



22 Sep 2023

Common Ground Newsletter Fall 2023

Missouri University of Science and Technology

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Recommended Citation

Missouri University of Science and Technology, "Common Ground Newsletter Fall 2023" (2023). *Common Ground*. 12.
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Common Ground

Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering

**Student
internships**

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MISSOURI
S&T
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Expanding Knowledge

Giving page 26



From the Chair



Awesome Miner stories to share

Another summer of student interns are now returning to campus and joining a big new class of freshmen, and now it is time to share stories of our student teams and organizations going full speed. Our CArEE teams and student chapters rebounded strong last year. EWB is traveling to all international project sites (pg. 20), and our students excelled in so many ways. A great example was the Steel Bridge Team that triumphed again with a fifth-consecutive Mid-American regional championship and then went on to finish 14th in the nation in San Diego, a second consecutive top-15 finish!

Our student chapters were active, and our students were involved and accomplished. Junior **Hannah Butkovich** was selected as a national ASCE ambassador (pg. 8), and the Missouri S&T ASCE student chapter received a national ASCE Significant Improvement Award for 2022. We'll be active at the 2023 national convention in October.

Regardless of the challenges, we always talk about educating and training "street-ready" engineers through internships or experiential learning classes – like our ArchE students studying in Chicago (pg. 17), and encouraging a variety of service and leadership activities, like **Kaitlyn Dunahee** (pg. 12) or **Krysta Swartz** (pg. 7) giving of their talents to serve and lead others in many ways, or **Shelby Ply** (pg. 16) presenting her research at the capitol – our students are following in the footsteps of many Miner alumni and living up to our motto of **Change the World!**

Common Ground highlights the activities of our students due to the support of our amazing alumni. As we look to increase our students' experiences, alumni support is the key to the opportunities they enjoy, from the design teams who use the SDEL C to our active hands-on learning in lab classes or our students who represent S&T on EWB trips, these are not possible without our alumni support.

Junior **Rachael Puls** (pg. 11, back cover) is serving as a contact point and can help to communicate the value of alumni to our students. We hope to better support our students' needs to maintain our legacy as THE premier engineering department in Missouri and a leader nationally.

Please consider supporting our future Miner alumni by answering the call or check out the back cover to see methods to donate. The Miner Phonathon's annual giving has seen a decline. We hope to stop this trend. Your support, by either answering the phone or using the link below, can help make this happen and make a significant difference.

Sincerely,

Joel G. Burken
Ph.D., P.E., BCEE, F.AEESP
(burken@mst.edu)



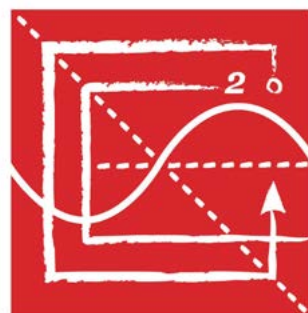
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More Missouri S&T students take FE exam than any school in the nation

More students and recent graduates of Missouri S&T took the Fundamentals of Engineering exam offered by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) last year than any other school in the nation, according to an NCEES report.

In 2022, 586 exam registrations were attributed to S&T. Texas A&M came in second with 467, and Montana State University was third with 455.

“Many schools recognize the value of licensure and encourage their students to take the FE exam during their senior year or soon after graduation,” NCEES notes in the 2022 issue of Squared, the organization’s official source for engineering and surveying licensure statistics. “Engineering positions at all levels of industry and government increasingly require licensure. Getting on the licensure path early puts engineers in a position to succeed professionally.”



NCEES



Students who pass the FE exam prior to graduating are allowed to wear red and silver honor cords.

Dr. David Borrok, vice provost and dean of the S&T College of Engineering and Computing, shares similar sentiments and says this illustrates the university’s commitment to preparing students for successful careers.

“At Missouri S&T, we understand the importance of preparing our students to have a successful career, and taking the FE exam really gives them a leg up in the process,” he says. “Also, the fact that so many S&T students and recent graduates successfully take

this exam says something about them and about our university. Students from S&T want to hit the ground running so they can use their knowledge and skills to have an impact and help shape the future.”

Licensure requirements vary by state, but passing NCEES exams is a standard part of the process.

In Missouri, to become a licensed professional engineer, applicants must have earned a bachelor’s degree in an engineering program accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology Inc., have four years of satisfactory engineering experience after completing the degree, and pass both the FE exam and the Principles and Practice of Engineering exam.

→ **Website:** [ncees.org](https://www.ncees.org)



FREE-FORMAT EDUCATION

Finding balance in life is difficult, whether it is work-life balance, balancing finances or, in Missouri S&T student Grace Duong's case, balancing a radio station's music-to-voiceover volume.

"When I first started out, getting the balance of volume right was tough sometimes," says Duong, a KMNR 89.7 FM deejay. "I started at KMNR in the middle of the pandemic, so I was coming into the studio and playing music but not really knowing what I was doing."

Two years is a long time in radio though. Duong – who claims she used to be uncomfortable talking to others – is now the station's PR manager. She hosts three different radio shows, mentors two trainees and organizes the "Freaker's Ball" Halloween concert for the station.

"I had no idea I'd be into radio and now love talking to people," says Duong, a junior in environmental engineering from St. Louis. "I really found a fit with the station after I talked to the mobile deejay



booth outside the Havener Center one day as a first-year student. To anyone else who thinks they are unable to talk with people, I say embrace it

and don't be afraid to be uncomfortable. Most of my friends and even my roommate are now related to KMNR in some way."

A new campus theme

Duong says she loves putting together themed shows for her time slots. One day, she realized an "Emo" show she played featured no female artists, so she set out to highlight women in a weekly show she hosts.



"When I realized I hadn't featured any female artists, I knew that I wanted to highlight them in some way, and what better way than with a whole show?" says Duong. "It's fun to showcase female talent, especially on a campus that is so male dominated population-wise."

Hands-on chemistry

When Duong isn't in class or hanging out at the radio station, you may spot her in environmental engineering's remediation laboratory where she works on her Opportunities for Undergraduate Research Experiences (OURE) project. She has found an interest in water chemistry – in particular, sewage.

"I really loved my environmental sciences courses in high school, and knew I wanted to pursue that in college," says Duong. "It sounds a little strange, but I developed an interest in sewage and water pollution and how these environmental concerns impact the air, water and soil. Now I research with bio-chemical markers in the lab and am gaining first-hand research experience."

The view from the top

First-hand experience seems to drive Duong. She recently joined the S&T Climbing Club and says she loves the mindfulness of the sport.

"While you are climbing, you have to know exactly where your body is at and where it has to go next," Duong says. "You become really aware of your hands and feet, and how to plan ahead. The mindfulness is great, but the best part of course is getting to the top of a climb and turning around to look out at the view."



ASCE TOURS NEW ENTRANCE

A group of ASCE students took a personal tour of Missouri S&T's Arrival District and Innovation Lab, compliments of alumni with McCownGordon Construction. Prospective students and families will arrive via Tim Bradley Way to the new welcome center that displays S&T's research as well as the new Innovation Lab. Their tour was both educational and informative!

➔ **Website:** masterplan.mst.edu



Pictured L-R: Brynnleigh Weaver and Krysta Swartz

ASCE CONFERENCE

Students had a great experience connecting with fellow student leaders from across the region at the The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) MRLC Workshop for Student Chapter Leaders.

Krysta Swartz, CE'23, says she learned so much about ways to make the ASCE student chapter more successful, as well as how to be a better leader overall.

It was a great experience, Swartz says. She had the opportunity to connect with fellow student leaders from across the region, as well as younger members and officers of ASCE.



Krysta Swartz plans to improve society with structural designs

Three years ago, **Krysta Swartz**, CE'23, of Caseyville, Illinois, graduated from high school and earned an associate degree from her local community college at the same time. In the spring, she walked across the commencement stage again — this time with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Missouri S&T.

"I always knew I wanted to study engineering, but it wasn't until I toured S&T that I realized my passion was in civil engineering," she says. "As a civil engineer, you can see buildings, bridges and infrastructure and know how drastically your work impacts society."

Swartz says that potential to directly affect the world is what drives her passion as an engineer.

"This field has a creative element, but it ultimately all relates to problem solving," she says. "I am excited to get to work. A major goal for me is to eventually design bridges for big river crossings with large spans."

She didn't have to wait long to get to work. After graduation, Swartz started work in Great River Engineering's St. Louis office. Her focus is the structural design of culverts and bridges.

She says she's ready for the challenge.

"Missouri S&T has helped prepare me with my classes and hands-on experiences," she says. "Being on a design team also made a huge difference."

"A major goal for me is to eventually design bridges for big river crossings with large spans."

(continued on page 13)

S&T student selected as national ASCE ambassador



“It was amazing. Right from the beginning, they gave me real jobs to do.”

During a time when many students enjoy some well-deserved rest, **Hannah Butkovich**, a junior in civil engineering at Missouri S&T, had other plans this summer.

Over the past few months, Butkovich, of Bethalto, Illinois, participated in an internship with Keeley Construction. Plus, she was selected as a national student ambassador for the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE).

“I had a busy summer, but I learned so much in the process and had a great time being part of the Keeley team,” Butkovich says. “I am going to stay with the company this fall for a cooperative education program as well, which I can do remotely while still being a full-time student.”

At Keeley Construction, Butkovich focused on pre-construction duties, such as estimating, calling contractors, marking up bid forms and reviewing construction drawings.

“It was amazing,” she says. “Right from the beginning, they gave me real jobs to do. I had multiple projects to complete all on my own. My supervisor trusted me, and he was also willing to help when necessary.”

Butkovich says she was surprised to be appointed as a student ambassador, as only 26 students were selected this year for the national program, but she is excited to promote her trade and inspire more students to become involved with ASCE.

“When I was in second grade, I went to an event at the St. Louis Science Center, and

I walked up to a woman who was a civil engineer,” Butkovich says. “Whatever she said then intrigued me so much that the desire to be a civil engineer has stuck with me for years. I wish I could meet her again to tell her how much she inspired me.

Now, I will work to inspire others to learn more about civil engineering and to eventually join ASCE.”

Spreading the word about the profession and ASCE should be no problem for Butkovich, as she says she is involved in multiple organizations and is naturally gregarious.

“I’m good at recruiting,” she says. “I want to get more people involved. When trying new things, it can almost feel threatening or intimidating to put yourself out there, but the payoff will usually be huge. Everyone at Missouri S&T is so welcoming and accepting.”

Dr. Joel Burken, Curators’ Distinguished Professor and chair of civil, architectural and environmental engineering at S&T says Butkovich is a perfect fit for the national student ambassador position, as she already serves as a role model to her classmates and to younger students aspiring to study at S&T.

“Hannah has been an outstanding student leader,” Burken says. “She has held leadership positions in S&T’s chapter of ASCE, as well our Steel Bridge design team. She is also involved with the Chi Omega sorority.

“Somehow, she also finds time to connect with future Miners and mentor students as a teaching assistant in our surveying class. She’s a natural leader, and I’m thrilled for her to now serve as an ambassador for ASCE on a national scale.”

Burken says Butkovich is also following in the footsteps of other Missouri S&T students and alumni who have represented the university and ASCE on the national stage.

“We’ve got a great tradition and legacy going,” Burken says. “For example, **Marsia Geldert-Murphey**, MS CE’97, a St. Louis-area civil engineer, will become the national ASCE president in just over a month. Our Miners do amazing things that truly help change the world.”

Rusty Keeley, EMgt’92, CEO of Keeley Companies, shared similar sentiments.



“I am extremely proud of Hannah for being named a student ambassador for ASCE,” he says. “This is an incredible accomplishment that takes passion, commitment and hard work, and she is more than deserving.

“We were honored to have Hannah as a Keeley’n this summer as part of our internship program, and I look forward to big things to come for her in the future.”

INTERNSHIPS '23



Olivia Powell :: ::
Brinkmann Constructors



Riley Coudal :: ::
HR Green Inc.



Zach Baldwin :: ::
Brinkmann Constructors
Build Program



Remy Haire :: ::
McCownGordon



Rachael Puls Rio Tinto Mining Corp.



Evan Rollo
Whiting-Turner Contracting Co.



**Ellie Viox and
Dominic Pon**
ARCO Construction Co.



Noah Myers
Reitz & Jens Inc.



Lillian Fuller
L.G. Barcus and Sons Inc.



Heart of a servant



“I can’t wait to use my education to help make a difference in the world.”

Kaitlyn Dunahee grew up in a family of missionaries, so it likely comes as no surprise that this second-year student from Kansas City, Missouri, intends to use her education to help others.

The 2023 theme of National Engineers Week was “Creating the Future,” and Dunahee encapsulates this theme by aspiring to create a better future for those in need.

Although Dunahee only started her civil engineering studies at S&T in August 2022, she already has some ideas about how she may accomplish just that.

“I am hopeful that my civil engineering degree and background will allow me to fund projects or be the boots on the ground myself to help others in impoverished areas,” she says.

“This might include building water treatment plants or drinking-water purification systems for communities in other countries that don’t have access to clean drinking water.”

Dunahee is interested in studying water-born pathogens, as this research could potentially benefit the people she hopes to serve in impoverished areas. This is similar to the water quality work her father is already doing as an environmental engineer for Burns & McDonnell.

Dunahee says her parents inspire her. She looks up to her father's engineering background, and she has witnessed both of her parents contributing to Agape Pamoja, a non-profit organization that primarily serves African refugees residing in Kansas City, Missouri. Agape Pamoja means "love and community."

Dunahee also got involved in the program and looks for ways to help others.

"Growing up as a missionary kid to African refugees in Kansas City, I found myself interested in seeing my African friends be successful in life and have new opportunities that they otherwise would not get to experience," she says.

"We have done a lot together including home renovations, food distribution, education and life skills. They have taught me to be inclusive and appreciative of other cultures, which has led me to seek out and appreciate the diverse cultures here at S&T."

Even though Dunahee's journey as an engineer is just beginning, she says she is excited for the future, and she knows Missouri S&T will prepare her for whatever comes next.

"Missouri S&T will help me develop the problem-solving skills and knowledge necessary to be successful," she says. "I can't wait to use my education to help make a difference in the world."



Improving society with structural designs

continued from page 7

As president of the university's Steel Bridge Design Team, Swartz recently led the team to its fifth consecutive regional championship. Last year, she was the lead fabricator and guided the team through the process of welding the bridge.

"Thanks to the design team, I was able to learn about welding and machining, and I can now better understand shop drawings," she says. "Being on the design team, combined with my internships, has really helped prepare me for what a real engineering job will entail."

Swartz was also an S&T student ambassador, an officer in S&T's chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers and a member of Chi Epsilon. Swartz says students have nothing to fear when taking hands-on roles for design teams.

"If there is something you are interested in doing, don't be afraid to jump right in," she says. "Nobody will look down on you, so just be confident and know that you're capable."

EXPANDING KNOWLEDGE



A Missouri S&T alumna shared her old stomping grounds with a group of seventh- and eighth-grade students participating in the Missouri Green Schools Quest who wanted to expand their knowledge related to sustainable engineering principles.

"This was a great opportunity for the students, and I was excited to share Missouri S&T's campus with the next generation of leaders focused on green initiatives," says

Anne Faeth-Boyd, GGph'02 MS EnvE'04.

Faeth-Boyd is director of engineering and environmental services at Aegon Asset Management.

"I met with the students before the field trip, and we talked about the wide variety of science and engineering fields that are available," Faeth-Boyd says. "As we walked through the long list of types of engineering that you can pursue, it was really fun to see the kids get engaged and excited when they heard something that clicked for them.

"I am grateful for the opportunity to help expand their view of the possibilities and to help them see how they can be a force for good," she says.

The 23 students that Faeth-Boyd helped bring to S&T were part of a sustainability class taught by Bill Henske from the Maplewood Richmond Heights School District in Maplewood, Missouri. The school also participates in the Missouri Green Schools program.

This class elected to work with indoor plants to improve indoor air quality and aesthetics, while also discussing and researching other benefits of the plants. Faeth-Boyd serves as the Green Mentor for the students' quest.

As part of the Green Schools Quest challenge, students must complete a project related to sustainability. Mentors are volunteers paired with participating classes to help the students identify, investigate and implement a no-to-low-cost sustainability project. The Green Schools Quest is supported by the Missouri Gateway Green Building Council.

"Once I saw the outline of what the kids had picked for their project, I asked **Dr. Joel Burken**, the chair of S&T's civil, architectural and environmental engineering department, if they could do a field trip and learn more about the university's work with plants and efforts related to sustainability. I know that Joel is a great teacher, and S&T has its own indoor greenhouse on the roof of Butler-Carlton Hall and the green roof project atop Emerson Hall, and this would be a great experience for students," she says.

"I also thought it would be fun for them to see the challenges and successes that researchers were having with plants – and how they were not that different from the ones they were seeing in the classroom."

As part of the field trip, staff from the Kummer Center for STEM Education at S&T were also on hand to meet with students and provide information on some of S&T's multiple summer camps.

"There are many wonderful opportunities for students interested in camps," Faeth-Boyd says. "One of S&T's newest camps is called 'Girls Go Green,' and this may be a perfect fit for some of the students."

Henske echoed similar sentiments to Faeth-Boyd about his students' experiences at S&T.

"The students all really enjoyed visiting S&T," he says. "This was the first college visit they've had in a long time, and they were able to ask questions and have some great one-on-one time with the faculty."

In addition to learning about S&T's plant efforts, the students also observed several engineering design projects related to sustainability, with the focus being on the processing of water.

"When we left, many of the students asked if we could come back tomorrow," Henske says. "You know the students truly had a great time when they want to come back right away."

"You know the students truly had a great time when they want to come back right away."



Anne Faeth-Boyd, pictured far right, organized the field trip and S&T alumni Brett, EnvE'12, and Emily, GeoE'14, Forthaus, helped in coordinating.

S&T STUDENTS EXHIBIT RESEARCH TO STATE LEGISLATORS

More than a dozen undergraduate students from Missouri S&T traveled to Jefferson City, in April, to participate in the annual Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol.

The event, which is designed to inform Missouri's lawmakers about research at Missouri universities, welcomes undergraduate students from all four University of Missouri System campuses. Student participants work on research projects under the direction of faculty advisors and present their research.



Pictured L-R: Missouri Rep. Tara Peters and Shelby Ply

Shelby Ply, EnvE'23, of Rolla, Missouri, presented "Symbiotic Plant – Microbial Treatment of 1,4-Dioxane." The work is directed by **Dr. Joel Burken**, Curators' Distinguished Professor and chair of civil, architectural and environmental engineering.

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING STUDENT EARNS MULTIPLE AWARDS

At the 18th annual Undergraduate Research Conference held at S&T in April, **Grace Duong**, a senior in environmental engineering, took second place in the Engineering Oral Category for her research titled "Biocell Reactors: Cellulose Loss and Sulfate Removal."

She was also accepted into the Opportunities for Undergraduate Research Experiences (OURE) Fellows Program.

Her research explores the efficiency of cellulose-based anaerobic bioreactors in remediating sulfate and heavy metal deposits in mine-impacted water commonly found in abandoned lead mining operations in Missouri.

Duong also received the J.R. Popalisky Scholarship from the Missouri Section of American Water Works Association (MO-AWWA). This scholarship encourages studies related to water supply. Her advisor is **Dr. Mark Fitch**, associate professor of civil engineering.





EXPLORING HISTORY, ARCHITECTURE OF CHICAGO

Twelve Missouri S&T students spent time exploring Chicago to learn about the city and its architecture through a two-week course in the Windy City.

“There’s no better place to learn about the history of modern architecture than Chicago, and there’s no better way to experience architecture than in person,” says **Dr. Jeff Schramm**, associate professor of history at Missouri S&T who taught the two-week course, “Chicago: Architecture, Technology, Culture.”

Schramm and the students, all architectural or civil engineering majors, stayed on the campus of Roosevelt University May 15-27. From that starting point, the group toured “buildings, structures, parks, museums, historic homes, and other places and spaces.”

They explored the Chicago History Museum; the Glessner House, designed by architect Henry Hobson Richardson; Ludwig Mies van der Rohe’s Edith Farnsworth House; Millennium Park; and Tribune Tower.

They also traveled via Chicago’s public transit system to visit places like architect Frank Lloyd Wright’s home and studio in the Chicago suburb of Oak Park, Illinois,

and Wright’s Frederick C. Robie House near the University of Chicago campus.

Schramm previously taught the course in 2016 and 2018. He connected with Missouri S&T alumni now living and working in Chicago to arrange tours of Cannon Design, where **Sophie Holle**, ArchE’22, CE’22, works, and the recently renovated Tribune Tower, with help from **Tom Laudadio**, ArchE’15.

“As a bonus, the class rang the closing bell at the Chicago Board Options Exchange – a great opportunity for the students and a history lesson, too,” Schramm says. “Chicago wouldn’t be Chicago without the influence of the Chicago Board of Trade and commodities trading.”

In addition to teaching the students about Chicago’s history and modern architecture, Schramm says he also wanted “to expose students to an urban living and learning experience.”

“For all but one day we used public transit to explore the city,” he says. “You can’t understand Chicago without understanding the role of the railroads in creating and maintaining the city.”

PLY HONORED WITH AWARD FROM AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

Shelby Ply, EnvE'23, of Rolla, Mo., was recently honored with a 2023 Undergraduate Student Award in Environmental Chemistry from the American Chemical Society.



The Division of Environmental Chemistry sponsors annual awards for full-time undergraduate students enrolled in chemistry, environmental engineering or other programs emphasizing environmental chemistry.

Ply now plans to complete her master's degree in environmental engineering at S&T and has already completed multiple master's courses through the university's Grad Track Pathways program.

Ply was nominated for the honor by **Dr. Joel Burken**, Curators' Distinguished Professor and chair

of civil, architectural and environmental engineering. Burken noted her abilities in the classroom, as well as in the research laboratory, where she assisted with phytoforensic testing of 1,4 dioxane uptake into plant tissues and used the plant tissues for environmental monitoring.

CEC HONORS PH.D. STUDENTS

Eight Ph.D. students at Missouri S&T were awarded dean's honors from the College of Engineering and Computing (CEC) in May during a ceremony at the Havener Center.

"Our graduate students do incredible work both in the classroom and when conducting research," says **Dr. Francisca Oboh-Ikuenobe**, CEC associate dean for academic affairs. "These are highly competitive awards, so the students selected should be proud, as should their advisors. I commend the awardees for their hard work and dedication."

The award winners were selected based on a two-tier process. Each CEC department was invited to nominate

up to three students for consideration. A committee with representatives from five CEC academic departments then selected the winners.

This year's winners from CArEE are pictured below. They were nominated by **Dr. Islam El-adaway**, the Hurst-McCarthy Endowed Professor.



Mohamad Abdul Nabi



Muaz Ahmed



MISSOURI S&T SUMMER ADVENTURES



JACKLING INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING



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EWB VISITS SOUTH AMERICA FOR FIRST TIME SINCE PANDEMIC

Missouri S&T's Engineers Without Borders team was on the move in May, traveling to both Bolivia and Ecuador.

"This was our team's first international trip since before the COVID-19 pandemic," says Anna Stephenson, a senior in chemical engineering who is the team's project lead for the trip to Atahuallani, Bolivia.

For the project in Bolivia, a previous group of students visited in 2019 to meet with the community and conduct a preliminary assessment of the situation in person. Then, students worked remotely with Bolivian engineers to develop and implement a gravity-fed water system for the Atahuallani community to use.

Stephenson says this provided the community with a safer, more readily available source of water. The group's next goal is to develop a latrine system, which will help with wastewater and potentially lower disease in the community.



The work conducted in Agua Fría, Ecuador, also related to clean water sources for local residents.

According to Cylan Burns, a senior in engineering management and multidisciplinary studies who lead the efforts for the Ecuador trip, S&T's team visited the country in 2018 and has since worked remotely to develop systems to collect rainwater for residents to use.

Thanks to the team's efforts, 12 homes, as well as a local school were equipped with these systems.

Natalie Wohlgemuth, CE'23, the group's acting president, says all of the students involved are appreciative of the support they receive for their efforts, as these initiatives would not be possible without funding from sponsors and individual donors.

"The donations we receive truly make an immeasurable difference in the lives of the people we are helping," she says. "By donating, you help with these community members' basic needs that most people in the U.S. could not imagine doing without for even a short time."

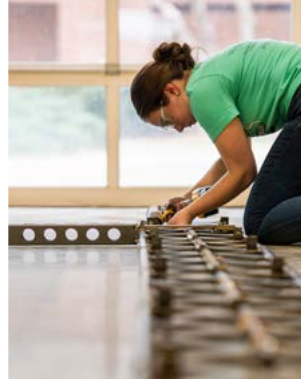
Wohlgemuth says S&T's students take their efforts seriously and understand the impact the projects will have for community members in these countries for generations to come.



DESIGN TEAMS

Concrete Canoe
Engineers Without
Borders (EWB)
Steel Bridge
Solar House

Learn. Succeed. Have Fun!
design.mst.edu



ALUMNI

news



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1950s

Melih Durusan, CE'50: "It's been 72 years since I graduated and went home to Istanbul, Turkey. Following 40 years of various employment, I retired in 1991. Married, one daughter and one grandson living in Toronto, Canada. I have traveled several times to the U.S. on business. I have stayed in contact with several friends for many years, now there is only one left. I am now living in Istanbul, Turkey, and am 97 years old."

1960s

Henry Brown, CE'68, was recently honored at the 12th annual Men of Honor | A Salute to African American Men.

1970s

Nihat Taner, MS CE'73: "I came to Rolla on Aug. 13, 1972, together with my wife, Bahar. We were married only four days earlier. I was a grad student in civil engineering. The International Students Office organized an orientation program which included a party at the Chancellor's Mansion. That was 50 years ago! Sincere greetings from Mersin, Turkey."

Steven Tillman, CE'74, MS CE'78, recently wrote a letter to the Miner Alumni Association talking about what he has been up to recently. Below is the letter:

Alumni and Friends,

I am writing to inform you that after 40 years of Federal Service, I have decided to retire. I have had the privilege of serving with the Corps of Engineers and FEMA for these years, and it is now time for me to move on to the next chapter of my life.

As an alumnus of our esteemed institution, I have come to believe that real strength lies in helping others, which is a value that I will continue to uphold even in my retirement. I would like to express my gratitude to the university for instilling in

me the values of service, compassion, and empathy.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish all my fellow alumni and friends at the University the very best. May you all have good health and continued success in all your endeavors. As for me, I have set a personal goal of walking 25K steps per day, and I encourage you all to keep running and walking too.

On a personal note, I was saddened to hear of the passing of our good friend, Dr. Sam Burton. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Once again, thank you for the wonderful education and experiences that have shaped my life. I am forever grateful.

*Sincerely,
Steven Tillman
Parkville, Missouri
(Steven.Tillman50@outlook.com)*

1980s

Mark Cook, CE'83: "My construction company inspection team from Jacobs Engineering and I won a prestigious Florida Transportation Builders Association Best in Construction for 2022 for the completion of the new SR-589 Suncoast Parkway 2 project in Citrus County, Florida. This was a \$150 million, 13-mile new project with 15 bridges and two mainline tolling facilities that took four years to build. Jacobs Engineering and I won the award on Aug. 5."



Aruna Miller, CE'89, became the first Indian-American woman elected Maryland's lieutenant governor.

(continued on the next page)

ALUMNI NEWS continued...



Eric Ploch, CE'88, MS CE'97, was hired as a vice president and director of program management in the Austin office of STV.



Chris Vaeth, CE'02, was recently named senior vice president of the Kansas City Region of McCownGordon.

1990s

Kyle Kershaw, CE'99, PhD CE'11, was named as the Hutchins Civil Engineering Endowed Chair at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.

Scott Preston, CE'97, MS EMgt'02: "I just completed three years commanding the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Tulsa District in Tulsa, Okla. I'm now the Defense Coordinating Officer for FEMA Region 7 in Kansas City, Mo. In my spare time, I enjoy serving as a Boy Scout Leader. My daughter earned her Eagle Scout in the first class of female Eagle Scouts and my son is a First Class Scout. I'm also serving as the Alumni Advisor for the Lambda Chi Alpha Chapter at S&T."

John C. Smith III, CE'97, MS CE'01, was named as the lead of Alberici's new Integrated Project Support Services team. This new department will bring quality, scheduling, virtual design and construction and lean expertise together to enhance collaboration and provide clients with the best building solutions in the industry.

2000s

Dustin Boatwright, CE'08, MS CE'10, was appointed as the vice chair of the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission.

Ryan Elam, CE'07, was recently named as the assistant city manager, infrastructure and development for Lee's Summit.

William Kirby, ArchE'08, CE'08, recently released a children's book geared at Miners called *ABCs of Missouri S&T*.

William Terry, CE'08, MS CE'15, was named chief of facility management for Ozark National Scenic Riverways.

2010s

Colten Harris, CE'13, was named Young Engineer of the Year by the Missouri Society of Professional Engineers.

2020s



Ashley Fillback, CE'20, ArchE'20, was elected to board director for the Missouri Valley District of ITE (MOVITE).

Shelby Ply, EnvE'23, was honored with a 2023 Undergraduate Student Award in Environmental Chemistry from the American Chemical Society.

WEDDINGS



Matthew Giacobbe, ArchE'18, married Danielle Duello, CompE'18, on Dec. 10, 2022, at the Mystic Aquarium, Connecticut.

Rebecca Johnson, EnvE'18, and **Anmol Jain**, MS EnvE'18, got married in October 2022, with celebrations in Pune, India, in December 2022.



Matt Klosterman, AE'18, and **Brittney (Kennedy) Klosterman**, CE'19, were married on Aug. 6, 2021, in St. Louis.

IN MEMORIAM



Remembering the following
Miner alumni who have passed.

1940s

James R. Fisher, CE'48 (Oct. 13, 2022)
Glenn Warren, CE'48 (Feb. 15, 2022)

1950s

Francis S. Basler, CE'52 (Jan. 2, 2023)
Carl D. Cole, CE'57 (Jan. 20, 2023)
Norbert A. Groppe, CE'57 (Sept. 4, 2022)
Theodore L. Jennings, CE'57 (Feb. 11, 2023)
James C. Jones, CE'54 (Aug. 23, 2022)
Harold L. Melton, CE'57 (Nov. 26, 2010)

1960s

Gerald E. Brunkhart, CE'61 (Feb. 2, 2023)
David L. Cox, CE'63 (June 18, 2022)
Dale L. DeLarm, CE'62 (Dec. 10, 2022)
Walter H. Dickens, CE'60 (Jan. 7, 2023)
Thomas E. Donahoe Jr., CE'61
(Sept. 17, 2022)
Kenneth Fryer, CE'63 (Oct. 22, 2022)
Fred F. Fuerst, CE'63 (Jan. 6, 2023)
Joseph F. Gittemeier, CE'67 (Sept. 1, 2022)
Christopher B. Groves, CE'68, MS CE'69,
(June 21, 2022)
Emmett W. Hahn Jr., CE'64 (April 24, 2023)
Gerald W. Hitt, CE'69 (March 14, 2023)
Allan LaPlante, CE'63 (Oct. 2, 2022)
Joseph W. Lowe, CE'68, MS CE'73
(Sept. 25, 2021)
Thomas P. Nack, CE'62 (March 30, 2023)
Aaron Reuck, CE'62 (Aug. 9, 2022)
Kenneth R. Scott, MS CE'66 (Nov. 8, 2022)

1970s

Charles H. Alkemeyer, CE'71
(Jan. 18, 2023)
Jerome Brendel, CE'75MS CE'91
(March 26, 2023)
James W. Chatman Jr., CE'73
(March 23, 2020)

John B. Justice, CE'72 (Jan. 4, 2023)
David A. Knoll, CE'73 (Jan. 20, 2023)
Norman H. Pooker, CE'74 (Jan. 10, 2023)
Jerry Salmon, CE'72 (Sept. 28, 2021)
Raymond B. Schafroth, CE'72
(Sept. 1, 2020)
Charles M. Sease, CE'71 (Dec. 28, 2022)

1980s

Florence O'Leary, CE'83 (Nov. 22, 2022)

1990s

Joel Moore, CE'96 (April 21, 2023)

2000s

Chris Locher, CE'04 (March 6, 2023)

Friends & Family

Margaret Coplen, wife of the late
Roy I. Coplen Jr., CE'49 (Sept. 7, 2022)
Elaine Daoulas, wife of Arthur
Daoulas, CE'62 (Oct. 17, 2022)
Martha Groppe, wife of the late
Norbert A. Groppe, CE'57
(Sept. 15, 2022)
Dianne Groves, wife of the late
Christopher B. Groves, CE'68, MS CE'69
(Aug. 30, 2022)
Linda Henry, wife of John Henry, CE'66
(Oct. 17, 2022)
Janet Murphy, wife of Robert Murphy,
CE'64, EMgt'72 (Oct. 17, 2022)
Mary Reichert, wife of the late Joseph
F. Reichert, CE'59 (April 21, 2023)



GIVING back

The civil, architectural and environmental engineering department gratefully acknowledges the many donors, corporations and friends recognized here.

You are the champions, advocates, investors, partners and true believers who continue to change lives and transform the future.

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James R. Borberg

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Jack L. Feaster
Richard Heagler Sr.
Robert W. Schneider

1958

Dale L. Klohr
William J. Luebbert
Eugene R. Russell Sr.
Humbert E. Sfreddo

1959

Leo Bowlin Jr.
Don E. Henderson

1960

Ronald J. Boss
Karl Daubel
Gordon R. Hyatt

1961

Bob Lewis
John F. Merritt
Robert Whitehead

1962

Arthur Daoulas

1963

Jerome Klier
Robert E. Markland
Wade A. Martin
Donald Peterson
Robert H. Sieckhaus
James Van Buren

1964

Kenneth Broeking
Gary Dyhouse
Bernard C. Ebert Jr.
Daniel J. Harris*
Alan A. Kamp
William H. Koechlein
Robert J. Murphy
James M. Norausky
Richard Raber
Lewis C. Sowell Jr.

1965

Charles H. Atkinson
John Dierker
Larry L. Erwin
Gregory Junge
William E. Polka
Roger H. Stickler
Norbert J. Wunderlich
Wayne M. Zimmerman

1966

Rohn D. Abbott
Donald E. Bennish
Robert B. Bridges
Michael J. Brynac
Dave J. Bufalo
Matteo A. Coco
George H. Gress
John Henry
Philip A. Jozwiak
Larry W. Littlefield

1967

Paul Darnell
Dave Flanagan III
William J. Graham
John Mathes
Doyle Powell
R. Bruce Van Dover
William D. Webb

1968

Richard F. Astrack
Charles S. Bach Jr.
Charles R. Barger
Douglas A. Brockhaus
Daniel Chen
Lynn A. Frasco
Lonny Ludwig
Dewayne P. Mabry
Thomas J. Pokrefke Jr.
Robert K. Storck
Melvin L. Sundermeyer

1969

Richard T. Berning
Harry F. Beyer Jr.
Michael E. Dace
Lawrence W. Eastep
Thomas M. Feger
Gerald W. Hitt
Bradley H. Hornburg
Wayne L. Kerns
Richard J. Lacavich

John J. Moll
David C. Pfeiffer
Terrance J. Ridenhour
Claude N. Strauser
Alvin D. Wansing
Jacquelyne L. Webster
William D. Webster Jr.
Thomas L. Zenge

1970

Melvin R. Allison
Kenneth K. Austin
Frank Benavides
Edward F. Books
John Branham
Lynn B. Calton
Kent T. Florence
Michael M. Friesse
Michael B. Horsley
Roger A. LaBoube
Jerry Parsons
Richard G. Rogers
H. Ray Threlkeld Jr.
Peter Wagner
Clyde F. Wakefield
Howard J. Walk
Lawrence E. Weber
James Wege
John D. Welsh
Thomas F. Wolff

1971

James A. Bell
Phillip J. Colombatto
Gary W. Creason
Norman D. Dennis Jr.
Edward M. Halter
Thomas M. Hayden
Gary M. Lee
Terry E. Miller
James F. Raithel
David N. Richardson
Henry W. Sandhaus
Otto B. Sandheinrich Jr.
Robert F. Smart
Wayne D. Smith
Charles H. Tayloe
Robert L. Ward
Paul L. Welsch

(continued on the next page)

1972

Steven M. Burke
Teriel E. Burke
Alan W. Carson
Frank R. Ellis II
Dominic J. Grana
Dale L. Houdeshell
Alard Kaplan
Keith E. Konradi
Richard J. Laschober
Stephen H. McVeigh
Gary M. Neutzling
Daniel L. Oliver
Ralph M. Partridge
Marcus D. Ramsey
Michael W. Stallion
Dennis J. Welker
Dale E. Williams

1973

John Baker
Thomas A. Behan
Barry M. Bergman
William Cunningham
Gary R. Henderson
John Hofer
David A. Knoll
Kenneth Kuechenmeister
Rich Peters
Eric R. Potts
Dana V. Reel
Richard M. Vaeth
Edward N. Wade
Frank M. Yates

1974

Bruce S. Bonczyk
David R. Breece
William P. Clarke
John Critchfield
Kenton Cropp
David A. Dunavant
Jim Foil
James E. Frey
John W. Hamilton
Thomas E. Hayes
Michael D. Hurst
Gary L. Hutchison
Bruce L. Johnson
Michael J. Kinsella
DeAnn Lewis
Jonathan Motherwell
Richard D. Payne
Ray L. Purvis
Richard P. Sauerwein
Ali A. Selim

Ronald Sherard Jr.
Steven M. Tillman
James H. Van Houten

1975

Garry R. Aronberg
David A. Colvin
Bernard Held
David R. Lewis
Edward J. Lohman
Chris M. Lytle
Thomas J. Mittler
Robby Rakestraw
Kevin Skibiski
David J. Wisch
Dennis L. Wood

1976

Gregory K. Hicks
Robert E. Hilton
Clifford A. Mahin
Richard A. Markey
William C. McAllister III
Dennis M. Simon
Kimberly M. Simon
Brian J. Swenty
Jeffry P. Wassilak
Michael E. Woessner

1977

Keith Cowan
David A. Diestelkamp
Stanley C. Johnson
Stephen C. Kienstra
Robert G. Leonard
L.G. Loos
Patrick K. Owen
Brad R. Parrish
John Patterson
Gary A. Ruhling
Bert G. Schnettgoecke
Paul C. Schnoebelen III
Donald Van Houten
John Wenzlick
Ronald J. Williams

1978

Russell L. Goldammer
Thomas R. Gredell
Alan W. Green
Michael A. Heitzman
Wilma K. Hilton
Jim Rau
Mark E. Seppelt
Robert W. Yin

1979

Reginald H. Benton
Kevin Eisenbeis
Stephen P. Ford
Susan J. Haslett
Kirk R. Hastain
Mark A. Hovis
Stephen C. Johnson
Jimmie Myers
Michael W. O'Daniell
Robert A. Riess Sr.

1980

Gary J. Amsinger
Karim Asfour
Harlan R. Ashton
Dan Booher
Cherie Cowan
Mark S. Franklin
William W. Glauz
Sandra M. Hoelscher
Simmons
Ralph C. Jones
Steven A. Ruether
David W. Schmitt
Eric Stassevitch
Gary L. Strauss

1981

Ralph Agee
Paul Andrew
David R. Busse
John Hart III
Bonnie S. Hubert
Mark R. Jourdan
Allen G. Minks
Arthur Nance
Rhonda S. Powers
Jack D. Ratliff
Thomas Renick

1982

James Allmeyer
Billy Aurig
Thomas M. Eppy
Raymond J. Kopsky Jr.
Ted Martin
Kevin Sutterer
Daniel J. Uetrecht
Thomas J. Westerman
Wade White

1983

Mark Cook
 Scott Goehri
 Mark Harms
 Caroline Israel
 Dan Israel
 Glenn E. Noe Jr.
 Thomas Riney
 Kathy Schmitt
 Charles E. Taylor
 Doug Wesselschmidt
 Renate A. Wilkinson

1984

Douglas A. Jackson
 Terry Leeds
 Christopher J. Nisbet
 Robin Shepard

1985

Christa Andrew
 Daniel F. Conway
 H. Gene Eagle
 Stephen G. Knobbe
 Andrew R. Maly
 Michael Nickels
 Lynne Nisbet
 James N. Pyatt
 Robert Randolph
 Kevin Riechers
 Suzanne Riney
 Kevin Shepard
 Curtis Skouby
 Tracy Thomas
 Anne M. Werner
 Gary John White
 Lindle Willnow

1986

Jeannine S. Conway
 Kimberly Curry
 Michael E. Herleth
 Ronald Jagels
 Robert Lorey
 Ronald Marlin
 Brian McElroy
 William T. Priesmeyer
 David E. Schledorn
 Forrest Thomas
 Natalae Tillman

1987

Thomas Abkemeier
 Bruce Cain
 Ronald M. Colas
 John Frerking
 Jeffrey Harpring
 Robert R. Holmes Jr.
 Paul Kendzior
 James Kreher
 Steven Sieckhaus
 Meg Thomas

1988

Craig Borgmeyer
 Rich Bradley
 Jeffrey L. Grandcolas
 Ryan Howard
 Tim Hudwalker
 Jon Jacobsmeyer
 Mark Leighton
 William Rich
 Thomas Sieckhaus
 Ronald Urton Jr.
 Randall Vogel
 Vernon Vondera

1989

Stephen Brady
 John E. Finke
 Joseph Heggie
 Jennifer L. Hinson
 Aruna Miller
 David Miller
 Michael P. Pappas
 Paul Ridlen
 David Vonarx
 John Zimmermann

1990

Michael Buechter
 David Cowell
 Russell Henke
 Robert Hickman
 Claudia Hoeft
 Matthew Hunn
 Kristen E. Leathers-Gratton
 Barbara Pappas
 Robin Perusich
 Amy Strauss
 Jeri M. Vondera
 Susan Zimmermann

1991

Dirk Gowin
 Keith Hansen
 Joanne Holmes
 Todd Waelterman

1992

Scott D. Kappelmann
 Brian E. Kuchinski

1993

Richard Falkenrath
 Kevin Hicks
 Daniel Jones
 Eric F. Seaman

1994

Kevin Alexander
 Brett Goodman
 Kurt Higgins
 David P. Johnson
 Christina Sfredo
 Krista L. Strong
 Steven Weible

1995

Neil Brady
 David Edgar
 Gary W. Hines
 Jennifer M. Kuchinski
 Brent Massey
 Amelia G. Sanders
 Darin Sanders

1996

Laura Alberswerth
 Michael Alberswerth
 Michael Baxter
 Jeffrey Jacob Boschert
 Donald Wayne Crites
 Peter Manis
 Jeffrey Martin
 Jeffrey Neemann
 Rebecca Steinman
 Jenifer Tatum
 Christopher Ward

(continued on the next page)

1997

Todd Dejournett
H. Joseph Dickerson
Samuel D. Erter
Carrie Falkenrath
Deborah Huffman
Thomas Huffman
Scott Preston
John C. Smith III
Elizabeth Ward
Emily Wehmeyer
John Weiland
Kenneth Wohaska

1998

Courtney Ryan Feeler
Jerry Gander
Anne Hays
Brady Hays
Jennifer Neemann
Cassie Margaret Reiter
Cory Reiter
Ty Sander
William Shores Jr.
Daniel Van Anne
Sheryl Van Anne

1999

Jason Dohrmann
Thomas Evers
Jane Manis
Colin Miller
Megan Miller
Joshua P. Smith

2000

Shawnna Erter
Alissha Feeler
Marc A. Friedman
Larry Taber
Wesley E. Tull Jr.
Carrie Wright

2001

Daniel Buesse
Scott Aaron Cole
Matthew Swenty

2002

Christopher Bilderback
Rebecca Bilderback
James Buckner
Darcey Schumacher
Nathan Tritsch

2003

Anna Swenty

2004

Erik Backus
Jared E. Brewe
Aaron Carrell
Curt Kimmel
Mattheuw Prenger
Sondra Rotty
Corry L. Worthington

2005

Nathaniel Bachelor
Autumn Dieckmann
Kyle Dieckmann
Damon Domer
Grant Martin
Richard McCullough
Jenny Voss
Sandra Wagner-Martin

2006

Bryan Newman
Matthew Voss

2007

Rachael Y. Boyster
Matthew Flint
Kurt Haslag
Charles Spraggs

2008

Nathaniel J. Hirt
Kandi R. Spraggs
Nichole L. Witushynsky

2009

Daniel L. Ashbaugh
Kazi Karim
Leo J. Peirick III
Kyle J. Shour
Patrick J. Tilk

2010

Andrew B. Becker
Christopher P. Bellavia
Benjamin J. Lai

2011

Adam C. Morgan
Stephen Schrock Santos

2012

Andrew Andrews
David T. Buttig
Amir Kukic
Lauren Lai

2013

Anna G. Bellavia
Molly Dimick
Alex M. Griffin
Jason R. Williams

2015

Amanda Griffin

2019

Venkata Siddhartha
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Matthew W. Demoss
Nathan V. Fagerstone
Jenna A. Gruner
Katie M. Mietzner
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officer on staff.

Meet Rachael Puls

"Hello! My name is Rachael, and I am a junior studying civil engineering at Missouri S&T. One of the main reasons I applied to be a student DO is because I love getting involved on campus in any way possible, and this will give me a way to reach out and make connections with our alumni while informing them about all the awesome stuff Missouri S&T does!"

In addition to this role, I am involved with S&T's Panhellenic Counsel, enjoy attending the Ballet & Dance Club for combos and am currently a project lead for the Engineers Without Borders Guatemala Design Team. I'm super excited to take on this new role, and I can't wait to see where it takes me!"



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