

# the **ranken** experience



How's the job  
market for  
our Electrical  
graduates?  
Shockingly good.

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Distinguished Alumni  
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## note from the president stan shoun

As we begin another busy summer at the College, we are planning not only this season's fun and learning, but also ways to ensure the College continues to expand and prosper.

Ranken has experienced record growth in the last four years. This is due to reasons under the College's control (expanded recruitment territory, new classes and expanded course sections, more strategic enrollment procedures) and reason's outside the College's control (a weakened economy, more students seeking education and skills for job changes).

Currently, money for student loans to fund this increased enrollment is abundant, but with Americans holding more than \$1 trillion in student loan debt, the current system may not be sustainable. To plan for this eventuality, Ranken must always strive to decrease student expenses for tuition, books and tools. We must also find additional revenue sources for our students, including grants, scholarships and – most importantly – industry partnerships. We must also make every effort to keep our curriculum relevant to evolving technologies and develop the most efficient, effective pathways to gaining and succeeding in a technical career.

In addition to curriculum changes, the St. Louis campus has seen a lot of change this year, as well. We've completed numerous major renovation projects, including the Mary Ann Lee Technology Center, which houses the High Performance Racing Technology, Industrial Maintenance and Fabrication and Welding programs, and the Rodenheiser building, which houses our Automotive programs. Ranken's Community Development Corporation (RCDC), a non-profit organization in which students use their skills to build houses in the neighborhood surrounding the College, has completed construction on its 53rd house.

In order to take our unique educational formula to an even broader audience, we have established a new location in Wentzville, Missouri. Ranken Wentzville allows area students to receive a Ranken-quality technical education without travelling far from home. To cater to the needs of the Wentzville area, we have developed several new curricula which will be offered at the location, including Building Systems Engineering Technology (BSYET) and Advanced Manufacturing (AMFGT). We are currently in the planning stage for a Diesel program, to begin in fall 2014.

At the St. Louis campus, industry partnerships with bioMerieux, Hunter Engineering, Ehrhardt Tool & Machine, Triad Manufacturing, Kemco Aerospace and a newly-formed partnership with Emerson have given students the opportunity to gain real-world skills while in an educational environment.

In the coming year, Ranken will continue to change and grow, always looking for the best ways to bring a high-quality technical education to the broadest possible audience and fulfilling our mission of providing the comprehensive education and training necessary to prepare students for employment and advancement in a variety of technical fields. We invite you to partner with us in that mission.

### PROGRAM KEY

<b>ASYST</b>	<b>Alarm Systems Technology</b>
<b>AMFGT</b>	<b>Advanced Manufacturing Technology</b>
<b>ARCHT</b>	<b>Architectural Technology</b>
<b>ACRPR</b>	<b>Automotive Collision Repair Technology</b>
<b>AFMCT</b>	<b>Automotive Fleet Management</b>
<b>AUMNT</b>	<b>Automotive Maintenance Technology</b>
<b>MNGMT</b>	<b>Bachelor of Science in Applied Management</b>
<b>BSYET</b>	<b>Building Systems Engineering Technology</b>
<b>CRPCT</b>	<b>Carpentry and Building Construction</b>
<b>CRPMN</b>	<b>Carpentry Maintenance</b>
<b>CCNPT</b>	<b>Cisco Certified Professional Training</b>
<b>CMPNT</b>	<b>Computer Networking Technology</b>
<b>CNSYT</b>	<b>Control Systems Technology</b>
<b>ELEAT</b>	<b>Electrical Automation Technology</b>
<b>ELCDM</b>	<b>Electrical Construction Design and Management</b>
<b>ELMNT</b>	<b>Electrical Maintenance</b>
<b>ELSDT</b>	<b>Electrical Systems Design Technology</b>
<b>FBWLT</b>	<b>Fabrication and Welding Technology</b>
<b>HVACT</b>	<b>Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Technology</b>
<b>AHPRT</b>	<b>High Performance Racing Technology</b>
<b>INDST</b>	<b>Industrial Technology</b>
<b>INFOT</b>	<b>Information Technology</b>
<b>IWEBT</b>	<b>Internet and Web-based Technology</b>
<b>MAPLT</b>	<b>Major Appliance Technology</b>
<b>PLBMT</b>	<b>Plumbing Technology</b>
<b>PMCHT</b>	<b>Precision Machining Technology</b>
<b>STENG</b>	<b>Stationary Engineering</b>

## Congratulations to Ranken's 2013 Graduates!

**On Saturday, May 11 Ranken held its 2013 commencement ceremony** at Chaifetz Arena on the Saint Louis University campus. This year, 889 students were eligible to graduate and more than 500 students participated in the ceremony.

"The staff and faculty did a great job organizing the ceremony, moving students into position, and keeping everything on schedule," said John Wood, vice president for student success. "We had more students walk, and in less time than last year because it went so well. All of the board members commented on how nice the ceremony was."

The keynote speaker for the event was Thomas A. Giesecking, vice president of corporate service operations for Enterprise Rent-a-Car, and Automotive '84 alumnus. Giesecking was the first Ranken graduate to be hired by Enterprise, starting as a call center technical advisor and steadily rising through the ranks after a move to the company's corporate office in 1991. Celebrating 25 years with the company next summer, Giesecking has paved the way to success at Enterprise for many Ranken graduates.



Following Giesecking's address, Wood presented anniversary graduate recognitions and the David Ranken, Jr. Award, which was given to Carpentry & Building Construction Technology student Thomas Michael Hapner.

This award goes to a Ranken graduate who epitomizes the concepts that David Ranken, Jr. believed, which related to academic achievement, work ethic and leadership. Hapner graduated Magna Cum Laude with a nearly perfect attendance record. He is also a member of the Phi Theta Kappa society and was recently named "student of the month" by his peers in the Alpha Tau Chi chapter.





## New Wentzville Location Holds Grand Opening

**On March 14, Ranken held a grand opening and open house event for its new location in Wentzville, Mo.**

Approximately 370 guests, which included potential students, local business leaders, teachers, counselors and alumni, attended the event held at the new facility located on Parr Road. To start the event, several members of the Wentzville Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon-cutting ceremony in front of the building and presented Jeremy Sutton, site director, with a framed one-dollar bill.

"I was very pleasantly surprised by the turnout," said Sutton. "I wasn't sure what to expect but it stayed busy the entire evening. We are really excited to get students here in the shops and classrooms and watch this location grow."



The Wentzville Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the grand opening of Ranken Wentzville

This summer, courses in Information Technology, Automotive and the Bachelor's Degree in Applied Management began. In fall 2013 Advanced Manufacturing and Building Systems Design Technology programs will be added. An eagerly-awaited Diesel program will begin in the fall of 2014.

"I think a lot of people in this area have been waiting for this," stated a potential Automotive student. "Now we have the opportunity to get a Ranken education without the drive into downtown St. Louis."



## 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](mailto:BSAM@ranken.edu).



## Congratulations Virginia Graduates!

**Ranken, in partnership with Central Virginia Community College and The Babcock & Wilcox Company (B&W), currently offers a Bachelor of Science program for Region 2000 (an interwoven network of organizations within 2,000 square miles that surround Lynchburg, Va.).**

The program's curriculum, which was developed with input from B&W, includes project management, global business strategy, risk management, marketing, employment law and small business management. Under this program, students can build on their technical aptitude and existing college and/or work experience by pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Applied Management degree through Ranken in a local setting. Three students, Thomas Riner, Sr., Jonathan Witt and Ananda Murthy attended a ceremony in April to honor them as Virginia graduates.

Riner has been an employee with B&W's Nuclear Operations Group (NOG) for more than 15 years and has held numerous positions throughout the company in laboratories, Development Engineering, Quality Engineering, and Process Improvement. Whitt has held the executive director of the Region 2000 Technology Council title since 2003. He has been a key player in the development of several regional technology-based economic development projects, including the creation of the Region 2000 Partnership, the Center for Advanced Engineering and Research, the Future Focus Educational Foundation, and the Lynchburg Regional Governor's STEM Academy. Murthy holds a bachelor's degree from Bangalore University in India, Oracle database administration certification and has worked with Y2K, Ericsson, and has traveled quite a bit training librarians in Unix and Oracle.

"I am taking this course to achieve one of my goals, which is to earn an undergraduate degree. I would like to move into a management role, which is why the BSAM was so attractive to me." - Thomas Riner

"I have very much enjoyed, and learned a lot through, the BSAM program offered by Ranken. As a soon-to-be graduate I encourage everyone to stick with the program and encourage your colleagues to join you. There cannot be a better learning format than this one for the working adult." - Jonathan Whitt

"The BSAM program was a 'godsend' for me because

I was looking to get a four-year degree with flexibility of class schedule and with the state tuition rate. I am hoping that receiving this degree shall be the turning point in my life." - Ananda Murthy

## Gearheads Come Together for 10th Annual Car Show

**On April 21, the Ranken community and gearheads from the area gathered to honor Ranken Alumni and to get a look at the 259 registered dream cars in attendance at the 10th Annual Car Show and Alumni Reunion.**

Forty alums came to the event for the annual alumni lunch. The lunch was sponsored by Schaefer Autobody Centers, who employ many Ranken graduates. The Kiwanis Grill Team also provided the food and alumnus Rick Jones volunteered at the kettle corn stand.

The Spark Plug Challenge sponsored by ET Tuning in High Ridge, Mo., and the Football Throw games brought a steady stream of people, keeping volunteers busy all day. Game volunteers included many Ranken Student Ambassadors, Ranken Car Club members and Ranken alumni; Mike Schweiss, Don Huster, Nate Allen, Larry Schmidt, John Weber, Dave Riley, and Kevin Haller.

Thank you to the many other donors and volunteers who contributed to the Car Show: Akzo Nobel, Lewis and Clark College, Mo-Vo Tech, ATI, Reliance Automotive, LKQ Salvage, Brock Auto Parts, Gateway Classic Cars, Kenny Wallace Fan Club, Meramec Golf Course, Snap-On, Great Clips, Wilke Window and Door, River City Rascals, 3M Automotive, Jeanine Stuart, Joe Marino, Dave Graf, Jim Kyle and Kevin Webb.



One of the many dream cars in attendance at Ranken's 10th Annual Car Show





## Ranken's Automotive Building Gets an Update

**Plans to remodel the Rodenheiser building, home to most of Ranken's Automotive division, have been years in the making.**

Last fall, crews began construction of a new addition to Rodenheiser that attaches to the easternmost part of the building, which according to Ranken's history book, could be the oldest structure on campus. The newly designed east wing of Rodenheiser is now ready to go and is currently housing summer classes. Shops are also open in the wing, as well as a lounge area featuring a TV and fully stocked vending machines (furniture will arrive in July).

This summer, the Rodenheiser building is getting another major face lift as the entire front wall of the structure is removed to correct structural issues and to allow for the construction of a more modern designed Automotive building.

"We are really excited to finally get to show off this new state-of-the art facility," said Derek Babcock, Information and Facilities director. "This building is going to provide our Automotive students and faculty with a much better environment for teaching and learning and a true hands-on experience."

The final product will include more than 26,000 square feet of new and remodeled space, which will include classrooms, shops, a student lounge, a double-sided, ADA-compliant elevator and rest rooms. The goal date

for completion of this phase of the Rodenheiser building is one week before fall classes begin on August 27.



SkillsUSA competitors gather for a group photo

## Ranken Cleans Up at SkillsUSA

**Campus was bustling on February 1, as Ranken acted as host of the East District SkillsUSA Championship.** Guests included visiting competitors, judges and advisors from six area schools. Out of the more than 150 contestants, 33 were Ranken students. Five Ranken students also competed at the Computer Science contests, which were hosted at St. Louis Community College - Forest Park.

Thirty-one Ranken students took first or second place and were eligible to move on to the state competition held at Linn State Technical College on April 4-6. At the state competition, Ranken came out on top with two individuals and two three-person teams qualifying for the SkillsUSA National Competition, to be held June 24-28, 2013 in Kansas City.

Ranken provided scholarships to all

high school students who placed first, second or third in their contests at the East District and state competitions, and will continue to provide scholarships to those students who go on to place at the National level.

### SkillsUSA Finalists

**CNC Turning:** Aaron Farrington

**Collision Repair Technology:** Joshua Williamson

**Automated Manufacturing Technology:** Alex Boldin, Josh Gallagher, Vern Winn

**Welding Fabrication:** Nicholas Conrad, Camron Monarch, Jeremy Wahl

## Ranken Builds Hope at RCDC Work Day

**Ranken students, administrators, instructors, and a few of their family members set out to improve a home on Evans Street on April 13.**

Three administrators attended the event, along with Pat Capps, Vince Holtmann, all four Carpentry instructors and Chris Brueggeman. On the student side, volunteers included 22 from Carpentry, five from Heating and Ventilation, two from Industrial Technology, two from Architecture, one from Information Technology, and one from Electrical. Of those students, one was a Phi Theta Kappa member and four were student ambassadors.

A few friends and guests also came out to support these Ranken students and employees.

## Ranken Scholarship Luncheon Unites Donors, Recipients

**The second annual scholarship luncheon in the Mary Ann Lee Technology center united Ranken scholarship donors with the grateful recipients of their generosity.** On April 5, more than 130 people attended the luncheon, including 38 donors, 79 students and 21 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. Event attendees were a mix of private donors and representatives of companies that offer scholarships.

Robert Gau (Mechanical Drafting '60) was one private donor who attended. Gau contributes generously to an endowment designed to fund one Industrial Technology student in full annually. Mr. Gau lunched with current scholarship recipient Brendan Stolte.

There were a number of S-STEM scholarship recipients at the event as well, whose scholarships are funded by a National Science Foundation grant.

Ranken President Stan Shoun introduced



student Taryn Underwood (Architecture '15) as keynote speaker. Underwood reflected upon how receiving a scholarship has affected her life and her ability to attend Ranken.

## RCDC Improves Home Energy Ratings

**On May 13, Ranken received outstanding Building Performance Ratings on the latest house built by the Ranken Community Development Corporation (RCDC).**

In order to become ENERGY STAR® certified, measurements were taken

on the efficiency of Thermal Enclosure (air sealing, insulation and windows), Water Management (protects roofs, walls and foundations from water damage), Energy Efficient Lighting and Appliances, and Heating, Cooling and Ventilation systems.

Overall, the home received a Home Energy Rating System (HERS®) Index rating of 51 on a scale from 140 (least efficient) to 40 (most efficient), with 100 being the typical rating for new homes. The home, which has already been sold, will save its owner an estimated total of \$1,005 per year on energy costs.



S-STEM scholarship recipients pose with their faculty liaisons.



## Ranken Receives Grant to Preserve Archives

**The Ranken Technical College archives have been awarded a Missouri Historical Records Grant** by the Missouri State Archives,

a division of the Secretary of State's office. Secretary of State Jason Kander announced on January 17 that Ranken, along with 16 other historical records repositories in Missouri, would be awarded funding through the MHRG program.

"Our history can be found in communities throughout the state, not just here at the Missouri State Archives," said Kander. "We offer this grant program to assist local institutions, so that Missouri's past can be preserved for future generations."

More than \$728,000 has been provided to Missouri records repositories since the creation of the MHRG program, including this year's awards totaling \$54,179.

The assessment and preservation of Ranken's impressive collection of historic photographs, the majority of which date from 1909 through the 1940s, will be the focus of the grant project at the College. The photographs visually show the history and evolution of the school and its student body and faculty—David Ranken Jr.'s vision for an institution "in which boys especially might be taught the dignity of labor" is clearly seen in these images.

This grant will allow these images to be preserved in appropriate archival storage and, for the first time, made accessible to the public in their entirety. General assessment of the photo collection indicates that the images fall roughly into six major divisions: athletics, educational programs, graduating classes, wartime military training, school-related individuals and groups and candid shots.

Currently the Ranken archives are located inside the Student Support Services office and most of the photographic collection is stored in cardboard boxes, acidic envelopes from the first half of the 20th century, or lying out loose on shelves. Not only have the photographs never been properly stored, but they have never been properly

identified. The grant will allow the images to be correctly preserved and stored, and the creation of finding aids and databases will give intellectual control over the material, providing a means of access for both internal and external researchers.

Once the images are processed, stored properly and finding aids created, Ranken hopes to host a special evening, open to local historians and other scholars, to reveal the images and documents in the archives. The material, including this incredible photograph collection, should lead scholars and their students (including those at Ranken) to undertake or add to their research on many topics at various levels. Additionally, the archives plan to use its material, in particular the photographs, to create various displays and exhibits on campus and in the community to promote knowledge about and interest in the history of the institution, its role in



Preserved photo in Ranken's archives

American history and the development of St. Louis.

Ranken will complete the assessment, inventory and processing of the photograph collection, as well as create finding aids. Library director Barbara Edwards oversaw institutional policies, written reports, exhibits and outreach events. The project is estimated to be completed in July. Beyond the scope of the grant, Ranken also plans to digitize the entire collection.

The Ranken Archives





## Ranken Supports Local Robotics Teams

**For more than 10 years, Ranken has been supporting robotics teams in local schools** by providing resources such as lab time, machining and welding parts, donation of materials and student mentors. One such team is FIRST Robotics Team 3397 from University City High School. Barb Bragg, Ranken's STEM pathway development coordinator, used grant money to help pay for some of the required materials for the team's robot, and students in the welding and machining micro-enterprises supported the team by helping them to complete some of the work on their robot.

School in 2001 and continues to support the team with the purchase of materials as well as the welding and machining of parts. Several faculty members and one machining student graciously donated their time, even coming in on a holiday to help complete the project.

"The parts Ranken made for us were right on and crucial for us to finish the robot on time," said Frank Dressel, coach for Team 931. "The keyway they broached in the coupling is vital to our Frisbee shooter working reliably, and the rollers are key to our pole climbing mechanism. The parts Gary and Nick made for us on their day off were the only way we could have got the hanging mechanism working by the deadline."



"We were really impressed by this team," said Vince Holtmann, faculty project manager. "The adult mentors hardly intervened. The students came on campus, communicated their needs and stayed in the afternoon and evening to watch much of the work being performed. They asked a lot of questions and made decisions and changes as needed. It was a tremendous learning experience for the students."

Ranken students who supported the team included Cameron Monarch, Andrew Geldermann, Nicolas Goris and Benjamin Doty. Faculty and staff supporters included Jeffery Scott, Gary Young, Ben Wohldmann, Corey Blair, Paul Buneta, Brandon McLain, Tyler Blank, Vince Holtmann, Barbara Bragg and Don Pohl.

Ranken, along with Emerson, was also a founding sponsor of the FIRST Robotics Team 931 from Gateway STEM High

Team 931 competed at the St. Louis Regional competition in March, proudly displaying Ranken's logo on their robot as well as in the pit area. Thank you to all faculty, staff and students who put so much time and effort into maintaining our partnership with these local schools and potential future Ranken students.



Ranken students travelling to Nucor with instructor Sal Francis

## Ranken Visits Nucor

**Ranken has established a new relationship with Nucor Corporation. The company attended their first job fair this spring, and was impressed with our students' skills as well as their Ranken work ethic.**

Nucor arranged transportation for five Ranken students to visit Nucor Steel Arkansas in Blytheville, Arkansas on Tuesday, April 2. The students went for a tour of the facility and to interview for potential jobs at the site.

Nucor currently has openings for 6-8 shift and day electricians. The role of these electricians is to perform



preventative maintenance work orders, troubleshoot and repair various mill equipment, repair and modify electrical controls (Electronic Drive Units, PLCs, and HMIs) provide electrical support to the mechanical and production teams, and assist with various projects.

This new partnership will be a great opportunity for our students, as Nucor has said they will have many more openings in the future. They report that they have interviewed students from other technical schools and our students "blew them away."

# Ranken Partners with Emerson for New Micro-enterprise

**Through Ranken's recent partnership with Emerson Climate Technologies' Flow Controls division, three Heating and Ventilation students will soon gain valuable real-world experience and knowledge in the industry.**

On April 30, second-year student Jamie Schneider and first-year students Robert Parnell and Bryan Hajek began working with the new Emerson Micro-enterprise located near the Plumbing department in the west end of Finney Building.

"After downsizing our lab we were looking for alternatives to keeping our business going," said William Hoehn, director of technical services for Emerson Climate Technologies. "We wanted to support Ranken and support our business. Students will gain practical skills for the industry and Emerson will have a new facility and great workers."

Schneider, Parnell and Hajek will be responsible for testing parts and products for Emerson, including refrigeration and air-conditioning systems, water-cooled units, cooling towers, timers and heaters. The students will use lifecycle testing equipment to subject these systems to a battery of tests, such as speed, pressure and environmental stress-tests, in an effort to determine whether their warranty will match up to their use.

The students will also extract, compile and summarize a variety of data accumulated from their work, develop formulas to calculate refrigerant flow and superheat\*, and report all results to the project engineer.

"I applied for this position because I wanted real-world experience and because I wanted to work with my instructors," said Parnell. "I think this position will help me to learn new hands-on skills, and I think the sky is the limit on what I can gain from this opportunity."

In addition to collecting valuable knowledge from this experience, student workers will also receive course credit and wages.

To qualify for the position, each applicant was required to have a thorough understanding of the mechanics of a refrigeration system and knowledge of how refrigerant gases react in a refrigeration system at different operating conditions. To qualify for the position as second year-students, Parnell and Hajek also had to show receipt of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) universal certification.

"In searching for these candidates, I was looking for good work ethic and a good attitude," said Vince Holtmann, project manager for the Emerson Micro-enterprise. "I asked instructors whether they regularly completed homework and other assignments on time and about their ability to work with others."

*\* Refers to the number of degrees a vapor is above its boiling point at a particular pressure and gives an indication of whether the amount*

*of refrigerant flowing into the evaporator is appropriate for the load*

**"Students will gain practical skills for the industry and Emerson will have a new facility and great workers."**



Pictured L-R: Vince Holtmann, Brian Barlow, Chris Brueggeman, Bryan Hajek, Jamie Schneider, Robert Parnell and Emerson Climate Technologies representatives.





# Summer Snapshot

**With more than 700 students enrolled in summer day and evening classes, the spirit of Ranken never takes a summer break. The campus stays busy all summer long with a number of events for current and prospective students and educators, and a variety of events for the St. Louis community.**

## **SUMMER STEM ACADEMIES FOR EDUCATORS**

Summer STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Academies for Educators are high-tech professional development workshops that promote awareness of STEM technical programs at Ranken as well as technical career opportunities in the St. Louis region. Topics for this summer's STEM Academies will include Advanced Technology, Engineering in Your Classroom, Green

Homes and Renewable Fuels. For more information, visit [www.ranken.edu/about-ranken/events/events-instructors](http://www.ranken.edu/about-ranken/events/events-instructors) or contact STEM Pathway Development Coordinator Barbara Bragg in the Education Office.

## **ADVENTURE ACADEMY**

Ranken is set to host two weeks of fun and learning at the annual Ranken Adventure Academy, July 15 -26. Some camps will also be offered at our new Wentzville location! As in previous years, the first week of camps is for middle school students and the second week is for high school students. This is a new and exciting way for students to learn about technology and career options.

Each camp has incorporated activities for the students to design, create and work with hands-on projects. Most of the

courses include unique projects that the students will be able to take home. The camps range from building go-karts to designing and manufacturing jewelry. For more information, visit [www.ranken.edu/adventureacademy](http://www.ranken.edu/adventureacademy) or contact STEM Pathway Development Coordinator Barbara Bragg in the Education Office.

## **COLLEGE SUMMIT**

From June 24-30, upcoming high school seniors from the local College Summit program will visit Ranken's campus. During their stay, students will be staying in Walker Hall and attending various sessions which give them the tools they need to begin the college application process. College Summit's mission is to increase the college enrollment rates of youth from low-income communities, serving more than 50,000 students across 12 states. For more information, visit <http://www.collegesummit.org>.



Summer STEM Academies for Educators participants

# review



## February 1

Ranken hosted the East District SkillsUSA Championship on campus. Thirty-one Ranken competitors gained eligibility to move on to the state competition.



## February 16

The Women of Walker, a group created to bring female residents together to support and encourage each other, volunteered for the American Heart Association's 2013 Heart Ball.



## January 7

The start of the spring semester saw 400 new day and evening students, and 117 new and returning students moved into Walker Hall dorms.

## March 7

Ranken's Career Services office hosted the largest annual spring job fair to date, with 272 representatives from 164 companies. Companies attended from as far away as Texas, Arkansas and Iowa.

## April 4-6

Two individual Ranken students and two three-student teams qualified for the SkillsUSA National Competition during the state championships. The National Competition was held on June 24-28 in Kansas City, Mo.



## March 14

Ranken celebrated the grand opening of its Wentzville location with a ribbon cutting ceremony and open house.





### April 21

The 10th Annual Car Show and Alumni Reunion brought the Ranken community and area gearheads together to honor alumni and get a look at the 259 cars in the show's competition.



### April 30

Ranken began a partnership with Emerson Climate Technologies' Flow Controls division to create the College's newest micro-enterprise. Students will test and run data on parts and products for Emerson, gaining real world experience and knowledge.



### April 26

Sean Crader, Ranken Automotive Collision Repair Technology instructor gave St. Louis State Farm estimators a lesson in plastic welding and cosmetic repairs.

### April

In partnership with Central Virginia Community College and the Babcock & Wilcox Company, Ranken congratulated three students as they graduated from the Bachelor of Science in Applied Management Virginia program.



### May 6

Ranken held its first Adjunct Instructor Recruitment Fair in an effort to hire a variety of quality educators in response to the College's growing curriculum.



### May 11

889 students graduated from Ranken, ready to take the workforce by storm.

# Electrical Industry Sees Bright Outlook

As industry grows and evolves to harness the power of technology and energy, the demand for skilled electrical workers will also grow.

In fact, the United States Department of Labor projects that the demand for electrical technicians will grow 23% by 2020, a considerably faster than average growth when compared to all other occupations at an average growth rate of 14%. According to a report compiled by the Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC), the outlook for electrical jobs in Missouri also looks bright. MERIC's report gave electrical occupations an A+ Career Grade based on a combination of total job openings, percent growth, and the average wages of an occupation. The current average wage in the state is \$56,856 with 5,557 job openings. In St. Louis alone, there are 2,301 job openings for electrical technicians and the average wage is \$64,296.

The health of the electrical industry is dependent on the health of the overall economy, building and manufacturing industries. Fortunately, the construction industry is projected to rise right along with the electrical industry at 23%. New and old homes, businesses and facilities will need more wiring than ever before, and aging equipment will require an increasing amount of maintenance. According to Missouri Partnership, a nonprofit economic development organization, Missouri is also located within 600 miles of 52% of United States manufacturing establishments. This places Missouri electrical workers in a prime spot for employment and long-term career success.

"I receive calls from companies looking for electrical professionals almost every day and the number of opportunities and companies seeking to hire our students just continues to increase, said Janie Summers," career services director. "Opportunities range from technicians and installers to control panel operators and field service engineers."

At Ranken, opportunities for employment in the electrical field come from outside of the state as well, including companies in Illinois, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa and Texas. In March, representatives from Phillips 66 in Houston, Texas, visited Ranken's campus to speak to students in Control Systems Technology and Electrical Automation Technology about a technician trainee position and other future positions. Employment in these positions might expect relocation to the next open position in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois or Missouri. Students also visited Nucor Steel Arkansas in April, after the company saw Ranken students' impressive skills at the spring job fair. The company, located in Blytheville, Ark., arranged transportation for five Ranken students, took them on a tour of the facility and interviewed them for electrician positions at the site.

"The current electrical workers are retiring and there is a large demand for the skill set that our students are being trained to meet," said Sal Francis, electrical instructor. "Ranken's spring job fair proved that companies are in desperate need of these skills."

Students graduating from Ranken's Electrical Technology division have a wide range of career options ahead of them. Today's electrical workers may be responsible for installing and maintaining basic electrical systems or for operating an entire facility through an electronically controlled network. Control Systems Technology students currently enjoy a rate of 5.49 opportunities per graduate, while Electrical Systems and Design technology students have a rate of 4.67, and Electrical Automation Technology students can boast a rate of 9.35 opportunities per graduate. In May, 105 students graduated from day and evening programs in Control Systems Technology, Electrical Automation Technology and Electrical Systems Design Technology. Ninety-four of these students have already been successfully placed in electrical positions with a variety of companies. Companies include Electric Power Systems, Reinhold Electric, Phillips 66, Fastechonology, Waters of America,, Integrated Manufacturing Technologies,

Magnum Press, Nucor, Anheuser Busch and Local IBEW 649, and the number of opportunities continues to climb.

For more information about Ranken's Electrical programs, contact our Admissions office.



Percentage of growth for demand of electrical technicians **23%**

Current average wage for electricians in Missouri **\$64,296**

Number of job openings for electrical technicians in St. Louis **2,301**





# Employer Spotlight



For more than 120 years, Sargent & Lundy has provided comprehensive consulting, engineering, design and analysis for electric power generation and power delivery projects worldwide. The company has become a leading engineering firm with state-of-the-art design tools that allow their design staff to be creative, efficient and competitive in the electric power industry. Sargent & Lundy is recognized throughout the industry for maintaining highly professional individuals and innovative problem solvers for fossil-fuel and nuclear power, renewable energy, and power transmission projects.

"We look for individuals who are searching for challenging and interesting opportunities and seeking all the rewards of working for a leader in the power industry," said Linda Kelnosky, a human resources manager at Sargent & Lundy. "We look for employees who enjoy working in a design office as well as having opportunities to travel and work at client offices and field locations."

Sargent & Lundy has been hiring Ranken graduates since 2006, when one of their electrical design managers heard about Ranken's programs. Representatives from the company attended a campus job fair and made a connection with the College and instructors. They were impressed by Ranken students' skills sets and professionalism.

"Ranken's Electrical Systems Design Technology curriculum helps prepare students for entry level electrical design positions at Sargent & Lundy," said Kelnosky. "In addition to the course work, Ranken provides students with real business world skills including preparing project budgets, schedules, rigor and discipline."

Sargent & Lundy has since hired 38 Ranken graduates. Most of these graduates work in the company's corporate headquarters in Chicago, Ill., although a few work at Sargent & Lundy's Warrenville, Ill. and Chattanooga, Tenn. office locations.

Each Ranken graduate is placed on a project team within Sargent & Lundy's Nuclear, Fossil and/or Power Delivery groups. They are given assignments and are provided mentoring on learning the Sargent & Lundy way of conducting business. They are engaged with design activities that support new electric generation, plant betterment modifications or design of transmission system substations and towers. They work within project teams that have very experienced electrical designers that help guide them through design execution.

## Update From Walker Hall

**Ranken students work hard and play hard, especially if they live on campus in Ranken's modernly designed dorm rooms in Walker Hall.** The 2013 spring semester saw almost 120 residents, many of whom took advantage of Walker Hall's ever growing list of activities.

In January, residents participated in off-campus trips to a roller skating rink and to the new MX Movie Theater on Washington Avenue as part of a plan to educate students on all that St. Louis has to offer. January also marked the Hall's 5th Anniversary. To celebrate, Residential Life hosted a birthday party complete with music, food and fellowship. One of Walker Hall's first residents from January 2009, Anthony Doss, came back to campus to DJ the event.

In February, the Women of Walker, a group created to bring female residents together to support and encourage each other, volunteered for the American Heart Association's 2013 Heart Ball. The Ball is the American Heart Association's annual black-tie gala benefiting its mission to build healthier lives, free of cardiovascular disease and stroke. The Women of Walker worked in the silent auction area, greeting guests and encouraging them to bid.

Walker Hall hosted several other creative events throughout the rest of the semester, including trips to Forest Park and the City Museum, a barbeque and ice cream social, a cooking class, an arm wrestling tournament, a Rock, Paper, Scissors tournament, board game nights, Wii nights and card game nights. Ranken's Pathway Specialist Brian Sieve also provided a workshop for residents entitled, "The Secret to Academic Success."

## Walker Hall Welcomes New Assistant Director of Residential Life

**Cathy Geisz joined Ranken on February 25 as the new assistant director of Residential Life.** She was previously a counselor for the Ritenour School District and has also served as a Math teacher. She has a Master of Education degree in Secondary Counseling and a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from the University of Missouri-St. Louis.



Cathy Geisz



Above: Residents participate in a Rock, Paper, Scissors tournament

Right: Residents gather around the grill to enjoy BBQ night

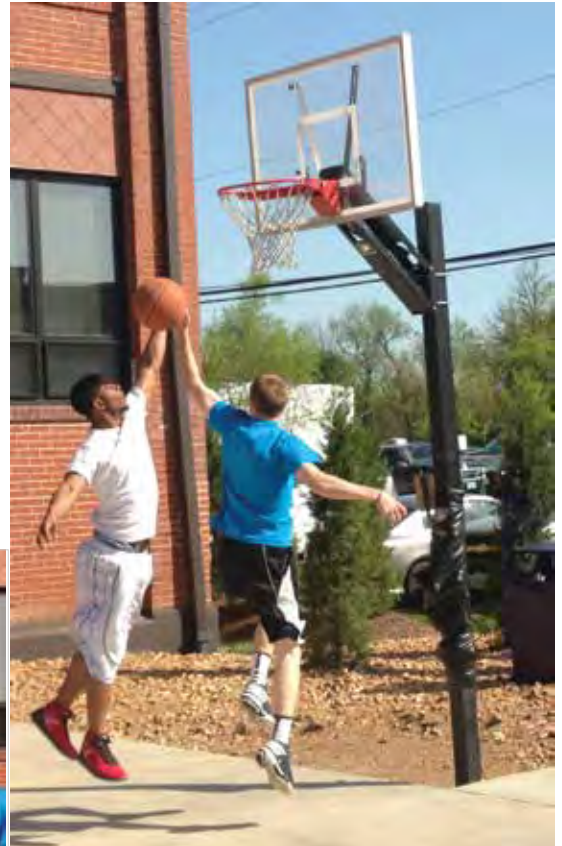




## Tropics Claim Three-on-Three Basketball Trophy

**During the spring semester, a Three-on-Three Basketball intramural program led by Residential Life brought students together to duke it out for the championship title.** During the final game, two groups of three, The Savages and The Tropics, showed great sportsmanship and gave spectators a great show. In the end, The Tropics took the season and received trophies as a mark of their winning dribbling and dunking skills.

Referees: Ty Anderson, Johnnie Farrow and Antonio Palmer



### THE TROPICS

Jacob Dockery  
Brendan Eubanks  
Justin Carrico  
Patrick Kimminau



### THE SAVAGES

Chris Craig  
Kyle Willis  
Terry Wilson  
Antonio Strickland (not pictured)

## Architecture Students Meet with Advisory Board

**On March 6, Architectural Technology students met with the Architectural Advisory Board** for a question/answer forum in the Mary Ann Lee Technology Center. Board members in attendance included Derek Maschek from Maschek Design and Fabrication, Charlie Lutz from HOK, Jamie Henderson from Henderson Associates Architects, Cody Henderson from Feeler Scheer Architects and Heather Taylor and Rebecca Kleba from Chiodini.

The forum gave students the opportunity to network and get answers directly from current industry members. Some of the more popular subjects discussed were about attending graduate school after Ranken and tips on how to find internship opportunities.

"It helped inform us of what to expect and how to prepare ourselves for our future," said Rachel Schmittling, a current student.

Another student, Zach Foppe, commented on how impressed he was

that four of the six board members in attendance were Ranken alumni. After the forum, many students stayed behind and talked with the members one-on-one.

## Students Experience a Racing Legend

**On December 15, High Performance Racing instructors Jason Gann and James Gray took eight Car Club students to the POWRi midget race in Duquoin, Illinois.**

The event, held at the Southern Illinois Center, was the final race in the POWRi Lucas Oil National Midget Series. Sixty-seven of the best drivers in midget racing and several other major short-track series participated in the 40-lap race.

The winner of the race was none other than racing legend Tony Stewart, who led all 40 laps.

"It was an awesome trip," said Gray. "We had the opportunity to watch Ranken alumnus Joe B. Miller compete against the best in the business and our students had an experience of a lifetime."

Midget cars typically have 300 to 400

horsepower and weigh 1,000 pounds. The high power and small size of the cars combine to make midget racing quite dangerous; for this reason, modern midget cars are fully equipped with roll cages and other safety features. They are intended to be driven for races of relatively short distances, usually 8 to 25 laps.

## Students Compete with Horsepower

**In December, students in the High Performance Racing Technology Engines class had the opportunity to participate in a horsepower competition.** This year's winning team, students Ryan VanDillen and Zach Lueker, were able to get 454 horsepower and 449 ft. pounds of torque out of their 346 cubic engine. Their project originated as a GM 5.3L truck engine making about 300 horsepower. The team found their horsepower gains by maximizing valve control with a custom camshaft and by hand porting cylinder heads. The rest of the engine is all stock. Congratulations!



## scholarship awards

### Ranken Student Earns American Welding Society Scholarship

Brandon Hayes, a first semester welding student in Justin Roy's evening class, was awarded a \$500 scholarship from the American Welding Society (AWS) on April 14.

The AWS scholarship is awarded to ten outstanding students who are enrolled in a welding-related educational or training program. Students must share ambitions, goals, background and other factors that will help the selection committee understand their commitment to pursuing welding education.

"Brandon effectively utilizes his time in class to hone in on his welding ability. He comes to class on time, prepared to learn, and is not afraid to ask questions,"

said Roy. "Brandon goes to the next step to help out a student in whatever way he can."

### Scholarships for Precision Machining Students

Ranken has received a \$7,500 grant from The Boeing Company in support of student scholarships for the 2013-2014 academic year. Three scholarships will be awarded to second-year Precision Machining students who have financial need. This year's scholarship recipients were Robert Harnack, Amir Saafir, and Blake Smith.

The Boeing Company has been a long-time supporter of Ranken's programs and students, donating more than \$87,000 in scholarship support since 2003, in addition to over \$1.2 million in

other donations. St. Louis (Hazelwood) is headquarters for Boeing Defense, Space & Security, the largest manufacturer in the state, employing nearly 15,000 local workers, many of whom are Ranken graduates, working in fields crucial to national security and global markets.

**If you or your business are interested in offering a scholarship to students at Ranken, please contact our Development office at 314.286.3674.**



## ThinkFirst! Speaks at Women in Technology Luncheon

**An estimated 500,000 Americans sustain permanent brain and spinal cord injuries each year. The most frequent causes of these injuries, in order, are motor vehicle crashes, violence, falls, and sports and recreation.** Teens and young adults are at the highest risk for these devastating injuries, the majority of which are preventable.

On Wednesday, February 6, a representative from ThinkFirst!, a program administered by the National Injury Prevention Foundation, came to speak to female Ranken students at a Women In Technology meeting. Cori Maynor, an occupational therapist, discussed the anatomy of the brain, how injuries occur, the physical results of injury and how many of these injuries can be prevented. Maynor also covered the basics of safety equipment such as bike helmets, seat belts and harnesses but focused on the main cause of injuries in this age group, impaired and distracted driving.

"Most people tend to think that drunk drivers are the cause of most of these types of accidents," said Maynor, "but actually, texting while driving is now the most common cause of crashes involving young adults."

Following Maynor's lesson, Crystal Fuehne, a 25-year-old woman from Damiansville, Ill., told the story of her ongoing battle with brain and spinal cord injuries. In May 2006, Fuehne was hit by a woman who ran a stop sign and was under the influence of drugs and alcohol. Three of the passengers were killed when they were ejected from the vehicle and three of the survivors sustained horrific injuries, including Fuehne, who had to be airlifted to Saint Louis University Hospital. Following several surgeries on her head and spine, Fuehne began what would be years of therapy in order to relearn how to perform everyday tasks like walking, talking and feeding herself. After spending three months in the hospital and a rehab facility, Fuehne was able to go home, but three years later, her journey still continues.

"The thing I want to leave you with is to 'ThinkFirst,'" said Fuehne. "I was making good decisions that night, but the woman who hit me wasn't. So many lives have been affected by that one decision. Please remember that with one bad choice you can hurt someone else very badly and change their life forever."

As you enjoy your summer, please take the time to "ThinkFirst," making safe and responsible decisions to keep you and those around you safe and healthy.



Pictured L-R: Jean Endres, Crystal Fuehne, Cori Maynor, John Wood

## Phi Theta Kappa Student of the Month Awards



On Tuesday, February 26, Ranken's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa held their monthly meeting. The meeting included the induction of new officers for the 2013/2014 school year: Meghan Krato as president, Bryan Sohn as vice president, Kurtis Arens as secretary and Taryn Underwood as the reserve officer.

As part of a new incentive to recognize outstanding members, Phi Theta Kappa also honored two students, DeAndrae Brock from Automotive and Tommy Hapner from Carpentry, as the Students of the Month for February and March, consecutively.

In addition to attending Ranken, Brock is also taking courses towards a manufacturing engineering degree through Southeast Missouri online. He also holds jobs at Jiffy Lube and Pappas Toyota.

Hapner recently graduated from the Carpentry program, and was presented with the David Ranken, Jr. award at this year's graduation ceremony. He earned straight A's in his technical classes, and is one of the top two students for technical proficiency in his class.

Phi Theta Kappa congratulates these students for all that they have accomplished and encourages everyone at Ranken to follow their examples.

## RANKEN ROBOT REACHES OUT TO PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

This fall, Ranken will begin using a robot to help inspire high school students in the bi-state area to go into engineering or technical fields. Sal Francis, an Electrical instructor with Ranken, came up with this idea when Ranken received a grant from the National Science Foundation to support Ranken's work in educating future generations about the importance of science, technology, engineering and mathematical (STEM) related technical disciplines.

"This model is common in the industry, but it is small enough to fit through doors on school campuses," said Francis. "It is portable, yet effective for learning



about the architecture behind the equipment." Robots are a prevalent tool when incorporating a Programmable Logic Controller (PLC), a digital computer that automates the electromechanical processes used in many industries and machines, into an electrical or industrial curriculum. They give students an inside look into how the controller works, unlike those that are unseen when being used at a plant or facility.

In the future, Ranken will also incorporate the robot within the Electrical curriculum and will take it to trade shows to show off on College Row, where colleges from the area often demonstrate what their college is all about.

## Ranken Wins Award for Youth Career Interest Program

**Ranken and the St. Louis City Juvenile Detention Center have won the 2013 Excellence in Juvenile Court Program Award for their partnership in providing an After School Vocational Program at the Center. The award comes from the Missouri Juvenile Justice Association (MJJA), a statewide, not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to promote justice for children, youth and families in Missouri.**

In 2010, the St. Louis City Juvenile Detention Center was awarded a grant to offer short-term career interest training to youth staying at the Center and approached Ranken with the opportunity. Ranken's dean of education, Keyvan Gerami, started the initiative with St. Louis City Juvenile Detention Center assistant superintendent, Nathan Graves. Their goal was to spark an interest in technology in the program's participants with the hope that they may seek additional education and training after they leave detention.

Carpentry instructor Mark White, Automotive instructor Dan Kania and corporate specialist Sandy Burns provide rotating classes that last two weeks, with students completing 20 hours of study. Participants enrolled in the Carpentry workshop construct a faux room and then add plumbing and electrical components in the consecutive Plumbing and Electrical workshops.

Youth can also rebuild engines in the Automotive workshop, craft chairs and lamps in the Woodworking workshop and construct robots in the Robotics workshop.

At the end of these programs, students receive a certificate of completion. After their time in detention, participants may then take part in a three-week program outside of the Center.

Another program goal is to get them enrolled as students in a technical program at Ranken or at another reputable college. "We are proud of our accomplishments in receiving this award but at the end of the day it's all about the kids," said Gerami. "The most important thing is for them to move to the next stage in life and to become productive members of society."

Graves represented the program on May 30 as it was honored at a conference and awards luncheon in Jefferson City.

## Ranken Breaks Attendance Record at Spring Job Fair

**Ranken's Career Services office hosted the annual spring Job Fair on March 7.**

This was the largest job fair to date with 272 representatives from 164 companies visiting campus to speak with Ranken students about potential job openings. Companies attended from as far away as Texas, Arkansas and Iowa. Several companies were new to Ranken and commented on how impressed they were with campus, and some students were offered positions the same day.

Thank you to everyone who attended and to the Career Services office for providing this opportunity to our students!





## student spotlight

**"Electricity is involved in every aspect of your life."**

This was Thatcher Pazur's answer when asked why his job is so important. From your electronics to the utilities in your house, the food you eat, the water you drink, the clothes you wear and the car you drive - you would be hard pressed to find an item or action in your life that has not been touched by electricity in some way or another.

Growing up in St. Louis, Pazur heard about Ranken from billboards and commercials, and decided to go to Ranken because of the hands-on classes promised by these advertisements. He began his Ranken Experience in 2007, wanting to gain a degree and become an electrician. Instead, he ended up with two degrees and became a Control Room Operator at a company that provides electricity to 2.5 million customers from 180 communities across eight states.

Pazur graduated from Ranken with a double major in Electrical Automation Technology and Control Systems Technology in 2009.

He currently works at Prairie State Generating Company in Marissa, Ill., where he is vying for the next step in his career as a Shift Supervisor. Because the position requires a Bachelor's degree, he plans to return to Ranken for the Bachelor of Science in Applied Management program in the fall.



"We are always very happy to have alumni return. Like many Ranken graduates, Pazur visited our campus looking for the degree that would enable him to reach the next level in his career," said John Wood, vice president for student success.

"He is successful today at the technician level, but sees himself as a person who can lead others. Our Bachelor of Science in Applied Management program will give him the knowledge and skills to get him there."

As is common for Ranken students, Pazur gained his position

straight out of college from one of Ranken's job fairs. In his current position at Prairie State Generating Company, Pazur works with a team that keeps the power plant running, dealing with any equipment issues and performing routine maintenance.

His role is in the control room watching the operation of the plant through Programmable Logic Controllers (PLC) and Distributive Control Systems (DCS). He has also had the opportunity to assist in the startup of two Super Critical Coal Fired units.

Through this experience, Pazur gained valuable industry knowledge such as how and why equipment works the way it does and seeing the ins and outs of every aspect of the unit.

**"I believe the most important things I learned at Ranken go beyond my technical training," said Pazur. "I believe if you try hard and give all you got, with a Ranken degree you can really do anything in the electrical field that you desire."**

# news

## Barb Edwards and Steve Swenson Retire

**On May 31, Ranken said goodbye to Steve Swenson, Electrical division chair, and will say farewell to Barb Edwards, library resource center director on July 1 as they draw their Ranken experiences to a close.**

### Barb Edwards:



Barb Edwards began working for Ranken in April of 1989 as a librarian for Ranken's newly built library. She was hired to catalog the books, write a policy manual, and buy library resources. Years later, she became the library director for the campus.

**"I tell students to take the communication and information literacy skills they learn at Ranken seriously," said Edwards. "In addition to the proficiency they learn in their major, these skills will be invaluable to getting ahead in their careers."**

Edwards says she has many fond memories of working at Ranken, including her work on grants, teaching, running the food drive, creating the index and serving on the editing committee for Ranken's history book, sponsoring Phi Theta Kappa and serving on many committees for the College, among many others.

**"I have always loved working with so many interesting and great people from all over the campus," said Edwards. "Everyone is always willing to help you with a project here."**

Edwards' retirement plans include traveling, teaching and tutoring at St. Louis Community College, gardening and catching up on her reading.

### Steve Swenson:



Steve Swenson began working for Ranken in July of 1991 as an instructor in the Electrical department, hired to work under Ranken's newly formed section for incoming electrical students.

Swenson quickly moved from instructor to assistant department head under Charles Corrigan, IT division chair, and became the first year department head when Corrigan moved with the computer program into the Gray building. Later, he assumed responsibility for the second year of the electrical program as it continued to grow. When all the electrical programs were finally consolidated into the Electrical division, Swenson became the division head.

Before his retirement, Swenson stepped down from this position with the intent to mentor his replacement and to teach first semester students once again.

Swenson says one of his fondest memories of working at Ranken was having Don Pohl, vice president for education, as a first semester student in the electrical wiring shop. Swenson says Pohl received an A grade for the class.

**"Working with other Ranken instructors as we prepare students for the world of skilled trades is truly rewarding," said Swenson. "I really enjoy talking with grads after they have been out working for a few years, hearing of their success and that what we taught really applied."**

Swenson's retirement plans include traveling and pursuing his many hobbies, but he will also return to Ranken in the fall to teach evening classes.



## Welcome to the Following New Full-time Employees

Clay King	TRIO Coordinator
Paul Bunetta	Industrial Technology Instructor
Cory Blair	Welding Instructor
Gary Young	Precision Machining Instructor
Kent Wilke	Information Technology Instructor (Wentzville)
John Kozelichki	Advanced Machining Instructor (Wentzville)
Lester McQuaid	Admissions Counselor (Wentzville)
Kevin Kriesel	Grant Writer
Kevin Webb	Automotive Instructor
Heather Durawski	Marketing Events Specialist
Meg Kramer	Marketing Communications Specialist
Jason Adair	Building Systems Engineering Technology Department Chair
Caitlin Lockhart	Registrar's Assistant
Mark Braden	Public Safety Director

## Welcome to the Following New Part-time & Adjunct Employees

Mary Cancila	General Education Adjunct
Tyler Blank	Precision Machining Evening School
Linda Putz	General Education Adjunct
Keith Brown	General Education Adjunct
John Schuler	Industrial Technology Adjunct
Billy Scholin	Industrial Technology Adjunct
Tony Turk	Precision Machining Evening School
Ray Gaudette	Precision Machining Evening School
John Myers	Bachelor of Science in Applied Management Instructor
Brandon McLain	Precision Machining Evening School
Paul Conant	Industrial Training Evening School
Cathy Geisz	Assistant Director Residential Life
Jonathon Moberly	Bachelor of Science in Applied Management Instructor
Keith Batey	Bachelor of Science in Applied Management Instructor
Joe Donato	Alarm Systems Technology Instructor
John Weeks	IT Instructor - Savvis
Bob Mohr	Bachelor of Science in Applied Management

## Ranken Employee is Finalist for Prestigious Fellowship

Crystal Herron, Ranken's dean of academic affairs, has been selected as a finalist for the prestigious Eisenhower Fellowship program. The program's mission is to identify, empower and connect individuals from around the world for the sole purpose of creating peaceful relationships, giving up-and-coming leaders the chance to network with influential corporate and government leaders.

Herron is an active leader at Ranken as the Dean of Academic Affairs. She also takes on a variety of active leadership positions within her church. Although she serves in a number of leadership roles, she believes that it is important to be humble and to follow another's lead, when appropriate: "I know it seems very cliché, but I really do believe that in order to be a good leader, you must first learn to follow," said Herron.

When asked what impact she would like to make in the future, Herron said that she only wants one thing in life: "My faith and my understanding of my own purpose in this life motivate me to make a difference. All I want is to see others do well," said Herron. She says she would like to be part of an effort which ignites motivation in young people to achieve and hopes that the Eisenhower Fellowship may give her some insight into how to accomplish this goal.



Although becoming a finalist for this fellowship program is an accomplishment in itself, Herron still has some hurdles to face in order to receive the fellowship. Herron will first need to contact the USA Program Director, located in Philadelphia, to give her a sketch of her travel plans, destinations she would like to visit, her rationale behind traveling to those locations and an outline of the leaders with whom she would like to meet. Herron will then need to make it through interviews with Eisenhower judges who will determine whether her personal and/or professional aspirations coincide with the program's mission.

"This opportunity would provide me with the chance of a lifetime to travel outside the country and meet important people known for their contributions and work in a specific area," said Herron. "It would give me a chance to engage leaders in conversations about their successes and failures, and hopefully I can share in and glean knowledge from the lessons they have learned."

**"I really do believe that in order to be a good leader, you must first learn to follow."**

# Meet the Ranken Wentzville Team!



Jeremy Sutton - Site Director



Lester McQuaid - Admissions Counselor



Tim Michel - Automotive Instructor



Charles Corrigan - Information Technology Division Chair



Kent Wilke - Information Technology Instructor



Gary Young - Advanced Manufacturing and Precision Machining Department Chair



John Kozelichki - Advanced Manufacturing Instructor



Jason Adair - Building Systems Engineering Technology Department Chair



Patsy Zettler - General Education Department Chair for English, Communications and Humanities



## Employee Degrees and Certifications

**Roy Gillespie - 1st Year Electrical Department Chair**  
Master Industrial Electrician License (4/19/2013)  
The Board of Electrical Examiners of the City of St. Louis

**Tameka Herrion - Director of Student Support Services**  
Certificate in Electrical Maintenance Technology from Ranken Technical College, with honors, 5/11/13.

**Theodore Massey - General Education Adjunct Instructor**  
Master of Science in Information Technology awarded 04/28/2013 from Florida Institute of Technology (Florida Tech)

**Pat Mickle - Bachelor of Science in Applied Management Department Chair**  
Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL) certificate of achievement as a prior learning assessor July 29, 2012.

**Ron Vaughn - Information Technology Instructor**  
VMware vSphere: Install, Configure, Manage [V5.1] through VMware Education Services and obtained the VMware Certified Professional on vSphere 5 certification (VCP5), 3/21/13.

**Carol Winkler - Registrar**  
Completed Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL) certificate of achievement as a prior learning assessor July 29, 2012.





## employee spotlight

Growing up, **Tammi Spinnenweber** always lent an ear when her father talked about his work as an **electrician**, fostering a fondness for the field that would remain throughout her life. When the time came to choose a major in college, Spinnenweber chose to continue her research in the field. When she graduated from college, Spinnenweber says the state of the economy was very similar to today's economy and not a lot of companies were hiring at the time, but she found a job right away.

"I have to admit that there are some advantages to being a woman in the field," said Spinnenweber. "A lot of my male friends who graduated with the same degree did not have job offers upon graduation. I had multiple offers as did the two other female students who graduated with me."

Today, Spinnenweber works at Ranken as an instructor in the Electrical division. Prior to coming to Ranken, Spinnenweber worked at Anheuser Busch for 23 years. During this time, Spinnenweber held many positions, including Control Systems Engineer, Process Engineer, Training Manager, Brewing Area Manager and Maintenance Manager.

"The Electrical field is always challenging and never boring," said Spinnenweber. "There are always problems to troubleshoot, new technology to learn and new processes to make it better, faster and more efficient. If you get bored in this field it's because you stopped trying."

When Spinnenweber first entered the workforce there were not many women in the field and at Anheuser Busch there weren't any women at all. They had to change the men's rooms in the maintenance shops to unisex but there were no locks on the door so she had to ask someone to guard it for her. Over time, things changed for the better as the company hired more female workers and changed the facility to better fit the needs of female workers. When she left Anheuser Busch, the new maintenance shop even included a very nice ladies locker room.



Spinnenweber joined Ranken in January 2012, wanting to pass her knowledge of the Electrical industry on to future generations. Now, most mornings begin with a class lecture and theory. Then, the class works in the shop calibrating instrumentation, programming controllers, and programming PLCs and HMIs. She tries to keep theory as short as possible so she can get the class into the shop as soon as possible.

"I have learned that no matter how well you explain something, until the student actually goes out to the shop and does the work on their own, they don't understand it. This is truly what makes Ranken so extraordinary," said

Spinnenweber. "Even though our students are adults, they still grow so much in the short time that they are with us. They leave Ranken with so much more than they had when they first walked in the door. Being a part of their learning is an awesome experience."

"There are always problems to troubleshoot, new technology to learn and new processes to make it better, faster and more efficient. If you get bored in this field it's because you stopped trying."

## Distinguished Alumnus

### David G. Roeder, Mechanical Drafting 1964

**The fourth annual alumni awards ceremony** was held during the spring commencement exercise in May. The ceremony, sponsored by the Alumni Association, recognizes Ranken alumni who have shared successful careers with their community. The awards honor outstanding Ranken graduates who sustain the reputation of David Ranken Jr. through their character, leadership, service and financial support. Recipients are chosen by the Alumni Leadership Council.

This year, Dave Roeder (Mechanical Drafting 1964) received the Distinguished Alumni Award.

After graduating from high school in 1962, Roeder immediately enrolled at Ranken. He graduated from the mechanical drafting/tool & die design program under the instruction of Clarence Lane in 1964. Roeder later received formal certification as a manufacturing engineer.

Roeder was first employed at Ridgewood Steel Fabrication, where he worked in the machine shop. He then spent 15 years as a designer at Stile-Craft Manufacturers, Inc., a screw machine shop that specialized in medical and hospital equipment. During this time he advanced from designing screw machine tooling and press tools to designing special machines for the mass production of everything from 60mm mortar shell bases to brazed copper/brass medical fittings. Coming in on the ground floor in numerical control machining, he learned to write programs that were converted to paper tapes that controlled machine functions.

Roeder then spent the next 22 years at Sunnen Products Company as a manufacturing engineer, working on tooling, machine design and plant layouts. Eventually, he worked his way up, supervising seven

people in the Process Engineering Department. In 1989 he was offered a position in International Sales and began traveling for Sunnen. He worked with distributors in England, Germany, France and other European countries. Then, he branched out to work with distributors in Canada, Mexico, Central America and South America. One year he also traveled to Asia visiting Japan, Korea, Taiwan & Singapore. In the mid-1990s, he was traveling to South America, Central America and the Caribbean. Roeder retired in 2002, amassing over one million frequent flier miles.

Roeder bought a sports car in 1970, prompting him to serve as an officer in the Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) St. Louis region. He spent 25 years in various volunteer positions in the SCCA as well as in the Porsche Club. He held positions as a board member for SCCA, the regional president of the Porsche Club, an announcer of SCCA events, and a driving instructor for the Porsche and BMW clubs.

In 1987, Roeder joined a group of volunteers who were restoring the 1926 Ballwin steam locomotive 1522 to operation. Because of this project, he found himself serving on the Board of the Transport Museum Association and on the board of the St. Louis Steam Train Association. He also served as the service crew supervisor for the 1522, overseeing the maintenance of the steam locomotive during trips to Nebraska, Georgia, Illinois, and many other states for railroad activities.





Roeder's most vivid memory of Ranken is sitting in class with a Ranken instructor named Mr. Lane when it was announced that President John F. Kennedy had been shot. He also remembers being taught how to do calculations using a slide rule. Under Mr. Lane's tutelage, he was required to communicate designs verbally by standing up in front of class and giving presentations.

"The confidence I gained by learning to speak and communicate clearly has helped me achieve many career goals," said Roeder. "I have fond memories of working on maintenance projects at Ranken during the summer months. We scraped and painted the iron fence and helped to remove the large steam engine generator that was in the main lobby where the Dining Hall is now."

Roeder has been married to his wife, Judy, for 44 years. His hobbies include model railroading, contest modeling for local shows and for the National Model Railroad Association's Divisional and Regional events, and model car building. Roeder also enters his 1988 Porsche in local car shows, including the Ranken Car Show. He recently participated in an eight-year restoration of a 1918 Dodge Brothers touring car and had an article published in the Dodge Brothers Club magazine. Mr. and Mrs. Roeder are members of the Ranken Legacy Society, and have supported the Capital Campaign at the Museum of Transportation in St. Louis County, the YMCA of the Ozarks, the YMCA of Greater St. Louis, and are annual donors to Ranken Technical College's Fund for Ranken.

## Distinguished Young Alumnus

### Kynal "Von" Hester, Computer Technology 1993

**After receiving an associate degree from Ranken in the spring of 1993, Hester applied to several local colleges to continue his education.**

To help with additional tuition costs, Hester worked nights at UPS and enjoyed a partial scholarship for the performing arts, playing the viola. Upon receiving a Bachelor of Science in Information Systems from St. Louis University, Hester acquired a job with Station Casinos as a valet, but quickly transferred to the company's IT department as a junior operations specialist when a job opened up. Between Ranken and St. Louis University, Hester gained a solid IT skill set, including SQL/Database Administration, Cisco Routing and Switching, AS400, "Block" Phone Switches/IP Telephony, and recently, Virtualization. Because of this vast set of skills, he was promoted to systems analyst five years later and three years after that to senior systems analyst, a position he holds today with Ameristar Casinos.

Hester has been a very active part of several Ameristar-sponsored committees, including Habitat for Humanity; Ameristar Cares, an internal committee that coordinates various

events around St. Louis and St. Charles Counties; Charitable Giving, which determines where to allocate company funds to assist with programs around St. Louis and St. Charles Counties (i.e. Angel Wings, Our Little Haven, Youth in Need, etc.); Ameristar Green, which promotes ways to encourage team members to recycle and run the company operations more efficiently; and Ameristar's Peer Review, designed to give team members a mediated option to settle grievances within the organization.



"The expression says 'if you love what you do, then you'll never work a day in your life.' It's been 15 years now, and I still enjoy coming to work," said Hester. "I knew exactly what I would become since I was a preteen playing missile command on an Atari 2600. Attending Ranken was the catalyst in my life that helped me obtain that goal."

Today, Hester has a teenage daughter and serves on the Parents of Student Athletes board, assisting as a statistician and scorekeeper at school sporting events, and volunteers for transportation assistance to and from extracurricular activities. In his free time, Hester enjoys discovering new places to eat around St. Louis and St. Charles, and as the weather gets warmer, riding his motorcycle. He also recently enrolled in Spanish classes.

Taken from his nomination form: "Von demonstrates every core value that a great trade school like Ranken Technical College instills in an individual that makes them successful. Von is well respected in the company and looked upon favorably by fellow team members as noted by the compliments, positive feedback from surveys and job completion ratings he receives after each task is completed. Von is very hands-on and has no issues showing others how to do the task at hand, thus being a great role model and teacher guiding the next generation of IT professionals to the high standards that Ameristar Casinos, Inc. looks for in all their employees. Ranken Technical College has graduated another fine individual that will leave an everlasting impression of excellence in the community. "

## Alumni Entrepreneur Gives Advice

**Bill Fennewald (Industrial Electricity and Electronics 1965) is the 2012 Distinguished Alumni and former president and CEO of Fennewald Pump in Martinsburg, Mo. Fennewald recently met with a number of Ranken students to share his insight and experiences in growing a successful business.**

Fennewald, who inherited his agricultural water pump company from his father, says his business is built on honesty and the Golden Rule. His industry calls for long hours, after hour emergency repair and priority response to farmers with livestock who need water. A main point of Fennewald's speech was that a successful company is built on reputation, and in a small town (Martinsburg has 304 people), word travels fast.

Here are a few of Fennewald's tips for starting a small business:

- Start small
- Work long hours and six days a week to gain a customer foundation
- Have sympathy and courtesy towards customers in need
- Be honest and live by the Golden Rule

Here are a few of Fennewald's tips on becoming a leader in your industry:

- Read everything - articles, the newspaper, management books and the dictionary
- Be customer oriented, outgoing and a 'people person'
- Get involved in the community in some way so that people will know who you are - volunteer!
- Use proper manners and dress

Willie Fedrick (INEET 1965), Fennewald's lab partner from his Ranken days, surprised his old friend with a visit to campus to hear his presentation. He was

thrilled to see Fedrick again, and they both enjoyed their reunion after 47 years.

Other alumni who own a business or have an inspiring career story to tell are welcome to volunteer for the next session to be held in September 2013. Please contact Kathy Fern in the Alumni Relations office or visit [www.ranken.edu/alumni](http://www.ranken.edu/alumni) for details.



Fedrick and Fennewald peruse old class photos.

## Alumni Council Welcomes New Members

The Alumni Leadership Council of Ranken's Alumni Association is pleased to welcome new members. David Munie (Plumbing 1990) has been a member of Plumbing and Pipefitter Local 101 in Belleville for more than twenty years. Munie is also an evening school instructor, as well as a member of the board. Also joining the group is John Heitz (1962 Industrial Electricity). Heitz is retired and recently moved to the Wentzville area, home of Ranken's second location.

Tamikka Reed (Information Technology 2007) has rejoined the Council, representing the IT department returning from a project in Louisiana. She is currently an IT Specialist at Maryville University.

Other alumni members of the Council are Dean Alinder (Advanced Manufacturing), Don Huster (Automotive Collision Repair), Larry Schmidt (Automotive Collision Repair/Faculty), Larry Kelso (Automotive Collision Repair), Dave Garvin (HVAC), Rich Weinhold (Precision Machining), Rebecca Kleba (Architecture) and Brett Randoll (Carpentry).

## Join our eScrip Program!

**Shop at Schnucks and help increase the Alumni Association Scholarship Fund!**

Thanks to more than 380 friends of Ranken who are helping to increase the Alumni Association Scholarship Fund by swiping their eScrip card at Schnucks. More users mean more dollars available in the scholarship fund in the future.

With the eScrip program developed by the Schnucks Corporation, shopping at Schnucks has a great impact on colleges and special interest groups all across the country.

Here's how it works:

1) Get your Schnucks eScrip Community Card from Kathy Fern in the Alumni Relations office (Walker Hall), call (314) 286-4895 or email [ktfern@ranken.edu](mailto:ktfern@ranken.edu) with your request. Up to four cards can be issued per household.

2) At check out, present your eScrip Card to the cashier to be swiped. Schnucks will donate a percentage of your total store purchases to the Alumni Association Scholarship Fund.

**With your help, future students can benefit from this easy way to increase the Scholarship Fund!**



## 50-year Graduates Attend Ceremony

**On May 11, a procession of alumni led Ranken's newest graduates as they marched to their seats during the 2013 commencement ceremony.** During the celebration, fifty-year graduates, dressed in gold caps and gowns, gathered to remember their Ranken experience from many years ago. These graduates received a pin and certificate commemorating their anniversary.

Many classmates reunited for the first time since leaving Ranken's campus. Tom Giovanni, a 1962 graduate, postponed his celebration so that he could be honored along with his grandson John Tindall, who graduated from the electrical program. Tom walked on stage along with his grandson when he was called for his diploma. Bruno Corradi celebrated his 79th year by wearing a white cap and gown, celebrating as a 75 year anniversary Diamond graduate. Bruno turns 98 this year.

Tom Gieseeking (Automotive Maintenance Technology 1984) delivered the commencement address.

Pictured: Golden Graduates and Diamond Graduate, Bruno Corradi (pictured in white cap and gown)



## Congratulations Golden Graduates!

### Diamond Graduates (75 years or more)

Bruno A. Corradi (1934, Industrial Electricity/Electronics)

### Golden Graduates (50 years or more)

Dean H. Alinder (1962, Automotive Maintenance)  
 Thomas C. Giovanni (1962, Automotive Maintenance)  
 Don F. Hardin (1963, Industrial Electricity/Electronics)  
 Robert (Bob) Heine (1951, Industrial Electricity/Electronics)  
 Charles (Terry) Jackson (1963, Machine Shop)  
 William (Bill) James (1963, Mechanical Drafting)  
 Jack Kuchar (1963, Electrical)  
 Bruce Markwardt (1963, Machine Shop)  
 David M. Murguia (1963, Plumbing)  
 Dennis J. Murphy (1963, Electrical)  
 Urban (Irv) Naeger (1963, Industrial Electricity/Electronics)  
 Ralph C. Neubert (1963, Plumbing)  
 Dennis A. Newman (1963, Plumbing)  
 Richard D. Nichols (1963, Industrial Electricity/Electronics)  
 Roy E. Nottingham (1963, Automotive Maintenance)  
 Walter M. Pumfrey (1963, Machine Shop)  
 Melvin L. Sutton (1963, Machine Shop)  
 Clarence J. Vohsen Jr. (1963, Electrical)  
 James E. Wilton (1963, Machine Shop)  
 Robert A. Zagar (1963, Refrigeration, Air Conditioning, Heating)

## 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



## Electrical Golden Graduate Profiles

### Bruno Corradi

#### 1934 Industrial Electricity/ Electronics

A Diamond graduate celebrating 79 years as a Ranken alumnus, Bruno Corradi (Industrial Electricity/Electronics 1934), turns 98 this year.

"I lived in Gillespie, Ill., and my dad was a coal miner there. One thing my dad always said was that he didn't want me to work underground in the mine, too," said Corradi. "The best job at a mine was an electrician, so he said that I should be an electrician. I was working at Kroger at the time, and I asked my supervisor what I should do. He said to go to David Ranken School of Mechanical Trades, so I did."

While Corradi's electrical class was touring the Cahokia Power Plant one day, the supervisor offered him a job, because he asked so many questions, showing an interest in the field.

"He said that air conditioning was coming and that an electrician could work for the next 50 years," said Corradi.

Corradi worked at the power plants in Cahokia, Venice, Portage de Sioux and Labadie until he retired 45 years later. At the end of his career, he was a supervisor over the electrical maintenance department. His advice to students today is: "Choose Ranken. You won't be able to choose a better school than Ranken to help you with your career."

### Jack Kuchar

#### 1963 Industrial Electricity/ Electronics

Golden graduate Jack Kuchar was always mechanically-inclined, and set a goal for himself to work at IBM early on in his life. He applied to IBM in St. Louis for a technical position, but they wouldn't hire him full-time because he didn't have the necessary electronics skills. IBM recognized Ranken's programs as the best

in town, so he enrolled to get the training that IBM required. He started working at IBM over the summer between his first and second year at Ranken and then on weekends.

After completing his second year and graduating from Ranken in 1963, he was hired by IBM as a field engineer. He installed, repaired and serviced IBM equipment. After six years in that position, he was promoted to field engineering manager and was given a territory in Springfield, Mo., where he managed a team of field engineers. Realizing that he needed more managerial training, he took an educational leave of absence from IBM to attend Saint Louis University's business school. There he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in management and an MBA degree in corporate finance.

Upon returning to IBM, Kuchar was promoted to IBM's corporate headquarters in New York, where he lived for ten years and worked to help set IBM customer service policies. Later, he was promoted to manager of customer satisfaction in the field engineering division and then to manager of personnel research responsible for measuring and managing nationwide employee morale and satisfaction. In 1981 he was promoted to IBM National Customer Service Executive and returned to St. Louis where he was responsible for all IBM service deliveries to the General Dynamics Corporation throughout the country.

When General Dynamic's headquarters relocated from St. Louis in 1984, Kuchar left IBM to start his own consulting company. Kuchar's company provided employee and customer satisfaction research to many companies and organizations over the next two decades. More recently, Kuchar and three others have started a "green chemistry" company called Viridichem, a chemical manufacturing company that produces unique and specialized air freshening and odor removal products using patented formulations.

"Ranken gave me the key to reach the goal that I had set in high school, which was to go to work for IBM," said Kuchar. "IBM recognized Ranken as being a school of the highest educational quality, and that is why I was hired all those years ago. I continue to enjoy and use the many electrical and electronic skills that I learned while at Ranken and still have my original Ranken tool box and tools."



Pictured: Diamond Graduate, Bruno Corradi



## A Tribute to a Distinguished Honoree

Tom Wood (Carpentry 1955) passed away on March 31, 2013 at the age of 76. Tom was born in St. Louis in 1936. He graduated from St. Boniface grade school and attended Cleveland High School. Tom enrolled in the carpentry program at Ranken when he was 18 years old and graduated under Bill Wagner's instruction in 1955. He used his training from Ranken as a carpenter for 52 years. He worked for his father's company, William P. Wood and Son, General Contractors, before and after his student life, in addition to working for several large construction companies as a foreman. He was an active member the St. Louis Carpenter's District Council and served as a delegate. He received the Ranken Distinguished Alumni Award in 2011.

Tom would tell anyone he met: "My Ranken education was the best thing that ever happened to me. My instructor, Bill Wagner, was a tremendous influence on me, and I owe so much to him, both as my carpentry instructor and as my friend. Because of my education, I have had rewarding jobs with a variety of employers."

He was saddened by the loss of Mr. Wagner a few years ago and spoke of him often on his campus visits.



Tom was a founding member of the Alumni Leadership Council in 2005 and remained an active member until 2008 when failing health forced his resignation. He has donated his carpentry tool set and books to the Ranken archives and often brought friends to look at them

when they were on display. Tom purchased memorial bricks, referred students, and continued his close ties with campus by visiting often. Tom will be remembered by many.

Tom leaves behind his partner, Dot Flamm, three daughters, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He enjoyed fishing, golf, dining out and traveling with Dot. The family has created the Tom Wood Memorial Scholarship to assist students at Ranken Technical College.

## In Memoriam

Ranken faculty and staff extend their sympathy to the families and friends of the following alumni and faculty who have recently passed away:

### Alumni

**Bruce Walters (Precision Machining 1977) - April 2013**

**John Honerkamp Sr. (Refrigeration 1938) - March 2013**

**Gerald Poser (Machine Shop 1957) - March 2013**

**Dennis Casey (Automotive 1959) - March 2013**

In memory of Dennis Casey, friends may contribute to the Dennis Casey Memorial Scholarship by mailing a contribution made out to Ranken Technical College, including Dennis Casey Memorial Scholarship on the memo line.

**Tom Wood (Carpentry 1955) - March 2013**

In memory of Tom Wood, friends may contribute to the Tom Wood Memorial Scholarship by mailing a contribution made out to Ranken Technical College, including Tom Wood Memorial Scholarship on the memo line.

**George Ott (Communications Electronics 1946) - January 2013**

**Joe Altman (Machine Shop 1984) - December 2012**

**Joe Kargacin (Industrial Electricity/Electronics 1963) - December 2012**

**Jason Sagez (Automotive Collision Repair 2010) - November 2012**

**Paul J. Plummer (Precision Machining 1949) - November 2012**

**Lawrence C. Wilms (Machine Shop 1950) - October 2012**

**William Pohlman (Machine Shop 1963) - July 2012**

**Larry Lewis (Industrial Technology 2007) - March 2012**

### Retired Faculty

**Lee Thielker - November 2012.**

If you know of other Ranken alumni or friends who have passed away, please contact Kathy Fern in Alumni Relations at (314) 286-4895 or email [ktfern@ranken.edu](mailto:ktfern@ranken.edu).

# class notes

Curious as to what your classmates are doing these days or want to let them know where you are? Visit our website to keep us informed. You can also contact the director of Alumni Relations, by phone (314) 286-4895 or email alumni@ranken.edu. Here is news from some who have kept in touch.

## 1940s

### **Joe Vastine (Refrigeration 1949)**

enjoys retirement and is the tour guide for the historic Mermaid House Hotel in Lebanon, Ill.

### **Ken Kaup (Automotive Maintenance 1945)**

retired in 1992 from Southwestern Bell after 41 years of service as a lineman and a communications equipment installation technician. At 15 years old, Ken remembers standing on the corner waiting for the street car to pick him up to take him to night classes.

### **Keith McWilliams (Communication Electronics 1947)**

is retired after working as an electrician and teaching apprentice electricians in the St. Louis Public School system for 18 years, serving a total of 43 years in the electrical trade.

## 1950s

### **Joe Moehrle (Mechanical Drafting 1959)**

remarked, "Ranken was a godsend to me. It made a big difference in my life. My friend of 60+ years with whom I went to grade school and high school Pat Marlow, graduated with me. He also introduced me to my wife!"

**Edward Purdy (1956 INEET)** is retired and a pastor of a church in Gillespie, Ill.

### **James Musgrove (Radio 1955)**

currently serves on numerous committees and is an alderman for the 8th Ward in Belleville, Ill., in addition to teaching computer programs at Southwestern Illinois College.

### **G. William Gastineau (Radio 1955)**

has many fond memories of his garage apartment on Lindell Blvd. and paying \$6.00 a semester to attend Ranken. After graduation Bill joined the Navy then went to the University of Illinois. He is celebrating his 50th wedding anniversary in Alaska with his family, visiting the Gastineau Channel near Juneau. Bill is the 13th generation of the channel namesakes and has been retired for 35 years.

### **Dale Snodsmith (Electrical 1953)**

was a member of IBEW and retired after 43 years as an electrician with Mac Electric.

## 1960s

### **Don Hughes (Architectural Drafting 1965)**

visited campus and was amazed at the growth and changes since his graduation, which was held in the Rodenheiser Building. He is originally from Sparta, Ill., but currently lives in Las Vegas, Nev., with his wife of 46 years, Nina. Don is a senior engineering technician in the public works department for the City of Las Vegas. Don retired in January 2013 after a career spanning 48 years in structural engineering. Don's father also graduated from Ranken during the war in the 1940s.

**Dale Bauer (Machine Shop 1964)**, a retired tool designer from Siemens, attended the Ranken Wentzville open house in March and commented, "I still use the knowledge I received at Ranken today."

### **William (Bill) James (Mechanical Drafting 1963)**

was a tool and die designer in the corporate engineering department for Consolidated Aluminum. Bill retired at age 55 and now is a private consultant/expert witness on product liability.

### **James Wilton (Machine Shop 1963)**

retired 10 years ago from Olin Works in Alton, Ill., after 40 years as a tool and die

maker. He remembers, "Ranken provided me with good training to make a good living."

**Dennis Richter (Electrical 1963)** retired in 2009 after 29 years with Boeing as a maintenance electrician after having started his career with General Steel Industries.

### **Clarence Vohsen Jr. (Electrical 1963)**

started at Snap-On Tools after graduation and retired as a mechanical supervisor and maintenance plant manager from Boeing in 2004. Clarence worked with his classmate Dennis Richter for many years.

### **Melvin Sutton (Machine Shop 1963)**

started at Proctor & Gamble as a machinist, became a mechanic then a welder, continuing to add to his skills through Ranken's evening classes, then retired after 37 years. He spent 30 years in his hobby as a crew chief racing quarter midgets.

### **Faro Maniaci (Architectural Drafting 1963)**

retired in 2001 but works part-time as an independent contractor for government and army contracts locally.

### **David Storey (Radio Communications 1963)**

joined the Air Force and worked on diesel electronics for the Atlas Missile System. He also served as a training NCO in Germany for power plant states. Upon his return to the states, he worked for Century Electric, then in TV/radio repair with a friend. In 1982 he became a service manager for REMCO Rent and retired from Ahren Rents in 2008. He has a broadcast engineer license and enjoys a hobby as a ham radio operator.

**Leroy Swetnam (Carpentry 1962)** lives in Plato, Mo., and worked at Fort Leonard Wood until he retired in 1992 from carpentry. He farmed until 2012, when he had to sell all but a few livestock due to health concerns.



**Philip Weiss (Carpentry 1962)** left construction in Kentucky and became a team leader for Whirlpool/Amana Refrigeration until his retirement in 2010.

**Jim Wilson (Architecture 1962)** lives in Clark, Mo., and retired in October 2012. Jim was a draftsman after graduation until he entered the Army in 1966. After his discharge, he owned a chain of convenience stores and service stations until 1999, when he went to work for a friend in maintenance. Jim and his wife Marge were married 50 years in June. His classmate Robert Wort was married on the same day and is also celebrating a 50-year wedding anniversary.

**Mike Caponi Jr. (Architecture 1962)** recently retired after 30 years as a chief construction estimator with Rhodex Construction located in Ferguson, Mo.

**John Heitz (Electrical 1961)** retired as a service technician from Western Union after 32 years and has recently joined the Alumni Leadership Council, the advisory board of the alumni association.

**Ray Carril (Refrigeration 1960)** had a mechanical drafting education from another college when he enrolled at Ranken for HVAC. After graduation he became an instructor at Ranken for mechanical drafting under Mr. Lane. Ray stated, "I was a consultant for six years in drafting HVAC systems then took a job in 1966 at Shell Oil in electrical drafting. I was there for 28 years and retired in 1994. Now I take a camper to Texas for four months each year to do volunteer work at Christian camps with a Texas Baptist men's group. I still keep in touch with my coworkers from Shell Oil, many of whom are Ranken graduates."

**Cletus Hohrein (Automotive Maintenance 1962)** is retired and enjoys collecting and restoring Massey-Harris and other antique tractors.

**Thomas Koncki (Architecture Drafting 1962)** retired after spending 27 years in drafting and design as an architectural drafting teacher from O'Fallon Technical School, part of the St. Louis City Public Schools.

**Randy Scheltgen (Architecture 1962)** lives in Wichita, Kan., and retired in 2006 from a chemical salesman position. He said this about Ranken, "I still use some of what I learned at Ranken every week, and it was an invaluable experience for me."

**John Kreiter (Architecture 1962)** lives in Decatur, Ill.

## 1970s

### **Bob Benne (Instrumentation Process Control/Control Systems 1979)**

is a technician with Metropolitan Sewer District and is "proud of my accomplishments, my perfect attendance, my grade point average and my class that had a good sense of humor."

**Dan Krueger (Machine Shop 1975)** stopped by the Ranken booth at the recent auto show to touch base with his alma mater and to let us know that he has worked at Anheuser Busch as a machinist for 34 years. He has six children and five grandchildren.

**Bruce Hampton (Welding 1972)** is an owner/operator truck driver for over 35 years for Mercury Express out of Lake Saint Louis, Mo.

**Larry Freeman (Diesel 1972)** retired after 34 years as a diesel mechanic from Metro (formerly Bi-State Transit).

**Joseph Schneider (Machine Shop 1970)** is retired from Patterson Mold and Tool. From his years on campus, he remembers, "playing football on the lot across from the main entrance on our lunch breaks."

## 1980s

**Dave Riley (Automotive Maintenance 1985)** was recently named the technical director for the National Auto Sport Association (NASA) Central Region where he will oversee safety procedures at 10 speedways located throughout the Midwest.

**Robert Allen (Automotive Maintenance 1982)** has been a mechanic for 30 years at Thomas Garage, a family owned business located in Fairmont City, Ill.

**Jesse Berry (Diesel 1982)** stopped by the Ranken booth at the recent auto show to touch base with his alma mater and to let us know that he works for the Metro as a diesel mechanic.

**Scott Luchtefeld (HVAC 1981)** is the new recording secretary for the Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 101.

**Stephen Burchett (Diesel 1975, Machine Shop 1981)** attended Ranken for diesel mechanics then returned to night school for machine shop. After graduation he started at McDonnell Aircraft as a tool and die maker and retired over 30 years later. He is enjoying retirement in Florida.

**Donald Hendricks (Carpentry 1980)** retired from the State of Illinois DOT after 28 years of service and lives in Taylorville, Ill.

## 1990s

**Zachary Dismuke (Precision Machining 1999)** resides in Dekalb, Ill., and works as a CNC programmer for Tek Pak Inc., located in Batavia, Ill.

**Jeff Schmidt (Automotive Maintenance 1998)** visited the recent job fair as a recruiter for JM&A Group Mechanical Claims Internship Program.

**Joseph (Keith) Brake (Machine Shop 1996)** is the shop manager at American Equipment & Machine in Centralia, Ill

**Glennon Flood (1995 Machine Shop)** is currently employed by Bohn and Dawson in Kirkwood as a mechanical design engineer/CNC programmer.

## Keep In Touch!

To submit an alumni update, visit our website at [www.ranken.edu](http://www.ranken.edu) or contact Kathy Fern, director of Alumni Relations at (314) 286-4895 or [ktfern@ranken.edu](mailto:ktfern@ranken.edu).

**Brian Nelson (Refrigeration 1994, Industrial Technology 1999)** is currently working as a power plant mechanic at Washington University.

**Kurt Diekemper (Information Technology 1994)** is the director of quality for Sensus, a technology company for the conservation of water and energy located in Morrisville, N.C., but calls Largo, Fla. home.

**Brett Randoll (Carpentry 1994)** was recently promoted to vice president of production at Riggs Construction & Design in Kirkwood, Mo.

**Ron Amass (Automotive Maintenance 1991)** is a computer technician for Waynesville R-6 School District.

**Davie Munie (Plumbing 1990)** is a second-term elected member of the executive board of the Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 101 in Belleville and has been a plumbing instructor there for the last 13 years. Dave has worked out of the Local 101 Hall for 23 years.

## 2000s

**Tyler Kathmann (Industrial Technology 2012)** was hired by Worley Catastrophe Response, LLC as an independent claims adjuster.

**Jamar Bohannon (Architecture 2012)** is a CAD technician at Hydromat Precision Machining Solutions.

**Terry Bledsoe (Carpentry 2012)** in a recent correspondence said, "I really enjoyed going to Ranken. It was like being with family."

**Curt Lenau (Precision Machining 2011)** is engaged and plans to be married in October of 2013.

**Megan Williams Murphy (Architecture 2012)** is a CAD drafter at Nooter Ericksen. Her husband, Theo Murphy, was the recipient of the 2012 Alumni Association Scholarship.

**Nicholas Doerr (Industrial Technology 2011)** is engaged to Jaime Erb and

planning a September 2013 wedding. Nicholas is employed by V8TV Speed and Restoration Shop in Red Bud, Ill.

**Sam Brown (Plumbing 2011)** has been promoted to store manager of the Lowe's in Washington, Mo.

**Terry Taylor (Industrial Technology 2010)** is a medical support assistant for the VA Medical Center in St. Louis. He tells us via email, "I have a lot of great memories of Ranken, but my favorites were when the entire class would talk shop on our break or when we first went into shop class with the instructor Mark Malcinski."

**Becky Dettmer Fitzgerald (Information Technology 2009)** was recently married and lives in St. Charles, Mo.

**John Ballard (Automotive Maintenance 2004, HVAC 2009)** is engaged and plans a September 2013 wedding to Elizebeth Donovan. John is employed by Ace Lab Systems in St. Louis as a field service engineer.

**Jason Kelts (Information Technology 2009)** is currently deployed in Afghanistan for his second tour with the U.S. Air Force.

**Joshua Kraus (Architecture 2009)** is employed by St. Louis County Government in the planning department as a community development specialist. He wrote "All the teachers were great and the hands-on experiences were helpful." Joshua is a new father to Caden Jackson Kraus born on August 20, 2012.

**Josh Fischer (Industrial Technology 2009)** recently became engaged to Holly Lifka.

**Scott Latinette (Automotive Maintenance 2008)** works as a mechanic at Peterbuilt in Sauget, Ill.

**Timothy Dooley (Plumbing 2008)** is currently an apprentice for TriState Water, Air and Power Systems.

**Chris Chandler (Carpentry 2007)** was married to Lauren Lammert in May and is

employed as a carpenter for Brunstrom General Contracting, St. Louis.

**Ronnie Hicks (Information Technology/Internet Web Based Technology 2007)** is the senior programmer for Client Services, Inc., was married in October 2010 and had his first child in 2012.

**Don Sanders (Control Systems 2006)** lives and works in Denver, Col., and is currently a technical solutions technician for Water Technology Group.

**Steve Naylor (Electrical Automation Technology 2006)** was recently married to Lindsey Hamilton and is employed as a wireman for IBEW Local 649.

**Ian Hesterberg (Electrical Systems Design Technology 2005)** married Allison Martinez in Monticello, Ill., in May and lives in Aurora, Ill. Ian is employed at Lighting Associates in Webster Groves, Mo.

**Kyle Eilerman (Industrial Technology 2005)** was married to Jennifer Michelle Rose in September 2012 and is employed with Eilerman Enterprises.

**Josh Patterson (Information Technology 2003)** visited the recent job fair as a recruiter for Connectria Hosting where he works as the manager of IT infrastructure.

**Drew Hartman (Precision Machining 2003)** married Angela in May 2013 and lives in Brighton, Ill.

**Eric Williams (Information Technology 2003)** visited the recent job fair as a recruiter for Connectria Hosting where he works as the manager for security management.

**Aaron Wilson (Computer Networking Technology 2002)** is an operating systems analyst for Washington University.

**William Stewart (2001 Automotive Maintenance)** is a technician at Sapaugh Motors in Herculaneum, Mo.





## save the date

**8.8.13\*, 8.13.13-8.14.13**

### **Fall Orientation**

All students beginning the fall semester should plan to attend the new student orientation. You should receive information in the mail indicating which day to attend. For questions, contact the Admissions office at (314) 286-4809.

\* Wentzville location

**8.15.13**

### **Fall Family Orientation**

This orientation is intended for family members of students beginning in the fall semester. For questions, contact the Admissions office at (314) 286-4809.

**8.27.13**

### **Fall Semester Begins**

It's not too late to register for classes! For more information contact the Admissions office at (314) 286-4809.

**9.6.13, 10.4.13 or 12.6.13**

### **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](http://www.ranken.edu) or call the Career Services office at (314) 286-4821.

**9.27.13**

### **Educator/Advisor Workshop**

All educators are invited to attend this half-day workshop to tour campus, learn about the benefits of a technical education and how Ranken can benefit your students.

**10.9.13, 11.19.13\*, 11.21.13 or 12.4.13\*\***

### **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](http://www.ranken.edu).

\* Wentzville Location

\*\* Automotive Only

**10.19.13**

### **Fall Open House**

Join us at our fall open house from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Take the opportunity to tour our programs, speak with an admissions counselor and learn about our many scholarship opportunities.

**10.30.13\*, 11.7.13**

### **Placement Testing Day**

Choose from three different sessions to take the placement test and enjoy a free continental breakfast or afternoon snack. Please register online at [www.ranken.edu](http://www.ranken.edu) or call (314) 286-4849. Space is limited.

\* Wentzville location

**11.6.13**

### **Fall Job Fair**

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](http://www.ranken.edu).

**11.13.13**

### **Fall Open House (Wentzville)**

Join us at our fall open house from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Take the opportunity to tour our programs, speak with an admissions counselor and learn about our many scholarship opportunities.

## Giving the **Gift** of Education

## Has Never Been **Easier**



We have made it even easier to give the gift of education...simply use your mobile phone to text a donation!

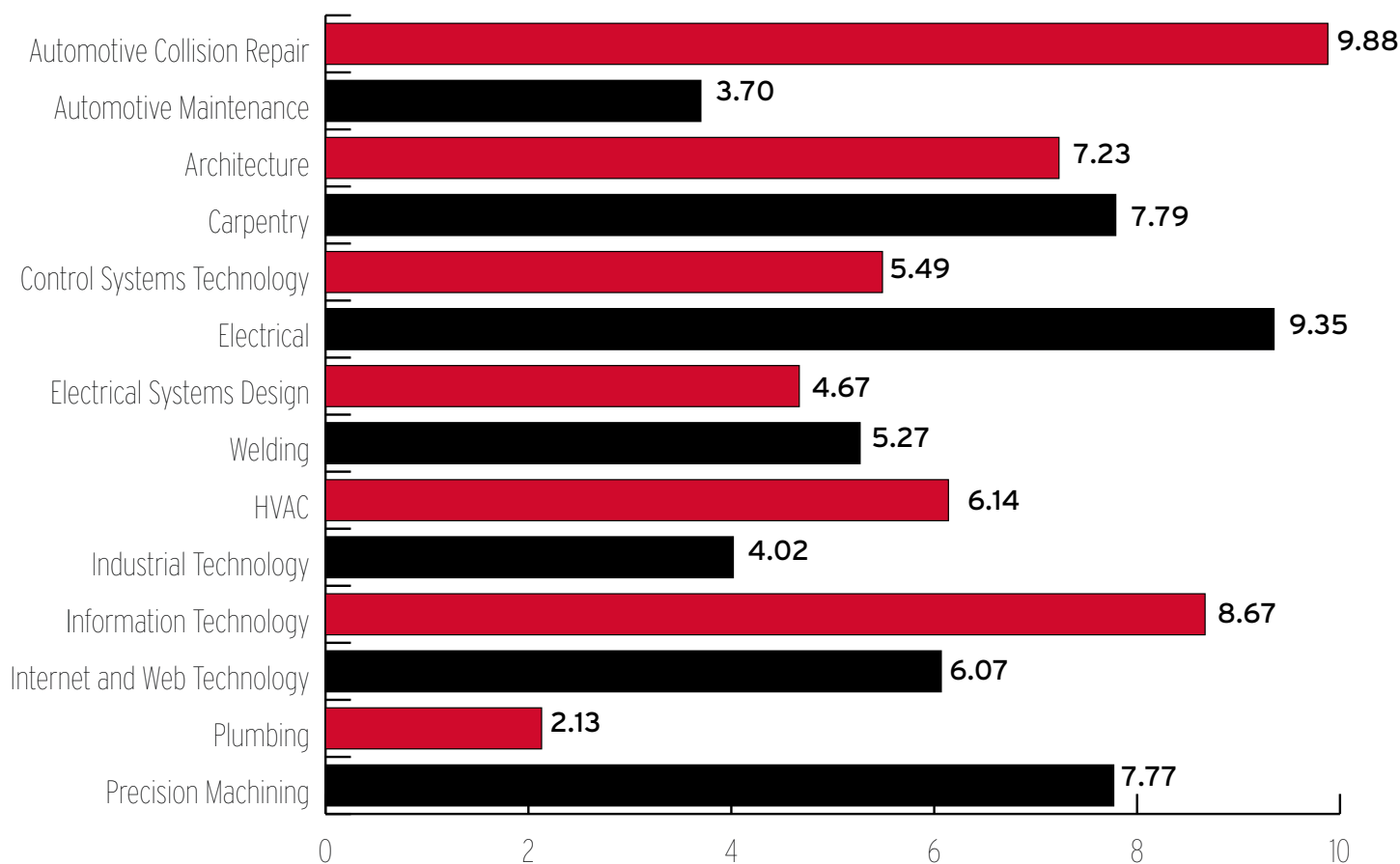
**Text RANKEN to code #20222 to give a \$10 gift to the Alumni Association Scholarship Fund.**

A one-time donation of \$10 will be added to your mobile phone bill or deducted from your prepaid balance. For more information on how to use this service or to see copies of our privacy statement, Donor Bill of Rights and Code of Ethics, visit [www.ranken.edu/development](http://www.ranken.edu/development).

For more information, contact Kathy Fern in the Development Office at (314) 286-4895 or via email at [ktfern@ranken.edu](mailto:ktfern@ranken.edu).

# RANKEN employment report

## Job Opportunities Per Graduate - Spring 2013



## Average Starting Salary Per Program - Spring 2013

Department	High	Low	Avg	Avg with 3-4 years exp.
Architecture (AS)	\$42,000	\$24,000	\$33,000	\$39,000 - \$50,000
Architecture (BS)	\$45,000	\$30,000	\$38,000	\$45,000 - \$55,000
Auto Collision Repair	\$37,000	\$22,000	\$30,000	\$45,000 - \$55,000
Automotive Maintenance	\$44,000	\$18,000	\$31,000	\$45,000 - \$55,000
Carpentry	\$40,000	\$22,000	\$31,000	\$57,000 - \$67,000
Control Systems	\$60,000	\$38,000	\$49,000	\$45,000 - \$50,000
Electrical Automation	\$52,000	\$20,000	\$36,000	\$40,000 - \$50,000
Electrical Systems Design	\$47,000	\$33,000	\$40,000	\$55,000 - \$80,000
Heating/Ventilation/AC	\$40,000	\$22,000	\$31,000	\$45,000 - \$55,000
High Performance Racing	\$35,000	\$25,000	\$30,000	N/A
Industrial Technology	\$48,000	\$30,000	\$39,000	\$55,000 - \$60,000
Information Technology	\$43,000	\$24,000	\$34,000	\$40,000 - \$55,000
Internet/Web Based	\$42,000	\$25,000	\$34,000	\$45,000 - \$55,000
Plumbing	\$47,000	\$21,000	\$34,000	\$45,000 - \$50,000
Precision Machining	\$53,000	\$26,000	\$40,000	\$45,000 - \$50,000
Welding	\$46,000	\$24,000	\$34,000	\$30,000 - \$48,000

as of spring 2013



## scholarships

### Herbert A. & Adrian W. Woods Foundation **Scholarships for Summer Adventure Academies**

The Herbert A. & Adrian W. Woods Foundation (Bank of America, Trustee) recently awarded a \$5,500 grant in support of scholarships to this summer's Career Exploration Adventure Academy. Approximately 20 students will receive scholarships, with a focus on economically-disadvantaged youth. This is the second year the Woods Foundation has supported the Adventure Academy program. The Herbert A. & Adrian W. Woods Foundation was established in 1999. Mrs. Woods has a long history of charitable giving in the St. Louis community.

### Women's Scholarship

#### **Ranken Offers Scholarships to New Female Students**

Ranken recently asked prospective female students to tell us why a Ranken education is a good option for them. In partnership with Clear Channel, contestants were asked to fill out an entry form in hopes of winning a \$5,000 scholarship to be used at the St. Louis or Wentzville location. After all the entries were gathered, contestants sat down with John Wood, vice president for student success, to discuss their interests in the technical fields, as the final round.

### Lucian C. Haney Memorial Scholarship **Annual Scholarships to Support Ranken Education**

To remember Ranken alumnus Lucian Haney, a visually impaired 1936 Refrigeration graduate, his family has created the Lucian C. Haney Memorial Scholarship to be given annually to support Ranken education. Lucian was 97 when he passed in 2012 and had a long, successful career as a result of his Ranken education. This gift will provide two \$2,500 scholarships annually with preference given to students with special needs or students enrolled in the Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration program.

### Red Bud Industries Scholarship **\$5,000 Annual Scholarship**

Red Bud Industries is one of the most respected manufacturers of Coil Processing Equipment in the world. As part of the celebration of its 50th Anniversary in 2009, Red Bud Industries established a \$5,000 annual scholarship to Ranken Technical College. Their goal is to remain a leader in their industry by helping the next generation of students from the Red Bud, Ill. region gain the skills necessary to build world class equipment for a global economy. The company also offers each scholarship recipient employment opportunities while they are in school and after they graduate.

## donations

### Pershing Charitable Trust **\$15,000 Unrestricted Gift**

The Pershing Charitable Trust has contributed to Ranken's mission for many years, giving a total of \$730,000 since 1998. This includes a recent unrestricted gift of \$15,000. The Pershing Charitable Trust was established in 1968 and gives primarily to education and human services organizations in St. Louis.

### W.R. Persons Charitable Trust **\$5,000 Unrestricted Gift**

Since 1976, the Persons Charitable Trust, founded by W.R. "Buck" Persons, has graciously contributed over \$774,000 in support of Ranken's programs, including this recent \$5,000 unrestricted gift.

### Hydromat, Inc.

#### **Multiple Donations of Time and Equipment**

Hydromat's mission is to offer precision machining solutions which provide customers with unsurpassed quality, reliability, and productivity.

Hydromat CEO Bruno Schmitter has been a member of the Ranken Board of Trustees for several years. Recently, Mr. Schmitter and the company agreed to be a lead donor in the College's effort to grow the machining trade through new educational opportunities in Wentzville. They also donated a precision machine to Ranken's Wentzville campus.

### Koch Air, LLC

#### **Equipment Donations**

Koch Air has been a distributor of Carrier products since 1936, and is the fourth oldest Carrier distributor. It is among the ten largest independent Carrier distributors in the U.S.

Carrier and Koch Air have donated equipment to the Ranken Technical College HVAC program many times in recent years. Recently, several 1.5 ton condensing units were delivered to our Industrial Technology and HVAC programs. This continuing support allows our students to gain hands-on experience with the most recent technology.

### Sigma-Aldrich Corporation

#### **Unrestricted Donation to Fund for Ranken**

Sigma-Aldrich Corporation generously supports Ranken through its annual contribution to the Fund for Ranken. Their unrestricted donations are used to support the purchase of new equipment, updating lab facilities and enhancing the curriculum. Headquartered in St. Louis, Sigma-Aldrich operates in 40 countries, has 7,600 employees and is a leading life science and high technology company.

# RANKEN

TECHNICAL COLLEGE

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## The David Ranken, Jr. Legacy Society Take action NOW to impact future generations of students!

### Wills and Trusts

You may include a provision in your will or living trust in which you designate a specific dollar amount or a percentage of your estate to Ranken. This enables you to retain control of your assets during your lifetime and may reduce estate taxes after your passing.

### Beneficiary Designations

Naming Ranken as a beneficiary of your qualified retirement plan is a tax-efficient way to make a gift because distributions to the College are not taxed. If you leave these assets to individuals income and estate taxes may reduce those assets by 50% or more. You may also designate Ranken as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy.

Age	Fixed Rate
65	4.7%
70	5.1%
75	5.8%
80	6.8%
85	7.8%
90+	9.0%

### Make a Gift and receive Lifetime Income

Life income plans, such as charitable gift annuities, provide lifetime payments to you and/or your designee, in addition to a charitable income tax deduction and capital gains tax savings if funded with appreciated stock. Please call for personalized illustration of financial tax benefits.

For more information please contact Ken Meyer, director of Major Gifts & Planned Giving at (314) 286-3649.

