, the Dallas native was adamant that he someday enroll in law school and become a lawyer. By age 11, he'd moved past that and set his sights on a health-science field.

"If you talk to my mom, she would say I'm her child who had too much focus at too early of an age," he says, laughing.

Now 25, Sasser is getting closer to his goal as a third-year optometry student at the University of Missouri–St. Louis. And his ambition hasn't waned a bit.

In addition to his class and clinic workload, Sasser holds leadership positions in the American Optometric Student Association, UMSL Student Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity and the National Optometric Student Association. In the simplest terms, he described the organizations in this way: AOSA helps students, SVOSH helps people in other countries and NOSA helps the St. Louis community.

Being involved beyond the classroom appeals to Sasser because he wants to avoid complacency and be able to grow within his profession. Networking has been a huge plus too.

"I'm meeting so many people," Sasser says. "Just a couple days ago we were in D.C. where we were doing a Congressional advocacy conference (on student loan relief for optometrists who practice in areas devoid of health-care services), and I had a chance to meet with Rep. Paul Ryan (R-Wis.). It's something I never thought I'd be able to do. In the short time I've been at UMSL, it's been a crazy ride – just awesome."

His biggest leadership role so far is as member of the AOSA Board of Trustees. He represents UMSL.

"When students at our school tell me of concerns, I'm able to bring that to the national board," he says. "It's really quite awesome that we're able to make change to better our education and experiences as optometry students."

One of NOSA's big events is an annual Easter egg hunt for the visually impaired in the courtyard facing the Thomas Jefferson Library entrance at UMSL. This year, Sasser even dressed up in a bunny suit and braved the unseasonably hot spring day in head-to-toe faux fur.

Through SVOSH, he helps clean and prepare eyeglasses that are sent to people in developing countries. Organization members also go on mission trips. Sasser hopes to fly to Ghana next year to deliver optometric services to the African country's residents.

"That's probably the most rewarding of the organizations because you're able to bring something to people who probably won't ever have the opportunity to get that service," he says.

Sasser chose UMSL to pursue his optometry degree because he felt the faculty and students were supportive and encouraging – something he says he didn't feel at other universities. He says he loves St. Louis, but after this year, Sasser, a self-described "Southern boy," will likely return to Dallas for fourth-year rotations. It's the last step en route to completing his degree.

Sasser then hopes to complete a yearlong residency, perhaps at a veterans affairs hospital in New York, before returning to the South. He might then work for a couple of years at a hospital to gain further experience before branching out into a private practice.

Regardless of his path, Sasser remains as fervent about his future now as he was as a young aspiring lawyer. ☰

From foster care to CEO **ORVIN KIMBROUGH** leads St. Louis to brighter future

By Marisol Ramirez

There are people who inspire others to be better versions of themselves. Orvin Kimbrough is one of those people, and he's turned his leadership abilities and compassion into quite the career.

Kimbrough, MBA 2002, is the new president and chief executive officer of the United Way of Greater St. Louis, a nonprofit organization that focuses on the community as a whole by helping numerous causes instead of just one. It partners with more than 170 local agencies and helps one in three people in the greater St. Louis region, which includes 16 counties in Missouri and Illinois.

"I am passionate about creating conditions to help people live their best possible lives," Kimbrough says.

Nonprofit work offers him this opportunity.

"My work is in the intersection of human services and business, the intersection of education and community, the intersection of faith and people," he says. "In my role I get to help this region and our people imagine ourselves differently. This is what I enjoy most, helping people see themselves as the leaders and achievers they are."

With his MBA Kimbrough knows firsthand about leadership.

"I pursued an MBA because it is universally accepted as a credential that distinguishes you as a leader or a potential leader," he says.

"I chose UMSL because it was accessible, rigorous and value priced. The program challenged me and brought out my very best. It was so difficult that I knew if I could make it through, I could do anything."

Prior to being president and CEO, Kimbrough held various positions within United Way. He was most recently senior vice president for major gifts and planned giving, while also leading the marketing and communications division. When he started in 2007, he had planned on staying only a few years.

"My relationship with United Way's former president and CEO, Gary Dollar, and my newfound belief, informed by experience, that United Way is positioned better than any organization in our region to help the most people live their best possible life, impelled me to aspire to the presidency once Gary announced his retirement."

When he learned of his promotion, Kimbrough felt honored.

"I have always worked hard and have always tried to work smart," he says. "I must say that privately I was overcome with emotion. I stand amazed at the power of people. My ascent was only partially about me; it spoke volumes about this region. I am a foster kid."



Born in East St. Louis, Ill., and raised in north St. Louis, at the age of 8 Kimbrough entered into the foster care system and remained in it until he aged out at 21. His beginnings may have been rough, but he certainly didn't let that hold him back.

"Setbacks are inevitable, but failure is not an option," he says. "Life is about framing our experiences and being measured in our response. Don't go too high, don't go too low. If I fall short of my expectations, I try again."

Now his determination has paid off, and he is giving back to the very community he came from. ≡

WILL AND HELLEN CARPENTER'S

love of education leads to long relationship with UMSL



By Ryan Heinz

If Will Carpenter was about 10 years younger and from St. Louis, there's a good chance he would have attended the University of Missouri–St. Louis. Instead, he grew up during the Great Depression in Moorhead, Miss.

Will, who retired from Monsanto in 1992 as vice president and general manager of the company's New Products Division, recalls his first job, working in the county health laboratory that tested people for venereal diseases. Will, then 12, earned a \$1.25 per day to wash test tubes and slides, sans gloves.

"I am the only person who at 12 years of age had been exposed to every sexually transmitted disease known to God and man without any of the pleasure that goes with it," Will says.

He studied a year at a community college, then transferred to Mississippi State University. A stint in the Naval Reserve, active duty in the Army in Korea and a PhD in plant physiology at Purdue University followed before he found himself in St. Louis.

Hellen Carpenter, meanwhile, was born in Dallas and first moved to St. Louis when her father, who worked as a civil engineer for the American Institute of Steel Construction, transferred north. After her father died when Hellen was 9, her mother returned to teaching and moved the family to the small Missouri towns

of Thayer and later Fulton. She even briefly lived with her grandfather, Dr. James Naismith, who is famous for having invented basketball.

Hellen later worked at Monsanto where she met Will. That was at a time when many businesses, Monsanto included, didn't approve of dating or marriage between co-workers. That didn't stop them.

"I called him Charlie Brown so that no one would know who he was," Hellen says. "And when we passed in the hall, we just passed. Nothing was said. If I wanted to talk to him, I called him on the phone."

Will's 34 years at Monsanto took him to 78 countries and 48 states, primarily agricultural areas. During his travels, he contended with submachine gun wielding Chinese Communist guerrillas, dodged rioters in Calcutta and crossed paths with a tiger in Jakarta.

"I may have had a trip I didn't enjoy, but never one that was dull," Will says, smiling.

Will has won numerous awards for his work, served on a number of prestigious science boards and committees and played a key role in the ratification of the worldwide chemical weapons treaty known as the Chemical Weapons Convention. He later served as the U.S. representative and co-chair of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Organization for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, which won the Nobel Peace Prize in October.

The Carpenters' affiliation with UMSL began in the mid-1980s when Will met Chuck Granger, Curators' Teaching Professor of Biology and Education at UMSL, through their mutual connections to boards at the St. Louis Science Center and St. Louis Academy of Science. Will got involved with a few Granger-led science education projects, including the STARS program, Junior Science, Engineering and Humanities Symposium where he was a research paper judge for two decades and a keynote speaker. Will and Granger along with a mutual Monsanto friend, Monti Throdahl, started the Regional Institute for Science Education at UMSL, a program that led to the Des Lee Collaborative Vision of endowed professorships.

Over the years, scholarships have been established at UMSL in Will and Hellen's name and Will spent "two tours of duty" as the chair of the College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Leadership Council. The Carpenters also helped create at UMSL the Hellen & Will Carpenter Series on Contemporary Issues in American Society. Each semi-annual discussion features a different topic with a panel discussion moderated by a UMSL faculty member who is an expert on the subject matter. Past panels have focused on child abuse and health disparities in cognitive aging.

"The university is picking first-rate, important topics," Hellen says. "And the subjects are such that it deserves a lot of public attention."

Will says he identifies with several aspects of UMSL.

"They get a lot of bang for the bucks they spend," Will says. "It fits in with my background, and I feel like I'm very comfortable at UMSL. ≡"

ALISON ZEIDLER

works to make St. Louis' economy stronger



By Ryan Heinz

Talk to Alison Zeidler about St. Louis and the 29-year-old's love for the region is obvious. She wants to see St. Louis thrive. That makes her a natural fit for her work at the St. Louis Economic Development Partnership. Zeidler served as project manager at the partnership until October when she was named assistant vice president of New Market Tax Credits.

"My job is to fight for our businesses and increase jobs and investments," says Zeidler, a native of the north St. Louis County municipality Florissant, Mo., or as she puts it, a "No. Co. girl, through and through."

If the St. Louis Business Journal is an indication, the University of Missouri–St. Louis alumna, BA English 2006, is doing her job well. In July, Zeidler was named to the weekly newspaper's prestigious "30 Under 30" list.

In an article about her honor, Zeidler pointed out that she's a part of a team that facilitated the creation of \$753.4 million of investment and almost 3,500 jobs in announced or completed St. Louis County projects. That's only the results through the first six months of 2013. It also was before Zeidler's employer, the St. Louis County Economic Council, merged with St. Louis city economic development agencies to form the St. Louis Economic Development Partnership.

In addition, Zeidler managed the reorganization of St. Louis' Foreign-Trade Zone three years ago. Under her leadership, these FTZ-designated sites, which give businesses a global competitive edge allowing them to function as though they're outside of customs territory, have since increased by 300 percent.

Based on her success, it's no wonder Zeidler thinks the St. Louis region has a lot going for it.

"I look at St. Louis, I see we have affordable land, we have clean water, we have logistical benefits out the you know what," she says. "We've got rail, air, highways, rivers, a good work force, affordability and phenomenal institutions for higher education."

An alumna of Rosati-Kain High School in St. Louis, Zeidler came to UMSL seeking a math degree before falling in love with English and switching majors.

"I still love math, which might seem weird for people who graduate with an English degree," she says.

The self-described "super nerd" spent much of her free time studying at UMSL because she says school didn't come naturally to her. The hard work paid off as she became a Pierre Laclède Honors College student. She credits the honors college with helping her thrive at UMSL.

"I came from a fantastic small high school," she says. "But I felt relatively sheltered compared to other students at the time. I think without the honors college, my transition to a university setting would have been a whole lot harder."

From her sophomore through senior years at UMSL, Zeidler worked 10-20 hours per week with Facilities Planning and Construction. She says the job was a pivotal learning experience. She took on projects, communicated with colleagues and clients and worked to ensure her jobs were done on time.

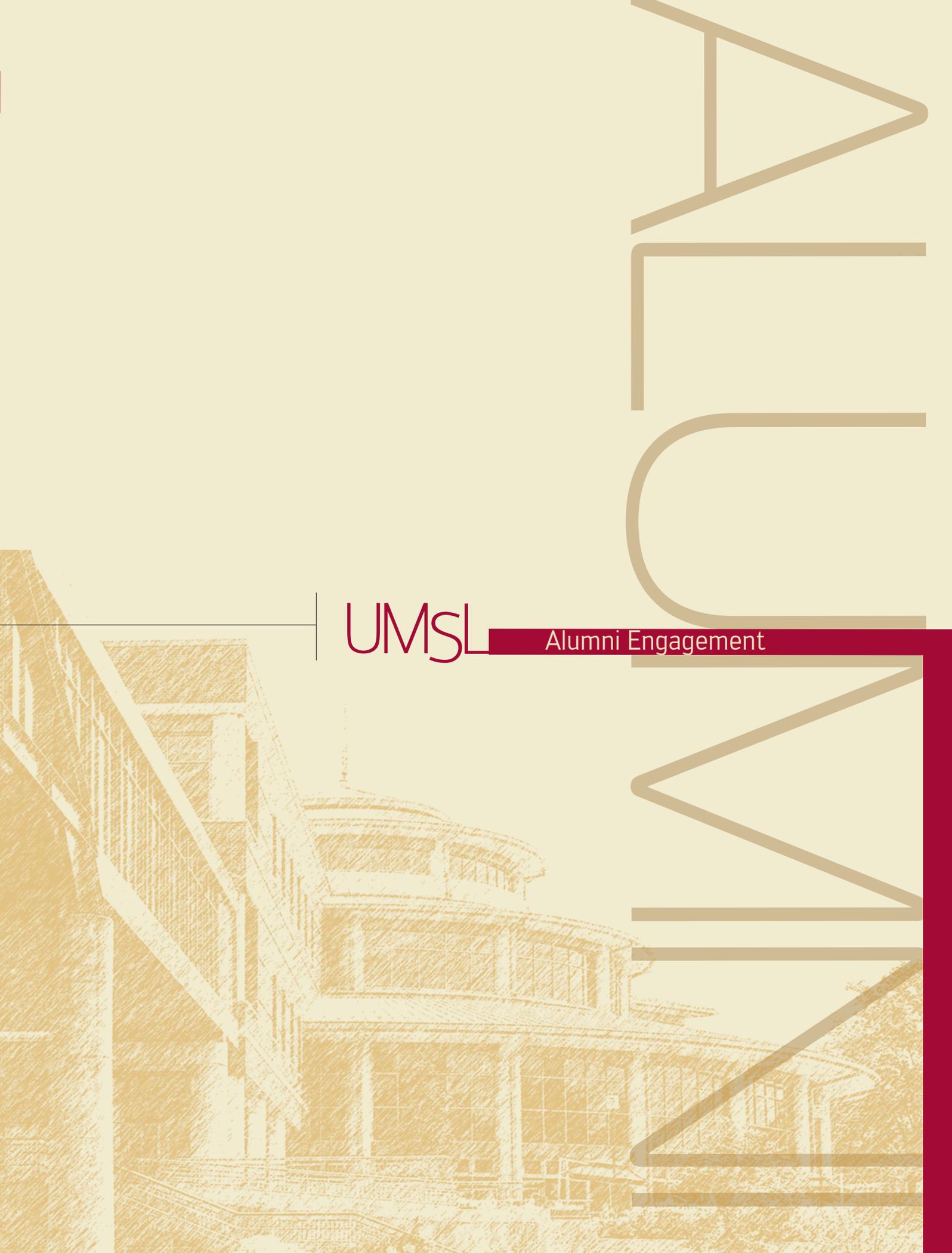
"Those were all skills I began practicing my sophomore year in college, which most people don't start until their first jobs," she says.

The experience helped lead to her first job as a construction management assistant in the St. Louis office of the Minnesota commercial real estate firm Opus. That put her on the path to economic development and ultimately her current job.

Her passion for St. Louis, she says, will likely keep her here for many years to come. She's preparing for that future with her leadership of the Young Government Leaders of St. Louis County and FOCUS – St. Louis Connect With Committee. She's also exploring the idea of pursuing a master's degree in logistics.

It's all part of her plan to help further the St. Louis region, even though she thinks it's already a pretty great place.

"We're not a stale, old industrial town," Zeidler says with a big smile and wide eyes. "We are a proud region. We're a region of fighters and innovators." ☰



UMSL

Alumni Engagement

The University of Missouri–St. Louis' Alumni Association is turning a new leaf with its new president Michael J. Finkes, BS chemistry 1973 and MS chemistry 1978. Finkes, a seasoned member of the association, assumed his position July 1. He recently retired from Monsanto, where he worked for more than 30 years, and is dedicating his time and energy to the university and community that helped him build a foundation for his successful career.

Meet the UMSL Alumni Association President **MICHAEL J. FINKES**

What is the vision for your term as president of the Alumni Association? My hope is that the Alumni Association improves both logistically and operationally. I'd also like to see a governing board characterized by camaraderie and exemplary teamwork.

What excites you about this new position? At Monsanto, where I worked in research for 35 years, I learned the value of teams. I now have the opportunity to promote a quality-oriented, team-based environment within the association.

What do you personally get out of engaging with the university? I'm at a stage in my life where I have an almost visceral compulsion to give back. I decided about 10 years ago that UMSL would be the vehicle for me to fulfill this compulsion. For me, working with UMSL is both fulfilling and meaningful.

How do you plan to engage our alumni? Part of the challenge with engaging alumni is that they are at different phases of their careers and lives. There's the new graduate, a graduate in the middle of his or her career and the graduate, like myself, who is preparing for retirement. Alumni in each of those groups have a variety of needs and would respond to different engagement invitations. Together with Linda Carter, associate vice chancellor of alumni engagement, we will find ways to pool our resources to find the best possible means of engaging alumni.

Where do you see the Alumni Association in the next 5-10 years? I envision an enthusiastic group of truly engaged alumni who have reconnected with UMSL in whatever way they choose to reconnect. They will engage by helping students adjust to college life, mentoring students and new graduates, community service and outreach, philanthropic opportunities, assisting faculty and networking with other alumni. That's what I call a success.



UMSL honors 6 distinguished alumni at Founders Dinner

By Maureen Zegel

The pride of the University of Missouri–St. Louis is reflected in the stellar accomplishments of its alumni. On Sept. 19, the university honored six outstanding alumni at its annual Founders Dinner celebration. Amid a sold-out crowd of more than 800 guests, the awardees were recognized for their distinguished service to the university, excellence in their professions and valiant community outreach efforts.

The 2013 Distinguished Alumni awardees are:

The Honorable Frederick Buckles, BA political science 1968, remembers UMSL's earliest days – when classrooms, the library and cafeteria were all crammed into the old clubhouse. He graduated from UMSL and went on to St. Louis University School of Law. Early in his career, Buckles served as a public defender and later went on to work in the U.S. attorney's office. As assistant U.S. attorney and chief of organized crime and violent crime, he successfully prosecuted some of St. Louis' most notorious organized crime figures. In 1989, he was named magistrate judge of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, one of the highest honors an attorney can receive. For 24 years, Buckles served that office with distinction. He retired this fall.



Honorable Frederick Buckles

Class notes

1960s

Donald M. Kaesser, BS chemistry 1967, founded Central Iowa Psychological Services 20 years ago in West Des Moines. He sold the group practice and moved into a solo practice as a psychotherapist and psychologist Sept. 6. Donald attributes the foundation for his successful career to his education from the UMSL Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry and faculty member Dr. Charlie Armbruster.

Michael Rubin, BA mathematics 1968, is retired and now looking forward to a new career in volunteer work. Michael resides in St. Louis

Roger Littge, BA chemistry 1969, retired from the University of California, Davis. He is author of "Quetzalcoatl Returns" and resides in Davis, Calif.

1970s

Ronald West, BS education 1970, retired from a 40-year career with American Red Cross. He had assignments in Vietnam, Thailand, Germany, Croatia, Bosnia, South Korea and Iraq. Ronald lives in Olympia, Wash.

Paul E. Stallman, BS physics 1971, retired from Chester (Ill.) High School as a teacher, coach and athletic director in May 2010. Paul remains active as a track and cross country official.

A. Joseph Neiner, BSBA 1972, serves as chairman and chief executive officer for FWD Seagrave in Clintonville, Wis., the oldest continuous manufacturer of fire trucks in the United States and where A. Joseph resides.

Phyllis Smith, BS education 1972, will return to the television screen in Fall 2013 as a recurring character in ABC's "Trophy Wife." Phyllis is best known for her role in the television comedy series "The Office."

John Klos, BSBA 1974, was appointed vice president of finance at Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater St. Louis in May.

Donald Frischmann, BA Spanish 1975, spent December 2012 through August as a Fulbright Research Scholar in residence at the Intercultural Mayan University of Quintana Roo, Mexico, where he prepared a new, multilingual anthology of contemporary writing in Yucatec Mayan and Spanish. It includes his translations of the works of a dozen



Nicole Colbert-Botchway

Nicole Colbert-Botchway, MBA 2002, is assistant attorney general for the state of Missouri. She is a dedicated public servant and an outstanding role model for other women in the legal profession. Colbert-Botchway works across the state to litigate and modify child support obligations. She represents the Family Support Division in child support actions and balances a large individual caseload. One of her many honors is the 2012 Rising Star Award from the UMSL College of Business Administration Alumni Chapter. Colbert-Botchway also became the first African-American president of the Women Lawyers Association. She has served in numerous leadership positions within her profession and in the community, including the Missouri Bar's Task Force on Professionalism and the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis.



Gordon Heddell

Gordon Heddell, BA political science 1971, has held leadership positions in the highest echelons of the U.S. government. He began his government service as an officer and helicopter pilot in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. Later, he joined the Secret Service as a special agent and personally protected U.S. presidents over the years, from Richard Nixon's presidency to Bill Clinton's. Heddell rose to assistant director serving a total of 28 years in the U.S. Secret Service. President George W. Bush appointed him inspector general for the U.S. Department of Labor where he led efforts against labor racketeering, leading to the conviction of many major organized crime figures. In 2009 President Barack Obama appointed him inspector general for the U.S. Department of Defense. He is the recipient of many distinguished awards for his outstanding government service. Gordon retired from government service in 2011 and now works as a consultant in private industry. However, in July of this year, he came out of retirement to accept a presidential appointment as acting deputy inspector general at the Office of Inspector General in the Department of Labor.

Class notes

authors into English. Donald returned to his post as a professor of Spanish at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, where he has served since 1985.

Rudy Fichtenbaum, BS economics 1976, was named president of the American Association of University Professors for 2014. He is a professor of economics at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio.

Chat Leonard, MEd 1976, is the St. Louis American Foundation's 2013 Southeast Missouri State University Counselor of the Year. He was honored Sept. 13 at the Salute to Excellence in Education Scholarship and Awards Gala in St. Louis. Chat is a counselor at Metro Academic and Classical High School and resides in suburban St. Louis with her husband, Jesse.

Janet Creath, BA speech communication 1978, was selected for the Leadership Belleville (Ill.) Class of 2013-2014 by the Greater Belleville Chamber of Commerce in August. Janet is development director for Minds Eye Information Services in Belleville.

Donald Danner, MBA 1979, is the 2013-2014 chair for the Missouri Society of Certified Public Accountants. He is an assistant professor of accounting at Aurora (Ill.) University.

1980s

Diane Tatum, BSBA 1980, is adjunct professor of English Composition at Motlow State Community College in Smyrna, Tenn.



Opal Jones

Opal Jones, BSBA 2000, serves as president and chief executive officer of Doorways, an interfaith, nonprofit organization that provides housing and related services for people affected with HIV/AIDS. Doorways programs and services benefit households in Missouri and Illinois counties each year. Opal oversees a staff of 70 and a budget of \$6.5 million. She is a graduate of the prestigious Coro Women in Leadership Program and was recently named to the National AIDS Housing Coalition. She is a tireless advocate for neighborhood revitalization in the city of St. Louis.



Grayling Tobias

Grayling Tobias, BA education 1980, is in the business of educating future St. Louis leaders. He is superintendent of the Hazelwood School District, one of the largest school districts in Missouri. Tobias didn't go right into education, but instead went on to play for the farm teams of both the Montreal Expos and Detroit Tigers. He is in multiple halls of fame, including UMSL Sports Hall of Fame, McCluer High School Hall of Fame and the St. Louis Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame. After baseball, he returned to St. Louis and began his career in education, first as a teacher, then as an administrator in several school districts. He earned both masters and doctoral degrees in education leadership along the way. For more than a decade Grayling has served as an instructional leader in the Hazelwood School District and played a critical role in its stability and growth. A year ago, he was named Hazelwood's superintendent. In that time he has reorganized the district, revised existing curriculums, developed new ones and continues to make a difference in the lives of children.

Mary Carpenter, BS education 1981 and MEd 1988, received the 2013 Peggy Clinton Memorial Service Award, the highest honor given by the Missouri Association of College Admission Counseling. Mary is a counselor at Affton High School in St. Louis County where she has worked for 27 years.

Steven Grant, BM 1982, is associate pastor at First Presbyterian Church of Bonita Springs in Florida. Steven is also a tenured member of the viola section of the Southwest Florida Symphony and is currently working on a doctorate of ministry at Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia.

Carol Sullivan, BSW 1982, received the Silver & Gold awards from Mutual of Omaha in St. Louis

where she has worked for a year as an insurance producer. She also achieved Sales Leader Roundtable for 2012 and earned Rookie of the Month awards for March and April.

Bridget Steinhart, BA economics 1983, wrote an article that appeared in Benefits Quarterly in 2012 and was quoted in Pension & Benefits Daily, a Bloomberg News publication. Bridget is an associate partner at Hewitt EnnisKnupp, Inc. in St. Louis.

Vincent J. Gaffigan, BSBA 1985, was promoted to director of risk consulting of Lockton in St. Louis in May. Vince is responsible for marketing and service activities.

David Shipp, MBA 1985, is a senior retirement plan consultant at Benefits Plans Plus LLC in St. Louis.

Michael E. Worley, BSBA 1986, was appointed director of national development at Cardinal Glennon Children's Foundation in May. The foundation serves Cardinal Glennon Children's Medical Center in midtown St. Louis.

Lisa E. Manetz, BA psychology 1987, is a community-based psychiatric case manager at Community Counseling Center in Perryville, Mo., where she helps people with severe and persistent mental illnesses.

Barbara C. Bentrup, BSBA 1989, was awarded the Missouri Society of Certified Public Accountants Impact Award in 2012. Barbara is chief financial officer of Delta Dental of Missouri.

Continued Distinguished Alumni:

The sixth and final outstanding alumnus award is reserved for a successful young alumnus of UMSL. This year's recipient of the **Outstanding Young Alumni Award** is:

T. Christopher Peoples, BS engineering 2008, is a graduate of the UMSL/Washington University Joint Undergraduate Engineering Program. As a high school student he traveled from his home in north St. Louis to Kirkwood High each day. The two disparate communities made him wonder what career would help him bring about change in his own neighborhood. As a single parent, he juggled part time school with full time jobs at Pitzman's Co. a surveying and engineering firm. He started off as an entry-level surveyor, but as his education progressed, he moved up in Pitzman's ranks. Today, at 34, he is president, chief executive officer and managing partner of Pitzman's. He is an accomplished professional with experience in both engineering and surveying fields and working with private developers, municipalities, state agencies, hospitals and schools. Earlier this year, he was included in the St. Louis Business Journal's 2013 Class of 40 Under 40.



T. Christopher Peoples

[Got a candidate in mind?]

Nominate an outstanding graduate of the University of Missouri–St. Louis for the **2014 Distinguished Alumni Award** or the **2014 Outstanding Young Alumni Award**. Help us bring attention to the accomplishments of our alumni. The award deadline is Apr. 1, 2014.

Nomination instructions and forms can be found online at www.umslalumni.org/awards.

Millennium Student Center and is currently working on a PhD in higher education leadership.

Aaron Johnson, BS economics 1994, BSBA 1994 and MA economics 2000, is assistant professor of economics at Darton College in Albany, Ga. Aaron was nominated by Congressman Sanford Bishop of Georgia to attend the Congressional Black Caucus' Political Training and Leadership Bootcamp. He was appointed by the mayor of Albany to serve on the newly created Economic Advisory Coalition and serves as party chair for the Friends of Southwest Georgia Democrats. Aaron and his wife are proud parents of Olivia.

Julie K. Hiblovic, BSBA 1995, was named one of the 100 St. Louisans to Know to Succeed in Business by Small Business Monthly in March. She was promoted to partner at Anders CPAs and Advisors in September. Julie serves on the UMSL Accounting Advisory Board and is a director for the Downtown St. Louis Community Improvement District.

Jonathan S. Lycan, MBA 1995, was named manager in the corporate governance – audit department at Schowalter & Jabouri, P.C., in St. Louis. He resides in St. Louis.

Gerardo Avalos, MS biology 1996 and PhD biology 1999, is director of the Center for Sustainable Development Studies at The School for Field Studies in Costa Rica. Gerardo is also a tropical ecology professor in the School of Biology at the University of Costa Rica in Mercedes.

Jody J. Squires, MEd 1997 and PhD education 2007, received the Excellence in Education Award on Sept. 13 at the Salute to Excellence in Education Scholarship and Awards Gala in St. Louis. For the past 18 years, Jody has worked as an urban youth specialist and city program director with the University of Missouri Extension Program. Jody directs the 4-H (Head, Heart, Health and Hands) Youth Development Program, which provides broad opportunities for youth to learn and participate in life skills education, leadership development and community service.

Sarajeni Hammond, BSBA 1998, is one of the St. Louis Business Journal's 2013 Diverse Business Leader awardees. Sarajeni joined Global Supply Chain at Monsanto as director of talent management in September.

Victor Potapov, BA economics 1998, MA economics 2000, is director of advertising and analytics platforms for Rogers Consumer Publishing and Digital Media Group in Toronto.

Class notes

Martha McKune, BSBA 1989, was appointed to deputy regional director for the Defense Contract Audit Agency Central Region by the Honorable Leon Panetta, U.S. Secretary of Defense. Martha resides in Chesterfield.

1990s

Richard J. Kozeny, Jr., BA biology 1990, joined St. Luke's Chesterfield Internal Medicine and Rheumatology, LLC in St. Louis. He was previously practicing in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Richard is board certified in internal medicine and earned his medical degree from the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee.

G. David Banks, BA history 1991, BA political science 1991, BA economics 1991 and MA economics 1994, is a senior law fellow responsible for the Insti-

tute for Government and Sustainable Development's campaign operations in Washington, D.C.

Mary McCray, BA English 1991, was named one of the four finalists in the poetry category for the 2013 National Indie Excellence Awards. She wrote her debut collection, "Why Photographers Commit Suicide," published by Trementina Books in October 2012. Mary also launched a poetry blog called Big Bang Poetry and lives in Santa Fe, N.M.

Christopher Clark, BS economics 1992, is seeking his next technology venture after serving as chief executive officer of eMag Solutions in Atlanta. Previously, he founded and served as chief executive officer of Deposco in Alpharetta, Ga., and co-founded and served as chief technology officer of Procuri in Atlanta. Both companies specialized in supply chain solutions.

Benard Diggs, BGS 1994 and MEd 2007, celebrated his 40-year career with UMSL in June. Benard is director of UMSL's

Art McCoy, Jr., MEd 1999 and PhD education 2002, received the 2013 Stellar Performer in Education award at the Salute to Excellence in Education Gala on Sept. 13 sponsored by the St. Louis American. Art was also appointed to the Harris-Stowe State University Board of Regents by Gov. Jay Nixon in September. He currently serves as superintendent and chief executive officer of the Ferguson-Florissant School district where he oversees more than 2,000 employees, 13,000 students and 24 schools.

Births

Michael Siegel, BSBA 1997, and wife Sheila expanded their family to four by welcoming their son Fletcher on July 29.

2000s

Jennifer Eagan, BS biology 2000, co-founded E.K.G. Life Science Solutions, which joined Innovative Technology Enterprises, an incubator for startup companies at UMSL.

Vanessa Howard, MEd 2000 and EdSP 2006, received the Excellence in Education Award at the Salute to Excellence in Education Gala on Sept. 13. Vanessa is an instructional coach for teachers at Johnson-Wabash Elementary School in the Ferguson-Florissant (Mo.) School District where she helps teachers with professional development.

Lisa Miller, MA English 2000, wrote her debut novel, "Halfway There," under the pen name Aubrie Elliot. It was published this year through Walrus Publishing, Inc., a press she founded in 2008. Lisa serves as the conference committee chair for the Missouri Writers Guild, a member of the St. Louis Writers Guild and a founding member of the St. Louis Literary Consortium.

Brian Douglas, BA English 2001, received the North County Incorporated 30 Leaders in Their Thirties Award on Sept. 27. He is director of business development at One Way Construction in St. Louis.

Deborah A. Hilke, MEd 2001, became president of the board of directors for the National Human Resources Association, St. Louis affiliate, on Sept. 6. She is vice president of Prudential Realtors Corporate Relocation Services in Chesterfield, Mo.

Ryan Metcalf, BS economics 2001, BSBA 2001 and BSMIS 2001, is a business analyst with Enterprise Rent-A-Car in St. Louis.

Jennifer Ray, BA communication 2001, is co-owner of Washington Ave Post, a family owned and operated coffee bar and urban market in St. Louis.

Phil Atkins, BSBA 2002, is a surgical service team leader for SSM St. Mary's Health Center in St. Louis and was featured in The St. Louis American in August for his accomplishments in the health-care field.

William Carson, MA criminology and criminal justice 2002, was appointed chief of police for the Maryland Heights Police Department on Jan. 1.

Melissa Watson, BS criminology and criminal justice 2002, received the North County Incorporated 30 Leaders in Their Thirties Award Sept. 27. She works for the city of Hazelwood, Mo.

Michael F. England, MEd 2003, was appointed president of St. Mary's High School in south St. Louis in August.

Mark Fellhauer, BS economics 2003, is an adjunct professor of business and management at St. Charles (Mo.) Community College and is a consultant and founder of Arch City Capital.

Matthew Huber, BM music education 2003, was appointed director of admissions at Shepard University in Shepardstown, W.Va. in June. Matt was associate director of freshman admissions at Upper Iowa University in Fayette before joining the Shepherd staff. He earned a master's degree in educational administration from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Teresa Quarles, BA psychology 2003, BSW 2003 and MSW 2004, is manager of social services for St. Louis County Department of Human Services. She manages and oversees the direct service staff for the Kathy J. Weinman shelter for victims of domestic violence, the only domestic violence shelter in St. Louis County. Teresa has a 7-year-old daughter.

Shenelle Dubose, MEd 2004, was appointed principal of Barbara C. Jordan Elementary in the School District of University City, Mo., in July.

Michal Grinstein-Weiss, MA economics 2005, is associate professor at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis. She is the university's associate director of the Center for Social Development. Michal is also a nonresident senior fellow of Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C., a research associate for the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland and a fellow for the Center of Community Capital at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. She also holds a faculty appointment at UNC.

Cassandra Kaufman, MSW 2005, was appointed deputy director of the Saint Louis Mental Health Board in March. Cassandra came directly from a 16-year career with the United Way of Greater St. Louis where she had most recently served as vice president of community investment.

Christopher Snively, BA political science 2005, received the 2013-2014 Individual Advanced Research Opportunities Program Fellowship for nine months of dissertation research in Hungary and Serbia. He received an MA in Modern European History from Purdue University in May 2009, specializing

in the Habsburg Empire and history of Yugoslavia. His PhD dissertation research is currently underway in the Purdue PhD in History program.

Brandon Dempsey, BA communication 2006, is one of St. Louis Business Journal's 2013 30 Under 30 honorees. He is a partner and owner at goBRANDgo!, a St. Louis-based full-service marketing agency for entrepreneurs.

Margaret Eisenberger, MS biology 2006, is a science and travel director on the board of directors for Friends of the Children's Eternal Rainforest in Ballwin, Mo.

Mary McMurtrey, MPPA 2006, was appointed director of community engagement of the Greater St. Louis Community Foundation in May. Mary came to the Foundation from Gateway Center for Giving in St. Louis, where she had served as president for six years.

Michelle Murphy, BA communication 2006, is revenue cycle manager – new client implementations for Precision Practice Management.

Joshua Smith, BS economics 2006, and his wife, Jessica, relocated to Seattle in 2012. Josh continues to work for The Boeing Company.

Gaurav Tiwari, MA economics 2006, joined State Street Global Markets in Boston as an officer in 2012. He recently married.

Lance Trudell, BS economics 2006, is a business systems architect for Post Foods in St. Louis.

Dana Jewell Aronin, MSN 2007, received the St. Louis Magazine's 2013 Excellence in Nursing Award in the category of pediatrics: non-neonatal on April 25. She also co-founded Pediatric Care for Kids of St. Louis located in the Central West End neighborhood. Dana is a pediatric nurse practitioner at Saint Louis Children's Hospital.

Timika Chambers, MSN 2007, is author of "A Mother's Words of Wisdom" published by Balboa Press. In her book, Timika recalls 10 of the most memorable principles her mother instilled in her growing up and shares the wisdom that she has gained from them throughout the years. The book intertwines these valuable principles with messages about the importance of building character, spending quality time with children and fostering open and honest communication. Timika is a certified diabetes educator and lives in Ohio with her husband and son.

Amy Lampe, BS economics 2007, was promoted in August to major project manager for St. Louis Development Corporation, the economic development agency for the city of St. Louis.

Regina Oliver, BSN 2007 and MSN 2010, received the North County Incorporated 30 Leaders in Their Thirties Award on Sept. 27. Regina is a nurse practitioner at Delmar Gardens North.

Brynn Sanders, BSBA 2007, joined Advantage Capital Partners as senior associate and member of the company's structuring group in August. She is responsible for managing assets and working with both investment partners and portfolio companies. Brynn most recently served as an asset manager at U.S. Bancorp Community Development Corp., where she managed \$1.5 billion in state and federal investments in connection with the New Markets Tax Credit program. Brynn also serves as a court-appointed special advocate with Voices for Children, St. Louis.

Travis Box, MA 2008, completed his PhD in finance at the University of Arizona and will begin a tenure-track faculty position in the Department of Finance at the University of Mississippi in Fall 2013. He also received best PhD student paper prize at the 2012 Southern Finance Association's Annual Meeting for his dissertation "Comovement and the News."

Lauren Dickens, BS 2008 and MA 2008, is an instructor at St. Charles (Mo.) Community College. She and her husband are proud parents of Henry.

Vikram Kumar, MA economics 2008, received a PhD in economics from Pennsylvania State University in 2013 and is an economist with Compass Lexecon in London.

Kenneth Schmied, BS economics 2009 and MA economics 2009, is founder and chief executive officer of Media Next in St. Louis.

Jonathan Young, BS economics 2009, is operations analyst with Pinnacle Entertainment in St. Louis.

Marriages

Steven Valko, BS accounting 2001 and MAcc 2002, to Bernadette Buerke Sept. 8. Steve is employed at Express Scripts and the couple live in Oakville, Mo.

Joshua Lang, BS chemistry 2007, to Kara Kinzel, BS chemistry 2008, Aug. 10. Josh is a chemist with Ameren Missouri and Kara is an analytical chemist with Elantas PDG. Josh and Kara met at UMSL.

Laura Darby, BA Spanish 2009, BS economics 2009 and MA economics 2012 to Matthew Rose, MA economics 2012, November 2012. Laura is a demand planner at Ralcorp Holdings in St. Louis. Matt is a pricing and rate development analyst for UniGroup in St. Louis.

Births

Neil Wiggins, BS economics 2003 and MA economics 2004, and wife Debbie welcomed baby Nathan to their family.

Yvetta Travnickova, BS economics 2004, and husband Martin welcomed Natalie to their family in October 2012.

Adeola Fanegan, BS economics 2005, and his wife, Tori, welcomed Piper Noel in October 2012. Ade is associate vice president and banking center manager for UMB.

Christopher Snively, BA political science 2005, and his wife, Jessica, welcomed Connor Quillan on Jan. 29, 2011, and Zara Grace on Jan. 24, 2013. Christopher and his family reside in Lafayette, Ind.

Joshua Ulrich, BS economics 2005 and MA economics 2005, and his wife, Lauren, are the proud new parents of Eva.

Geetanjali Gamel, BS economics 2006 and MA economics 2006, and John Gamel, MA economics 2006, welcomed baby Ishaah in May.

Yang Liu, MA economics 2008, and his wife, Chao, are the proud parents of Austyn.

2010s

Glenna S. Clark, BS education 2010, is an early childhood special education teacher at Mountain Grove (Mo.) R-III School District.

Matthew Delventhal, BS economics 2010, is pursuing an international doctorate in economic analysis at Autonomous University of Barcelona.

Kathryne J. Dwiggin, MFA 2010, joined UMSL's Department of English as a lecturer. Kathryne, a published poet, has built a reputation as an inspiring and dedicated teacher of composition in the Pierre Laclède Honors College.

Matthew Kimbrell, MA English 2010, joined UMSL's Department of English as a lecturer. Matthew has received top honors for various essays in UMSL's MA program. Matthew earned a graduate divinity degree from Covenant College in Lookout Mountain, Ga.

David Lewis, MEd 2010, joined UMSL's Student Retention Services department as director in May. David and his team provide academic support and intervention services to students that are identified as at-risk in their process of degree completion.

Scott A. Lyle, BM 2010, is adjunct professor of music theory for the UMSL Department of Music. Scott is also employed by Maryville University where he instructs guitar students and is engaged as a lecturer in music theory and ear training courses. He also teaches at Lindenwood University.

Brian Scheller, MME 2010, received the North County Incorporated 30 Leaders in Their Thirties Award on Sept. 27. He is a teacher at Lutheran High School North.

Kyle Miller, MA economics 2011, is pricing analyst at Schnuck Markets, Inc.

Jennifer Kristen Stenger, PhD education 2011, wrote "The Life That Chose Us: Educators with Tourette Syndrome," published by JKS Press in June. Jennifer was the keynote speaker for the Fall Education Conference at McKendree University in Lebanon, Ill.

Mark Daffron, MA economics 2012, is pricing manager at The GSI Group, Inc. in Decatur, Ill.

Stephen Most, BS economics 2012, is administrative specialist for Reinsurance Group of America headquartered in St. Louis.

Brighton Ranney, MAcc 2012, is the third UMSL alumnus to receive the Elijah Watts Sells award in 2012. Brighton serves as an associate at Tax Strategies, a part of Moneta Group in Clayton.

Jennifer Tappenden, MFA 2012, was awarded this year's 2013 Riverfront Times MasterMind Award. She was UMSL's first poet laureate and also founder of Archtrave Press. Jennifer has been featured in national literary magazines and had one of her poems nominated for a Pushcart Prize.

Marriages

Amanda L. Duckwall, BS biology 2010, to John Barnard, BA history 2009, July 13. John and Amanda met their freshman year while living in Provincial House Residence Hall. Both are now graduate students at Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

Nicole Mitchell, BS accounting 2010, to Donnie Cayton March 9. Nikki is employed at Gallus BioPharmaceuticals in O'Fallon, Mo.

Katie Marie Corey, MEd 2011, to Daniel Robert DiLeo June 22, 2012. They live in Boston.

Jacob Michael Hayward, OD 2013, to Caitlin Danielle Cannon Oct. 14, 2012. Jacob works for Easter Optometry in Independence, Kan.

Send your news to alumni@umsl.edu

Historical Glance at UMSL Alumni

1963—2013

TOTAL ALUMNI

87,418

Male



36,852

Female



50,566

ALUMNI BY DECADE



ALUMNI BY COLLEGE

College of Arts
and Sciences



26,518

College of Business



26,815

College of Education



22,121

College of Fine Arts
& Communication



5,021

College of Optometry



1,176

College of Nursing



4,467

Graduate School



444

UMSL/Washington
University Engineering



634

Evening College



1,171

[Figures include alumni who have received degrees from multiple colleges.]



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Students swim and sunbathe in front of the Thomas Jefferson Library.

Splish splash: Campus life in 1965

W

hen the University of Missouri–St. Louis campus opened its doors in 1963 on the former grounds of the Old Bellerive Golf and Country Club, students also inherited use of a luxury pool. Originally built in 1932 for well-heeled country club members, the pool was reopened to full-time students in May of 1965. In the early years of campus life, a long day of scholarly pursuits ended with swimming or sunbathing in front of the Thomas Jefferson Library. A curious juxtaposition for sure, the structure was a resulting asset of the original 128-acre property acquired by the University of Missouri Board of Curators.

Take us with you down memory lane

What do you remember about hanging out poolside when you were a student? What was your favorite spot on campus? Do you have any standout memories of the old campus? Your response could be in the next issue! Send your comments and photos by email to donna_carothers@umsl.edu or by mail to:

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