

Summer 2021

Shillelagh

For members of the Missouri S&T Order of the Golden Shillelagh

newsletter



**ARRIVING AT S&T'S
NEW FRONT DOOR**

IN MEMORIAM
FRED S. KUMMER
(1929–2021)



It is with great sadness and abiding gratitude that we report the death of **Fred S. Kummer**, CE'55, who passed away April 30, 2021. A hands-on leader and president and CEO of HBE Corp. in St. Louis, Kummer was Missouri S&T's most impactful benefactor and a founding member of the Order of the Golden Shillelagh.

"We have lost a true champion for S&T and for higher education," says Missouri S&T Chancellor Mo Deghani. "No individual was more supportive of this institution, and no individual more passionate about advancing this university's mission, than Fred Kummer."

Memorial donations may be given to Shriners Hospital for Children-St. Louis, 4400 Clayton Ave., St. Louis, MO 63110, or online at: shrinershospitalsforchildren.org/st-louis. All donations must mention St. Louis for the funds to stay in St. Louis.



DEAR FRIENDS,

With deepest sorrow and immense gratitude, I'd like to pay tribute to Missouri S&T's unwavering benefactor and founding OGS member, **Fred Kummer**.

Fred passed as we were preparing this issue of the *Shillelagh* for print. With his blessing, we planned to shine a spotlight on his beloved spouse of 68 years, **June**. I hope you will enjoy our story about her, which appears at the end of this issue.

It was a rare privilege to know Fred, and I treasure the number of times I met with him over my years of service. He always welcomed a call from S&T, and he never failed to challenge — in all the best ways and with his trademark candor — our thinking and assumptions. Fred was a “possibility thinker,” who with June’s partnership, provided extraordinary vision and generous financial support to our university, time and again. He was a driving force for bringing new programs and initiatives to life at Missouri S&T. Many of you knew him and June long before they made their transformative gift last year to establish S&T’s Kummer Institute for Student Success, Research and Economic Development, and I know you join me in mourning his passing.

A 1955 graduate in civil engineering, Fred said he owed much of his success to his education from Missouri S&T (then the Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy). “My Rolla experience taught me how to think, how to work hard and how to manage my own career,” he said last October.

Fred and June married in 1954 and in 1960 founded HBE Corp., formerly Hospital Building and Equipment Co. Together they grew the company from a small general contracting business into one of the world’s largest design-build firms specializing in

health care. Over the years they built over 1,000 hospitals across the U.S. and founded the Adam’s Mark Hotels and Resorts chain.

While they were building their successful businesses, the Kummers provided generous support for many university projects, including the expansion of Butler-Carlton Civil Engineering Hall, the Toomey Hall expansion for mechanical and aerospace engineering, and the construction of the Hasselmann Alumni House, among others. Fred’s abiding commitment to undergraduate education and experiential learning was realized with the creation of the Kummer Student Design Center, which houses and supports our 19 student-run design teams. He served his state and his alma mater through service on the University of Missouri Board of Curators and Missouri S&T’s Board of Trustees. The university presented him with an honorary doctorate of engineering in 1984, and he was honored as one of our first class of Alumni of Influence in 2011.

Fred Kummer’s vision, enduring advocacy and philanthropic investments have strengthened S&T’s position as one of the nation’s leading engineering-focused universities. Through the establishment of the Kummer Institute and numerous affiliated graduate and undergraduate scholarships, his investment enables us to further equip our students with an entrepreneurial mindset and spirit of innovation needed to succeed in their lives and careers while improving Missouri’s economic vitality.

Fred Kummer will be greatly missed, but his vision for Missouri S&T lives on. In the Miner family, his unprecedented legacy will continue to inspire, encourage and support our students.

With gratitude,

Joan Nesbitt
Vice Chancellor for University Advancement



ARRIVAL DISTRICT: FROM A POWERFUL FIRST IMPRESSION TO AN ELEVATED PURPOSE

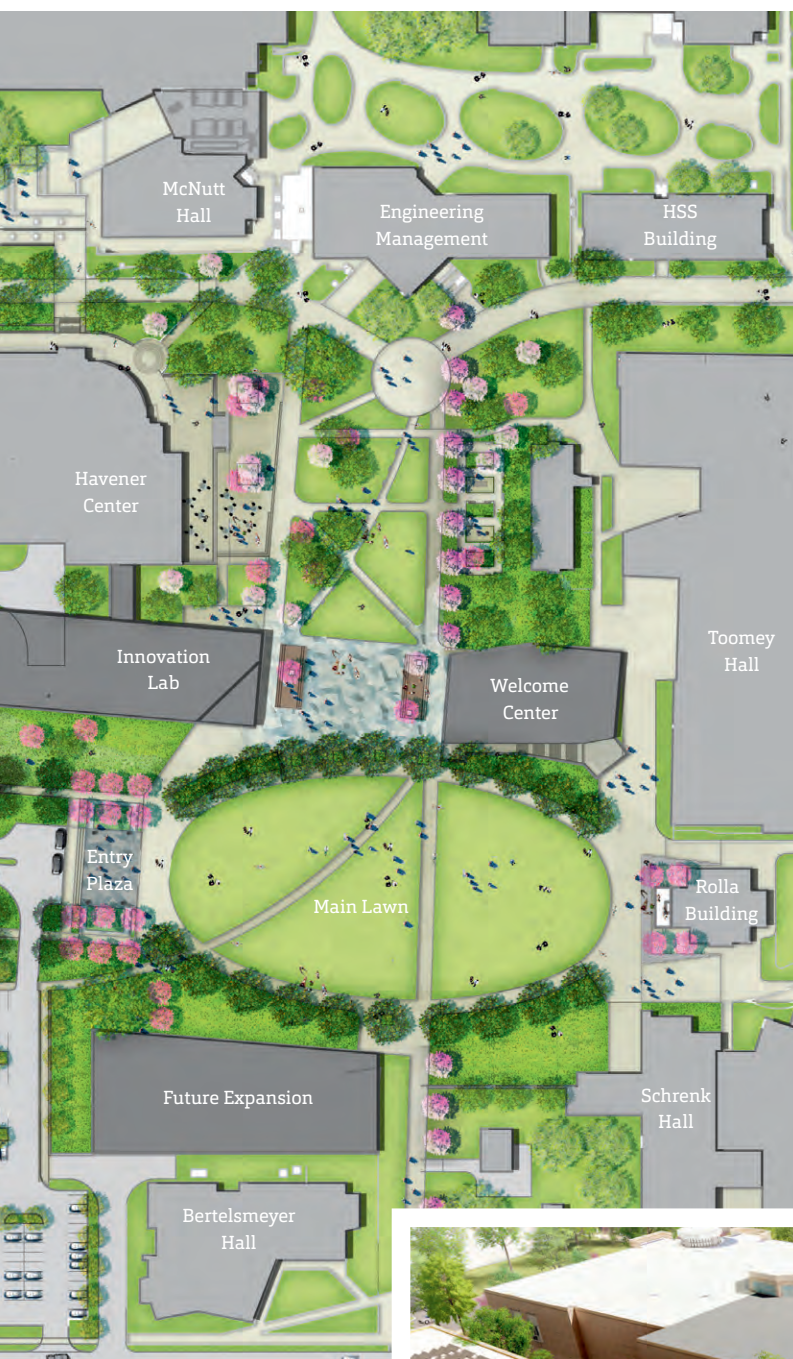
Missouri S&T's Arrival District plays a key role in enabling the transformation the Kummer Institute for Student Success, Research and Economic Development brings to the university. Through transportation, building and landscape improvements, this dramatic, multiphase infrastructure project will create a new grand entrance or "front door" for S&T with a wayfinding experience that is intuitive and welcoming.

The powerful first impression the Arrival District will convey is designed to reinforce S&T's reputation as a nationally recognized

technological university with remarkable graduates, a distinguished 150-year history, and a promising future fortified by the addition of the Kummer Institute.

"As the Kummer Institute develops, so will our opportunities to cultivate an entrepreneurial culture and greater innovation through research," says Chancellor **Mo Dehghani**.

"Academic and industry partnerships will expand to address emerging technological needs that will generate economic growth in our region — and we need to have a campus commensurate with our enterprise."



THE VISION FUELS OGS SUPPORT

Thanks to the leadership, long-term vision and generosity of several OGS members, the first phase of the Arrival District Construction project has begun.

The project is a key component of S&T's Campus Master Plan and a part of the Move Rolla Transportation Development District program (TDD), a partnership between S&T, the City of Rolla, Phelps County and Phelps Health. In addition to new landmarks, green spaces, roads and walkways on the S&T campus, the TDD's transportation enhancements are positioned to create a vibrant sense of place and bolster economic development in the Rolla community. One of those enhancements is improved access to the S&T campus from U.S. Interstate 44.

Tim Bradley, PetE'77, and his wife, **Kay**, made the first Arrival District campaign commitment with a \$5 million gift that supports the reconfiguration of University Drive from I-44 to campus with a new thoroughfare that will bear their name.

Other OGS members contributing to the Arrival District are **Gary Havener**, Math'62, who also established a chair in mathematics and statistics; **Jeff Sheets**, ChE'80, and his wife, **Pat**, ChE'80; **Steve Suellentrop**, PetE'74, MS PetE'75, and his wife, **Betty**; **Tom Voss**, EE'69, and his wife, **Carol**; and **Mike Bytnar**, ME'68, MS EMgt'73, and his wife, **Joyce**.

Missouri S&T is immensely grateful to these generous OGS donors who have accelerated the first phase of the project.

INVEST IN THE ARRIVAL DISTRICT

If you wish to consider a gift in support of Missouri S&T's Arrival District, please contact **Tory Verkamp**, assistant vice chancellor for university advancement, at verkampv@mst.edu or 573-341-6090, for more information and giving options. You can also read more at masterplan.mst.edu/arrivaldistrict.



MEET THE FIRST SUPPORTERS



TIM AND KAY BRADLEY JUMP-START A NEW FRONT DOOR

OGS members **Tim Bradley**, PetE'77, and his wife, **Kay**, have been generously supporting S&T for over two decades with scholarship, fellowship and project funds centered around Bradley's affinity for petroleum engineering and his involvement with Kappa Alpha Order. But over the last year, the Bradleys felt it was time to make a gift with broader impact.

The Texas couple recently became the first donors to S&T's Arrival District campaign with a \$5 million gift to support the reconfiguration of University Drive from U.S. Interstate 44 to campus with a new thoroughfare that will bear their name.

"This gift is our first that is designed to benefit the whole university," Bradley says. "S&T needs an entrance, and this gift seemed like the best way to jump-start the Arrival District project and inspire other alumni to contribute."

After a 37-year career in the oil, gas and CO₂ industry that focused on enhanced oil recovery, Bradley retired in 2013 as president of Kinder Morgan CO₂. A native of Springfield, Mo., Bradley began his career as a reservoir engineer with Shell Oil Co. in Midland, Texas. He advanced to many other positions within the company and became president of Shell CO₂, a joint venture between Shell and Kinder Morgan. When Shell sold its stake in 2000, Bradley became president of Kinder Morgan CO₂. Under his leadership, the company became North America's largest producer, transporter, and marketer of carbon dioxide, as well as the second-largest oil producer in Texas.

Bradley, a member of S&T's Board of Trustees, the Academy of Mines and Metallurgy, and the Petroleum Engineering Development Board, will be honored in November as one of Missouri S&T's Alumni

of Influence. (See page 6.) In 2019, Bradley was invited to speak at commencement and was presented with an honorary doctor of engineering degree. In 2014, he received the Award of Professional Distinction.

Kay Bradley, a San Antonio native and University of Houston journalism graduate, retired as church life ministry director for Houston's Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church. She and Tim now live in Austin to be near their seven children and eight grandchildren. Kay enjoys photography, pottery and gardening, Tim creates handcrafted wood furniture, and both enjoy the Texas Hill Country from their house on Lake Lyndon B. Johnson.

"Kay and I wouldn't be in this position as donors without the training I received at Missouri S&T," Bradley says.

"It's hard work to earn a degree at S&T, and that discipline has stayed with me. The Arrival District will set the stage that conveys the personality and character of S&T, which deserved to have an outstanding front door for a long time."

OF S&T'S ARRIVAL DISTRICT



GARY HAVENER: MASTER MULTIPRENEUR SUPPORTS PRIORITY NEEDS

Gary Havener, Math'62, president of Havener Companies, a commercial real estate, investment and management firm in Fort Worth, Texas, has juggled a variety of business interests and done well with all of them. Whether it was turning around a company facing bankruptcy, manufacturing commercial antenna systems, refurbishing aircraft, or buying and selling real estate, Havener has a knack for building value.

In a similar manner, Havener has contributed his time and financial support to a variety of Missouri S&T's needs. As a member of S&T's Board of Trustees and a founding member of the board of directors of the new Kummer Foundation, Havener is focused on S&T's priorities.

Those priorities inspired his recent \$6 million combined commitment to the Arrival District and, as one of S&T's first mathematics graduates, to establish the Gary W. Havener Endowed Chair in Mathematics and Statistics.

"I'm listening to S&T's leadership to understand what the high-priority needs are," says Havener. "The Arrival District is an investment that will help take the school to the next level in recognition of all it has to offer. This project is completely in line with S&T's goals to increase enrollment and expand research activity to earn the Carnegie R1 ranking.

"And my contribution for an endowed mathematics chair just helps ensure that every S&T student will have access to the best mathematical foundation for success in technical fields."

A distinguished military graduate of the S&T Army ROTC program, Havener worked briefly as an engineer for General Motors subsidiary Packard Electric, then joined the Army Corps of Engineers 555th Engineering Group, working in bridge building, radio communications and cryptography. Havener says his years in the military were "a period of self-enlightenment" because

that's when he realized he was best suited to work for himself.

When his military service was complete, Havener worked for Antenna Products Corp. in Mineral Wells, Texas, a company he ultimately owned. As he progressed in his career, his business acumen and entrepreneurial mindset inspired him to buy, build and sell a variety of companies, several of which he rescued from bankruptcy and turned into solid, profitable enterprises.

An OGS member, Havener was recognized as one of Missouri S&T's 2011 Alumni of Influence, received the Award of Professional Distinction in 1995 and was awarded an honorary doctor of engineering degree in 2013.

Havener has made many major gifts to building projects on the S&T campus, including the 2002 lead gift to the Havener Center, which was named in his honor, and to Toomey Hall, Bertelsmeyer Hall and the Kummer Student Design Center expansion. He is also a sustaining contributor to the Finish Line Scholarship Fund, which helps students who are within two semesters of graduation and hindered by financial need to complete their degree.

MEET THE 2021 ALUMNI OF INFLUENCE HONOREES

Thank you, OGS members, for the many nominations we received for our 2021 Alumni of Influence, the highest alumni honor bestowed by the university. Since the tradition began in 2011, we've honored 38 distinguished alumni who have advanced knowledge, accelerated innovation, defended freedom and empowered others. From their professional accomplishments to their willingness to mentor the next generation of leaders, these individuals have helped place Missouri S&T on the map.

We will recognize the following 12 honorees — who are all OGS members — on Nov. 6 in Rolla at our 2021 Alumni of Influence Gala, which will conclude S&T's year-long 150th Anniversary Celebration. Please watch for your invitation and make plans to join us.



Ray Betz, CE'66, is owner and CEO of the Betz Companies, a Houston-based commercial real estate investment firm founded in 1976 that focuses on land investments, brokerage activities, and development and acquisitions. Betz is a licensed Texas real estate broker and a civic leader in Houston who frequently speaks on the topics of real estate, leadership and success. He has received Houston's Entrepreneur of the Year Award as only one of his many professional and civic honors. Among their many philanthropic contributions to S&T, Betz and his wife, **Susan**, established an endowed scholarship fund to encourage out-of-state students to attend S&T.



Tim Bradley, PetE'77, retired as president of Kinder Morgan CO₂ Co. Under his leadership, the company became North America's largest producer, transporter and marketer of carbon dioxide and the second-largest oil producer in Texas. Bradley's 35-year career in oil and gas field development and operations also includes over 20 years with Shell Oil Co., where he served as president of Shell CO₂ Co. Bradley and his wife, **Kay**, recently made the first naming gift to S&T's Arrival District campaign, which supports the reconfiguration of University Drive from U.S. Interstate 44 to campus. They also established an endowed fellowship for graduate students in petroleum engineering and have contributed to S&T's geosciences and geological and petroleum engineering rock lab project, as well as many scholarship funds.



Mike Bytnar, ME'68, MS EMgt'73, retired as president of Nooter Corp., a St. Louis-based holding company for a family of subsidiaries located in the United States and Austria that provide engineering, fabrication and field construction services to a broad range of industrial customers. Bytnar spent his entire career at Nooter where he held many leadership positions. He is involved in a variety of alumni activities, and he and his wife, **Joyce**, support several S&T programs, including the Kummer Student Design Center (both the construction and the expansion), scholarship endowments and a graduate fellowship in partnership with the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, the construction of Hasselmann Alumni House, and an endowed professorship in mechanical and aerospace engineering. Most recently they have made a commitment to S&T's Arrival District.



Mike Hurst, CE'74, retired as president and chief operating officer of McCarthy Building Companies in St. Louis, a multibillion-dollar construction firm where he worked for over 30 years. Founded in 1864, the company is one of the largest and most diversified commercial construction companies in the U.S. Hurst has served on the boards of many professional and civic organizations and is a donor to many S&T programs. He and his wife, **Barbara**, endowed a professorship in construction management in partnership with McCarthy. They also established an endowed fellowship for civil engineering graduate students and contributed to the renovation of Butler-Carlton Civil Engineering Hall and the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity house.



Wayne Laufer, CE'67, retired as director, co-founder and CEO of Bois d'Arc Energy Inc., an independent oil and natural gas exploration company in the Gulf of Mexico. Laufer began his 40-year career in the oil business as an engineer at Shell Oil in New Orleans and a decade later founded S.A. Holditch and Associates, which is now a part of Schlumberger, an international oilfield services company. Laufer and his wife, **Gayle**, established the Wayne and Gayle Laufer Endowed Chair in Energy, one of the largest gifts for an endowed chair in S&T history. They also established a graduate fellowship for energy research. Their family foundation awards scholarships to students wishing to pursue STEM degrees, and Wayne personally encourages the recipients to consider enrolling at S&T.



John Lovitt, MS CSci'70, retired as CEO of Pattern Insight, a provider of data mining technology. Lovitt worked in sales, marketing and management roles in the software development industry for over 25 years, including positions at IBM, Hewlett Packard and McDonnell Douglas. After retirement, he founded Getting to Value, a consultancy that works with technology innovators to develop people, products and business models. Over 25 of Lovitt's former employees have gone on to lead companies as CEOs, creating a leadership pipeline Lovitt calls his proudest professional achievement. A strong supporter of the S&T computer science department, Lovitt served as an entrepreneur-in-residence for its NSF Pathways to Innovation program. He and his wife, **Diane**, have made many contributions to S&T programs, including establishing the Daniel St. Clair Endowed Chair in Computer Science.

Meet the Honorees



Ron Miller, ChE'64, retired as vice president and general manager of the Procter & Gamble (P&G) Tissues, Towels and Facial Division. Miller joined P&G in 1964 as a chemical engineer and moved on through positions of increasing responsibility. He became a vice president of worldwide supply for laundry products in 1994 prior to the position he held at retirement. Miller has served numerous charitable and civic organizations as a board member and community leader. He and his wife, **Janice**, have supported a variety of initiatives at S&T, including the construction of Bertelsmeyer Hall and renovation of the Chancellor's Residence, in addition to establishing the Ron and Janice Miller Scholarship for Academic Access benefitting members of his fraternity, Pi Kappa Alpha.



Peggy Montana, ChE'76, retired as president and CEO of Shell's Midstream Partners LP. During her career with Shell, Montana was responsible for the downstream and midstream sectors with emphasis on global organization leadership, supply chain optimization, integrated market strategy, refining, pipeline and terminal operations, logistics, and health and safety. Montana, along with her husband, **Duane**, CE'75, were major contributors to the construction of Bertelsmeyer Hall and for S&T's Engineers Without Borders chapter, where they raised \$1 million through a matching gift program sponsored by their family foundation.



Steve Rector, PetE'72, MS PetE'73, is the president and founder of RIM Operating Inc., which provides field exploration and development services for oil and gas industries in Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Arizona, Colorado and Texas. Rector has established nine oil and gas companies involved in coal bed methane development, 3-D seismic technology exploration, and oil, gas and carbon dioxide production in several U.S. states. Rector is the immediate past president of the Miner Alumni Association. He and his wife, **Susan**, support petroleum engineering majors through their endowed scholarship that has benefited nearly 300 students since its inception in 2007.



Gerald Stevenson, ChE'59, MS ChE'63, is the founder, president and CEO of Summit Prairie Corp., a private management and venture capital company. Stevenson began his career with Shell Oil Co., and later held executive positions with the Davy McKee Corp. and Jacobs Engineering Group. A 1981 graduate of the Advanced Management Program at Harvard Business School, Stevenson was awarded a number of patents early in his career. Stevenson is a past president of the Miner Alumni Association, where he and his wife, **Jeannie**, established the Gerald L. and Eugenia Bradford Stevenson Endowed Scholarship Fund for out-of-state chemical engineering students.



Tom Voss, EE'69, retired as executive chair, president and CEO of Ameren Corp., a Fortune 500 company and utilities provider headquartered in St. Louis. Voss began his career as an engineer with Union Electric (now Ameren Missouri) followed by four years in the U.S. Air Force, then returned to Ameren where he held various management positions. Voss is co-inventor on a patent for Ameren Abacus, a meter information management system. He is a past member of the University of Missouri Board of Curators and has served on the boards of numerous civic and charitable organizations. Voss and his wife, **Carol**, established the Thomas and Carol Voss Family Foundation Endowed Scholarship and have contributed to the university's Arrival District.



Keith Wedge, GGph'70, MS GGph'71, PhD GGph'73, retired as brigadier general for the U.S. Army, serving in both active duty and reserves for 30 years. He worked for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources Geological Survey for nearly 30 years, retiring as chief of geotechnical services. Wedge has searched for tunnels in Korea's demilitarized zone, drilled for water in Egypt and built roads in Jordan. He received numerous military awards, including two Legions of Merit and the Bronze Star Medal, as well as many public service awards. Wedge and his wife, **Bobbie**, are long-time supporters of geological sciences, the Miner Alumni Association and Pi Kappa Alpha. They have established scholarship endowments supporting all three, in addition to sponsoring international students. Wedge is the current treasurer of the Miner Alumni Association and a loyal participant in alumni events.



MODERN MENTORING

Times have changed, and so have the ways alumni mentor students.

Earlier this year S&T launched a new website with a state-of-the-art online mentoring platform that allows alumni to connect with both students and fellow alumni to offer career advice.

"Our new **Miner Network** mentoring platform outpaces all the programs we've tried in the past," says **Will Zwikelmaier**, director of career opportunities and employer relations (COER) at S&T. "It lets students and alumni create profiles or import them from LinkedIn, then students can reach out to compatible alumni from all over the world. It also has built-in technology for scheduling, messaging and video consultations."

The system is a collaborative project sponsored by the Miner Alumni Association (MAA), COER, the College of Arts, Sciences, and Business, and the College of Engineering and Computing.

"Many alumni choose to mentor students and fellow alumni as a way of giving back to S&T," says **Logan Campbell**, MAA alumni relations manager. "We're building a strong base of alumni and students in the system, and we'd like to have more join."

"With the Miner Network, alumni can help as many students as they like and match with them by location, industry, company or experience. This new platform offers more opportunities than ever before for S&T graduates to share their expertise and connections."

Through this platform, Miners can leverage their common bonds to build and strengthen their professional networks. To join the network, please go to mst.firsthand.co or contact Logan Campbell for more information at campbelllog@mst.edu or 573-341-4053.

KUMMER INSTITUTE UPDATES

The launch of the Kummer Institute for Student Success, Research and Economic Development enabled by **June** and **Fred Kummer**'s historic \$300 million gift is strengthening S&T's presence, both academically and structurally. Here are some updates.



■ **Steve Roberts** has been named vice chancellor of strategic initiatives and chief operating officer of the Kummer Institute for Student Success, Research and Economic Development. Roberts is the executive leader of the Kummer Institute and its resource alignment with S&T's strategic initiatives. He served as S&T's interim provost and executive vice chancellor for the last two years and from 2015 to 2019 was vice provost and dean of S&T's College of Arts, Sciences, and Business.

■ S&T is recruiting exceptional, visionary leaders for key positions:

- A vice provost and founding dean for the **Kummer College of Innovation and Entrepreneurship**.
- A distinguished professor and founding director for each of the four new research centers within the **Kummer Institute for Education and Research**: advanced and resilient infrastructure, resource sustainability, advanced manufacturing, and artificial intelligence and autonomous systems.

■ 21 fellowships have been awarded from 450 applicants to the Kummer Innovation and Entrepreneurship Doctoral Fellows Program. The recipients will start in August 2021.

■ 504 undergraduate first-year STEM students from 566 awardees of the Kummer Vanguard Scholars Program have expressed their intent to enroll for Fall 2021.

■ Construction is scheduled to begin this fall for a 53,000-square-foot collaborative innovation lab located near the Arrival District, which will offer students programs and technologies to explore how their innovations will affect real-world challenges.



SOCIALLY DISTANCED ST. PAT'S CELEBRATION A SUCCESS

The 113th annual Best Ever St. Pat's celebration followed COVID-19 safety requirements, but that didn't stop the fun and games or the spirit of revelry that has continued since the first celebration in 1908.

S&T students carried on with traditional events this year, such as the Snake Invasion, St. Pat's Follies and an online coronation of the Honorary Knights. At a "reverse parade" on Saturday, March 13, community members drove through Rolla Lions Club Park to see floats, displays and groups representing their affiliations.



OGS HONORARY KNIGHTS

The Honorary Knights of St. Patrick, a group composed of influential alumni, state and local dignitaries, and S&T faculty and staff, are the greatest patrons and allies of the St. Pat's Celebration. This year, three of the eight Honorary Knights selected by the St. Pat's Board were OGS members:

Mo Dehghani joined Missouri S&T as chancellor in 2019 from the Stevens Institute of Technology, where he was vice provost for research, innovation and entrepreneurship. Prior to this, he served Johns Hopkins University as a professor of mechanical engineering, associate director for engineering at the Applied Physics Laboratory and founding director of the Johns Hopkins University Systems Institute. He has also served as the New Technologies Division leader at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Dehghani and his wife, **Mina Saffari Dehghani**, Pharm.D., joined OGS in 2019.

Helene Hardy Pierce, EMgt'83, is vice president of technical services, codes and industry relations at GAF Materials Corp. and has been active in the roofing industry for more than 40 years. She is a member of the Missouri S&T Board of Trustees and a past president of S&T's Academy of Engineering Management and the Miner Alumni Association. She and her husband, **Riley Pierce**, became OGS members in 2008.

Sandy Simmons-Gamble retired as fiscal assistant in the international affairs office at S&T and continues to work part time in the S&T facilities operations department as a maintenance accountant. Simmons-Gamble and her award-winning Borzoi dogs, which she has bred and shown for almost 40 years, have made several appearances in the St. Pat's and Celebration of Nations parades. She is also an American Kennel Club conformation and coursing judge. Simmons-Gamble and her husband, **Richard Gamble**, have been OGS members since 2013.

RANKINGS ON THE RISE

For the first time since Missouri S&T began offering business degrees 20 years ago, the university has made *U.S. News & World Report's* annual list of "Best Business Schools" for its full-time master of business administration (MBA) program.

For 2022, *U.S. News* ranked S&T's full-time MBA program 101st in the nation and 54th among public universities.

"Our highly successful MBA program has helped lay the groundwork for

Missouri S&T to become a major center for entrepreneurship and innovation in Missouri, which is further supported by the addition of the Kummer College," says Chancellor **Mo Dehghani**.

Once again, S&T is one of the nation's top-ranked institutions for graduate engineering degrees with specific programs on the rise. *U.S. News* ranked S&T No. 50 among public universities and No. 84 overall for graduate engineering degrees for 2022. S&T's programs that rose in national rankings from last year include aerospace, chemical, electrical, mechanical and environmental engineering.

Earlier this year, *U.S. News* ranked S&T's 14 online graduate engineering programs 14th among the nation's best public online programs and 18th overall.



A passion for architecture inspires a lifelong design-build partnership

June Kummer remembers her first job interview after earning her architecture degree in the early 1950s.

"We've never had a woman architect here before," said the engineer conducting the interview. "I suppose it shouldn't make any difference," she replied.

June got the job offer but her hurdles weren't over.

"I was offered \$50 less a month than a friend of mine who interviewed with the same firm," she says. "I asked to be paid what he was."

June joined William Ittner Architects in St. Louis at the same salary as her friend. Soon after, she met a young engineering student from the Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy, **Fred Kummer**, CE'55, who was also working at the firm.

"He started two weeks before me," says June. "We didn't date right away but we eventually did get married."

“My grandmother was a gardener, and I’m a gardener.”

June remembers the high school drafting class that sparked her passion for design.

“I went to a technical high school,” says the St. Louis native. “When they gave me a straight edge and a triangle, I knew I had arrived.”

As one of three women in the architecture program at Washington University in St. Louis, June sums up the experience in a sentence.

“The men didn’t greet us with open arms.”

She describes her partnership with Fred in a different way.

“We’ve always worked together. We’re a good team. I learned a lot about engineering from Fred, and he learned a lot about design from me.”

The Kummers married in 1954, and Fred completed his civil engineering degree the following year. In 1960, they founded a construction company with less than \$17,000 in assets. Today, HBE Corp. is the world’s leading design-build firm for health care.

While June continued to advise Fred on design as he grew the company, she focused on raising their three children. She also became an avid gardener and leader in garden design, development and philanthropy.

“My grandmother was a gardener, and I’m a gardener,” she says. After many years of board leadership positions for the Missouri Botanical Garden, National Garden Clubs and Federated Garden Clubs of

Missouri, she still describes the deep joy of gardening as solitary.

“You’re all by yourself and no one argues with you,” she says. “It’s just you and the flowers. If you take care of them and love them, they will love you back.”

When June was installed as president of the Federated Garden Clubs of Missouri, she received a gift she describes as one of her greatest honors: the June Kummer Daylily.

“The bloom is a beautiful peach pink color,” she says. “I couldn’t be more honored than to have a flower hybridized and named for me.”

June Kummer Daylilies can be found in the Fred and June Kummer Garden

at Hasselmann Alumni House, and they will be planted in the gardens of the university’s planned Arrival District, a new main entrance connecting the campus to I-44 through a series of infrastructure and landscaping transformations.

While treasuring her namesake flower, June finds it impossible to have a favorite: “That would be like saying you love one child more than another.” The many windows of her St. Louis home overlook gardens she designed, planted and nurtured until the physical labor became too much.

I can’t garden anymore,” she says. “I can’t get down on my hands and knees. Some things you just have to stop at 90.”



Sarah Burns - Scotland Art (sarahburnsstudio.com)



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SAVE THE DATE

OGS WEEKEND IN ROLLA

June 3–4, 2022

Missouri S&T and OGS
are stronger than ever,
and we look forward to
celebrating with you!

We can't wait to see all of
you in person, both new
and established members.

Please watch for an invitation with more details.

Questions? Contact Sarah Jones at
jonessarah@mst.edu or 573-341-6359.