

# IMPACT

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

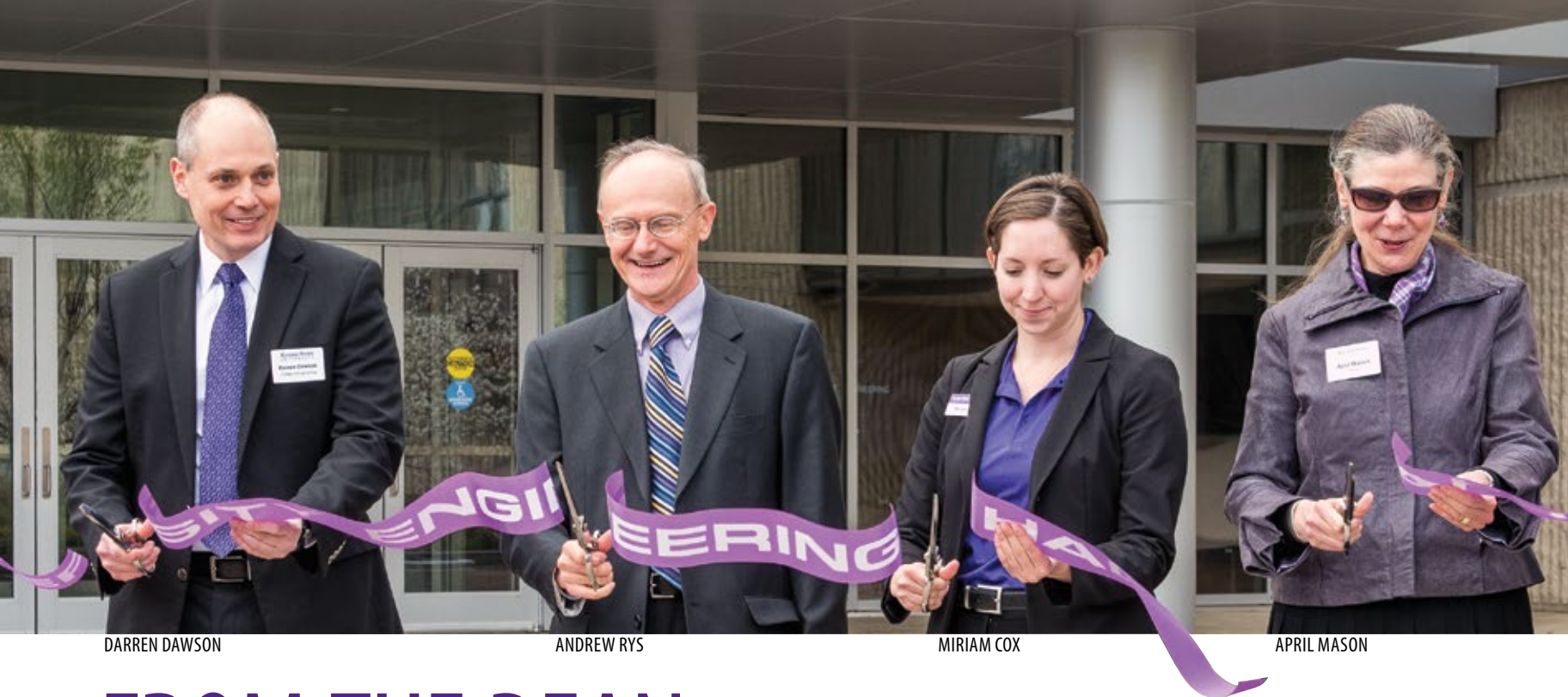
SPRING 2016

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING



**ENGINEERING HALL  
RIBBON-CUTTING  
RECEPTION**

**KANSAS STATE**  
UNIVERSITY



DARREN DAWSON

ANDREW RYS

MIRIAM COX

APRIL MASON

## FROM THE DEAN

Friday, April 1, 2016 — ribbon-cutting ceremonies for the official opening of Engineering Hall.

Sharing the podium were Provost April Mason, Professor Andrew Rys from electrical and computer engineering, computer science student Miriam Cox and myself.

Professor Rys called it a “showpiece for our college and the university...an atmosphere of space and light and possibility.”

If you’ve seen the new building — and if not, I hope it’s on your agenda for your next campus visit — it would be hard to disagree with his descriptions. Not only the physical structure, but the new programs we’ve launched — the Academic Success Center, the Engineering Leadership and Innovation Program, and the Faculty Development Initiative — will all contribute to our ambitious goal of becoming a top 50 public College of Engineering.

Ms. Cox said this “incredible addition” will “inspire students ... to succeed and reminds us that at K-State, we engineers stand together.”

She’s right, as well. Collaborative research efforts will be strengthened through ease of accessibility across departments, student creative inquiry projects will be buoyed by the remarkable student design team space, and the improved tutoring and study places will make learning more accessible and supported than ever before.

Provost Mason thanked “the Kansas Legislature who saw the need and seized the opportunity to support education,” as well as “the many generous donors who have assisted us with philanthropic gifts.”

Gratitude and thanks are always in order — from the foresight of the legislative University Engineering Initiative Act that set this accomplishment in motion, to the difficult-to-measure and deeply held appreciation we owe to the amazing support of you, our alumni and friends.

Provost Mason closed by saying, “What a wonderful day!” Indeed it was. Indeed it was.

*Darren Dawson*  
— Darren Dawson, dean

# IMPACT

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SPRING 2016

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LEADERSHIP



EXCELLENCE



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GUESTS, VISITORS AND FACULTY, STAFF AND STUDENTS ENJOY A RECEPTION IN THE FIRST-FLOOR ATRIUM OF ENGINEERING HALL FOLLOWING RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONIES ON THE OUTDOOR PLAZA, APRIL 1.

### LEFT

A STUDENT STOPS TO CHECK OUT THE LATEST INFORMATION ON THE INTERACTIVE, TOUCH-SCREEN VIDEO WALL OUTSIDE OF THE CARL AND MARY ICE RECEPTION CENTER IN ENGINEERING HALL.

### IMPACT

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# SUSTAINABILITY, TEAMWORK, LIFELONG LEARNING —

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING PROFESSOR

By Mary Rankin

Engineering is changing quickly. The problems are not the same as those solved 20 years ago. As the field and its challenges expand, work will need to be done in teams and as communities to meet the needs of an evolving world.

These are some of the basic beliefs guiding Stacey Kulesza, assistant professor of civil engineering, who early in her career at Kansas State University is making a mark through her research, approach to teaching and campus involvement.

"Through my research, I look at the integrity of our deteriorating infrastructure and how our soils are responding to the changing environment," Kulesza said. "Because I believe our environment is changing, I think we have to look at the big picture and consider sustainability — how to construct things differently and ensure we can continue to use what we already have."

With current KDOT-funded projects involving soil erosion and transportation infrastructure, Kulesza's research focus is nondestructive testing and monitoring of deteriorating infrastructure, soil erosion potential, near-surface geophysics, unknown bridge foundations, levee construction and evaluation, foundation engineering, and testing both on location and in the lab.

"Right now in this country, we have no knowledge of the foundation depth of nearly 60,000 of our bridges. Researchers have developed various nondestructive methods to get this information, but not knowing is a big problem when we monitor bridges for scour and soil erosion," she said.

"Annually we have levees breaching across the Midwest and flooding out communities. Across the state of Kansas, we have small drainage structures that are corroding and need to be replaced. With no money to rip our infrastructure out and

rebuild, we need to evaluate how they are performing and we have to sustain them."

In order to work with a broad and diverse research group, Kulesza likes to recruit undergraduates for her summer lab work from K-State's LSAMP — Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation, Women in Engineering and Undergraduate Research Experience programs.

Her teaching assignments involve undergraduate soil mechanics, where she uses in-class demonstrations and laboratory experiments to supplement geotechnical theory and fundamentals. She also teaches graduate courses in geotechnical engineering, including two design classes and one advanced testing class. She currently advises five graduate students and has graduated two in her three years at K-State.

"My main goal is to create students who will have an interest in lifelong learning, teamwork and critical thinking," Kulesza said. "I stress those three things in the classroom."

Joining the College of Engineering in 2013 following completion of her bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in civil engineering at Texas A&M University, she thought her students would expect her to teach in a serious manner — more like her image of "experienced" faculty.

"I was only a few years older than some of my students — and I tried to disguise that fact by not being myself in the classroom. I soon learned, if I was having fun, they were having fun, too. And a lot more learning took place," she said.

Chosen as one of the speakers in March for SPOTLIGHT K-State — a celebration of teaching and learning excellence — Kulesza shared her teaching philosophy and techniques with the audience — complete with two-minute Muppet music videos she uses as brief timeouts when covering the "tough stuff" in her classes, finding use of these humorous spots to be good for "refocusing."



"I want my students to feel they've been challenged, they've learned a lot and they've had fun when they complete my class."

— Stacey Kulesza

"I want my students to feel they've been challenged, they've learned a lot and they've had fun when they complete my class," she said.

With her own choice of getting into soils during her civil engineering studies, in part, guided by being "a 21-year-old who wanted to be tan and be outdoors," she found concentrating on soils made that happen by interning with companies that allowed her to collect soil samples from behind drilling rigs, run field tests and work in the lab. But her overall path to studying engineering was, perhaps, more intrinsically guided.

Eighty percent of her family are engineers. Her mother, grandfather and aunt are all civil engineers. Her father is

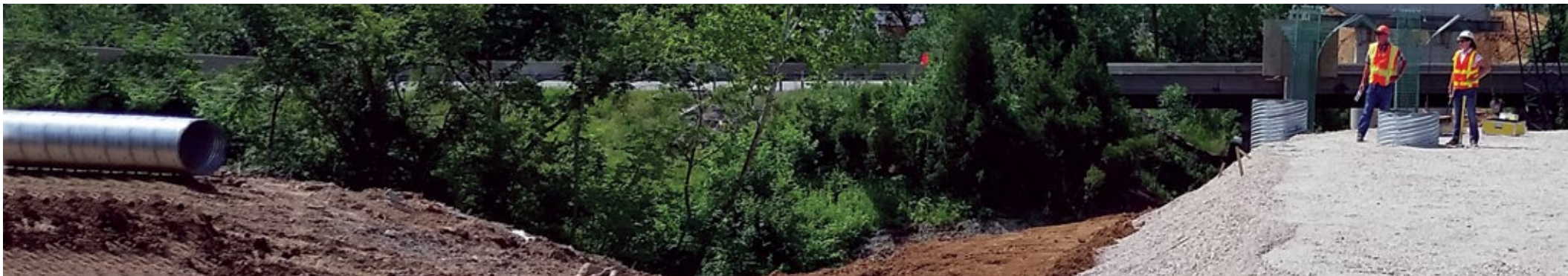
an architectural engineer and her sister an aeronautical engineer.

"When it was time to go to college, it was strongly encouraged, if I wanted to count on parental financial support, that I choose either engineering, law or medicine for my studies," she said.

In October 2014, she married civil engineer and fellow Texas A&M graduate, Michael Kulesza, who is employed at a local engineering firm in Manhattan.

Both from San Antonio, the couple has had to adjust from living in a large city to the quieter small town atmosphere.

"But our friends are envious of our short commute time to and from work," Kulesza said, "and that I even ride my bike to campus in nice weather."



LEFT, KULESZA, AT RIGHT, PREFORMS ON-SITE RESEARCH



# FACULTY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

## A NEW APPROACH TO DEVELOPING TOMORROW'S LEADERS

By Emily Dye



A great education begins with great educators. That is the philosophy behind the College of Engineering's Faculty Development Initiative, which supports outstanding faculty members through programs such as Cornerstone Teaching Scholars.

Many years after graduation, alumni often still remember the professors who helped enlighten, motivate and mentor them. That's one reason Darold Davis '70, and his wife, Debbie, decided to invest in Cornerstone Teaching Scholars.

"Our ultimate goal is that professors are able to utilize the funds to better teach the engineering students at K-State," Davis said. "This fund is directed toward sophomore- and junior-level professors because these

are both very key levels in trying to retain students in the engineering program."

Hani Melhem, professor of civil engineering, has been appointed the first Cornerstone Teaching Scholar.

"I love being around the students and believe that professors can have a very important role in forming their career, future and life," Melhem said. "A professor should be a role model to the students, not only in academic aspects, but also in aspects relating to humanity, character and behavior."

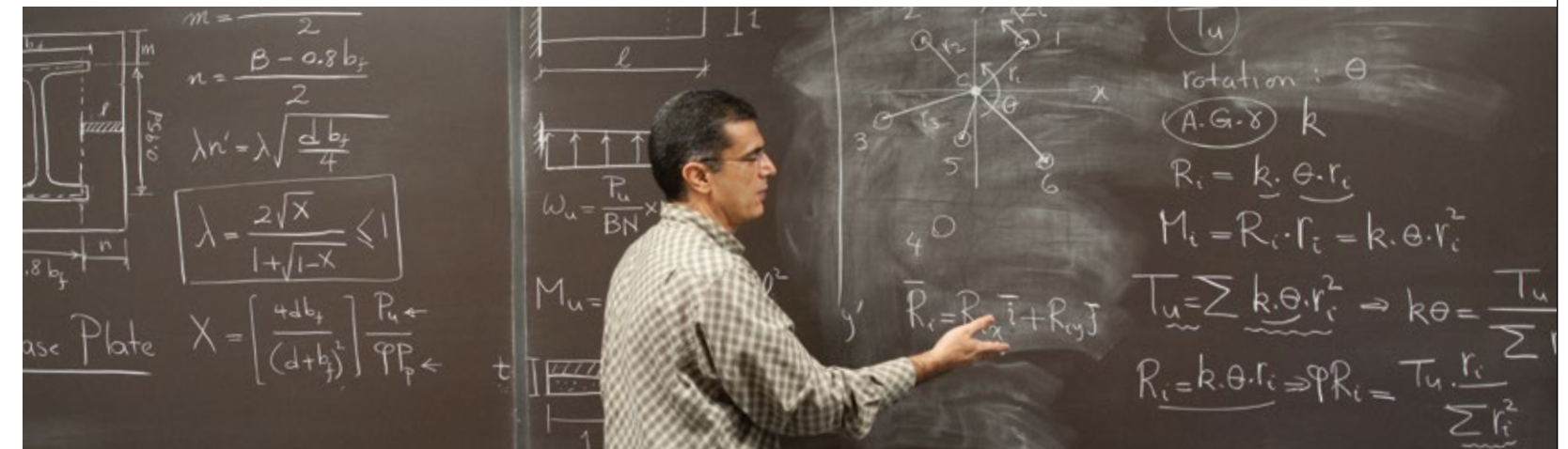
The Faculty Development Initiative takes a multi-faceted approach to developing tomorrow's teachers and leaders. It enlists faculty as mentors for student competition teams through the Creative Inquiry Mentor Program, rewards groundbreaking research discovery through the Keystone Research Scholars Program, and encourages the creation of endowed faculty chairs and professorships through private philanthropic gifts from alumni and friends.

"The initiative demonstrates that K-State, and the College of Engineering in particular, is eager to achieve and reward learning, education, scholarly activities, academic excellence and career preparation for students, in addition to research, outreach and service to the community," Melhem said.

To learn how you can invest in the Faculty Development Initiative, contact the engineering development office at 785-532-7609 or [engineering@found.ksu.edu](mailto:engineering@found.ksu.edu).



"The initiative demonstrates that K-State, and the College of Engineering in particular, is eager to achieve and reward learning, education, scholarly activities, academic excellence and career preparation for students ..."  
— Hani Melhem





# E-SEMINAR: INDUSTRY CAREERS AND GRADUATE DEGREES

The Office of Engineering and Graduate Research Programs, in conjunction with the Engineering Graduate Student Advisory Council, hosted a series of e-seminars during the spring semester featuring a panel of K-State engineering graduate student alumni now working in industry across the country.

Panelists, some from many states away, teleconferencing via Zoom, created an interactive experience for current engineering students gathered in the Engineering Hall auditorium.

The e-seminars served two purposes — giving graduate students an opportunity to ask questions about the transition from student to career life, as well as giving undergraduate students considering graduate school the opportunity to see that an engineering master’s or doctoral degree can lead to something other than academia.

“We strategically selected alumni with a wide range of professional backgrounds and experience to illustrate the spectrum of potential professional pursuits with an engineering graduate degree,” said Collin Wheeler, graduate student in architectural engineering and student advisory council member.

Fellow graduate council member, Matthew Young, doctoral student in chemical engineering, commented on guest alumni Bryce Huschka’s emphasis on the value of broad experience.

“Mr. Huschka emphasized the ability to approach problems from multiple angles

as the great advantage of having a diverse background,” Young said. “His work for his master’s degree in industrial engineering involved high-level mathematics and improving calculation procedures, but his career has been spent in business management and customer relations.”

Seminars were held three consecutive months, each time featuring three alumni: February — Amy Bartak, electrical engineering 2014, Burns & McDonnell; Kathryn Davis, industrial engineering 2010, Walmart; and Jeff Hancock, civil engineering 2000, SMH Consultants; March — Amit Gupta, computer science 2001, Microsoft Corp.; Mark Hopkins, electrical engineering

2009, Tradewind Energy; and Bryce Huschka, industrial engineering 2007, ExxonMobil; April — Sarah Appleton, architectural engineering 2005, Wallace Engineering; Henry Bonifacio, biological and agricultural engineering 2013, USDA-ARS; and Lou Von Thayer, electrical engineering 1983, DynCorp.

“We truly appreciate the alumni who shared their time and expertise with our graduate and undergraduate students,” said Noel Schulz, associate dean for research and graduate student programs. “All questions were well received by the panel and I believe attendees left with a better understanding of graduate-level opportunities in the work force.”



# MUNSON FIRST GUEST LECTURER IN NEW ENGINEERING HALL AUDITORIUM

## EYESTONE LECTURE SERIES

Michelle Munson, chief executive officer for Aspera Inc., Berkeley, California, presented the inaugural guest lecture March 3 in the new Engineering Hall auditorium — a part of the College of Engineering Eyestone Lecture Series.

Formerly of Junction City, Munson is a 1996 graduate of K-State in electrical engineering and physics, where she was a Goldwater Scholar for achievement in science and mathematics. She was later a Fulbright Scholar at Cambridge University, receiving a postgraduate diploma in computer science.

Co-inventor of Aspera’s *fast*™ transport technology and responsible for overseeing the company’s direction in collaboration with co-founder Serban Simu, Munson had been a software engineer in research and start-up companies, including the IBM Almaden Research center, before founding Aspera in 2004.

Her lecture highlighted how engineering brings fundamental solutions to scientific and societal “big problems,” focusing on the example of the birth and growth of Aspera’s high-speed transport platform.

Read more about Munson and the Eyestone Lecture Series at [k-state.edu/media/newsreleases/feb16/eyestone21916.html](http://k-state.edu/media/newsreleases/feb16/eyestone21916.html).





# INVESTING IN EXCELLENCE

By Hayli Morrison



SCOTT AND KAREN LOVE



Invest in student success and join Innovation and Inspiration: The Campaign for Kansas State University. Call 785-532-7609, email [engineering@found.ksu.edu](mailto:engineering@found.ksu.edu) or log on to [inspire.k-state.edu](http://inspire.k-state.edu) to learn more.

## CHEMICAL ENGINEERING GRADUATE 'PAYS IT BACK AND PAYS IT FORWARD' AT K-STATE

A fax machine revolutionized Scott Love's philanthropic partnership with the College of Engineering.

In the midst of his 34-year career with Phillips Petroleum and ConocoPhillips, he met for dinner with his longtime friend, Stevin Gehrke '80, who was then head of the department of chemical engineering.

"Steve made a comment about not being able to afford a fax machine," said Love, a 1980 chemical engineering graduate. "I mentioned that I had given more than enough to a fund for the department that year, and he indicated that fund was restricted for a designated purpose and there was no flexibility."

Intrigued, Love explored the idea further and learned he could direct his donations to the general fund for his department, college or anywhere else he wanted it to go at K-State.

"That was a revelation to me — I didn't understand that before," he said. "I realized the importance of money that the department heads can use at their discretion."

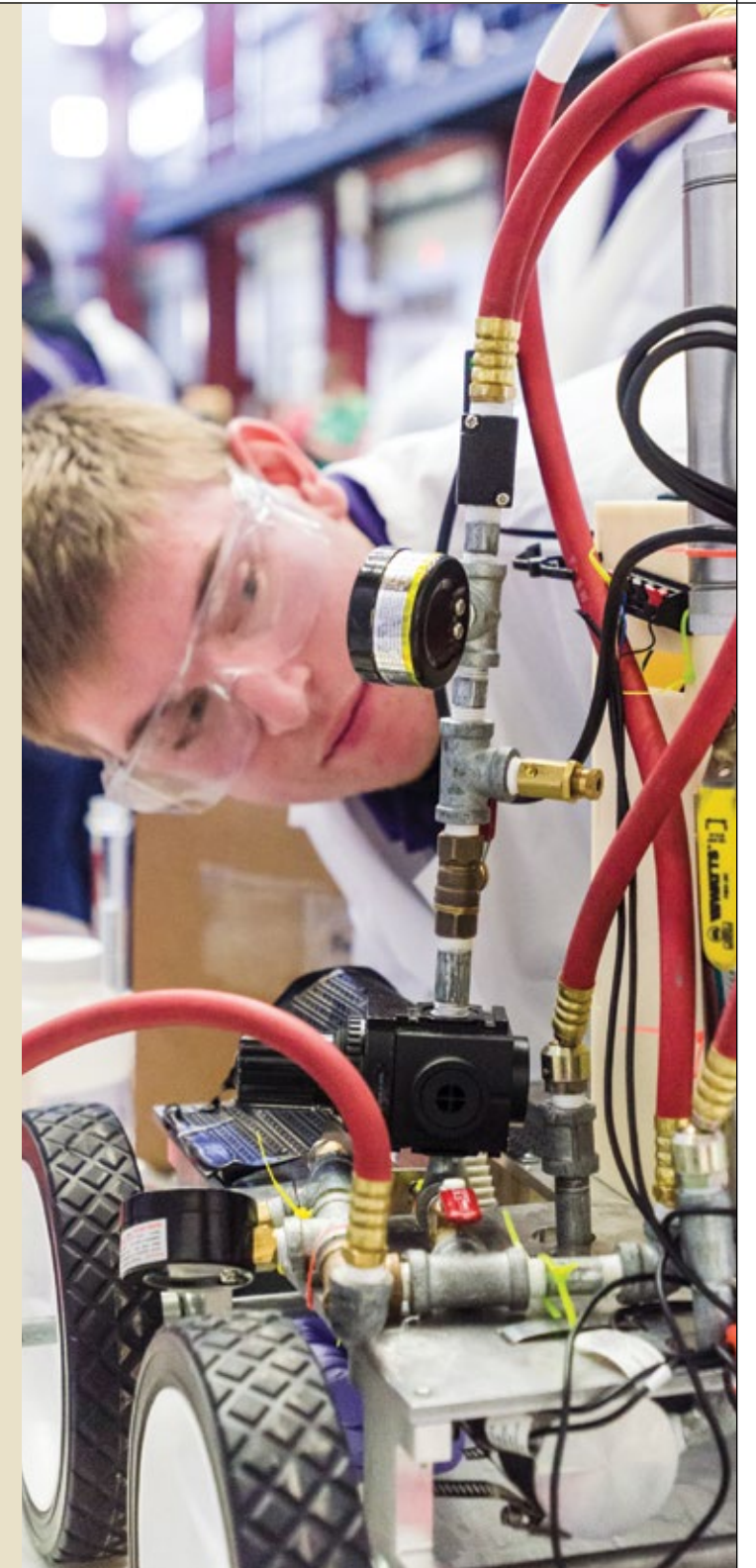
Since that day, Scott and his wife, Karen, made gifts each year to support the Chemical Engineering Excellence Fund, empowering the department with flexibility to take advantage of opportunities as they emerge. They also leveraged a matching gift benefit from Scott's employer to help their generosity go even further.

Their most recent commitment came in the form of a more substantial bequest gift planned in their wills to benefit the department's excellence fund after their lifetime. Gifts like these drive momentum for the \$1 billion Innovation and Inspiration Campaign currently underway to advance K-State's 2025 strategic vision.

Scott Love said he wanted to "pay it back and pay it forward" at K-State, the launch pad for his long and storied career, which has included service on the American Institute of Chemical Engineers Board of Directors and 14 United States patents through his employers.

"Our department depends on flexible funding to respond to opportunities or needs as they're presented," said James Edgar, professor and head of the department of chemical engineering. "When people like Scott and Karen Love recognize the value of investing in that flexibility, it elevates our entire program."

Generous supporters like the Loves help drive momentum for Innovation and Inspiration, the \$1 billion campaign to advance the strategic plans for K-State and the College of Engineering. To learn how you can invest in the College of Engineering and the campaign for K-State, please contact the engineering development office at 785-532-7609 or [engineering@found.ksu.edu](mailto:engineering@found.ksu.edu).





# RANDY COONROD: CONTINUING THE HERITAGE

By Mary Rankin



**R**andy Coonrod, 2016 College of Engineering Alumni Fellow, is CEO and president of Coonrod & Associates Construction Co. Inc., Wichita, Kansas.

While being his own boss has its benefits, Coonrod said maintaining his family's tradition in the construction business is key.

"Most important to me," he said, "is the continuation of the heritage here from my grandfather, to my father, to me. That is tremendously rewarding."

Coonrod & Walz Construction Co. Inc. evolved from the Clarence E. Vollmer Construction Company, a business begun in the Wichita area in 1921. Coonrod's grandfather, Carl C. Coonrod, went to work for Clarence Vollmer during the Depression and eventually became a job superintendent for the company.

"After WWII, my father, Carl M. Coonrod, graduated from Kansas State University in architectural engineering on the GI bill. Clarence asked him to be an owner with his son, George Vollmer, and my father's friend, Doyle Walz," Coonrod said.

The three incorporated in 1954 as Coonrod, Walz and Vollmer Construction Company. Later George sold his portion, going on to pursue other interests. For 30 years, Coonrod & Walz Construction Co. Inc. performed work across Kansas, becoming well known for building education facilities, including many buildings at K-State as well as on every state college campus in Kansas.

"I went to work for my father in 1974 after graduating in civil engineering and receiving my ROTC Commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army," Coonrod said. "In 1984, Coonrod & Walz was dissolved and I started a new business — Coonrod & Associates Construction Co. Inc. — with two partners, Ray Penner and Scot Wolfington, fellow K-State graduates."

Coonrod and his wife, Jacquie, have three daughters, all K-State graduates, and all married to K-State graduates — Niki and Justin Parks, Laurie and Robert Cassidy, and Morgan and Bryce Walter. Justin and Niki are involved in the family business.

"My engineering degree provided me with a discipline of how to solve problems," he said. "Having to work multiple jobs to pay for my college education taught me resolve and a determination to accomplish my goals."

Coonrod and his team, operating under the philosophy — "Make the world a better place to live, and treat people the same way you want to be treated" — have earned a reputation as one of the premier builders in the Midwest, always maintaining a high degree of honesty and integrity.

With that has also come a commitment to serve his community.

"We are on this earth for a very short time," he said, "and we need to make the most of that by giving back."

Coonrod currently serves on the Kansas State University Foundation Board of Trustees, is president of the Coonrod Family Foundation, and chairs both the Riverside Health Foundation and the Board of Code Standards and Appeals of Wichita and Sedgwick County.

His previous recognitions received from K-State include the ROTC Wall of Fame 2000, Engineering Hall of Fame 2002, Honorary Member of Chi Epsilon 2005, and Engineering Company of the Year and Leader of the Year 2008.

Based on high levels of professional accomplishment and distinguished service in their respective careers, 12 accomplished Kansas State University alumni were selected as 2016 Alumni Fellows. They addressed students and faculty on campus in classes and at receptions April 6 - 8. The program is sponsored by the K-State Alumni Association, the Office of the President and the Deans Council.

**"We are on this earth for a very short time and we need to make the most of that by giving back."**

**— Randy Coonrod**



# Seaton SOCIETY

## awards and banquet

APRIL 2, 2016

### HALL OF FAME

Induction to the Hall of Fame is the highest honor bestowed on its alumni by the college. Honorees are recognized for their professional success and accomplishment, involvement with and support of the College of Engineering, dedication to K-State, and professional and public service.

#### Class of 2016

**Fred Stiers**, CE '75, general manager, downstream projects, ConocoPhillips Company, retired  
*(left)*

**Glen Fountain**, EE '65 and '66, project manager, mission to Pluto, New Horizons



### PROFESSIONAL PROGRESS AWARD

Nominated by their respective department heads and confirmed by the dean, 11 alumni were honored for their professional career accomplishments during the first 20 years following their graduation.

#### 2016 Awardees

- Joel Andrews**, EE '97 and '99, team leader, aviation radar products, Garmin International
- Justin Baker**, CHE '96, process department head, ExxonMobil
- Rob Caffey**, CIS '97, director, office of mediated education, Kansas State University
- Jay Cavnar**, CE '96, program director, shore energy and utilities, Navy Civil Engineer Corps
- Ramin Cherifat**, CNSM '96, chief operating officer, McCownGordon Construction
- Noel Etzel**, NE '99 and '02, co-owner and executive vice president, Jetz Service Co.
- Michelle Munson**, EE '96, chief executive officer and co-founder, Aspera Inc.
- Toby Rush**, ME '98, chief executive officer and founder, EyeVerify
- Jeff Sawarynski**, ARE '96, managing principal, ME Engineers Inc.
- Michelle Soupir**, BAE '99, associate professor, agricultural and biosystems engineering, Iowa State University
- Brian Zerr**, IE '97, operational risk oversight head, American Express





ExxonMobil  
Computer Lab

1113

**KANSAS STATE**  
UNIVERSITY  
College of Engineering

## ExxonMobil

The ExxonMobil Computer Lab has been made possible by Kansas State University alumni employed by or retired from Exxon Mobil Corporation. Through the Educational Matching Gift Program of the ExxonMobil Foundation, employees and retirees are able to maximize their individual contributions to support higher education initiatives and programs that improve teaching and learning in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Over the last 125 years ExxonMobil, headquartered in Irving, Texas, has evolved from a regional marketer of kerosene in the U.S., to the largest publicly traded petroleum and petrochemical company in the world.

# ENGINEERING HALL GETS A BOOST FROM EXXONMOBIL EMPLOYEES

# EXPANDING POTENTIAL

By Hayli Morrison

A group of nine ExxonMobil employees recently took an innovative approach to supporting Kansas State University's new building expansion, Engineering Hall. As College of Engineering alumni, they pooled their resources and leveraged ExxonMobil's matching gift benefit for employees and retirees.

"The engineering degree and experience at K-State opened the door for me to join the fascinating world of the international oil and gas industry," said Steve Kirchoff, MNE '79, who originally thought of the gift concept.

"I have had the chance to work and live in locations around the world, meeting people at every new turn. None of that would have been possible without the great launch from K-State," said Kirchoff, vice president at ExxonMobil Upstream Ventures.

With their cumulative gifts, the employees named the ExxonMobil Computer Lab on Engineering Hall's first floor.

"I hope the computer lab helps develop talented young adults to become good citizens of the world," said Wayne Harms, CHE '76, retired vice president of ExxonMobil Upstream Ventures.

Engineering Hall, a 108,000-square-foot addition to the Durland-Rathbone-Fiedler engineering complex, was designed to facilitate collaborative learning and help develop strong industry leaders. For more information on remaining naming opportunities within Engineering Hall, please visit [engg.ksu.edu/engineering-hall](http://engg.ksu.edu/engineering-hall) or email [engineering@found.ksu.edu](mailto:engineering@found.ksu.edu).

"I hope the computer lab helps develop talented young adults to become good citizens of the world."

— Wayne Harms



WAYNE HARMS

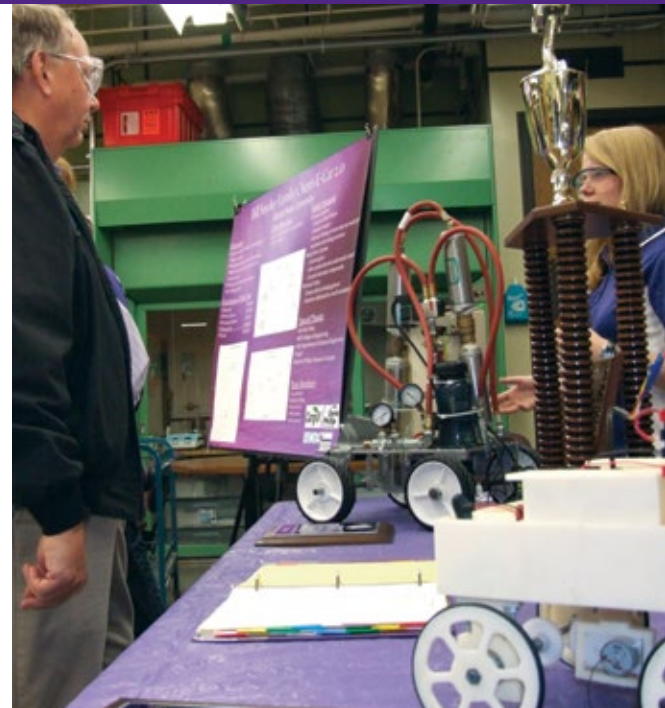
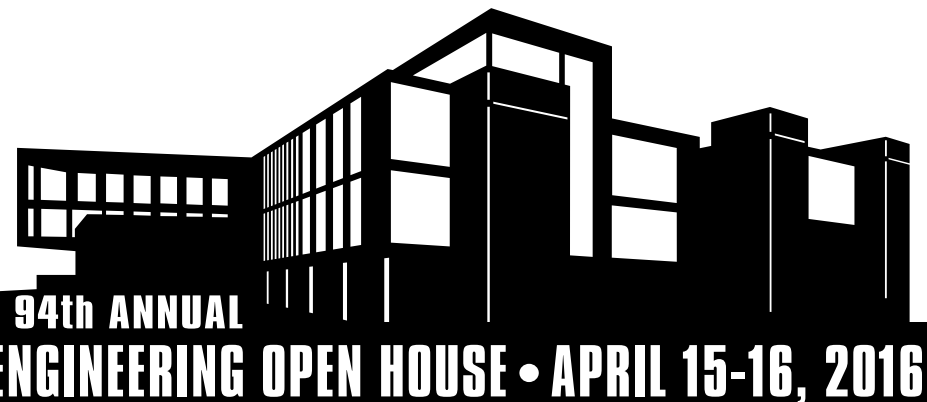


STEVE KIRCHHOFF



# K-STATE | COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

# PURPLE TODAY — for a — GREEN TOMORROW



ST. PATRICK AND ST. PATRICIA

### LEADERSHIP BANQUET AWARDS

- David and Virginia Braun Innovation Award — Sam Rozell, ECE
- W. Leroy Culbertson/Steel Ring Leadership Scholarships — Alonso Talamantes and Gaby Lobo, both IMSE
- Clair Mauch/Steel Ring Advisor of the Year — Professor Malgorzata Rys, IMSE

### ST. PATRICK AND ST. PATRICIA

- St. Patrick — David Schall, ECE
- St. Patricia — Emily Garrison, ARE

### 2016 OPEN HOUSE AWARDS

- Yellow Brick — IMSE
- Outstanding department — IMSE
- Technical display — BAE
- Curriculum display — ARE/CNS
- Limited-class display — IMSE
- Freshman/sophomore display — CS
- Graduate display — BAE
- Children's display — IMSE





## RECOGNITIONS

1966

Kumar Krishen (EE, M.S. '69), Houston, Texas, completed 40 years with NASA in February 2016. His research and engineering efforts there have involved experiments on Skylab, Seasat satellite and space shuttle missions, resulting in more than 170 technical papers, presentations and reports. He has delivered more than 500 presentations around the world, and was appointed by both then Texas Governors Bush and Perry to serve on the Texas Board of Licensure for Professional Medical Physicists.

1975

Richard Beier (ME, M.S. '76), Stillwater, Oklahoma, is a recipient of the Regents Distinguished Teaching Award for the College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology at Oklahoma State University where he is a professor of mechanical engineering.

1990

Ray Dempsey Jr. (IE), Vienna, Virginia, has been named one of the Top 100 Most Influential Blacks in Corporate America for 2016 by Savoy Magazine. He is vice president and head of external affairs for BP America, and the president of the BP Foundation.

1991

Simeon O. Terry (IE), Dallas, Texas, received the Airport Minority Advisory Council 2015 Hall of Fame Award. He is the vice president of diversity affairs for Austin Industries, Inc.

1995

Jeremy Busby (NE), Oak Ridge, Tennessee, has been selected as the division director for the materials science and technology division in the Physical Sciences Directorate at Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

1998

Jason Gordon (CNSM), Parker, Colorado, was installed as president of the Ceilings and Interior Systems Construction Association at the group's 2015 national convention in Long Beach, California. He formed Heartland Acoustics & Interiors, headquartered in Denver with a branch office in San Diego, after graduating from K-State, and is currently the president/CEO.

2004

Rayme Collins (IMSE), Manhattan, Kansas, has joined Siemens Wind Power Industrial as a manufacturing engineer in new product introduction and technology transfer for wind power technology.

2010

Nicole Vogt (ARE), Dallas, Texas, is a pilot on the U.S. National Bobsled Team, with a goal of competing in the 2018 Olympic Winter Games in Pyeongchang, South Korea. While at K-State she was a member of the Big 12 Championship rowing team. Vogt is employed as an engineer with AOS Engineering in Dallas.

## DEATHS

1947

Ray A. Adee (ME), Newton, Kansas, died Dec. 25, 2015. He had been a chief engineer for Krause Plow, Hutchinson, Kansas, and vice president of engineering for the Hesston Corporation, holding more than 40 patents. Adee served on the College of Engineering advisory council, was a member of its Hall of Fame, was a Distinguished Service Award recipient, as well as a founding member of the Seaton Society. He is survived by his wife of 69 years, Barbara, and one son, Ronald.

1959

Joseph L. Downey (CHE), Manhattan, Kansas, died April 14, 2016. Upon completion of his military service following college, he went to work for The Dow Chemical Company, Midland, Michigan, and spent his entire career with Dow, retiring in 1999 in a senior leadership position. He then returned to his ranching

heritage, starting Downey Ranch Inc. in the Flint Hills. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Sherry, four children — Laura, Barb, Charles and John, and six grandchildren.

1963

R. Steve Harper (ME), Richardson, Texas, died Sept. 26, 2014. He had retired from GE/Verizon in 2001, and is survived by his wife, Jolene, and three daughters.

1969

Joseph H. McCleskey, (NE), Honokaa, Hawaii, died July 17, 2014. He was a project manager for PICHTR at the open-cycle ocean thermal energy conversion facility in Kailua-Kona, owner and operator of Misty Acres coffee farm, and a Navy veteran. McCleskey had been the reactor operator at K-State's Triga Mark II during the late 1960s and early 1970s. He is survived by wife, Sandy.

1975

Van E. Pooler (CHE), El Dorado, Kansas, died May 16, 2015. He was employed for 23 years at the El Dorado Refinery working for Getty, Texaco, Equilon and Frontier over the years, first as a process engineer, then instrument engineer and later an environmental engineer. Moving to Houston, Texas, he worked as an environmental coordinator with Texaco Power and Gasification, finishing his career with Trihydo Corporation. He is survived by his wife, Sharon.

## Faculty

Wellington W. Koepsel, Austin, Texas, died Dec. 15, 2015. He was a retired electrical engineering professor and served as head of the electrical engineering department at Kansas State University from 1964 to 1982, finishing his teaching career at Prairie View A&M University. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy; daughters, Kirsten and Gretchen; and son, Lief.



1987

Larry V. Satzler (IE, M.S. '89), Manhattan, Kansas, died suddenly Dec. 5, 2015. He was the assistant dean for student services in the College of Engineering.

Satzler worked in industry as a project and environmental engineer at Johns Manville in McPherson from 1989 - 1992 before returning to K-State to work on his Ph.D. He served as an instructor in the College of Business Administration for 11 years where he taught operations management and project management.

He became assistant dean for student services in the College of Engineering in 2007. He was faculty advisor for Tau Beta Pi engineering honorary and served on several campus committees. His passion was helping students successfully navigate their K-State engineering academics from new student orientation through graduation. He loved serving and interacting personally with students, faculty and staff daily.

Satzler held several K-State awards including the unclassified award in the team building, group activity and service category in 2014, the Presidential Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in 2003, and The Ralph Reitz Award for Outstanding Contributions in Teaching in the College of Business in 2001.

He was also co-owner and business manager of Envisage Consulting, Inc., Manhattan, Kansas, a management and technical consulting firm he shared with his wife, Connie (IE '91, M.S. '99).

In addition to Connie, he is survived by their three children, Julia, Josiah and Stacia.

We are interested in following the career paths and accomplishments of our alumni, focusing on promotions, advancements, awards and honors, job changes and of course, retirements, as well as death notices. Please send your information in these categories to —

**Impact Editor** College of Engineering, 1058 Rathbone Hall, 1701B Platt St., Manhattan, KS 66506  
email: [impact@eng.ksu.edu](mailto:impact@eng.ksu.edu)

### MYERS NAMED INTERIM UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

The Kansas Board of Regents appointed Richard B. Myers, ME '65, as interim president at Kansas State University. He will hold the position during a nationwide search for a new university president to replace Kirk Schulz who left Kansas State in May to become president at Washington State University.

Retired U.S. Air Force General Myers served as the 15th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from 2001 to 2005. As the nation's highest ranking military officer, he served as the principal military advisor to the President, the Secretary of Defense and the National Security Council. Myers joined the Air Force in 1965 through the ROTC program at Kansas State University, after which he entered pilot training at Vance Air Force Base.

He holds a part-time appointment at K-State as a Foundation professor of military history and leadership, is chairman of the KSU Foundation's Board of Trustees, an ex officio member of the KSU Foundation Board of Directors, and he and his wife serve as co-chairs of the foundation's Innovation & Inspiration campaign.



### ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT STAFF ADDS NEW MEMBER

Amy Kreidler joined the College of Engineering team in January as the assistant director of development. An Emporia State University alumna, she earned her Master of Arts degree in American history and political science in 1999.

Prior to joining the KSU Foundation, Kreidler was employed at the National Archives and Records Administration in Kansas City, then transferred to Washington, D.C., in 2000. In 2002, she joined Lockheed Martin as a business development manager working on programs such as the Joint Strike Fighter and the Littoral Combat Ship, Navy and Marine Corps programs of record.

Originally from Kansas, Amy has moved back to the state and now resides in Manhattan.



### COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING NAMES ASSISTANT DEAN FOR STUDENT SERVICES

Andy Fund, academic adviser, instructor and research assistant for the department of electrical and computer engineering at Kansas State University, became assistant dean for student services in the College of Engineering effective May 1.

Fund joined the department in 2010 following a career as a design engineer with Garmin International, Olathe, Kansas. He holds both a bachelor's and master's degree in electrical engineering from K-State, 2005 and 2015, respectively.

"Along with a deep passion to work with and help students, Andy brings a great mix of academic and industrial experience to this position," said Gary Clark, senior associate dean for the College of Engineering.

Fund replaces former assistant dean for student services, Larry Satzler, who passed away unexpectedly in December 2015.



### 2016 CAREER FAIR



REPRESENTATIVES FROM MORE THAN 150 BUSINESSES, AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS WERE ON CAMPUS FOR THE ANNUAL ENGINEERING CAREER FAIR, FEB. 9 - 10. THE EVENT IS HOSTED BY K-STATE CAREER AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES AND THE COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING.


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ACROSS THE ENGINEERING PLAZA TOWARD SEATON HALL.