Get your hands on a great career! See job placement statistics p35
Another year, and another record-setting commencement at Ranken! This year’s graduation event launched the careers of close to one thousand men and women, and those graduates will be entering a job market that is desperately in need of the skills they bring.

Hiring is still strong in the technical industries, and our graduates had between three and ten job opportunities per student, depending on their program of study. Our campus job fairs continue to grow this year, with more companies travelling further to access the huge talent pool at the College.

In this issue of the newsletter we focus on the ever-expanding IT industry. The College graduated 95 students this semester with IT degrees and certificates, and for every graduate in the field we had between 3.5 to 6 job opportunities, depending on their area of specialization. Those graduates have not only been trained in the latest innovations in their fields, but they’ve also been trained from the outset to continue to teach themselves. Information Technology, perhaps more than any other field, requires that its workers always be learning and adapting to changing industry needs.

In this issue you will read highlights of some of our industry partners, including Netelligent, who is headquartered in Chesterfield, Mo. You will also read about current Ranken IT students, and successful graduates in the field.

In other Ranken news, both of our locations, St. Louis and Wentzville, continue to expand. As you receive this newsletter work should be finishing up on our new Diesel Technology center at Ranken Wentzville, and on the Rodenheiser Automotive expansion at the St. Louis campus. These construction projects show Ranken’s commitment to quality future growth in all our programs, and will allow us to serve even more students, giving them access to the very latest technology and equipment in their fields.

Finally, just as we were going to press, we were able to announce a $5 million donation from the Taylor Family Foundation, which will help to fund scholarships, equipment and STEM training at the College. Read more about that on the next page.

This is an exciting time at the College, and as our economic and technological environment continues to change, the College will continue to change and adapt as well, always focusing on our mission to prepare our graduates for employment and advancement in technical fields.


Ranken Receives $5 Million to Promote Technical Education

Taylor Family Donation will Fund STEM Training, Scholarships

Ranken Technical College will receive a $5 million donation from the Taylor family, owners and operators of the Enterprise Rent-A-Car, National Car Rental and Alamo Rent A Car brands. The money will fund scholarships, STEM outreach activities for young people, and automotive equipment at Ranken’s locations in St. Louis and Wentzville.

“Tech and blue collar jobs are the backbone of the city, and the future of our economy. The Taylor family has long understood that you need a strong base of technical expertise to keep any major operation running smoothly.”

Ranken President Stan Shoun said of the donation “The Taylor family has long been ahead of the curve in recognizing the importance of technical education to the continued growth of the St. Louis economy. Tech and blue collar jobs are the backbone of the city, and the future of our economy. The Taylor family has long understood that you need a strong base of technical expertise to keep any major operation running smoothly.”

The bulk of the donation will help low-income students afford tuition at the private, non-profit college. The donation will also fund STEM activities such as Ranken’s successful Summer Adventure Academies, which introduce middle and high school students to the opportunities available in technical and hands-on careers. Ranken will also purchase new training equipment for its automotive programs, including the brand new Diesel Technology Center in Wentzville, Mo., which will open this fall.

“This investment is in our youth, and our family believes that education is critically important to the future of St. Louis.”

“This donation is a cornerstone in our long-term plan to expand our offerings and bring the Ranken experience to as many students as possible,” continued Shoun. “St. Louis doesn’t have a problem creating jobs, it has a problem training students to fill those jobs. With the education we can provide, Ranken will prepare St. Louis area students for the high-tech careers of the future, and help build a strong, skills-based workforce.”

“Our family is thrilled to support Ranken in its mission to prepare students for a successful future,” said Jo Ann Taylor Kindle, president of the Enterprise Holdings Foundation. “This investment is in our youth, and our family believes that education is critically important to the future of St. Louis.”
Ranken Participates in Wentzville School District STEM Nights

On January 27, Ranken Wentzville hosted a hands-on demonstration table at the first Wentzville School District STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Night held at Wentzville Middle School.

“The purpose of the event was to expose Wentzville middle and elementary school students to high school STEM courses and STEM careers through hands-on experiments and demonstrations,” said Ranken Wentzville Site Director Jeremy Sutton. “The event was well attended and several visitors gravitated to Ranken’s table.”

Information Technology Division Chair Charles Corrigan taught these students how to install components into a PC tower. Automotive Maintenance Instructor Kyle Lympus also taught attendees how to use a ratchet and torque wrench to remove and install spark plugs on a cylinder head from an engine mounted to a table-top stand. The Wentzville Automotive Maintenance department also added a portable brake system and an inverter from a Toyota Prius to the display.

Did You Know We Offer an Accelerated Bachelor’s Degree Program?

Get Your Bachelor’s Degree In Only THREE Years!
Ranken’s Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Applied Management degree is geared toward technical students who wish to advance rapidly in their careers.

This program offers a unique educational blend, designed to transform highly-skilled technicians into successful managers. Students begin their two year technical program and as they complete their general education classes, they can start taking management courses immediately. This enables students to complete both their associate and bachelor’s degrees in three short years. Students can also receive credits for prior work experience by transferring approved credits and/or testing out of certain courses.

For more information about this program, contact the Admissions office at (314) 371-0236 or email BSAM@ranken.edu.

Emerson Trains Students on New Equipment

Students learn New Comfort Guard System

Comfort Guard, an active WiFi monitoring system for Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (HVACR) systems, is a recent addition to Emerson’s product line.

For more than two years, HVACR Department Chair Chris Brueggeman has been working with Emerson’s White-Rodgers division, which offers heating and cooling controls, on the training, installation and marketing of this product.

Representatives from Emerson visited Ranken on Wednesday, January 21 to present the final version of the training and installation to Brueggeman’s class.

HVACR Department Chair Chris Brueggeman shows a student how to use the new Comfort Guard System.
Ranken SuperMileage Team Completes First Challenge
Since June, Ranken’s High School Coalition Team has been working with Electrical Systems Design Instructor Gary Candrl and bioMerieux Engineer Bill Salzman to create an aerodynamically designed racing vehicle.

On April 14, these seven students competed in their first attempt at the Missouri SuperMileage Challenge in Warrensburg, Mo. This is not a speed race, but a race to use ingenuity and technology to achieve the highest gas mileage using a student-driven vehicle. The team took third place overall in the stock gasoline division with an average of 148 mpg. The students also greeted other teams in the morning and helped them move their cars back on the track when they sped off. Due to this gracious and helpful behavior, Ranken’s team also received the award for Sportsmanship.

Candrl and Salzman began by teaching students the fundamentals of racing technology and by discussing ideas with the students during a two-week course last June, but allowed the students to make the final purchasing and design decisions during their Saturday meetings throughout the school year. Students were tasked with researching and putting a purchase plan together for all of the materials, creating an aerodynamic design and fabricating the vehicle with the help of Ranken’s welding, auto-motive and machine shops.

“It’s their project, we’re just overseeing it.”

“It’s their project, we’re just overseeing it,” said Candrl. “I believe the program has been a success with everything the students have been able to learn and take away from doing this competition.”

In order to commemorate this fantastic achievement, students from the team and their parents were invited to attend the first ever Ranken Awards Banquet Ceremony for Missouri SuperMileage on May 2 in the Mary Ann Lee Technology building. During the banquet, the team replayed video highlights from the event and members of the team received their third place and Sportsmanship Award plaques. These students will receive two college credit hours in Vehicle Design, Fabrication, and Testing with Ranken after they submit a final essay that reflects on their experience in the program. In June, Ranken began recruiting a team to compete in next year’s SuperMileage Challenge. A two-week introductory course began on June 15 and team meetings will occur throughout the year, leading up to the 2016 competition in April.
Ranken Hosts Career Planning Roundtable Discussion

On February 26, students from Ranken and St. Louis Public Schools joined a roundtable discussion with more than a dozen local business leaders, local media and public officials, including Director of the Office of Community Engagement and former State Senator Maida Coleman and St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay.

Missouri Governor Jay Nixon had planned to attend the event as well, but was prevented at the last minute by the tragic death of State Auditor Tom Schweich.

The group discussed career planning and preparedness and overcoming obstacles that prevent young people from pursuing a rewarding career. The roundtable was part of a planned press conference to announce the state’s summer jobs program for 2,000 youth in the St. Louis region. Local radio personality APlus of WHHL, Hot 104.1 also hosted a remote broadcast during the event.

Nearly two dozen St. Louis area businesses have already signed up to support the league and will be offering summer positions to youth in the area. The program will connect youth with businesses based on skill and interest as well as focus on providing emerging workers with experience into many of Missouri’s high-growth industries, including IT, Financial Services, Healthcare, Business, Bioscience, and Customer Service. Organizations like the St. Louis Community Credit Union, the St. Louis Regional Chamber and Ranken Technical College are offering a variety of summer positions that will expose league workers to STEM-enriched occupations and assignments including data tracking, hands-on technical training, and advanced manufacturing.
Ranken’s Job Fairs Continue to Grow

On March 5, Ranken hosted its largest job fair to date, with 352 representatives from 241 companies looking to hire current Ranken students and alumni to fill part-time, full-time and intern positions. This beats last semester’s count of 305 representatives from 213 companies, which was the largest job fair at that time. These job fairs allow students to speak with a wide variety of employers, exposing them to companies they may have not been aware of. In turn, employers are able to assess an applicant’s level of professionalism and sometimes hire on the spot.

Prior to the Spring Job Fair, Anheuser Busch and GAS Roofing visited Ranken to scout out some great applicants. Anheuser Busch, who is looking to hire several students, gave a presentation about the company to Electrical and Maintenance students and GAS Roofing gave a presentation to Carpentry students. Unilever also visited campus the day after the Spring Job Fair to conduct additional interviews.

“Many of the employees that attended the job fair want to find out more about Ranken and many of them said they would be attending the Employer Breakfast events next semester,” said Career Services Director Janie Summers. “Thanks to all Administrators, Faculty and Staff for whatever role you played. We should all be very proud!”

Ranken Receives FANUC America Robots

In March, the Electrical department received two robots made by FANUC America. Ranken was able to purchase these robots with the help of the Pipeline Grant, which was received from the National Science Foundation in 2011. The department will receive three more by the end of 2015.

“We decided to purchase these robots to help increase awareness of STEM careers,” said Vice President for Education Don Pohl. “Robotics is something that most kids are familiar with, this is a way of introducing kids to how robotics are used in real industry applications. Industry also states that technicians need to know this technology.”

“Robotics is something that most kids are familiar with, this is a way of introducing kids to how robotics are used in real industry applications.”

Electrical Division Chair Tony Wilkinson travelled to one of FANUC’s offices in Chicago in March to receive training on the new robot models. The FANUC Robotic training will be brought into the Electrical Automation Technology and Control Systems Technology curriculum during the semester in which students learn about PLCs. FANUC America offers the most complete range of industry-leading products and services for robotics, CNC systems, and factory automation solutions. They are dedicated to increasing the competitiveness of large and small North and South American manufacturers by creating opportunities to help them maximize their efficiency, reliability, quality and profitability.

“It was an easy choice to go with FANUC,” said Wilkinson. “We are working towards Ranken being both a FANUC Certified Training facility and FANUC Authorized Satellite Training (FAST) facility. After the students go through the PLC semester, they will be able to take the FANUC Technician Level 1 test and earn that certificate from FANUC.”
Ranken Microenterprise Receives Award

On March 4, President Stan Shoun, Vice President for Education Don Pohl, Project Manager Vince Holtmann and Precision Machining Department Head Gary Young met with leaders from Hunter Engineering Company to receive the company’s 2014 Supplier Excellence Award on behalf of Ranken’s Hunter Engineering Company microenterprise.

“The fact that our machining microenterprise has been recognized for this level of service is a true testament to how in tune Ranken really is to the needs of business and industry,” said Shoun. “We are very proud of the faculty, staff and students whose commitment made this happen!”

“The fact that our machining microenterprise has been recognized for this level of service is a true testament to how in tune Ranken really is to the needs of business and industry.”

Ranken’s microenterprises are an integrated work-based experience that provides students with work experience, industrial training, college credit and/or part time salary. Beyond the application of fundamental technology skills, senior students participate in the operation of the work cell including areas of logistics, human resources, finance, and quality assurance. Any additional revenue generated by the partnerships, beyond operating cost, is directed to an equipment trust fund (ETF) and/or scholarships that benefit these students. Microenterprises have included automotive, biotechnology, construction, microchip and HVAC projects.

This microenterprise employs 10 Precision Machining students from Ranken’s St. Louis campus and three Advanced Manufacturing students from Ranken Wentzville to build 13 parts for the company, including plates, brackets, arms, and knobs that are used for Hunter Engineering’s automotive wheel alignment, tire balancing, and tire changing equipment. These students program parts and then machine them on CNC mills and CNC lathes. They are also responsible for ensuring the quality of each piece and must perform an inspection on all parts before they can be packaged and ready to ship.

Eleven of Hunter Engineering’s 374 suppliers were selected to receive the Supplier Excellence Award for their superior quality, delivery, and service performance during 2014. The criteria for selection included the reject rate of parts shipped, the number of lots rejected, “vendor fault” Manufacturing Interruptions (MIRs), over-all delivery performance, competitive pricing, and top notch service during 2014. In addition, Purchasing, Quality, Engineering, and Manufacturing personnel reviewed the data and added subjective evaluations of the efforts and support given to Hunter Engineering Company throughout the year.

From L-R: Project Manager Vince Holtmann, Precision Machining Department Head Gary Young, Hunter Engineering Company Executive Vice President Beau Brauer, President Stan Shoun, Hunter Engineering Senior Buyer Matt Ecker, Vice President for Education Don Pohl, Hunter Engineering Company Vice President of Engineering and Materials Tom Meyer
Ranken's Honda Professional Automotive Career Training (PACT) team; Robert Callanan, Al Gentles, Don Hopkins, and Chris McNealy, have brought the program up to the highest standards that Honda has for its training partners by securing certification of all ten areas of training in Ranken’s PACT program.

Over spring break 2015, Honda sent a team of representatives from its Technical Training Operations Division to evaluate the Honda PACT training that Ranken has been conducting. The five day evaluation consisted of verifying the tools and equipment, curriculum, instructor training level, and vehicle preparation. At the end of the evaluation, Winston Morgan, national PACT coordinator, signed off to certify Ranken to teach all ten areas of training that Honda offers, making Ranken one of only two schools in the nation to be certified in all ten areas of training.

Honda PACT is a training program designed to train students to become Honda certified technicians that will work in Honda and Acura dealerships. The program was created through a partnership with Ranken and American Honda, and has been at the college for three years.

Photo: Automotive Division Chair Dan Kania (left), Vice President for Education Don Pohl (right) and National PACT Coordinator Winston Morgan (second from left) pose with Ranken’s Honda PACT team (L-R), Bob Callanan, Chris McNealy, Don Hopkins and Al Gentles

Automotive Import Technology Students Graduate as ASE Master Technicians

Over the spring semester, the Automotive Import Technology program began using a dry erase board to track how many National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) tests each student in the program completed.

This was an effort to motivate them to pass as many tests as possible before they graduate from Ranken. The ASE promotes excellence in automotive repair and service in an effort to protect the automotive service consumer, shop owner, and the automotive technician. The institute tests and certifies automotive professionals so that shop owners and service customers can better gauge a technician’s level of expertise before contracting the technician’s services and so that the automotive technician professional can offer tangible proof of their technical knowledge.

The Automotive Import Technology program will have 13 graduates this year. Six of these students have achieved the status of ASE Master Technician, which requires them to pass eight of the tests. Automotive Import Technology student Brandon Brown went above and beyond, completing nine tests.

“These students all had dealership jobs from the start of the program, but the end result of having all of their ASE Certifications will earn higher status within their manufacturer training (expert level for Toyota rather than just certified) and give them bargaining power for higher wages upon graduation,” said Honda PACT & Toyota T-TEN Instructor Robert Callanan.

L-R: New ASE Master Technicians Tyler Saliski, Alec Kilb, Kyle Creach, Brandon Walls, and Brandon Brown pose with the program’s competition board (Not pictured: Jon Deutsch.)
In April, a film crew from the production company “Life is my Movie” shadowed Precision Machining student Hallie Overschmidt in her classes, around campus and even travelled with her to her home in Washington, Mo. to have dinner with her family.

The crew is recording footage for a new documentary entitled “A Different Mind” which will focus on students who take advantage of alternatives to traditional four-year liberal arts degrees. The filmmakers plan to follow young entrepreneurs, students like Hallie at non-traditional schools, and students who move straight into the work force after high school.

You may remember “Life is my Movie” as the creators of the film “American Made Movie,” screened on Ranken’s campus two years ago. That movie focused on the importance of manufacturing to America’s economy, and stressed how vital it was that Americans buy local to support American manufacturing. During the course of promoting that film, the producer and director visited Ranken. Seeing the state-of-the-art training we offer, and learning about Ranken’s model of teaching, they knew that they had to get back to Ranken to film for another project.

Vincent Vittorio, director of both films, said that “American Made Movie” was screened for Congress. “It was amazing to see something we had created being screened in the Capitol,” he said. When the screening was over, lawmakers agreed about the necessity of supporting American Manufacturing, but wanted to know what the next step was. “Education,” Vittorio replied. “We knew we had to focus on the educational component next.” They have a busy summer ahead, capturing the stories of other “different minds” and plan to have the documentary completed by October 2015. If possible, Ranken will screen the film on campus.

Ranken students Hallie Overschmidt (Precision Machining), Taryn Underwood and Deanna Landreth (Architectural Technology) have dinner with the “Life is my Movie” crew at the Peacock Diner in the Loop.

(L-R): Taryn Underwood, Hallie Overschmidt, Deanna Landreth
Local High School Students Become Ranken Wentzville Students for a Day

On March 20, Lewis & Clark Career Center in St. Charles brought more than 60 students to visit the Ranken Wentzville Location. Students from Lewis & Clark’s Automotive Service and Computer Maintenance & Networking programs came to participate in hands-on shop and lab activities in Automotive Maintenance Technology and Information Technology.

The Automotive Service students from Lewis & Clark were split into small groups and assigned to one of four vehicles in the shop that were “bugged” with engine control issues by Ranken Wentzville’s Automotive Maintenance instructors. Tim Michel, John Springmeyer, Kyle Lympus and Tom Moors were each stationed at a vehicle where they guided students through strategy based diagnosis.

The students from the Computer Maintenance program went to the Information Technology lab for hands-on activities led by Ranken IT students and IT instructors Charles Corrigan and Shannon Brueggeman. The Lewis & Clark morning group got to perform a variety of IT tasks including virtualization, installation of Windows 7, remote desktop, and setting parental controls. The afternoon Lewis & Clark group participated in a lab where they programmed routers to connect remote sites to the internet.

Ranken Trains Vi-Jon Employees

In 2013, Ranken’s Evening and Continuing Education department began working with two representatives from Vi-Jon, one of the nation’s oldest private brand personal care manufacturers, to deliver electrical and mechanical training for all Vi-Jon Missouri Mechanics as part of their Craftsmen Training Program.

In 2014, the department worked with Mike McLauchlan, Vi-Jon technical training manager at the company’s Tennessee facility and Jeff Williford, maintenance asset care manager of the company’s St. Louis plants to form a partnership to train approximately 80 mechanics, using Vi-Jon’s Electrical Theory Curriculum.

“We have a great partnership with Vi-Jon and continue to develop our business relationship.”

In 2015, Ranken expanded this partnership to include Motors/Drives, PLC training and Compounding/Mechanical training for approximately 90 mechanics, which will run throughout 2015.

“We just completed another 40 hours of electrical training for Vi-Jon employees,” said Corporate Specialist Sandy Burns. “We have a great partnership with Vi-Jon and continue to develop our business relationship.”

McLauchlan and Williford have already initiated conversations with Ranken about their training objectives for 2016.
Press Conference Highlights
Ranken’s Involvement in Educating At-Risk Youth

On April 20, St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay held a press conference to announce a $1 million grant for a YouthBuild jobs program in St. Louis. The conference was held in front of a home near Ranken’s campus that the Ranken Community Development Corporation (RCDC) has been working on.

In March, Ranken’s Carpentry and Building Construction department began teaming up with SLATE and YouthBuild to give at-risk youth technical skills they can use to successfully enter the workforce or pursue further education. YouthBuild is a highly successful alternative education program that assists youth, who are often significantly behind in basic skills, to obtain a high school diploma or High School Equivalency (HSE) credential. However, this program will assist young people who already have a high school diploma, GED, or HSE. Emphasis will be placed on leadership development, financial literacy, academic enhancement, technical skills training in construction, community service and support from staff and students committed to each other’s success.

The YouthBuild grant will last for three years, and Ranken expects to receive multiple cohorts of students, each running approximately six months. It is anticipated that 75 youth ages 16-24 will complete the program. At least 83% of these students are expected to be placed in jobs or post-secondary or advanced training, 65% of those students with basic skills deficiency are expected to increase at least one educational function level and 83% of these students are expected to obtain a high school diploma, GED or advanced Certificate. Interested students may also enroll in Ranken’s day or evening degree and certificate programs upon completion of this training.

Evening School Carpentry Instructor Mark White will be the primary instructor and point of contact for this project. These students will take general education classes and theory classes with White and other Ranken instructors at the Carr Square facilities in downtown St. Louis. Afterwards, these instructors will be in charge of supervising this group in building houses within the 1,500-acre NorthSide Regeneration site in North St. Louis.

Photos: Ranken President Stan Shoun (center) and St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay (to his left) join SLATE Officials and YouthBuild participants at a press conference to announce a $1 million grant for educating at-risk youth. Ranken students work at build site.
On May 9, Ranken held its 2015 commencement ceremony at Chaifetz Arena on the Saint Louis University campus. This year, 957 students were eligible to graduate and more than 400 students participated in the ceremony.

The keynote speaker for the event was Steven L. Moss, Senior Vice President of New Business Development for Nooter/Eriksen and a member of Ranken’s board of trustees. Moss began his career with Nooter Corporation as a production engineer in 1976. He transferred to Nooter Construction as a Project Engineer in 1982, and spent the next four years in refineries and power plants. After a year as a Sales Engineer with the Nooter Cogen Group, Moss transferred to the newly formed Nooter/Eriksen Cogeneration Systems in 1987, where he served as International Sales Manager beginning in 1993. From 2003 until 2006, Moss was responsible for Nooter/Eriksen’s effort to commercialize an experimental multi-pollutant control technology for coal-fired power plants and to support a client’s attempt to reintroduce a Pressurized Fluidized Bed Combustion technology into the US electric power generation market. From 2006 through 2012, Moss had overall responsibility for a Circulating Fluidized Bed SOx Scrubber technology licensed from a German manufacturer. Moss is currently responsible for the exploration and evaluation of new products and new product extensions that capitalize on Nooter/Eriksen’s strengths to meet the needs of Nooter/Eriksen’s long-term strategic vision.

Following Moss’ address, Vice President for Student Success John Wood presented Golden and Diamond Graduate anniversary recognitions and the David Ranken, Jr. Award, which was given to Automotive Import Technology student Brandon Ray Brown. This award goes to a Ranken graduate who epitomizes the concepts that David Ranken, Jr. believed in related to academic achievement, work ethic and leadership. Brown graduated with a high GPA and exceptional work ethic scores during all semesters of his college career. He was sponsored by Toyota for his internship during the program and passed nine Automotive Service Excellence exams prior to graduation.

After presenting these awards, Vice President for Education Don Pohl presented the candidates for degrees and President Stan Shoun presented closing remarks.

“You ARE Ranken Material!”

Ranken Graduates at Chaifetz Arena

Congratulations Ranken 2015 Graduates!
review

Feb 2015  Ranken hosts student roundtable with Mayor Slay

January 2015 Ranken has first all female class

March 2015 Ranken hosts largest-ever job fair

January 2015 Phi Theta Kappa inducts new members

March 2015 Ranken receives Honda PACT Certification
May 2015  Ranken graduates 957 students for the class of 2015 more than 400 students participated in the ceremony.

April 2015  Ranken hosts hundreds of players at its spring LAN party

April 2015  Press Conference Highlights Ranken’s Involvement in Educating at Risk Youth

April 2015  Ranken SuperMileage Team Completes First Challenge

May 2015  The Taylor family announce a $5 million donation to the College

April 2015  Documentary film crew visits Ranken
The fast-growing field of Information Technology offers flexible career paths and wide-ranging opportunities for skilled professionals. Offering four areas of specialization and a focus on hands-on lab instruction, Ranken’s Information Technology Division trains students on the most up-to-date equipment and software. Combining cutting-edge technical instruction with real-world problem solving skills, the Information Technology Division prepares its graduates for the challenges and rewards of this rapidly growing industry. Ranken’s Information Technology students receive hands-on preparation for industry certifications and are eligible for internship opportunities within their chosen field. Graduates tell us that skills learned in our real-world business environment translate readily into a highly skilled, highly professional career.

Ranken designs its IT curriculum with the help of an industry advisory panel, who keep our instructors up to date on the latest job skills in demand in the workplace. By continuously reviewing our course offerings, we can ensure that each new batch of graduates steps into the workforce ready and able to work from day one.

Current and past advisory board members have included representatives from Unidev, Netelligent, Net Effects, Enterprise Holdings, Savvis, Cisco Systems, Scottrade, and Washington University.

Students in the Information Technology Division can focus on:
- Internet and Web Based Technology
- Network Systems Management Technology
- Network Architecture and Design Technology
- Network and Database Administration Technology

Job opportunities for graduates in IT are generally between 4-8 per graduate, depending on the field. Salaries with 4-5 years experience average between $40-55 thousand per year.
Spring LAN Party Brings Area Gamers Together

From 4 p.m. April 17 to 4 a.m. April 18, the Information Technology division hosted 115 current and potential Ranken students, staff and faculty at the Spring LAN* Party.

The twice-yearly LAN parties have grown significantly since the first event with just 20 area gamers two and a half years ago. This event’s sign-up was limited to 150 guests as Ranken wanted to ensure that the event size was manageable, and that everyone was able to enjoy the experience. Attendees were also offered a free room in Walker Hall so that they could rest up after a long night gaming.

The event featured a League of Legends tournament and a variety of other games, including Super Smash Brothers, Counter Strike G.O., Naruto, NBA2k15, Call of Duty and HearthStone.

The top four teams at earned RP prizes and the winner of the bracket earned a tournament-exclusive Triumphant Ryze skin.

“The LAN party ran very smoothly,” said Assistant Information Technology Division Head Evan Gudmestad. “We had a lot of positive feedback from current and potential students but the most important thing was that everyone had fun!”

The next LAN Party will take place in November 2015 and will be limited to 200 registered guests. Join the Ranken LAN Facebook group to receive the latest updates on this event.

“We had a lot of positive feedback from current and potential students but the most important thing was that everyone had fun!”

Ranken LAN Spring 2015: 115 Gamers. 16-Team League of Legends Tournament. Consoles on Consoles. 100 Pizzas. 400 Monster Energy Drinks. 400 Sodas. And plenty of bandwidth to spare!

* A LAN (local area network) party is a group of people that come together with computers or game consoles to establish a LAN for the purpose of playing multiplayer video games.
This month Ranken turns its spotlight on the booming IT industry in St. Louis, and a large local employer of Ranken graduates, Netelligent. Netelligent has its St. Louis headquarters in Chesterfield, Mo., and a second office in downtown St. Louis.

The company is currently in the process of adding 60 new employees to its headquarters location, helping add to the current boom that is making Missouri the fastest growing state for tech related jobs.

We spoke to the company at length about their purpose, goals and future plans, as well as their relationship with Ranken. Read their thoughts below.

**Netelligent’s mission, purpose and goals**

Netelligent’s mission is to elevate business above technology.

We are a technology solutions company - we provide companies with the core technologies they need to run their business (phone systems, servers/virtualization, networking, video).

With a robust hybrid IT solution set ranging from on-premises equipment, innovative managed services to complete cloud solutions, Netelligent offers mid-sized to large enterprises creative ways to transform their environments and deliver improved business outcomes.

Every employee lives by these values:
- Strive for the WOW
- Never give up
- Always tell the truth, respectfully
- Continually earn trust
- Caring about people will bring profit

Netelligent’s vision is a future in which technology is invisible to business.

**What kind of impact is Netelligent making in the industry?**

Netelligent is a trusted technology partner for over 200 companies throughout Missouri. We work the local market through direct sales and extend our products and services nationally through reseller and agent partners. Netelligent holds a unique position worldwide being one of a handful of Cisco® partners with four certified Cisco-powered cloud services. We are a leader in developing and implementing hybrid IT solutions. Taking a different approach than most tech companies, Netelligent focuses on the business needs first and then recommends neutral, innovative, technical solutions. We help customers transition from traditional, do-it-yourself IT to cloud computing with ease. Our Hybrid IT models combine both practices when necessary using our unparalleled expertise, guidance and support. Netelligent solutions are local, proven, and custom all the while keeping the focus on the customer’s business.

**What does Netelligent look for when hiring new employees?**

Besides looking for the best and brightest individuals to hire, Netelligent strives to find well-rounded, caring, technically savvy individuals. Finding the right balance of technical fortitude and excellent communication and soft skills lands the right person in the right seat at Netelligent.

**When and how did Netelligent first hear of Ranken?**

Ranken’s reputation places it high on the schools producing quality graduates. Netelligent and Ranken have partnered for more than six years to identify quality candidates. Maybe more.

**Why does Netelligent hire Ranken graduates?**

Ranken graduates align to Netelligent’s values in addition to demonstrating a balance of technical aptitude, leadership and interpersonal skills, attentiveness to detail and a drive to succeed.

Ranken provides as close to real-world experiences in the classroom as possible. Many graduates enter the workplace certified giving them a leg up on other candidates. With up-to-date equipment in labs and focus on business-related problem solving, students graduate prepared to step into their first job. Ranken ensures graduates not only have superior technical knowledge but also the faculty goes above and beyond to ensure students have excellent interviewing and interpersonal skills.

Ranken keeps a pulse on the industry by regularly seeking industry trends from practicum, not just theory. Curricula adjusts and aligns to realities of businesses through a relationship with Alan Poettker. With a pulse on industry changes and trends, Ranken graduates hit the street dangerously armed with technical and business prowess. Netelligent benefits with stronger employees whom are ready to get started faster.

Ranken continues to produce high quality, hard-working, dependable, intelligent, caring graduates that can relate to
What do these employees do at Netelligent?

Ranken graduates take their first seat in one of Netelligent’s Operations Centers. As Technical Support Engineers they handle the front line as the first touch with incoming inquiries (calls, emails, online customer tickets) from customers with technical issues. They work diligently to solve the customer’s incident on the first call. As of this writing approximately 70% of incoming inquiries are resolved with one touch. The TSEs start on this first line of defense and how quickly they advance within Netelligent to other positions or departments such as Systems Engineering, Architect Team, Internal IT, and Project Management, depends on how quickly, successfully and empathetically they handle incidents.

It’s not just what they know, it’s how they use what they know and how they treat the customer that matters most. For many customers, the TSE is the only contact they have with Netelligent, making the TSE the face of the company. Beyond handling technical issues for customers, the TSEs enjoy a daily competitive game of foosball; a great outlet to build camaraderie, teamwork and hand-eye coordination. While Ranken doesn’t provide foosball training today, tomorrow we think they just might.

| Increase in IT jobs in Missouri from 2012-2013 (highest increase nationwide) | 8% |
| Total number of Missouri IT workers in 2013 | 34,700 |
| St. Louis startups were responsible for how many IT jobs in 2013? | 850 |

Source: St. Louis Business Journal 2/7/14 “Missouri is again fastest-growing state for tech jobs”
Update From Walker Hall

The Residential Life Department is expanding in several areas.

Housing will be offered to Wentzville students who wish to commute daily from Walker Residence Hall. The rate will be discounted due to the daily commute. Double unit rooms will be offered at $925 per semester and a meal plan for $375 per semester. All other rooms and meal plans will be available at the regular price. The goal is to provide affordable housing while students pay the cost of commuting from the campuses.

The second expansion is the staff of the Residential Life Department. The position of a Residential Life Coordinator (Graduate Assistant) has been added. This staff member will supervise Resident Assistants and help in expanding student programming. They will also assist in daily operations of the department.

Walker Hall Welcome Week Events

8/24 School Orientation
8/25 Ranken Resource Fair from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Finney Lobby
(Student Support Services, Alumni Relations, Career Services and School Counselor will be available to go over services available to students)
8/26 Student Organization Fair from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Finney Lobby
8/27 Community Resource in the Dining Hall from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
8/28 Fun Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Ranken Celebrates Graduates

On April 1, Ranken Technical College and Jostens partnered for a Salute to Graduates celebration meant to send Ranken’s graduates off in style!

During the event, students received their caps and gowns and were treated to food, drinks and prizes. They were also welcomed as soon to be alumni and had a great time getting class pictures taken and talking about the final few weeks of their Ranken Experience.

Top: Precision Machining Technology student Hallie Overschmidt poses with Ranken President Stan Shoun
Middle Right: Architectural Technology students
Bottom Right: Control Systems Technology students
Women in Technology Luncheons Connects Women with Valuable Resources

**Ranken women come together to work, learn.**

On February 12, Women in Technology hosted its first luncheon of the spring semester. During the luncheon, Vice President for Student Success John Wood honored SkillsUSA medalists Amanda Baker (Automotive Refinishing Tech, gold), Jordan Thompson (Carpentry, gold), Christina Hartley (Carpentry, bronze) and Hallie Overschmidt (CNC Turning, gold). Wood also honored female Phi Theta Kappa officers President Taryn Underwood, Vice President Deanna Landreth and Secretary Sara Larson.

Kiley Rawson, talent acquisition specialist for Enterprise Fleet Management and Rebecca Peetz, Regional Human Resources Manager for AutoZone, attended the meeting in an effort to network and recruit female Ranken students. YWCA of Metro St. Louis Life Coach/Case Manager Genevieve Friedmann also attended to offer information about YWCA scholarships for single mothers and Executive Director of TRIO Foundation of St. Louis Wendy Jaffe stopped by for a tour of Ranken before attending the luncheon. The guest speaker for the luncheon, Netelligent HR Generalist/Recruiter Joyce Cassidy, gave attendees tips on interview skills and what it takes to land the job.

On April 8, Ranken hosted the last Women in Technology meeting of the semester. During the luncheon, nine female graduates were recognized. Tracey Coleman of MSD also attended the meeting in an effort to network with these students and Christner, Inc. Architect Stacey Wehe delivered a speech about the value of networking and communication skills.

Scholarship Luncheon Unites Donors, Recipients

**On April 9, Ranken hosted its annual scholarship luncheon in the Mary Ann Lee Technology center, uniting Ranken scholarship donors with the grateful recipients of their generosity.**

One hundred forty-six people attended the luncheon, including 47 donors or representatives from companies who have given to the scholarship fund, 82 students and 17 faculty members.

This annual event was created in order to introduce scholarship recipients to the donors who made their scholarships possible and to acknowledge the support of those donors.
Derek Dean
Information Technology

WHY RANKEN

Derek Dean is an 18 year old student dual-enrolled in Ranken’s Information Technology program and the Clyde C. Miller Career Academy. He initially became interested in IT at the Career Academy, and jumped at the chance to earn free college credit while still in high school. He’s the first in his family to work in IT, but his father is an electrician and mechanic, so he knew from an early age that a hands-on career was for him, and that he didn’t “want to sit behind a desk all the time.”

Derek also lives close to the College, and was intrigued by the new construction happening on campus. “Ranken is everywhere,” he said “...it’s on the highway, it’s on the billboards in the neighborhood.”

AT RANKEN

Unlike other dual-enrolled students who typically spend one semester at Ranken, Derek is spending a full year.

“I am sacrificing my whole senior year for this.” he said.

Derek’s high school friends get out of class at 2:15, while Derek is at Ranken until 4:30, so he misses out on after-school activities— but he feels that the experience of what college is like makes it worth it.

“I think failure is one of the best ways to learn and experience.”

Derek enjoys working with older students at Ranken, and students from different backgrounds. He says that being at Ranken has made him more responsible, especially in regards to keeping his own schedule, which is hectic. Ranken’s work ethic requirements and rigid grading system have also inspired him to work harder and achieve more.

As far as coursework, networking is Derek’s favorite, he enjoys the structure and complexity and knowing how essential what he does is in daily life. He loves coming up with solutions to problems in IT, and enjoys what it has with other technical fields “it’s always problem-solving.”

FUTURE PLANS

Derek’s future plans are either going to work straight out of college, or going on to get his bachelor’s degree, he hasn’t yet decided. He does want to own his own business at some point, perhaps starting his own datacenter. In the short term he is thinking of developing a web app.

When he graduates in 2016, most of his friends will just be completing their first year at college. Dean says that he wanted to speed up the college process, learn faster and “have more time for failure.”

“I think failure is one of the best ways to learn and experience.” he said.

As far as advice to other potential IT students, he says “never narrow your perspective on things. IT is a really broad major, and I think your mind-set should be broad as well.”
Thirty-One Ranken Students Eligible to Move on to the 51st National Leadership and Skills Conference

In February, Ranken hosted the 2015 SkillsUSA East District Championship.

During the championship, 149 participants (109 secondary, 40 postsecondary) competed in 14 contests for a chance to advance to the state championship at State Technical College of Missouri from March 26-27. A total of 29 Ranken students competed in 12 of these competitions, and 10 more Ranken students went “Straight to State” in six contests, meaning there are no district competitions in those technical areas for post-secondary students. Out of Ranken’s 39 competitors, 31 were eligible to compete at the state championship.

The following 13 students will advance to the 51st National Leadership and Skills Conference to be held in Louisville, Kentucky, June 22-26, 2015. All students receiving 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place ranking will be receiving certificates and a gold, silver, or bronze metal respectively. Congratulations to all of our students, their advisors and the instructors who helped them prepare for this season!

Automated Manufacturing Technology
1st Place Team
Cody Netzhammner, Nicholas Parlow, Benjamin Trunnell

Automotive Refinishing Technology
1st Place
Amanda Baker

Carpentry
1st Place
Donald Scott

CNC Technician
1st Place
Leighton Jones

Collision Repair Technology
1st Place
Joshua Williamson

Teamworks
1st Place Team
Charles Berbling, Anthony Davis, Addison Kothe, Francisco Vargas

Technical Computer Applications
1st Place
Jack Vaughan

Straight-to-Nationals
Major Appliance Technology
Ben Goedeker

First Term of Bachelor of Science in Applied Management Classes Come to a Close

Four students from the Business Strategy and Implementation class receive feedback on their presentations from Instructor Jim Devereux

In February, the spring semester’s first term of Bachelor of Science in Applied Management (BSAM) classes began wrapping up. BSAM students presented their final projects in many of these classes.

BSAM classes are conducted online, in seated classes, and web-blended, where they meet with their instructors sometime during the term. Classes run every eight weeks throughout the year. In addition to Missouri and Illinois, the program also has students in Ohio, Tennessee, and Virginia.

“The goal for the BSAM program is to train students with technical backgrounds to become managers in their fields,” said General Education Division Chair Patsy Zettler. “This makes the BSAM program unique to other colleges.”
Phi Theta Kappa Update

In January, the following students were inducted into Phi Theta Kappa:

- Sulaiman B. Abdul-Majid (STL)
- Anthony L. Ciaravino (STL)
- Kevin R. Cody (STL)
- Christopher L. Dennis (STL)
- David A. Freeman (STL)
- Daniel G. Harrington (W)
- Christopher J. Harwerth (STL)
- Alexander M. Held (STL)
- Nicholas A. Ierardi (STL)
- Sara M. Larson (STL)
- Jason R. McClain (STL)
- Theophilus J. Murphy (STL)
- Andrew H. Owens (W)
- Brandon D. Payne-White (STL)
- James R. Scheiffer (STL)
- Stephen A. Taylor (STL)
- Stephen Temple (STL)
- Jordan M. Thompson (STL)
- Brandon A. Walls (STL)

This year’s officers were:

- **Taryn Underwood**, President
- **Deanna K. Landreth**, Vice President
- **Sara M. Larson**, Secretary
- **Jack E. Vaughan**, Jr., Reserve Officer

As part of an incentive to recognize outstanding members, Phi Theta Kappa honors one student from a designated program each month to acknowledge their accomplishments and to encourage other students to follow their examples.

In December, that student was **Greg Rider**, of the Carpentry and Building Construction program.

“Greg is an exceptional student with solid work ethic. He shows up every day in perfect compliance, asks good questions, participates diligently in every task, and helps out his fellow students. All students respect Greg,” said one of Greg’s instructors, who nominated him for the award. “Greg makes teaching fun and easy, and he is an absolute pleasure to have in class. I wish I had many more just like him.”

In March, **Gabe Pritchard**, Architectural Technology student and Buildings & Grounds employee was honored as an outstanding member of the group.

The organization named IT student **Alem Shabaz** as the organization’s February Student of the Month.

“It is with great pleasure that I recommend Alem Shabaz for Phi Theta Kappa Student of the Month. Alem is always on time to class and supports his peers by staying late if they need help,” said one of Alem’s instructors, who nominated him for the award. “He has had perfect attendance in my class and is also one of my top performers, to date. Alem is truly a positive role model to the student body.”

Left: Phi Theta Kappa graduates pose with Phi Theta Kappa Officer Deanna Landreth and Administrative Assistant and Phi Theta Kappa Coordinator Jean Endres

Left to Right: Administrative Assistant and Phi Theta Kappa Coordinator Jean Endres, PTK Vice President Deanna Landreth, President Taryn Underwood, and Secretary Sara M. Larson

Right: A celebratory cake for new members

Gabe Pritchard accepts award from Deanna Landreth
Ranken Holds First All-Female Class

This semester, Dr. James Gravitt’s trigonometry class has made Ranken history by having only female students.

“It blew me over when I first saw them. Only ladies,” said Gravitt.

Last fall, the Architectural Technology department also made Ranken history with the first female-majority technical classroom.

The first woman graduated from Ranken’s Television and Radio Servicing evening school program in the spring of 1976, after a long battle to be allowed to apply for enrollment. While working in an electronics assembly plant, Peggy Jo Miller decided to seek additional technical training in the field. She applied to Ranken in 1968, but was denied admission because of her gender. In 1975, after a disappointing experience with another trade school, Miller became active in The Committee to Promote Women in the Skilled Trades. Through this organization, Miller fought to allow women into Ranken under Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, which prohibited any entity receiving federal financial assistance from discriminating against individuals on the basis of gender in educational programs or activities. After attorneys reviewed Ranken David Jr.’s will, it was determined that it did not specifically exclude women from enrollment and Miller was allowed to attend. The first woman to graduate from Ranken’s day program was Pamela Sue Vinson, who graduated with a diploma in Architectural Drafting in 1977.

Today, Ranken is taking steps to draw more women into technical fields by offering scholarships, reaching out to women through the media and creating a support network for female students during and after graduation. One way Ranken supports female students is through the Women in Technology (WIT) and the Women of Walker (WOW) organizations. WIT has monthly meetings throughout the school year, providing female students, staff, and faculty with a forum to discuss issues, socialize and get acquainted with other women on campus. WOW helps to bring female Walker Hall residents together by hosting all-female outings.

Ranken Architecture Grad Nominated for Leadership Role

The Young Architects Forum St. Louis (YAFSTL) has nominated 2006 Ranken Architectural Technology graduate Cody Henderson, Associate AIA, LEED AP, to serve as the forum’s Vice Chair in 2015.

YAFSTL is part of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) St. Louis and is committed to continual education and community awareness for emerging professionals and young architects.

Henderson’s instructors at Ranken remember Cody’s dedication. He was focused and hard-working as a student, which now is evident in his career. As his design instructor John Kreishman recalls, “Cody was a smart and dedicated student.” It was clear to all his instructors he was going to be successful in the industry. According to Kelley Raftery, another instructor, “He was a serious and dedicated student who worked diligently to achieve goals.” The Architectural Technology department congratulates Cody Henderson on continuing his dedication to the architectural industry.

Cody has worked for Feeler S. Architects for the past five years as a project manager, where he specializes in laboratory and healthcare design. Cody continues to support Ranken Technical College by sitting on the Architectural Technology department’s advisory board. He also volunteers time to Habitat for Humanity St. Louis and Rebuilding Together St. Louis.

Young Architects Forum St. Louis

YAFSTL bridges the gap between formal education and professional life, focusing on mentorship, leadership, and fellowship. YAFSTL organizes events like lectures on issues important to emerging professionals and young architects, building tours, happy hours, Architect Registration Examination (ARE) study sessions, community service opportunities, and softball.
Ranken Wentzville Nears Completion of New Diesel Technology Program Space

Last August, Ranken Wentzville began construction of a two-story building designed to house a new Diesel Technology program and to accommodate for increased enrollment.

The project is scheduled for completion in early July. So far, the interior metal framing has been completed, the drywall is almost complete, two-story structure glass is being installed and groundwork has begun outside for retaining walls, sidewalks and curbing. Epoxy and paint sealer for the floors, an elevator, stairs and a lighted Ranken logo are also scheduled to be installed this month.

The new building will boast 35,000 sq. feet of garage space, a modern student lounge and multipurpose educational centers.

Originally, the Diesel Technology program was set to begin at Ranken Wentzville when it opened in the spring of 2013. However, an overwhelming interest in the Automotive Maintenance Technology program and the need for a large amount of space for state-of-the-art Advanced Manufacturing equipment left little room for the Diesel Technology program. Along with booming enrollment in all of Ranken Wentzville’s programs and the addition of evening programs for the Information Technology and Automotive Maintenance Technology programs, the need to expand became apparent. This new construction should allow Ranken to continue to grow enrollment for some time, and the multipurpose classroom space available will give the college flexibility in course scheduling.

Ranken's Diesel Technology program was created to meet the growing need for heavy-duty service professionals in the transportation industry. Diesel technicians today must be prepared to work on a variety of systems, including air brakes, hydraulics, air conditioning and high-end multiplexed network of computers and electronics. The program is modeled to meet Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) and National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF) standards, and it will prepare graduates to be career-ready diesel service technicians.

“We receive at least one inquiry per day from someone interested in the Diesel program. We have 35 students registered so far and the new shop isn’t even open yet. The word about the program is definitely getting around.” - Jeremy Sutton, site director Ranken Wentzville

President Shoun said of the new program “The greatness of this nation was built on the ability to move goods from one coast to the other. Our new diesel program makes us an integral part to that process! We will not only provide the technical education to maintain the vehicles but the skill to drive them. Truly a win-win for the students and the region!”

Classes in Diesel Technology will begin at the Wentzville location during the fall 2015 semester.
Ranken Honors Employees

On May 11, Ranken hosted its annual Employee Appreciation Day. The event is meant to celebrate faculty and staff and the end of another successful semester. Staff and faculty were welcome to dress down and unwind a bit with breakfast and lunch served by Ranken’s administrators.

The festivities came to a close with an awards ceremony to honor employees for their outstanding service to the college, which included Ranken’s Service Awards, recognition of education achievements, the Spirit of Excellence Award and the President’s Award. During the ceremony, President Stan Shoun also thanked Architectural Technology Instructor John Kreishman and Automotive Instructor Al Gentles for their years of service before they retire after this semester.

The awards were followed by an update from President Shoun on the status of the College, thanking faculty and staff for their service, speaking enthusiastically about Ranken’s future.

Left: employees receive recognition for five years of service.
Above: Retirees Al Gentles (top) and John Kreishman (bottom) are recognized by President Stan Shoun. Below: Al and John with family members at their retirement celebration.
Since 7th grade Ashley Reddick has known he had an affinity for computers, especially the hardware side. In high school he served as an IT student worker, and in 2006 he enrolled in Ranken’s Information Technology program, graduating in 2008. Reddick is currently working on his bachelor’s degree in Information Technology from Western Governors University, and will then move on to pursue his master’s degree in business administration, either continuing at WGU, or transferring to Saint Louis or Washington University.

Even before graduating Ranken in 2008, Reddick began to seek work. In his 3rd semester he found a position with a contractor for the US Department of Education—three interviews later and he was hired. Within six months, while still a full time student at Ranken, he was promoted to a network admin. Then, through friends, he heard about a contractor position opening with the Department of Defense. The background checks were intense, the FBI investigated 15 years of his background, but eventually Reddick was cleared for work, and started a new job that he “...can’t really say too much about.”

While the work at DOD was good, the hours were not, and as a newlywed Reddick felt the strain of 72 hour work stretches, with only an hour home here or there. “My wife said she felt like she was cleaning dishes and clothes for someone she never saw.” he says. She encouraged him to find a job with more regular hours, which is when he contacted his former Ranken instructor Evan Gudmestad and came to work for the College.

Reddick understands the importance of education in improving students lives. “A lot of people don’t understand that education is the gateway to getting out of certain socio-economic statuses. I understand ways to reach students with a specific background. I know education helps a lot of people; when I see students walk across the stage who I had a personal connection with, that makes me happy.”

His favorite part of working at Ranken is the people. “I love working with the people on my team. When it’s crunch time we all come together. I also believe that every instructor in this college is passionate about what they teach and to quote W.B. Yeats “Education is not filling a bucket, but lighting a fire.”

“...when I see students walk across the stage who I had a personal connection with, that makes me happy.”

Reddick loves the classroom not only for the technical aspects, but also because it gives him a chance to know his students. He describes working with various students, and the challenge of determining their best learning styles.

“After first year teaching and seeing how you change people’s lives—learning to not just connect with students solely on an academic level, but really getting to know them. Not everyone learns the same way, you can’t just give a lecture and think that everyone grasped it. You have to really engage with students and find out what kind of learners they are, and I enjoy that. It’s a challenge. Then in the end I get to see the benefit of my work.”

“...if you’re wanting to come to Ranken, great. Be prepared to give up two years of your life to learn a valuable trade. Doing that changes the rest of your life.”

As far as graduates working in the field, Reddick advises them to never get complacent. “You have to be ready to adapt. I have a lot of friends who work in IT, and they know you should always be perfecting your craft through professional development and learning about new technology.”
Welcome to the Following New Full-time Employees

Ali Panahi
Jordan Nonthstine
Kendra Lane
Lauren Coleman
Michael Stuesse
Brien Dover
Joel Hill

Welcome to the Following New Part-time & Adjunct Employees

David Bradshaw
Chris Gee
Jean Fancote
Reid Sanders

Employee Degrees and Certifications

John Weber:
- Fleet Maintenance Coordinator
- Certificate of Fleet Management
- National Association of Fleet Advisors

Lauren Coleman:
- Network Administrator
- CCNA Security Certification, CISCO

Employee Promotions and Transfers

Mike Hawley: Director of Major Gifts and Planned Giving

Abe Brummett: Director of Enrollment Management

Ranken Spends the Holidays in the Fast Lane

On December 22, Ranken staff and faculty came together to spend the holidays in the fast lane. Attendees raced remote control cars against each other on a mini race track in the Industrial Technology Facilities Shop, enjoyed brunch together, faced off in an Ugly Christmas Sweater contest and bought tickets for their chance at winning the Pot of Gold.

Left: Ranken faculty race toy cars in the fast lane
Right: Admissions Counselor Nancy Yaeger poses with the money collected for the Pot of Gold
Sara Larson
Automotive Maintenance Technology

WHY RANKEN?
Sara Larson wasn’t sure what she wanted to do with her life - until she came to Ranken.

Sara was not unfamilar with the automotive field - she had worked in an automotive environment before with two of her fathers, and was familiar with the sights and sounds of life in the shop.

“If you want to do the best, you have to learn from the best - that’s why I came to Ranken.”

Sara attended one of Ranken’s Shadow-a-Tech events, where potential students can participate in a day’s classroom activities, and work hands-on. Sara sat through two hours of the event, then went straight to the Admissions office to enroll. She’s never looked back.

“I really didn’t have a lot of direction before I came to Ranken. My skill set from Ranken is definitely something I will always use, no matter what direction my career takes me. ”

AT RANKEN
Sara began her first semester at Ranken in June 2014, and will graduate in August 2015. She describes her experience at Ranken as one full of not only classroom activities, but of membership in various campus organizations.

Of her favorite things about Automotive Maintenance she says “Oh, I love the smells in the shop, and like to work on things and say that I fixed it. I guess it’s like a puzzle, take it apart, put it back together, make sure it’s working again.”

Of her life at Ranken she says “When I’m not in class I am in meetings. Women in Technology, Phi Theta Kappa and Student Ambassadors.”

Sara is the membership coordinator for the Student Ambassador program, helping to recruit other students. She also serves as secretary for Phi Theta Kappa, and it was through that position that her next big opportunity arose.

“I have a chance to win a full scholarship to Rockhurst University in Kansas City,” she reports. “I am getting $20,000 a year from them now, but I might win more. I am waiting to hear.”

Sara is competing in a scholarship contest with 28 other students from Phi Theta Kappa for a full ride to Rockhurst. She will be studying non-profit management and fund-raising at the college, which is ranked in the top five colleges nationally for that program.

“I will be the first person in my family to get a full degree – to get full tuition paid would be mind-blowing. Game changing. But either way I am a winner, because I got to have the experience.”

FUTURE PLANS
Sara’s eventual plans are to earn her bachelor’s degree in Non-Profit Management and join the Peace Corps - after which she hopes to start her own non profit. She has two ideas, one is to found an organization that teaches low-income automobile owners how to do basic maintenance on their own vehicles in order to save money. “Oil changes, replacing belts, things like that.” Larson said. The other idea is to help feed and clothe the homeless of St. Louis, an activity Sara has long participated in. Of her work Sara said “I love to help serve the homeless, seeing the same faces over and over. Giving something and getting nothing in return is the best part of it.”
Brasscraft Manufacturing Promotes Next Gen Plumbers

BrassCraft Manufacturing, a leading manufacturer of plumbing products for over 65 years, provided a $1,500 donation to Ranken Technical College for scholarships for students interested in plumbing. In addition to the scholarship, BrassCraft also provided parts and fittings to the department needed for hands-on training.

"BrassCraft Manufacturing is working with Ranken to support academia to provide product enriched environments to learn the plumbing profession", stated Deb Lewis, Brand Manager for BrassCraft Manufacturing. "It is BrassCraft Manufacturing's mission to support well-rounded educational practices on varied plumbing systems for students. This is exactly what Ranken Technical College does in department training and in the RCDC homes."

BrassCraft Manufacturing worked with Ranken's plumbing department to field test new products that meet the provisions of the Federal Reduction of Lead in Water Act which became effective in January 2014. The student evaluation of these no-lead products provided feedback 'with fresh eyes' and the opportunity for BrassCraft to enhance products for the next generation of plumbers.

Founded in 1946, BrassCraft Manufacturing, a Masco Company, is headquartered in Novi, Michigan, and has manufacturing facilities in the United States. A wide array of BrassCraft® products of gas and water supplies for use in the new construction and repair/remodel markets are designed, machined and assembled in the U.S.A.

For more information on BrassCraft, please visit www.brasscraft.com.

FOSPA is a membership association of local facility operators who have given scholarships to a student enrolled in Industrial Technology since 2011. Scholarship recipients are also given a free membership to the organization for one year, which provides networking opportunities and continuing education.

If you or your business are interested in offering a scholarship to students at Ranken, please contact our Development office at 314.286.3674.
“My father, Ron Henderson, attended Ranken and graduated from Communications Electronics in 1982 and Supervisory/Mid Management in 1991, so when the college admissions representative came to Triad High School during a robotics class, I was definitely interested. I toured the industrial electricity department, but it didn’t really seem like what I wanted to do with my future. I toured the IT department on a whim and absolutely fell in love. I signed up that day and have had no regrets since.

One of the best parts of the college experience for me was enjoying the history and architecture of the Ranken buildings. Ranken has such a beautiful campus with such a rich historical background that impacted St. Louis, and they continue to embrace classical architecture forms while merging it with more modern structures as they expand.

I currently work at Datotel where I started after graduating from Ranken. In a managed services provider as an engineer, I am responsible for implementation of the product solution the client has chosen, from virtual servers, to cloud storage, to managing their local and existing environment and bringing it up to best practices. I’ve worked with a huge array of different environments and am often surprised at how much having the base knowledge of varied technologies (databases and networking, for instance) that I learned at Ranken has helped me. Because of what I learned at Ranken, I really can deliver the best service to my customers. After working at Datotel for five years now, I don’t think I could ever work for anyone other than as a service provider.

Mr. Poettker was a huge positive influence on me while I was enrolled at Ranken. I took the server track offered, and consequently didn’t have any classes with him. I was also interested in networking as well, and I was able to sit in on those lectures when I could. Even after graduation, Mr. Poettker likes to keep up with his student and their careers.

Instructors at Ranken notice you and will speak for you. Work hard, pay attention, have good work ethic. These things stand out to faculty and to your employers. Many potential employers contact Ranken faculty and ask “Who do you recommend? Who’s your best? What do you think of X?” I’ve gotten many interviews and multiple new hires by asking those very same questions of the instructors. I’ve also made recommendations for hiring based on the results of those questions. Your instructors pay attention,

Josh Udell, service desk coordinator at Datotel and Brooke Henderson

I try to stay involved in both technical and non-technical groups in the St. Louis, community where I live. Whether that’s attending local VMware User Group (VMUG) meetings or volunteering with my neighborhood association, staying active in the communities in which I live and work is very important to me. I also try to channel my inner ‘grandma’ with container gardening and cross-stitch.”

“Because of what I learned at Ranken, I really can deliver the best service to my customers.”
Distinguished Alumni Honored

Ranken graduates are honored each year for ‘sustaining the reputation of David Ranken Jr. through character, leadership, service and financial support.’

This peer nominated, and peer reviewed award was created to honor Ranken graduates who continue to be active on campus long after graduation. For the first time since 2010, an award was given posthumously to a graduate, faculty member and mentor who continues to have an impact today. Read about our Distinguished Alumnus and the Distinguished Young Alumnus and their continued dedication to Ranken Technical College.

Distinguished Alumnus Recipient Awarded Posthumously - Robert R. Ruth, Automotive Maintenance 1942 - Faculty, Department Head, Mentor (1922-2012)

After graduating from Clayton High School, Bob entered the David Ranken Jr. School of Mechanical Trades automotive classes. After graduation, he joined the U.S. Navy, serving during WWII (1942-1946). He went to work for local Ford and Chrysler dealerships as an automotive mechanic before joining Ranken as a full-time instructor in the automotive division in 1964. He retired in November of 1984, although he continued to teach evening school through the fall semester of 1987. Mr. Ruth was awarded an honorary associate degree in 1995, the second awarded in the school’s history. In October 2012, Robert Raymond Ruth passed away at the age of 90.

Remembering his association with Bob, John Wood, a 1975 Ranken Automotive Maintenance graduate and current Vice President of Student Success said, “I will always remember Bob as Mr. Ruth (as a student I never called him Bob until we were teaching full-time together at Ranken). He called me while I was working at a repair shop in Wood River, Ill., in 1984. I didn’t know it then, but Al Davenport, John Wilson and the rest of the automotive department were listening in on the phone call, encouraging Bob to outline the benefits of working at Ranken Technical College. He convinced me to come to Ranken, apply and interview for an opening in the Automotive Maintenance Technology department. You might say that Bob was a mentor to me in my early years at Ranken. He used to say, ‘go to the classroom loaded for bear.’ What he meant was to always be well prepared and have plenty to teach to students. Thanks, Mr. Ruth.”

Long after his retirement, Bob could still be found on campus giving an invocation at an alumni meeting or graduation ceremony. Mr. Ruth was an elder and deacon at his church, even helping out in the nursery in his later years. He was honored with a 50-year Ranken Service Award from past President Ben Ernst, and in 2007, named as one of Ranken’s Top 100 Alumni in celebration of the school’s centennial. Today his legacy in the automotive industry lives on with a scholarship in his honor created by former students and family members. The Robert R. Ruth Memorial Scholarship provides financial assistance annually to students enrolled in the automotive maintenance program.

His son, Steve Ruth, was on hand to accept the award.

Distinguished Young Alumni Award - Jessie L. Clawson, Precision Machining 2011

Jessie grew up in Hazelwood, Missouri, attending Hazelwood West High School and graduating in 1991. In high school, she was introduced to her future - Industrial Arts. She found building and fixing things fascinating and rewarding, so enrolling at Ranken for the machining program was a natural choice.

Upon graduation from Ranken in 2011, her first job in machining was at Seyer Industries which builds electrical systems and assemblies of aerospace ground support equipment. In 2012, she began working in her current position as a machinist for Endoscopy Development Company in Earth City, Mo., where precision is taken to a much higher standard.

Jessie’s life is full of good things and giving back is part of it. An active member of the Alumni Mentor Program for women at Ranken, Jessie has also established a scholarship to promote the trades and women in machining, and most importantly, to help other women discover a solid future. She has continued to ‘pay it forward’ each year with steadily increasing scholarship funds. “Am I rich? No, not at all. Anyone can give what I give. You can plan for it and make it happen,” states Clawson, encouraging others to follow in her footsteps.

In four short years, she has done much to promote women in Precision Machining Technology. Four women have already benefitted from the Jessica Clawson Scholarship. “Rarely in life can you see what the immediate positive impact is on someone’s future. I love meeting and hearing from the scholarship recipients each year and seeing how well they have been doing.”

Jessie continues to find joy in “fixing things,” like rebuilding motorcycles in her spare time. She also enjoys riding her BMW R1200R motorcycle. Continuing in her success, Jessie will soon begin working at Gateway BMW. Of her profession, Jessie says, “I chose machining because I love the challenges, the always in-demand skills I have developed and most of all, the respect I get as a machinist.”

Pictured Left: Steve Ruth and Jessie Clawson holding the perpetual plaque displaying names of all distinguished alumni.
Graduates Return as Recruiters

These Ranken graduates returned to the spring job fair to hire Ranken students graduating in May. We are proud of their success as graduates and appreciate their support by hiring new graduates to the local workforce. Thank you for coming back!

Golden Anniversary Celebrated

On May 9, 15 Golden Graduates, their spouses and family members attended a special breakfast ceremony preceding Spring Commencement to be recognized for their 50 year anniversary of graduating from Ranken. During the event, each Golden Grad received a pin and certificate from President Stan Shoun commemorating their 50-year milestone. This year’s group of Golden Graduates included members of the Class of 1962, 1964 and 1965.

After breakfast, the group led a procession of the 2015 graduating class who were dressed in red and black caps and gowns. Golden Graduates were cheered on by family and friends seated in the arena. Many never had the opportunity during the 1960s to attend their graduation celebration due to work or serving in the military. Ranken welcomed graduate Albert Mondia who travelled from Kelowna, British Columbia, to participate in the event.

Golden Graduates Celebrants

E. Marty Riley 1962 ARCHT
Jack E. Cleaver 1962 RFHT
Patrick A. Voelkel 1965 AUMNT
Roy, L. Crocker 1965 CMELT
Arthur B. Thaller 1965 HVAC
James E. Dierkes 1965 INEET
William Fedrick 1965 INEET
William R. Fennewald 1965 INEET
Albert P. Mondia 1965 INEET
Robert J. Terry 1965 INEET
Richard L. Hughes 1965 MCHST
Theodore B. Boerding 1965 MECHD
Dennis L. Gusewelle 1965 MECHD
David Neil Coulter 1965 PMCHT

Alumni Association Scholarship Fund

Ranken has increased scholarship support in recent years, but there are still students who would like to attend the College and need financial assistance. Last year more than 700 students received grants and private scholarship support, that number continues to grow.

Each year 100% of the scholarship contributions that are received are awarded based upon the following criteria: financial need, academic standing and work ethic. Recipients of the Alumni Scholarship Fund will be posted each year on the College’s website. Students who have received the Scholarship so far include Theo Murphy, Information Technology 2014, Anthony Zinser, Architecture 2014, Bea Camille Padua, Information Technology 2015, Leah Sueme, anticipated graduation Industrial Maintenance 2016.

Consider these facts when making a charitable contribution:

- 90% of Ranken students receive financial aid.
- The average unmet need (after Pell grants, student loans and scholarships) is $2,500 to $3,000 per student.
- A total of $2.2 million in grants and scholarships are awarded at Ranken each year and the need continues to grow.
- The number of students needing financial assistance is also increasing (740 in FY 2014-2015)
- The cost of education continues to go up as does the cost of tools, equipment and supplies.

For more information, please contact Kathy Fern in the Alumni office (314) 286-4895.
In Memoriam

Ranken faculty and staff extend their sympathy to the families and friends of the following graduates who we have learned have passed away. Keeping in touch with our graduates is important to us. If you know of other Ranken graduates who have passed away, please contact Kathy Fern (314) 286-4895 in Alumni Relations or email ktfern@ranken.edu.

- Bernard J. Honigfort Sr. (Architectural Drafting and Design 1955) - April 2015
- John J. Niehaus (Machine Shop 1951) - March 2015
- Dan O’Leary (Carpentry 1953) - January 2015
- James Hefner (Machine Shop 1963) - January 2015
- Earl H. Sandweg (Automotive Body Repair 1934) - January 2015 at the age of 98.
- Robert Gehner (Automotive Maintenance 1965) - December 2014
- William J. (Bill) Roth (Machine Shop 1936) - December 2014 at the age of 97.
- N. Gene Cowen Sr. (Industrial Electricity/Electronics 1955) - November 2014
- Vernon O. Hoelscher (Machine Shop 1949) - November 2014 at the age of 98.
- Joe Finazzo (Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning 1941) - September 2014 at the age of 92.
- James L. Cook (Automotive Maintenance 1966) - August 2014
- Charles Pick (Automotive Maintenance 1948) - July 2014
- James C. Bauer (Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning 1976) - May 2014
- William Anson (Automotive Maintenance 1949) - September 2013
- William Sandrock (Industrial Electronics/Electricity 1949) - September 2013
- James R. Powell (Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning 1963) - March 2013
- Tom W. Brown (Mechanical Drafting 1965) - February 2013
- Julius Filla (Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning 1948) - January 2013
- David Peludat (Machine Shop 1970) - December 2012
- Ralph Neubert (Plumbing 1963) - April 2012
- Mark Newman (Communications Electronics) - April 2012
- Harold Mank (Carpentry 1941) - March 2012

Earl H. Sandweg
Auto Body Repair 1934

Born in St Louis during the depression, The Sandweg family was unable to afford an education for both Earl and his older brother, Harold. So Earl went to work delivering ice and coal. Harold graduated and went to work at the Baden Bank. Earl, due to his brother’s generosity, enrolled at what was then called the David Ranken Jr. School of Mechanical Trades. Earl graduated in June of 1934. A plaque honoring his brother Harold for providing his education hangs today in the automotive department.

Knowledge and skills obtained at Ranken gave Earl the ability to go to work at a car dealer in St. Louis before he was called to military service. Earl served with the Headquarters and Service Commission 922nd Engineering Aviation Regiment from Aug. 1943 - Nov. 1945 and was in the battles and campaigns at Normandy, North France, Rhineland, Ardennes and Central Europe. He received five bronze stars for his dedication and service. His older brother was killed in Germany in April 2, 1945 during the last days of the conflict. With the surrender of Germany his unit was ordered to deploy to the Pacific for the invasion of Japan. Thanks to another Missourian (Harry S. Truman) and the atom bomb, he did not have to face the ‘kill or be killed’ confrontation for the sixth time. Learning of the death of his brother and having a mother and father that needed him at home more than ever, he was able to return to St. Louis.

Using funds saved while at war, he managed to gather enough money to buy property in downtown St. Louis, then build and open Sandweg’s Auto Body Shop, which he operated for over 30 years. His business model was simple, work was done to the very best of his knowledge, skills and ability. His supplies and consumables were paid for in cash at the time of delivery to the business. In the office hung a large sign “CASH ONLY NO CHECKS OR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED, NO EXCEPTIONS”, at your acceptance of my work you will pay me in U.S. greenbacks that say “In God We Trust”.

In his later years he traveled to England, France, Russia and Ireland to see how the world had healed. Like most men of that era, he was very humble and modest when recounting the details of his WWII service. He liked the profound statement by Calvin Coolidge: “No person was ever honored for what they received; Honor has been the reward for what they gave.” Earl passed away in January 2015 at the age of 98. As a member of the David Ranken Legacy Society, he continued to support Ranken throughout his career and life, even in his passing, along with other local charities. Whether at Ranken or the shop on North Broadway, Earl has left his mark in the community and nation, and will be fondly remembered by many.
Graduates Rekindle Old Friendships

Former classmates from the 1962 Mechanical Drafting class renew a decades old friendship every year.

Two years after reconnecting in Ste. Genevieve, Mo., Ed Collier, Phil Freeman, Larry Leuck, Jim Thornhill and Delmer Williams and their wives have become friends and travel companions. In their travels together, they have visited Eureka Springs, Ark., and Branson, Mo. Larry Leuck says, “It’s surprising how much these guys are the same as I remember them from our Ranken days. All of us are retired or semi-retired and in a position to travel. We plan ahead, stay in nice rental homes, our wives go along and get along with each other. We all have a great time together and we all just enjoy spending time together.”

If you would like to make a connection with former classmates, contact Kathy Fern in the Alumni Office at (314) 286-4895 or email her at ktfern@ranken.edu.

Search and Shop Online to Benefit Ranken

What if Ranken Technical College earned a donation every time you searched the Internet? How would you feel if a percentage of every online purchase you made went to support our education mission? Well, now it can!

- Now patented and backed by Oprah, Good Housekeeping, Fortune, PC World, New York Times and ABC, GoodSearch.com is a Yahoo-powered search engine that donates about a penny per search in advertising revenue to the charities its users designate. If 1,000 people with the same charity search twice a day for a year, the charity earns a donation of $7,300. The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation has already earned $12,500 and the ASPCA has earned $30,000! Designate Ranken and use Goodsearch just as you would any other Internet search engine; get quality search results, and watch the donations for Ranken add up! This is an easy and simple way to support Ranken and the students working hard for a future in a technical trade.

To start earning donations for Ranken, go to www.goodsearch.com, choose Ranken Technical College in the ‘Who Do You Search For’ box and search away. Each time you search using Goodsearch, Ranken will benefit! 92,000+ charities already benefit each day from Goodsearch users. You can even download a toolbar for easy access.

- GoodShop.com is an online shopping mall that donates up to 30 percent of each purchase to your designated cause! More than 1,000 great stores, including Amazon, Target, Gap, Best Buy, eBay, Macy’s and Barnes & Noble have teamed up with GoodShop. Amazon Smile is another simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you’ll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. With GoodShop and Amazon Smile, you can support Ranken every time you place an order online!

Contact Director of Alumni Relations Kathy Fern by calling 314-286-4895 or email ktfern@ranken.edu with questions or for assistance.
Gregory Helfrich, BSE, MSE
Architecture Design and Drafting Technology 1972

“Reflecting back on my 35 year career in drinking water treatment, regulatory compliance and facility design, it’s clear that Ranken played a critical role.

My time in Architectural Design and Drafting took me from a small farming community into a program where I could learn, mature and better understand the business world. Graduating from Ranken in 1972 gave me the confidence that I could do whatever I put my mind to. After graduation I worked for a consulting engineering firm in Springfield, Ill., as a drafter. There I was exposed to a fascinating world that revolved around the water in our environment and the engineering principles connected to it. After working for a year my interest in continuing my education and connecting it to water lead me to the University of Illinois. The Ranken confidence and growing maturity allowed me to complete my Master’s degree in Environmental Engineering in five years.

Ranken gave me the right tools mentally to develop interests, recognize opportunities and using openness and objectivity find my passion which was drinking water. Ranken is a foundation for many opportunities and those opportunities help define the path and the career that follows.

After graduation I worked in Tulsa, Oklahoma, for 10 years then in 1988 I joined Jordon, Jones and Goulding in Atlanta, Georgia, where we grew the firm’s drinking water division into a leadership role in technical excellence. Over the last 15 years I had the privilege to guide the 550 employees of that company as the Director of Business Development and then as a Regional Manager over our offices in three states.

Throughout my career in water, I have been so blessed in that I have been a part of teams that have improved and protected the drinking water, and quality of life, for millions of people. I will always hold Ranken in high regard for the foundation it gave me to determine my passion and pursue it fully. I absolutely believe I could not have accomplished what I have in my career without my Ranken education.

Ultimately, JJG was sold to an international firm five years ago. I stayed on for another two years in business development division overseeing the employees in the transition. I retired in 2011 and since then every day is a Saturday.”

Alumni Entrepreneur Shares Tips for Success

President and Owner of Demand Remodeling and Restoration Dennis Daugherty (Industrial Electricity/Electronics 1998) spoke to students from the Industrial Maintenance Technology program during the Alumni Entrepreneur Workshop last week.

Daugherty discussed his decision to leave a job in the electrical field to begin his first company and the hard work it takes to make a company thrive in today’s economy. He talked about the importance of business plans, how nurturing a good reputation and relationships are the key to success, and told students to learn as much as they can from everybody in the company to become well-rounded in the field. He also cautioned students to remember what is important in their lives - reputation, family and work ethic, and told students to work on proving themselves in order to earn money.

Daugherty admits that he is more suited for work as a marketing and PR professional and struggled as an electrician after graduation. After a short stint in the electrical field at Guarantee Electric, Daugherty began his first start-up and consulted for five multi-million dollar companies. His business grew rapidly, but went under when the recession hit. Now, with Demand Remodeling and Restoration, his plan for growth has been a successful one with work in St. Charles, St. Louis, Madison and St. Clair Counties.

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The next Alumni Entrepreneur Workshop will be held in September 2015, featuring Service Manager for Plaza Motors Herb Williams (Automotive Maintenance Technology 1978). The February 2016 presentation will feature Kevin Haller (Automotive Collision Technology 1987), general manager for Schaefer Autobody Centers and the 2014 Distinguished Young Alumni Award recipient.
class notes

Curious as to what your classmates are doing these days? Or want to let them know where you are? Visit our website www.ranken.edu to submit your personal information to keep us informed or to read more about our successful graduates at our website ranken.edu. You can also contact Kathy Fern, Director of Alumni Relations, by phone (314) 286-4895, or email ktfern@ranken.edu. We’d like to hear from you, too.

Here is news from some graduates who have kept in touch.

1940s

A.W. Ashley (Automotive Maintenance 1948) described how he went to work in the ‘40s. “My instructor received a call from the Cadillac dealer in Clayton who wanted the top three men in the class. I was one of them who was sent over and we all went to work. I didn’t stay long because I had carpenter skills and I was working in maintenance instead of on cars. I went to work at a small shop at home in Crossville, Ill., and became the shop foreman. Later, I bought 50% of the business and my classmate and I became partners. We worked together for 30 years then I bought his share. In my retirement, I’ve owned a carpet business, worked as a maintenance man, and now am a woodcarver. Ranken made it all possible.”

Elmer Luckett (Industrial Maintenance 1947) went to Ranken on the G.I. Bill after a stint in the Navy. He stated in a recent telephone conversation, “Going to Ranken helped me sit for the licensing exam sooner than the usual process. I would have otherwise had to have worked for two years, been sponsored and recommended by my supervisor. Ranken’s classes were my ‘meal ticket’ to work. I was able to take the exam and get my license after six months instead. I passed it on the first time!”

1950s

Clark Ashburn (Automotive Maintenance 1956) went to work as a Studebaker mechanic after graduation at DeGrendle Motors in Kirkwood, Mo. He also taught computer graphics at the Art Institute of Texas, where he and his wife owned a computer graphics business together. He lives in Spring, Tex., and is now retired.

Carlton Holmes (Automotive Maintenance 1956) came to St. Louis with his father who was transferred here from New Hampshire. Carlton enrolled in the automotive program and worked at DeGrendle Motors long enough to buy a bus ticket back to New Hampshire. He worked on cars, owned a construction business and relocated to Florida where worked on the boatyards until he was hired at the Kennedy Space Center. He worked on salvage rocket boosters of the space shuttle until he retired in 2000. He now divides his spare time between New Hampshire and Florida. Carlton and Clark Ashburn were classmates and continue to keep in touch today.

Donald Blanton (Automotive Maintenance 1955) retired in 1992 from Dave Sinclair Ford after 37 years as a mechanic.

Albert J. Brown (Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning 1950) started at Illinois Power after seven years in refrigeration and retired as a supervisor in gas distribution from Ameren in 1989. Both his father, Albert Thomas Brown and his uncle, Walter Hagenlocher were electrical graduates from Ranken.

1960s

Joe Davis ( Automotive Maintenance 1962) retired in 2009 from the automotive industry but continues to do generators, starters and alternators for the farmers in his area. He and his wife Kathleen have raised five children and are enjoying their five grand-children. They now reside in Linwood, Kan.

Robert DeMoulin ( Architecture Technology 1960) stayed in drafting for eight years after Ranken then joined the police force along with fellow classmate Bob Downey. DeMoulin retired in 1994 after 30 years on the force and lives in Elsberry, Mo.

1970s

Michael Nesbit (Diesel Maintenance 1977) is a supervisor for Bi-State Development Agency/the Metro system.

Steve Jansen (Control Systems Technology 1977) took over the family electrical business in 1991 and is now the president of Jansen Electric in Quincy, Ill.

Nicholas Buchheit (Automotive Collision Repair 1976) is retiring in July after 39 years in the collision repair industry. His son, Eric is also a Ranken graduate.

David Graham (Architecture Technology 1973) is president of Graham Group Architecture in Pawleys Island, S.C.

Pete Kostecki (Automotive Maintenance 1971) retired on July 1, 2013 from Emerson after 32 years as a security officer.

1980s


David King (Industrial Maintenance 1987) is a controls engineer for Ehrhardt Tool & Machine Company.

Stephen Devine (Communications Electronics 1985), a Top 100 Ranken graduate, recently retired from the State of Missouri in January 2015 and is now employed by the Missouri State Highway Patrol Communications Division, Missouri Department of Public Safety as a Radio Operator-Frequency Coordinator-Assistant Director for Missouri Statewide Interoperability Network (MOSWIN). “This is the world’s largest public safety communications organization. As Project 25 Manager which manages the interactions and work products associated with public safety’s digital radio standard and its...
evolution. The position will enable me to act nationally as an advocate for public safety communications.”

Donald Butler (Automotive Maintenance 1985) is a district manager for Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company and resides in Aurora, Col.

Tom Gieseking (Automotive Maintenance 1984) is currently the Assistant Vice President of Service Operations for Enterprise Rent-A-Car and recently celebrated his 27th year of employment with them. Tom has been married for 23 years and has a daughter and a son. He loves to golf and go boating with his family at the Lake of the Ozarks and working on/driving his muscle car. Tom is a member of the Ranken Board of Trustees.

Scott Krone (Automotive Collision Repair 1984) lives in Worden, Ill., and is the owner and technician of Krone’s Auto Repair since 1994.

Keith McCarty (Industrial Maintenance 1982) is a group manager in automation at Boeing. He has followed in the path of his father Daniel Eugene McCarty by attending Ranken and so has his son-in-law John Timothy Nixon. Keith recalls, “The great friendships developed with fellow classmates and Mr. Heineken my electrical instructor. Without him or my friends in the class, I don’t think I would have made it to graduation.”

Patrick Rois (Heating Ventilation, Air Conditioning 1981) retired in 2014 after 28 years of service at Sears Roebuck & Company and lives in Wentzville, Mo.

1990s

Tony Scoles (Automotive Maintenance 1999) is the secondary math curriculum coordinator for Ft. Zumwalt School District in Wentzville, Mo. “The Ranken experience played a significant part in my engineering education and then in seeking a career in K-12 education (even though it meant leaving the automotive industry that Ranken trained me well for).”

Gary Harris (Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning 1998) is a maintenance engineer for Boeing for sixteen years.

Sam Hahn (Carpentry 1997) is self-employed in the construction industry and lives in Park Hills, Mo.

Jeff Stiening (Automotive Maintenance 1996) is the owner of Midwest Mechanical and Life Safety Services located in Waterloo, Ill.

Scott Mabrey (Industrial Maintenance 1996) is a maintenance technician for Lear Corporation.

Jeff Statler (Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning 1990) is the owner of Grand America Jukebox in St. Charles, Mo., where he buys, sells and restores vintage Coca Cola Machines, jukeboxes, pinball machines, video games and bowling machines.

Bill Layman (Industrial Electricity/Electronics 1993) started a new position as an estimator and project manager with Birkel Electric located in Chesterfield, Mo.

Gary Fuller (Industrial Electricity/Electronics 1993) is an electrician for Global Brass & Copper.

2000s

Mark Mills (Plumbing 2010) was married to Mary Weber in May 2015 and works for Vi-Jon distribution in St. Charles, Mo.

Josh Thompson (Precision Machining 2009) is now a module coordinator for Everwear Inc., and along with his wife Katie, welcomed Mila to the family in September 2014 joining brothers Conner and Liam.

Kyle Morin (Architecture Technology 2009) is a CAD designer for Horner & Shifrin, Inc.

David Luna (Electrical Automation Technology 2009) is an electrician for Lowry Electric.

Jarrod Frazier (Automotive Maintenance 2009) is employed at Metro Bi-State in St. Louis, Mo., and was recently married to Ashleigh Tepen of Jerseyville, Ill.

Blake Kreutzberg (Carpentry 2007) is now a superintendent for Tarlton Corporation and lives in Edwardsville, Ill. About Ranken Blake wrote, “I enjoyed the overall experience”.

Jeff Wyman (Precision Machining 2007), a machinist with JB Gury Manufacturing Inc., in St. Louis, was married to Breanna Herschelman in May 2015.

Eric Buchheit (Automotive Maintenance 2007) is the service manager for Premier Automotive located in Hazelwood, Mo.

Ryan Goodall (Architecture Technology 2006) is a draftsman for ADB Companies and lives in Union, Mo.

Matthew Aholt (Industrial Electricity/Electronics 2005) is an electrician for AB-In Bev.

Manuel Olvera (Computer Networking 2005) of O’Fallon, Ill., emigrated from Mexico to California with his family as a child, later moved to Illinois and graduated from O’Fallon Township High School and Ranken Technical College. Along with his wife, Cecelia, he recently opened Taqueria Olvera in the Market Place shopping center in Fairview Heights, Ill.

Thomas Krohn (Industrial Electricity/Electronics 2004) is an electrician for Phillips 66.

Chris Rahn (Automotive Maintenance 2002) co-owner (along with his wife Tammy) of Hometown Auto Repair in Waterloo, Ill., teaches automotive courses for women in Waterloo. His last one in November 2014 was “What Women Need to Know About Maintaining a Car”.

Walter Simms (Electrical Automation/Control Systems Technology 2001) is an air service technician for John Henry Foster Company. His favorite memory of Ranken are the hands-on training, the
skills competitions, the tutors and the great instructors.
Shane Smith (Industrial Maintenance 2000) has been employed at Jones Lang LaSalle for 13 years as an operations manager and lives in Fults, Ill.

Stephanie Yates Spann (Industrial Electricity 2000) is a Principal I&E Designer for the North America Central region of WorleyParsons in Tulsa, Okla.

Tony Scoles (Automotive Maintenance 2000) enrolled at MIT and graduated with an engineering degree, found his calling in Math and is now the STEM curriculum coordinator for Wentzville School District #4.

2010s

Konner Krebeck (Plumbing 2014) is a plumber’s apprentice with Kaemmerlen Enterprises and a member of the Pipefitters Union Local 562.

Theo Murphy (Information Technology 2014) and Megan Williams Murphy (Architecture 2012) added a daughter, Madelyn Rose to their family in March 2015. Theo recently graduated and is employed by MB Technology Solutions in Clayton, Mo.

Christian M. Smith (Information Technology 2014) wrote “As of October 2014, I am an IT administrator at Retail Technology Group, one of the large point-of-sale companies nationwide supplying customers such as Denny’s, Chuck E. Cheese, and Arbys with front to back solutions for their IT systems. I maintain customer images and update plans for network equipment in-house, as well as maintain current systems.”

Joshua Bone (Automotive Maintenance/ High Performance Racing Technology 2014) is engaged to Christina Moerschell and is planning a November 2015 wedding. Josh is a technician for Lou Fusz in Kirkwood, Mo.

Dan Borders (Precision Machining 2014) announced his engagement and marriage to Lindsey Ring. Dan is a machinist at Davis Tool & Die in Fenton, Mo.

Chris Schweiss (Architecture Technology 2013) recently received his Master degree in Architecture from SIU Carbondale and is employed by HDA Architects in Chesterfield, Mo.

Cody Schnetgoecke (Electrical System Design Technology 2013) is an estimator and designer for Benson Electric Company.

Alex Sueme (Industrial Maintenance 2011) is an industrial maintenance technician for Jost Chemical Company in Overland, Mo.

Ryan Olle (Control Systems Technology 2011) is an account executive for AVO Training Institute and lives in Frisco, Tex. He wrote, “I’m working in Dallas, Tex., providing electrical maintenance and safety training to technicians, engineers and supervisors from all over the world. My favorite memory of Ranken was completing the PLC project in Mr. Francis’s class and watching it work for the first time. It was an accomplishment that I still remember today.”

Michael Van Horn (Bachelor of Science in Applied Management 2010) is a readiness officer for the Missouri Army National Guard.

Jacob Becker (Control Systems Technology 2010) is a project engineer for EPIC Systems, Inc., and lives in Moscow Mills, Mo.

Show Ranken Pride on YOUR Ride!

Ranken license plates are available for Missouri residents! To get yours, simply contact Ranken’s Development office at (314) 286-4865 to get a Ranken Emblem Use Authorization (cost is a minimum $25 tax deductible donation*) and a Personalized and Specialty Plate Application Form 1716. Return the forms to your local Missouri license office. Process takes approximately ten weeks. *If you have already donated you are eligible.
Job Opportunities Per Graduate - Fall 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>Avg</th>
<th>Avg with 3-4 years exp.</th>
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<td>$24,000</td>
<td>$33,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Control Systems</td>
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<td>$38,000</td>
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<td>Electrical Automation</td>
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<td>Welding</td>
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<td>$24,000</td>
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as of spring 2014
Event Descriptions:

**Shadow-a-Tech**
Potential students are invited to spend part of their day on campus shadowing Ranken students to see what a technical education is all about! Please register online at www.ranken.edu/shadow.

**Employer Breakfast**
Businesses are invited to join us for breakfast from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. to learn more about Ranken and how to connect with our recent graduates. Please register online at www.ranken.edu or call the Career Services office at (314) 286-4821.

**Job Fairs**
All companies are invited to attend our job fair to meet Ranken students and accept resumes for open positions. For more information contact Janie Summers, director of Career Services at (314) 286-4821 or register your attendance online at www.ranken.edu.

**Open House**
Open House is the perfect opportunity a potential student to find their place on campus, meet instructors, tour our state-of-the-art shops and labs, learn about our outstanding job placement rates and meet other incoming students.

**Manufacturing Day**
Manufacturing classes from local high schools can register to spend the day with Ranken students and instructors. They will not only see what Ranken is all about, but will also have an opportunity to tour a live manufacturing facility. Limited space available, please contact our Admissions office to register your class or group.

**Teacher/Counselor Workshop**
Are you a teacher, counselor or administrator at a local high school or middle school? Then join us to learn more about the hands-on teaching method that makes Ranken the Midwest’s premiere technical college. Take a tour of campus, participate in a hands-on project, and network with other technical instructors as you take a day to explore the Ranken Experience.

**To Register:**
To register, or find out more about any of our events, visit our online calendar at ranken.edu/calendar
Phillips 66

$25,000 Scholarships and Equipment

Last fall, Phillips 66 made a generous contribution of $25,000 to Control System Technology in order to sponsor the Control Systems Technology (CST) classroom and the student handbook. We are grateful for their generous support and partnership. In May, 2015, the company announced a second gift of $25,000 to provide for five scholarships in CST and equipment for the program.

“We’ve been fortunate to have Ranken Technical College as a key school in our technical school recruiting portfolio supporting the Phillips 66 Midstream and Refining organizations. The quality of students and faculty continue to impress us and we look forward to continuing to grow this mutually beneficial relationship.” -Stephen Potts, Midstream HR Manager

Phillips 66, their employees, suppliers and partners share a vision to provide energy and improve lives. They provide high quality jobs to many Ranken students and deliver value to their shareholders. Their three core values are Safety, Honor and Commitment—Ranken is appreciative of that commitment to the College.

Adorjan Family Foundation

$10,000 Scholarship Fund

The Adorjan Family Foundation has been generously providing $10,000 in annual scholarship support to deserving Ranken students for many years. Joe Adorjan, a former Trustee of the College, and his wife established the scholarship five years ago to benefit Ranken students who otherwise might not be able to attend the College. Mr. Adorjan, a retired Emerson executive and local community and philanthropic leader, has been a good friend and benefactor of the College for many years. In particular, he has had a strong interest in helping Ranken students fulfill their educational aspirations with these scholarships.

American Family Insurance

$5,000 Scholarship Fund

In May 2015, American Family Insurance donated $5,000 to the Ranken Technical College general scholarship fund. This generous support will assist Ranken students in the pursuit of their educational goals. American Family Insurance protects dreams by helping strengthen and support individuals, families, neighborhoods and communities. Every year, the AmFam Corporate Giving Program provides more than $2.5 million in contributions as well as thousands of hours of volunteer work to nonprofit, charitable and community organizations throughout 19 operating states.

Mysun Charitable Foundation

$25,000 Adventure Academy Grant

Ranken is pleased to announce that the Mysun Charitable Foundation has awarded its first $25,000 grant to the College in support of our 2015 Summer Career Exploration Adventure Academy program. This year, the St. Louis campus hosted 23 Adventure Academy camps with an additional robotics camp based at Ranken Wentzville.

Through its giving, the Mysun Charitable Foundation is continuing the generous endeavors of the late Sunny and Myron Glassberg, St. Louis-based philanthropists who have supported our community’s finest educational, civic and cultural institutions. Mr. and Mrs. Glassberg were known for their conservation efforts through their many gifts to local parks and recreational facilities, but Mrs. Glassberg also supported scholarships for nontraditional students and helped to raise the funds needed to restore the 1904 World’s Fair Pavilion.

Ranken is thankful to have the Mysun Charitable Foundation’s support as the Adventure Academy continues to inspire middle and high school students to consider the STEM fields for their futures.

Designs for Tomorrow

$15,000 for Advanced Manufacturing

Designs for Tomorrow, Inc. led by Judith Baisch-Harris, President, has supported Ranken since 1987 in a wide variety of programs. Recently, they made a pledge of $15,000 to support Advanced Manufacturing scholarships and equipment. We are grateful for this gift and sincerely appreciate their partnership and support.

Designs for Tomorrow, Inc. is an innovative industry leader established in 1958 in Maryland Heights, their motto is “Where Today’s Challenges Become Tomorrow’s Reality.” They are committed to a single goal which is to rank among the finest Precision Machining facilities in the Midwest. Their mission is a commitment to exceptional customer service which they accomplish by surpassing customers’ expectations, product development and quality precision machining.
JOIN THE
DAVID RANKEN JR.
LEGACY SOCIETY TODAY!

Alumni and friends who included Ranken Technical College in their estate planning enabled Larry Kelso to achieve his goal of becoming an auto collision repairman and his dream of owning his own business.

You, too, can help Ranken students achieve career success.

By including Ranken in your will or living trust, your generous gift funds programs, new technologies, even scholarships.

Have a lasting impact for generations to come.

Make a Plan to Join the David Ranken Jr. Legacy Society. Today!

THANKS FOR YOUR TRUST IN ME

Larry Kelso, Auto Collision Repair – 1989

For more information, contact Mike Hawley, director of major gifts and planning giving, at (314) 286-4846 or mehawley@ranken.edu.