

fall/winter 2012/2013

# the ranken experience



Jobs in Information  
Technology are in  
high demand. p20

## news

Class of 2014 Begins  
Their Ranken  
Experience

p1

## students

Ranken Opening New  
Location in Wentzville,  
Missouri.

p16

## employees

PMT Receives Award  
for Microenterprise  
Efforts.

p29

## alumni

Ranken Says  
Goodbye to Oldest  
Living Alumnus

p32



## note from the president

### stan shoun

When David Ranken, Jr. came to St. Louis in the mid-1800s he recognized the lack of skilled workers in mechanical trades and the need for an institution that would teach the “dignity of labor.” In 1907 he began the journey of fulfilling his vision by opening the David Ranken, Jr. School of Mechanical Trades.

As we celebrate our 105th year, we like to think that Ranken Technical College has become so much more than even David Ranken, Jr. could have ever dreamed.

Our roots and our mission remain the same; to train skilled-workers for our region’s workforce; but this college is now a place of technical superiority. When guests walk onto campus they are often struck by the rich history and beautiful architecture, but when they walk into the labs and shops they see only state-of-the-art equipment and students learning the latest technologies in their field.

We continually look for new ways to keep our programs on the cutting-edge of technology by keeping in close contact with industry, hiring top-notch instructors and, of course, having generous donors, leaders and friends who take an active role in our success. Our mission is not to just keep doing what we have been doing for more than 100 years. Our mission is to continue to grow and expand the opportunities available to our students.

We are proud to say that the ways we are living out this mission can be seen throughout campus with building renovations at the Mary Ann Lee Technology Center and the Rodenheiser building, our “pipeline” programs like the Summer Adventure Academies, Dual Enrollment program, robotics teams and our new Education and Manufacturing Cooperative, which gives our students the opportunity for real-world experience right on campus.

Ranken has also begun to expand its reach past the campus on Finney Avenue by partnering with Central Virginia Community College and opening a new location in Wentzville, Missouri in May 2013.

It is an exciting time to be part of Ranken; an institution that is making a difference in our community and leading the way in shaping our region’s future workforce. Despite the unstable economy, our graduates are still in high demand with employers, which can be seen in our extraordinary 96-98% placement rate within six months of graduation. We will continue to look forward and help to fulfill the need that David Ranken, Jr. recognized so many years ago; highly-skilled, educated students who are ready to work.

## PROGRAM KEY

<b>ACR</b>	Automotive Collision Repair Technology
<b>AMT</b>	Automotive Maintenance Technology
<b>AFM</b>	Automotive Fleet Management
<b>ART</b>	Architectural Technology
<b>BSAM</b>	Bachelor of Science in Applied Management
<b>BSAT</b>	Bachelor of Science in Architectural Technology
<b>CRP</b>	Carpentry and Building Construction
<b>CS</b>	Control Systems Technology
<b>EEL</b>	Electrical Technology
<b>EAT</b>	Electrical Automation Technology
<b>ECDM</b>	Electrical Construction Design and Management
<b>ESDT</b>	Electrical Systems Design Technology
<b>HPRT</b>	High Performance Racing Technology
<b>FWT</b>	Fabrication and Welding Technology
<b>HVACR</b>	Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Technology
<b>INT</b>	Industrial Technology
<b>IT</b>	Information Technology
<b>IWT</b>	Internet and Web-based Technology
<b>PLT</b>	Plumbing Technology
<b>PMT</b>	Precision Machining Technology
<b>SEG</b>	Solar Energy Systems and Green Technology

## scholarships

### Saigh Foundation Scholarship

#### Two Scholarships for First-Year Students

For the past several years the Saigh Foundation has been generous in providing scholarships to two incoming first-year students at Ranken. This year's recipients were Brett Blakemore (IT) from Harrisburg High School and Shiloh Goodwin (AMT) from Mascoutah High School.

The Saigh Foundation, named for Fred Saigh, a former owner of the St. Louis Cardinals, has a mission to enhance the quality of life in the St. Louis Metro Area through support for charitable projects and initiatives, which primarily benefit children and youth through education and health care.

### Ernest H. & Ernest C. Dvorachek Scholarship

#### \$1,000 Scholarship for Electrical Students

The Dvorachek family initiated this annual scholarship for students in one of Ranken's Electrical programs in memory of their father, Ernest C. and their grandfather, Ernest H. Both were graduates of the David Ranken School of Mechanical Trades' Electrical department (1948 and 1923 respectively).

This year's recipients included Kyle Bray (CST) from Lafayette High School, Philip Erzinger (EAT) from Valmeyer High School, Steven Few (EAT) from Perryville High School, Tyron Grant (ESDT) from Hazelwood Central High School and Marcel Lee (CST) from McCluer North High School.

### Robert R. Ruth Memorial Scholarship Scholarship for Automotive Students

James C. Hearne, Jr. initiated this scholarship in memory of Robert R. Ruth, his friend and long-time Ranken Automotive instructor who passed away in 2012.

This \$500 scholarship will be awarded for the first time in fall 2013 to one student enrolled in Ranken's Automotive Maintenance Technology program.

### Collaborative Scholarship Fund \$1 Million Scholarship Fund Benefiting St. Louis Residents

Last year, several major contributors including Emerson, Ameren, Laclede Gas and the Adorjan Family Foundation helped establish this scholarship to benefit students living in the City of St. Louis. The goal of this fund is to provide increased access and support to prospective students with a demonstrated financial need.

The fund was established in an effort to meet the challenge set forth by the College's founder, David Ranken, Jr. when he admonished the first faculty and administration to "turn no one away." These scholarships provide educational opportunities for students who might not otherwise be able to attend Ranken.

## donations

### Grainger Foundation

#### Grant for Summer Adventure Academies

In July, the Grainger Foundation awarded a \$20,000 grant to Ranken in support of the 2012 Summer Adventure Academies. This is the third year that Grainger has been a major sponsor of the event. The grant was approved by four local Grainger branches in St. Louis and helped provide numerous hands-on activities and presentations for children who attended the camps.

W.W. Grainger is a global distributor and supplier of more than 1 million products with headquarters in Deerfield, Ill.

### Orthwein Foundation

#### \$10,000 Grant to Support Ranken's Student Achievement Center

Ranken recently received a \$10,000 grant from the William R. Orthwein Jr. and Laura Rand Orthwein Foundation in support of the Student Achievement Center.

The Foundation, established in 2003 by lifetime St. Louis residents William and Laura Rand Orthwein, primarily supports nonprofit organizations in the greater St. Louis area. The foundation is dedicated to its founders' interests: education, arts, science, heritage, healthcare and civic life. The Orthweins wanted to support education, including teaching life skills and promoting leadership skills, which they believed to be a major tool to success.

### HBE Corporation

#### \$5,000 Unrestricted Gift

HBE Corporation has contributed to Ranken's mission for many years giving a total of \$45,000 since 2006. This includes a recent unrestricted gift of \$5,000.

HBE, headquartered in St. Louis, Mo., specializes in single source healthcare design-build project delivery. With job sites around the country, its integrated team of more than 400 professionals includes architects, engineers and construction experts. They have delivered more than 1,000 healthcare projects in 49 states and they rank consistently as a top design-build firm in *Modern Healthcare*.

Fred Kummer, CEO of the company, and his family were sole owners of the company until 2008 when HBE became an employee-owned company.



## Class of 2014 Begins Their Ranken Journey

On August 23, 2012, more than 740 new students started classes and began their educational and career journey at Ranken Technical College.

"Our counselors were very busy over the summer registering and preparing for this large class that started this fall," said Mike Hawley, director of Admissions. "We stayed busy up until the first day of classes and averaged about 12 new registrations per day the week before. We had six new students come down from Chicago and one from Joplin, Mo. so it is great to see the efforts of our counselors in the outlying areas coming to fruition."

As a first step, students were invited to attend an orientation session on campus, which introduced them to Ranken's policies, campus activities, resources and gave them an idea of what to expect over the next two to four years. Four day-time sessions and one evening session were held in the new R.W. Staley Auditorium. The orientation program was supported by a new PowerPoint presentation and Campus Pocket Guide created by the Marketing department to give students easy access to the most essential information. Approximately 92% of registered day-school students attended and the evening parent orientation was standing room only.

"The turnout was extraordinary," said John Wood, vice president for student success. "It was great to see so many students show up to get a head start on their time here and so many parents who are taking an interest in their students' education."

"I completely credit this success to our Admissions team," continued Wood. "They were on the phones constantly over the summer keeping in touch with registered students and ensuring that they relayed all of the pertinent information. If we continue at this rate, we may need a bigger auditorium next year."

As always, Ranken continues to grow and remain ahead of the curve of technology. The class of 2014 will have the opportunity to experience many changes on campus such as the completion of the new Major Appliance Technology lab (program to begin in spring 2013) and the major remodel of the Rodenheiser building, the home of Ranken's Automotive Maintenance, Automotive Collision and Automotive Import programs. Growth will take place beyond campus as well when the College opens a new location in Wentzville, Mo. beginning in June 2013 (more on page 16). **R**



## U.S. Under Secretary Visits Campus

The U.S. Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade **Francisco J. Sanchez** visited Ranken Technical College on October 5 to tour our technical programs and commemorate Manufacturing Day. Manufacturing Day is an annual event designed to expand knowledge about and improve general public perception of manufacturing careers and manufacturing's value to the U.S. economy.

Sanchez enjoyed breakfast with Ranken President Stan Shoun and then set off on a whirlwind tour of the campus, learning more about Ranken's educational methods, our pipeline initiative and our commitment to microenterprises. After the tour, Sanchez held a round-table discussion with local business and community leaders to discuss current trends in manufacturing, with an emphasis on increasing exports. The group discussed the perception of manufacturing by the public, as well as in the educational system, and ways in which involvement in manufacturing could be encouraged.

Other topics included current tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade, ways to work with other countries to standardize regulations allowing for freer trade, as well as the importance of emerging new trade partners, such as Brazil, Turkey and Saudi Arabia. He also pointed out how immigration reform can help to attract and retain new talent and entrepreneurs to the U.S. and help to grow the economy by creating new jobs.

Sanchez was impressed with Ranken's facility, saying he was "blown away" by what he had seen. He particularly praised Ranken's close industry ties, which help Ranken train students in exactly the skills employers are looking for.

"Why don't we have Rankens in every state in America?" he asked, stating that he'd love to see the Ranken model applied nationwide. **R**

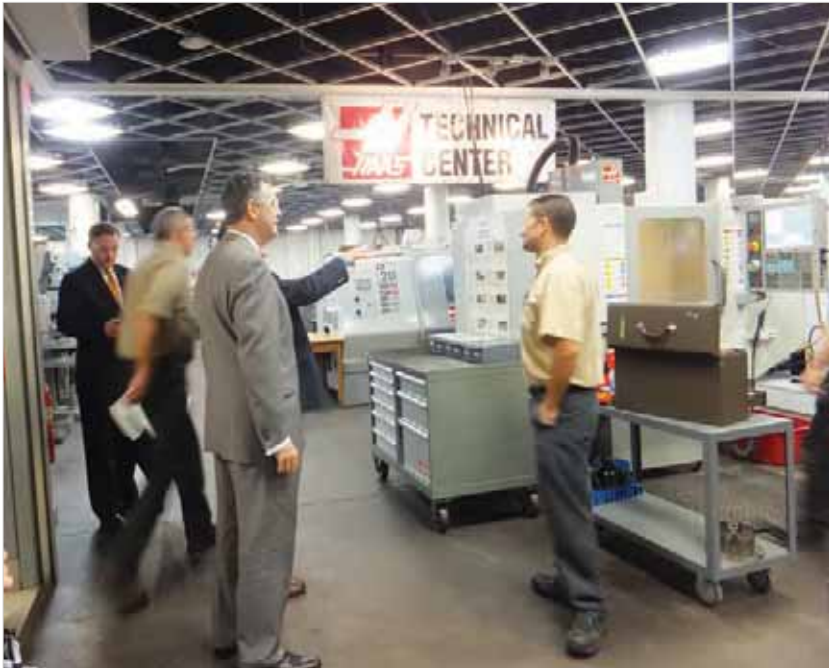


Photo: U.S. Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade Francisco J. Sanchez toured Ranken's Precision Machining shop.

## 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 (BSAM) 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).





## Ranken Sponsored Soapbox Racer Takes First Place

On Saturday, June 2, the city of Lynchburg, Va., held its first soapbox car derby since the mid-1990s.

Barbara Bragg, Ranken's STEM pathway development coordinator, who is originally from Virginia, heard of the revitalization of the derby and wanted to participate. She learned that 13-year-old Nathan Hansen, who is the son of Kim Hansen, an adjunct faculty member at Central Virginia Community College (CVCC) and strong STEM enthusiast, was entering the competition in the super stock division, so she decided to sponsor him in Ranken's name.

"Not only have I known Nathan's family for years, but I also saw it as a great opportunity to make Ranken's presence more dominant in that area," said Bragg.

The Hill City Classic, which was held at Falwell Airport, had 22 participants entered in two divisions (stock and super stock) who raced 60-pound hard plastic kit cars, replacing the soapbox cars used in the 1960s. Since there are no engines in soapbox derby cars, the only difference between stock and super stock is the size of the driver.

In super stock, the cockpit is larger to accommodate pilots ages 13 to 17, as opposed to the 10 to 13 range for stock.

The event was organized mainly by a group from the Greater Lynchburg Chamber of Commerce and was supported by donations from local businesses, including CVCC and Babcock & Wilcox (B&W). CVCC provided a number of scholarships that ensured an economic cross-section of competitors, a team of engineers from B&W helped develop some of the entries from the Jubilee Family Development Center and a lot of fathers, mothers, uncles and neighbors helped assemble the cars.

The cars were raced down a 550-foot-plus hill which coaxed gravity-fed speeds of around 30 miles an hour, and the difference in the finish was around two seconds. At the end of the double-elimination competition, Hansen, who was a winner at a competition held in Wanesboro, Va., and a national derby participant last summer, defeated the only female in the field to win the super stock division. Hansen, along with the winner of the stock division, moved onto the national event held in Akron, Ohio, on July 21. Hansen won his first round but fell a little short on the second round.

"Sometimes it's the luck of the lane that helps you out," said mom Kim Hansen. "We are so proud of him and the sportsmanship he has shown."

When asked how he continues to have success in derby competitions, Hansen laughed and said: "Put flames on your car."



Photo: Nathan Hansen polishes his car before the race.

## Local Educators, Counselors Visit Campus

On September 28, the College held its biannual event for local counselors and educators. The newly renamed **Educator/Advisor Workshop** was held in the atrium of the Mary Ann Lee Technology Center.

Approximately 45 teachers and counselors from local schools and organizations attended to learn more about Ranken as an option for the high school students with whom they work. Don Pohl, Ranken's vice president for education, addressed the group during breakfast and reviewed Ranken's rich history and three-pronged approach to education. After breakfast the guests went on campus tours, including Walker Hall.

Following the tours, the groups were taken to the new R.W. Staley Auditorium where John Wood, Ranken's vice president for student success, gave a presentation that covered campus construction and resources, the new Wentzville location and microenterprises.

As a new addition to this event, the guests had the opportunity to choose from four different hands-on activities in the areas of Information Technology, Industrial Technology, Automotive Collision Repair or Solar Technology.

Each year two schools are selected in a drawing to receive a \$500 scholarship to pass on to one of their students who is coming to Ranken. Congratulations to Charlie Blair from Gateway STEM High School and Barclay Hirth from South Technical High School whose schools were chosen to receive the scholarships.

The next Educator/Advisor workshop is scheduled for April 19, 2013. **R**

## Automotive Division Hosts Alternative Fuel Workshop

Thursday, October 18 was National Alternative Fuel Vehicle (AFV) Day Odyssey, a nationwide, biennial celebration conducted to educate the public on the importance of alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles.

Ranken's Automotive division partnered with Clean Cities St. Louis to host an Odyssey Day workshop for students, faculty, staff and board members. During the day various workshops were held that covered alternative fuel sources such as biodiesel and compressed natural gas and also introduced some of the newest technologies in hybrid vehicles and electric vehicles like the Chevy Volt.

"This was a great opportunity for both our students and our faculty," said Dan Kania, Automotive division chair. "Having knowledge of advanced technology vehicles will give our students an edge when they are looking for jobs. Hopefully in the not-too-distant future, students will only know of these fuel sources and these types of vehicles will not be considered advanced technology."

AFV Day was developed in 2002 and is coordinated by the national Alternative Fuels Training Consortium (NAFTC), a program of West Virginia University. The

NAFTC develops curricula, conducts training programs and conducts outreach and education activities on alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles. Presently consisting of approximately 50 member organizations, the consortium is dedicated to making a difference in eliminating harmful emissions and reducing our nation's dependence on petroleum. Nationally sponsored by Honda and Toyota, Odyssey 2012 is partially supported by funding from the U.S. Department of Energy, and is conducted in partnership with the U.S. Department of Energy Clean Cities Initiative, AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) and West Virginia University.

## ACR Updates Advisory Board on New Student Opportunities

On Wednesday, October 24 Ranken's Automotive Collision Repair (ACR) department held their annual advisory board meeting. In attendance were approximately 25 industry leaders as well as Ranken ACR faculty and staff. To begin the meeting, John Helterbrand, ACR department chair, discussed the new I-Car curriculum that is being incorporated into the program, followed by an update on the Rodenheiser building construction, which was covered by Automotive division chair, Dan Kania.

## DREAM BIG. LIVE SMALL

In 1997 a man named Jay Shafer, who grew up in a 4,000 square foot home, decided to leave the "rat race" and downsize his life. He wanted to build a home that would meet his domestic needs but have limited unused space and be environmentally friendly. From this dream came the first Tumbleweed home which was 89 square feet. Since then Shafer has designed hundreds of "tiny houses" and makes the plans and tools available so that customers can build their own home based on his designs, which have all been composed with meticulous attention to light, warmth, energy efficiency and proportion.

"The simple, slower lifestyle my homes have afforded is a luxury for which I am continually grateful," said Shafer.

After learning about this new home option, Ranken's Carpentry department decided to incorporate the construction of two of the homes into their evening school curriculum.

"We thought it was a great alternative to the modular homes we used to have

them build inside the shop," said Carpentry Instructor Jeff Bosick. "Once the homes were completed we would have to tear them down and most of the used materials would go into the dumpster. With the Tumbleweed Homes our students still learn the skills they need to learn and the finished product can be sold and lived in."

The two homes built by Carpentry students are now for sale and include 65 square feet of living space, a kitchen, bathroom, lofted bedroom and water hookup. The selling price for each is \$6,200 and includes the trailer and title.

"This was a great educational opportunity," said Ranken President Stan Shoun. "In this day and age it is important for all of us to look for ways to do things in a more environmentally friendly way and these homes are a great way for our students to not only learn their trade but to learn the importance of green technology and sustainability."

To take a tour of one of the homes or for purchasing information, please contact Bryan Hicklin, Carpentry department head at [blhicklin@ranken.edu](mailto:blhicklin@ranken.edu) or (314) 286-4832. Additional photos can be found on Ranken's Facebook page. To learn more about Tumbleweed Homes visit [www.tumbleweedhouses.com](http://www.tumbleweedhouses.com).



The bulk of the meeting consisted of a presentation by Scott Schaefer, vice president for Schaefer Autobody Centers about their new work-study program in partnership with Ranken. The program gives Ranken ACR students the opportunity to participate in an internship within their major, giving them real-world work experience while still completing their education. Their responsibilities include general shop clean up and maintenance, assisting technicians with repairs and estimators with disassembly, detailing for delivery and shop closing procedures in the evening. For their time, students are paid an hourly wage and Schaefer contributes an additional 50% of the hourly wage to help the students cover tuition costs and tool purchases. Schaefer established the program in order to help supply their centers with an adequate number of trained technicians for the present and future as well as providing a resource for Ranken that is attractive to incoming and existing students.

"This is a great opportunity for our students," said John Wood, vice president for student success. "Schaefer has worked hard to create this great internship opportunity and many of the other business leaders that attended want to use their model for a program at their shop."

Also during the meeting, Wood presented Helterbrand with a plaque for membership in the National Auto Body Council which allows the College to participate in the Recycled Rides program. Ranken is one of only three schools in the nation that participate in this program.

## Ranken Race Teams Compete at Local Tracks

**This fall Ranken's race teams made several appearances at local race tracks with the Firebird and the Dirt Modified car, both rebuilt by Ranken students in the High Performance Racing Technology program.**

In early October the team took the Firebird out to Gateway Motorsports Park in Madison, Ill. to get in a few trial runs. The car performed better than expected and made a pass

that the team believes to be the quickest pass to date for a car equipped with a 67 mm STS turbo. The Firebird was clocked at 9.90 at 135 mph! Watch a video of the run at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=klNue4fwiLo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=klNue4fwiLo).

## Local Students Attend Information Technology Day Event

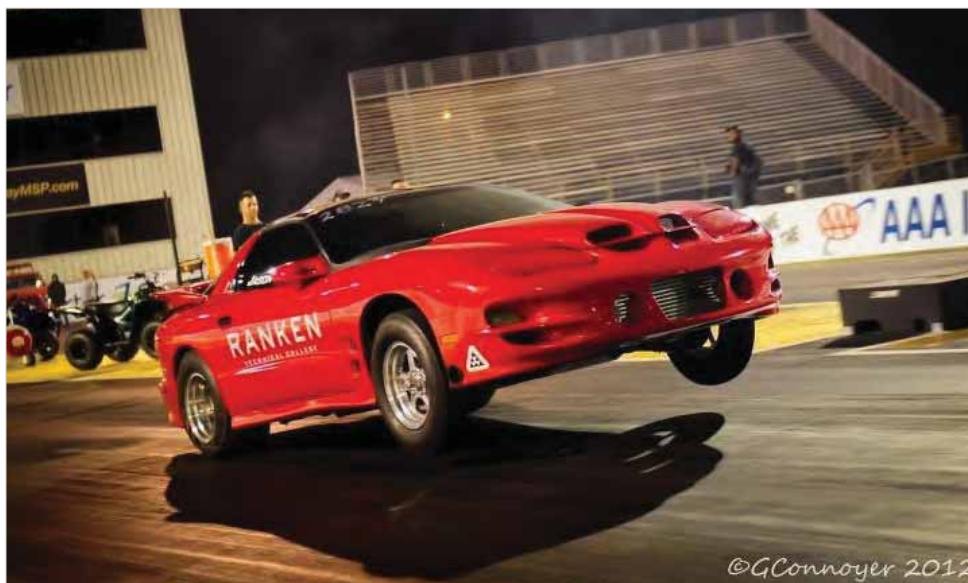
**On Wednesday, November 7, 40 students and 10 educators from the St. Louis School-Business Partnership** visited campus to attend an Information Technology Event Day. The students who attended, all juniors and seniors from Ritenour, Normandy and Hancock Place, had the opportunity to listen to local leaders in the IT field speak about their experiences and successes, take a tour of Ranken's IT department with Evan Gudmestad and participate in a hands-on activity with Ron Vaughn who showed them how to build networks and connect servers. The mission of St. Louis School-Business Partnership is to partner in preparing students to move from school to post secondary and career options.

## Ranken Reps attend STEM Event

**On June 19, Ranken's STEM Pathways Development Coordinator Barbara Bragg and Pathway Specialist Brian Sieve attended the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Day at the Fairmont City Library in Fairmont City, Ill.** During the event, which was sponsored by the library, the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy and Girls RISEnet, allowed middle school students and their families to participate in hands-on activities and view various demonstrations all intended to expose the kids to advanced technologies. Activities and presentations included LEGO robots, astronomers, dry ice comets and household budgeting.

At Ranken's table, Bragg and Sieve asked kids to participate in a "Gumdrop and Toothpick" challenge to see who could build the highest tower using those materials in five minutes. Volunteers and staff from the St. Louis Science Center, the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville and Regions Bank also participated.

"This was a really great event," said Bragg. "We had the opportunity to introduce STEM and Ranken to young kids and even ran into a few Ranken alumni. Fairmont City has a large Spanish-speaking population so having Brian, who is bilingual, on hand was very helpful. He had a great time speaking with the kids and their family members." **R**





## Ten Students Make it to National SkillsUSA Competition

Each year Ranken has the opportunity to host the regional SkillsUSA Competition for the East District. Students from local high schools and colleges come to campus to compete in areas such as Automotive Refinishing, Precision Machining and Welding in the hopes of placing and moving on to the state and national competitions. On February 3, 2012, approximately 140 competitors from local high schools and community colleges attended the East District competition on Ranken's campus.

Forty of the competitors were Ranken students. Twenty-five of Ranken's participants placed first or second in their competition and had the opportunity to move on to the state competition held at Linn State the last weekend of March. Overall the students did very well at the state level and 10 placed first and were eligible to move on to the national competition.

On Saturday, June 23, ten of Ranken's best and brightest students headed to the 48th SkillsUSA

National Leadership and Skills Conference including the SkillsUSA Championships, a showcase of career and technical education students, held in Kansas City, Mo. More than 12,500 people, including students, teachers and business partners, participated in the week-long event. During the event more than 5,400 outstanding career and technical education students competed hands-on in more than 94 different trade, technical and leadership fields.

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry representatives working together to ensure America has a skilled work force.

"This is an excellent recruiting opportunity for Ranken," said Stan Shoun, Ranken president. "It allows us to have the best and brightest technical high school students on our campus and we can show them how Ranken can help them advance in a career that they love."

The College provides a Ranken scholarship to each high school student who places in first, second or third in their individual competition.

## Ranken Receives NSF Grant

Ranken Technical College has been awarded a grant of \$430,000 from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to initiate a unique program to attract more students to the College's engineering-related technical degree programs.

The goal of the grant, entitled "E3 - An Engineering Education Expansion Project" is to attract high school students into engineering-related fields, preparing them for jobs in those industries.

"Ranken is excited to receive our third award from the NSF," said Stan Shoun, Ranken president. "It will assist the College in attracting students to our planned design and engineering curriculum, which will help meet a growing demand for highly-trained technical workers in energy, manufacturing, construction and other industries. Graduates of engineering-related fields are in high demand right now. Ranken is responding in numerous ways to meet that need."

The E3 program has multiple goals, including working with high school students, as well as their teachers

## MEYERS BRINGS HOME GOLD

Ranken Automotive student Josh Meyers brought home the gold medal in the Automotive Service competition and Matt Warnecke, a Precision Machining student won silver for CNC Milling.

For his first place finish Meyers received a trip to Bristol, Tenn., in August, where he had the opportunity to work alongside David Star in the pit crew. His trip also included a visit to Star Industries in Mooresville, North Carolina. Additionally, Meyers received a prize package which includes a tool box from Snap-On, a tool cart from MAC Tools, diagnostic equipment from Caterpillar and Gates, a laptop from Toyota plus a year's subscription to TIS, work shoes from Timberland, a \$200 gift certificate from STX and a \$50 gift certificate from Lowes.



"I feel so great about this win," said Meyers. "My hope is that it opens up some job opportunities for me in the racing industry. This whole experience sums up the reason I came to Ranken for my education."

Meyers is also now eligible to be chosen to compete at the World Skills competition which will be held in São Paulo, Brazil in August 2015. A committee will select contestants to send from the 2012 and 2013 first place finishers. In the meantime, contestants are expected to continue to work in their fields and have a winning resume which will be submitted at a later date to the selection committee.

"SkillsUSA is such a great opportunity for our students for so many reasons," said Don Pohl, Ranken's vice president for education. "It not only gives them the opportunity to put the skills they are learning to the test, but also gives them the chance to learn from other students and network with potential employers. Our students always do well at all levels of this competition and that is just another reason why our students are in high demand once they graduate." **R**

and counselors, to educate them about careers in STEM fields. The program will also provide assistance to overcome both economic and informational barriers in the college application process and academic support while students are in school, as well as career placement support when they graduate.

The five-year grant will also be used to expand enrollment by 10% in three existing engineering-related programs: Control Systems Technology, Electrical Automation Technology and Electrical Systems Design Technology. The grant also has a goal of attracting 115 students to the new Wentzville-based Building Systems Engineering Technology program.

The College currently has two other NSF grants to help develop a highly-skilled workforce for the St. Louis region including a \$600,000 STEM scholarship grant and a \$900,000 Advanced Technological Education project grant. All three grants are intended to strengthen enrollment in fields relating to science, technology, engineering and math. **R**

the family unit, which empowers and strengthens the entire community," said Prince. "This would not have been possible without strong collaboration with our partners at Ranken, MERS and St. Louis Public Schools. They believed in the dream and saw the vision." **R**



Photo: Five students part of the Youth Services Program at SLATE graduated from Ranken's Automotive Maintenance and Light Repair Training program.

## Ranken Holds Ceremony for SLATE Graduates

On Monday, October 29, Ranken hosted a ceremony for the first class of students who completed the Automotive Maintenance and Light Repair Training Program offered through the St. Louis Agency on Training and Employment (SLATE). The five students are part of the Youth Services Program at SLATE and had been attending evening classes at Ranken since August. In the program students learn basic automobile maintenance techniques such as oil changes, changing and balancing tires, changing filters and other skills they may need when working at a business such as Jiffy Lube or Valvoline.

The students were all sponsored by SLATE, which is a City of St. Louis government agency that offers job seekers and businesses a variety of no-cost services related to employment, job training and career advancement. MERS Goodwill supported the program by providing counselors who assisted students with any personal issues that could keep them from completing the program, such as family issues or lack of transportation. During the ceremony Dan Kania, Automotive division chair, and Dwayne Rall, Automotive instructor, gave an overview of the program and then presented certificates to the graduates: Stephon Brown, Thamaris Higgins, Shenelle Johnson, Terrence Tucker and Anthony Weatherspoon. Michael K. Holmes, executive director of SLATE, and Alice Prince, youth services manager, also attended the event and took the opportunity to offer words of encouragement and praise.

"Mr. Holmes understands the importance of empowering

## Ranken is now offering two NEW programs in the Automotive Division!

### Fleet Management Technology

Add a Fleet Management certificate to your Automotive degree! Build on the skills you've already gained at Ranken and take our new training classes to become a Certified Automotive Fleet Manager (CAFM) or Certified Automotive Fleet Supervisor (CAFS).

### Import Technology

Now our students can specialize in vehicles manufactured by Honda and Toyota! This new program offers students the opportunity to participate in the Honda/Acura Professional Automotive Career Training (PACT) program or the Toyota/Lexus Technicians Education Network (T-TEN) program.

For more information about these programs, contact the Admissions office at (314) 371-0236 or visit our website at [www.ranken.edu](http://www.ranken.edu).







## Training Through Microenterprises

Since our first partnership with bioMerieux in July 2010, Ranken's microenterprise efforts have continued to expand into various industries and have led to the creation of a new department under the direction of Vice President for Education Don Pohl and Project Manager Vince Holtmann. The journey first began when bioMerieux faced a decision to consider outsourcing the manufacture of assemblies overseas. Stan Shoun proposed that the product could be manufactured at Ranken by student workers and the company agreed; so Ranken converted space in the MALTC.

Student workers are in charge of the inspection of parts, assembly of the product and testing of functions for the electrical and mechanical components to meet quality standards and the production schedule. In addition to receiving pay as part-time employees, students also receive college credit.

The bioMerieux partnership grew quickly and required additional space, so the former Industrial Technology shop was renovated to allow space for new assemblies. The new room is three times as large as the old space, containing about 2,000 square feet of floor space.

Due to the success of the partnership Ranken formed with bioMerieux, the College established a new machining micro-enterprise in August 2012, which began with the

manufacturing of various parts for St. Louis based Hunter Engineering. The cooperative has grown to include partnerships with other companies like Ehrhardt Tool and Machine, Triad Manufacturing and Kemco Aerospace. Just as with bioMerieux, Ranken students are hired and receive specialized workforce development training and education which results in an on-campus job as well as college credit.

Unlike bioMerieux, this new manufacturing operation is based out of the Precision Machining department and is under the direct supervision of Precision Machining Technology (PMT) instructor Ben Wohldmann. PMT students Ghregory Wellmaker, Jeremy Franklin and Nicolas Goris were the first to complete the 90 days of training and evaluation to become lean manufacturing machinists. In this position students are expected to ultimately take responsibility for ordering/receiving material, sawing, process design, programming, production runs, inventory control, quality control and shipping of the product.

"This really is a win-win situation," said Holtmann, "Ranken has the chance to partner with great local companies which help provide equipment and become potential employers for our students and the companies find a cost-effective solution for having parts made without having to send the work overseas."



The National Council of Continuing Education and Training (NCCET) recently awarded Ranken's microenterprise efforts in Precision Machining their annual Exemplary Program Award. The award was presented at their National Convention in Reno, Nevada, in October. The Education and Manufacturing Cooperative has also been invited to do a national webinar this year to highlight the program.

Ranken's Automotive Collision Repair (ACR) department also participated in a microenterprise effort this summer when student workers and faculty worked to modify a champ car for a client of Can-Am Cars LTD, a company located in St. Louis that specializes in hard to find parts for race cars.

The company was recently approached by a customer in Indiana to help restore a 1998 champ car, once driven by Sylvester Stallone in a movie, to be used as a display "wall hanger."

"We saw this as another great opportunity to expand our microenterprise efforts," said Holtmann. "We asked ACR to submit a proposal and estimate for the work, and it was accepted." The work was completed over several weeks and the car was picked up by representatives from Can-Am Cars in mid-September.

"This is a great real-world experience for our students," said John Helterbrand, ACR department chair. "Participating in the modification of this car is a great resume builder for them and they got paid to do what they love."

In July, Ranken's Education and Manufacturing Cooperative department began a new microenterprise in partnership with CB&E Construction Group to build 54 pre-fabricated bathrooms for patient rooms in a local multi-story hospital. The idea came about during a routine tour with CB&E and McCarthy Construction. The companies suggested the idea of pre-fab bathrooms and once they saw what Ranken students were capable of with the prototype, they bid it out with BJC.

The units were constructed on Ranken's campus in Western Sheet Metal. Originally five student workers from Ranken were employed for the framing and drywall, but it was decided to add three welding students to assist with welding the sink carrier stands and also the metal caster wheels used to move the units around.

"These types of projects are great opportunities for our students," said Stan Shoun, Ranken's president. "They are getting real-world experience by working with professional contractors and seeing their work put to use in a real-world application."

The final unit was delivered to the job site on November 7, and Ranken is currently working on two new bids for the same type of project. **R**



Photos: The car for Can-Am before (above) and when it was completed (below).



Photos: Pre-fab bathrooms under construction (above) and final unit installation (below).



# Offering Second Chances Providing Hope

**A**ccording to the U.S. Bureau of Transportation, more than 15 million Americans have difficulty securing the transportation they need to manage everyday life. Unfortunately, with the economic downturn, this problem continues to grow. Ranken Technical College saw this as an opportunity to make a difference for a local family in need, particularly during the holiday giving season. Ranken's involvement began last year when Vice President for Student Success John Wood attended an event for the Recycled Rides program.

"I went to the event at a local CARSTAR last year when they presented a vehicle to a family in need," said Wood. "It was life changing for that family, and I knew Ranken was in a perfect position to participate and give back to a family in our community."

Wood and Ranken's Automotive division began working with insurance companies to get a car donated. Esurance agreed to donate a silver 2006 Ford Taurus that had been involved in a hail storm but was still in good working condition.

"Once we assessed what the car would need to get up and running, we started contacting local companies to see if they would be willing to partner with us on this project and donate parts," said Wood. "I sent the complete list of parts and fluids we would need to get the car ready for a safety inspection to Craig Epstein at Reliance Automotive, just hoping that they would be able to provide some of the items. Instead, they said they would donate the entire list!"

Once the parts were received the Automotive Maintenance Technology (AMT) program got to work. AMT students, under the direction of instructor Kyle Lumpus, changed fluids, replaced brakes and performed other maintenance needed for inspection. Next, day and evening school students in the Collision Repair program, under the direction of department chair John Helterbrand, began the body work and replacement of the shattered sun roof.

"This was a great project for many reasons," said Helterbrand. "Not only do our students have the opportunity to apply the skills they are learning to a real world problem, but it is a great way to reinforce the importance we put on work ethic here at Ranken. It is a perfect example of the fortunate giving back to the unfortunate and a great way for us to help our students build character and learn to give back to their community." Ranken is currently one of only three schools in the U.S. that participates in the Recycled Rides program.

While repairs were being made Ranken collaborated with the Area Resources for Community and Human Services (ARCHS), a not-for-profit organization that designs, manages and evaluates education and social service programs, to select a family in need of a vehicle.

"I told them what we were doing and the type of family we were looking for and they said they had the perfect candidate," said Wood. ARCHS selected the Bobo family of O'Fallon, Mo., which includes Antonio, LaTasha and their five children, to receive the generous gift of reliable

---

**"Someone once told me that you can't have a testimony without a test. " - Antonio Bobo**





Photo: The Bobo family received a refurbished 2006 Ford Taurus at a recent ceremony held on campus. Pictured L-R: Desiree, Deandre, Arielle, LaTasha, Brianna, Antonio and Antonio, Jr.

transportation.

Several years ago, Antonio made some poor choices that landed him in prison as a convicted felon. After his release, he vowed to create a better life for his growing family. That's when he discovered ARCHS' Prisoner Reentry program. With ARCHS' support, Antonio enrolled at Ranken, where he graduated with a certificate in automotive light maintenance training in 2008. Antonio's training and experience paid off. Today, he's the assistant manager at the Jiffy Lube in University City, where he has worked hard to earn the trust and respect of his co-workers and customers.

"We reviewed a number of qualified candidates for the Recycled Rides program before selecting Antonio and his family," says Wendell E. Kimbrough, Chief Executive Officer at ARCHS. "Despite the challenges he's faced, Antonio has ultimately persevered. He's taken advantage of certain educational and career opportunities, helping him realize his full potential. That's why we felt that Antonio and his family truly deserved this car."

The family received the car during a special ceremony held on Tuesday, December 4, 2012, at 2:00 p.m. in the atrium of the Mary Ann Lee Technology Center.

The Bobo's refurbished vehicle comes into their life at a particularly momentous time. First, they are slowly getting back

**Recycled Rides** is a 'green' program that emphasizes vehicle and parts recycling. The program recruits collision repairers, insurers, paint suppliers, parts vendors and others, to contribute in their own, yet synergistic ways. Ranken worked with the Recycled Rides program and NABC to help secure the vehicle donation as well as donations from other businesses for parts.

Supervised by Ranken's automotive faculty experts, more than **30 Ranken students** spent **80 hours** - approximately **\$5,000 in labor costs** - refurbishing the vehicle. The vehicle required extensive work, including disassembly and reassembly; replacing tires; repairing hail damage; painting; performing a tune up; replacing the brakes; checking the battery; and changing the fluids.

In addition to refurbishing the vehicle, a number of Ranken faculty members and students **raised money to purchase clothing, toys and various household necessities**, which were also gifted to the Bobo family.



## Featured Program: **Recycled Rides**

on their feet after suffering a devastating house fire last year. They also recently welcomed their sixth child. The new car will provide Antonio with reliable transportation to and from work, while LaTasha can use the family van to take the kids to school.

"When we found out that we were receiving this amazing gift, we were really shocked," said Bobo. "Someone told me that you can't have a testimony without a test. The things from my past must define me, but [also] give me a clear outlook of what my future shouldn't be, and what I want better for my kids."

"We were really excited to participate in the Recycled Rides program, collaborating with various local businesses to help a deserving family in our community," says Stan H. Shoun, president of Ranken Technical College. "This was a perfect fit for our Automotive division programs. More importantly, our students get a chance to see how their hands-on education and training will benefit this family in need."

Thank you to all of the faculty, staff and students who helped to make this event a success. Additional photos are available on Ranken's Facebook and Flickr pages. **R**

### Thank you to our generous donors:

- » AkzoNobel
- » All The Details
- » ARCHS
- » Bridgestone-Firestone
- » Dave Sinclair Ford
- » Esurance
- » LKQ
- » Missouri Highway Department
- » National Auto Body Council
- » Reliance Automotive
- » Safelite
- » 1-800-CharityCars



Photo (above): Many of the generous donors attended the ceremony.



Photo: Many students and faculty from Automotive Maintenance and Collision Repair donated their time outside of class to work on the car.



Photo: The Bobo family opened gifts provided by Ranken faculty, staff and students.

## Industrial Technology Wins First in RankCAN Competition

Every year, Ranken students and faculty are encouraged to participate in the RankCAN competition, which showcases their technical skills and creativity, as well as benefiting local food pantries.

This year's theme was "Company Logos." Groups could choose any company logo to recreate using canned and boxed food. During the month of November, teams began collecting food items and planning their display. During the final week they built their display, and then photos of each submission were posted on Ranken's Facebook page for the public to vote.

Voting ended at noon on December 7 and the Industrial Technology team took first place with 459 votes. The team also won the category for the highest student-to-food ratio with a total of 7,212 items (79 items per student participant). The team won RankCAN t-shirts to be worn on a special "dress down" day and a pizza party for their class.

Once the winner was announced, sculptures were dismantled, and all items were donated to two local church food pantries, a community group and to Ranken students in need of food. **R**



Photo: The Industrial Technology team took first place in both the overall display category and the student-to-food-ratio category.



Photo: The Architecture team took second place for their "Walt Disney" display.



Photo: Local food pantries came to pick up all of the donated food items.

# SEMESTER review

**August 21** More than 115 students made Walker Hall their home.



**August 17** Steve Jones, HVACR instructor won Ranken's version of "The Biggest Loser" by losing more than 50 pounds.



**September 18** Ranken hosted a meeting for the St. Louis chapter of the **National Tooling and Machining Association**.



**July** Ranken held its **3rd annual Summer Adventure Academies** for middle and high school-aged kids. More than 240 students attended the camps which were held over two weeks. Registration for the 2013 camps will open in March.



**September** A HumV that Ranken's ACR department helped refurbish for the Eureka Fire Department's DARE program was highlighted in the Eureka Labor Day Parade.



**June 21** Approximately 330 guests attended Ranken's summer open house. During the event 27 students registered to begin classes.



**November 7**

Ranken hosted its annual **spring job fair**. Approximately 225 representatives from 142 businesses attended the event.

**November 9**

Approximately 160 secondary students from six local high schools attended the **2012 Missouri East District SkillsUSA Leadership Conference** held on campus.



**October** Ranken employees pledged more than **\$2,500** during the United Way campaign.

**November 8** Ranken held its annual **Veterans Day ceremony** on the

Finney lawn. More than 140 names were read of current students, faculty and staff who have served in our country's armed forces.



**September 20**

Ranken hosted a **Dual Enrollment Open House** where more than 100 potential students and parents attended to learn more about the program.



**December 20**  
**More than 240 students graduated** from Ranken and entered the work force.

# Expanding Opportunities in Wentzville...

In May 2012, Ranken's Board of Trustees voted unanimously to approve development of a new location in Wentzville, Missouri. The approval came after several months of planning and preparation between the College and City of Wentzville representatives.

"When we learned of this opportunity we were elated," stated Ranken's President Stan Shoun. "Wentzville is poised for economic growth, and we definitely want to be a partner in that growth."

When the agreement was first reached there was no physical location determined but the Carpenters' Union stepped in and volunteered their facility located on Parr Road off of Highway 40 in Wentzville. The space includes a large lobby area, several classrooms, a boardroom, a considerable amount of shop space, offices and a large space for meetings and events.

The next step was to determine which of Ranken's more than 20 programs to offer at the new location. The College worked closely with Wentzville's Economic Development Group and the Chamber of Commerce to study the local area in order to tailor the course offerings to the region's needs.

"A large part of Ranken's mission is to train skilled-workers and put them to work," said Shoun. "We will continue to hold focus groups and have conversations with local employers to make sure our

curriculum is staying on the cutting-edge. We want to train the students that those local employers need."

The facility is scheduled to open for classes in May 2013, and course offerings for day school will include Automotive Maintenance Technology and Network Systems Management, and evening courses in Automotive, Information Technology and the Bachelor of Science in Applied Management program will be offered. Tentative course offerings for fall 2013 include Advanced Manufacturing and a program exclusive to Ranken - Building Systems Engineering Technology. Adding a diesel program to the new location is also under consideration.

Jeremy Sutton, who previously served as Ranken's director of Residential Life, has moved to the new location to serve as the site coordinator. Sutton and the Admissions team have started recruitment efforts at local high

schools and businesses in the surrounding area.

"Over the next few months we will move in equipment, get classrooms and shops ready and continue getting our staff trained and in place," continued Shoun. "Expanding our reach into Wentzville is a very exciting venture that we are looking forward to."

Wentzville Mayor Nick Guccione also expressed his enthusiasm about Ranken Technical College establishing a presence in Wentzville. "We're excited to have them here and look forward to a long-term relationship with them," said Guccione. "I believe they will be a good addition to our community and provide important training workers will need to get tomorrow's jobs."

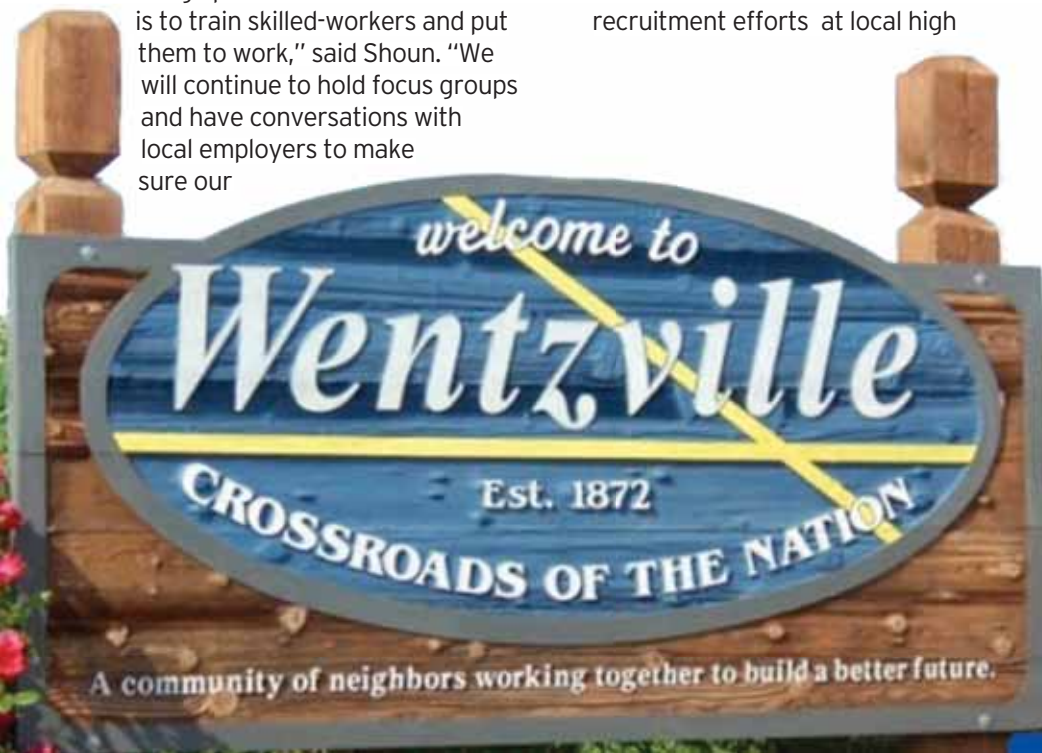
You can follow all of the latest news on the new location on the new Facebook page at Ranken Technical College Wentzville. **R**



## Wentzville Open House

Join us on **Thursday, March 14** from 2:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at our new location in Wentzville, Missouri!

Tour the facility, meet the instructors and learn more about the opportunities available in your own backyard.



# and On Our Main Campus

The drive up Newstead Avenue toward Finney Avenue has a much different look as crews continue the major remodel of the home of Ranken's Automotive programs. Work on the Rodenheiser building began this summer with the demolition of the parking lot outside of the Automotive Collision shop. The area is now occupied by construction crews who are building a brand new addition to the existing facility.

In September the east wall of the Collision shop was completely removed to prepare for the construction of the footings for the new addition. The true transformation took place in mid- October with the installation of the structural steel and prior to the holiday break the addition's shell was nearing completion.

The final product will include more than 23,800 square feet of new and remodeled space, which will include classrooms, shops, a student lounge, an elevator and restrooms.

The project is estimated to be completed by spring of 2013. **R**

## Historic Building

The Rodenheiser building has a long history, and the easternmost section is possibly the oldest structure on campus. According to the St. Louis Transportation Museum, the building opened in 1892 as a streetcar "shed." United Railways closed the facility in 1928, and it was reopened by the



St. Louis Public Service Company as a bus garage in 1940, then closed again in 1953. Prior to Ranken purchasing the building in 1960, McDonnell Douglas used the space for a wing assembly plant and research center.

The building was renamed Rodenheiser in 1973 after George B. Rodenheiser, the first Ranken graduate (class of 1915) ever to be appointed as the school's director (1954). Rodenheiser had previously served as a Plumbing instructor, head of the Plumbing department and assistant to the director. He was also a registered professional

engineer. During his tenure he took a very aggressive approach to updating and refreshing Ranken's image as a technical powerhouse and was instrumental in connecting the College to industry. Other significant changes during his time as director included the admittance of women, the first being Peggy Jo Miller, a graduate of Cleveland High School who received a certificate in Television and Radio Servicing in 1976 and a name change to The David Ranken, Jr. Technical Institute. Rodenheiser served as the director until September 1972, when he submitted his resignation after suffering a stroke and was no longer able to continue his duties.

The building was used for various business and programs but was gradually completely occupied by the Automotive department. The building was even used for several years as the site for commencement.



» September 2012



» October 2012



» December 2012



» Proposed completion: Spring 2013



# Summer Learning

## Teaching Technology in Fun Ways

For two weeks in July Ranken held its **3rd annual Summer Adventure Academies**. During the first week approximately 180 middle schoolers attended camps that focused on areas as diverse as go-kart assembly and racing, robotics, web design, machining, carpentry and construction, welding and jewelry design and production. Due to the success of the past two years, the College added three new camps, which included health technologies, water ecosystems and criminal justice. A higher level robotics camp was also offered for high schoolers and was taught by Charlie Blair, a teacher from Gateway High School and advisor for the school's robotics team, Perpetual Chaos.

The following week 67 high school students attended camps intended to increase their interest in technical fields such as welding, computer programming, gaming, air brushing,

automotive, engineering and machining.

"These camps continue to be successful because kids look for ways to have fun with technology and want to be challenged to broaden their skills," said Stan Shoun, Ranken's president. "This is a perfect age to introduce students to the concept that high-tech careers are not only challenging but also fun, and we're allowing kids to learn in an environment that lets them focus on interesting projects, in small groups."

Camps were held Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and to celebrate the final day of camp, parents were invited to campus to observe what the students worked on during the week. All campers, family members and volunteers were treated to lunch in the dining hall, and the day's activities included gaming competitions, network hacking, NASCAR races, mouse trap car races and timed trials of the wheelie cars on a course set up in the Carpentry shop.

"These camps are a win-win situation," Shoun continued, "Students interested in technical fields have the opportunity to come on campus and work on state-of-the-art equipment with great instructors, and we get the chance to introduce Ranken to talented students and their families."

Check out our Facebook and Flickr pages for photos and videos.

## Learning Never Stops

This summer Ranken hosted **two separate workshops for local educators to get a taste of technology**. The first was a week-long STEM Teacher's Academy. The STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Academy was designed to showcase opportunities in advanced technology. The goal was to give teachers for grades 6-12, counselors and administrators a chance to explore innovative solutions in areas such as environmental sustainability, automotive performance, information technology and precision machining.

Twenty-four local educators attended and were exposed to various types of technology including MasterCam software, LEGO mathematics, electronics and electricity, solar energy and green technology, automotive racing technology and DC motors. Each day they participated in hands-on activities such as completing a business card holder using a CNC machine, welding, soldering, building an LED circuit with a 9-volt battery, building solar ovens and sensor station exploration. During lunch each day, attendees had the opportunity to hear from a speaker on topics such as biodiesel and Revit architecture and also heard from two current students on their personal Ranken experience. Michele Perrin, a local educator and consultant for Vernier Software Technology specializing in STEM education was the lead instructor for the week.

Attendees were offered a daily stipend to attend and could also receive three hours of graduate college credit in





Photo: Ranken held a STEM workshop for local educators to learn about opportunities in advanced technology.

Advanced Technologies or continuing education credits through the University of Missouri - St. Louis. Thank you to Barbara Bragg, Ranken's STEM Coordinator for planning the event and to all of the faculty, staff and students who led activities, participated in tours and gave presentations.

The following week a second academy was offered to local educators who were interested in biodiesel technology. The three day event was designed to give teachers the tools and information they need to inspire their students to explore the world of math and science and was taught by Darrin Peters, a chemistry teacher at Rockwood Summit High School.

With the price of oil constantly fluctuating and concerns over CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, Americans have begun to seek alternatives to petroleum. This STEM Academy focused on renewable fuels, more specifically biodiesel, a domestic, carbon neutral, renewable fuel produced from a variety of biological feed stocks. Biodiesel can be used in any diesel engine with little or no modifications and easily blends with petroleum diesel. This past year, more biodiesel has been produced in the U.S. than ever before.

Over the three days, attendees learned safety procedures for handling methanol, KOH and biodiesel, discussed the benefits of alternative fuels and participated in various lab activities

in which they produced biodiesel from waste vegetable oil collected from a local restaurant. On the final day they tested, analyzed and critiqued their samples. Each attendee took away various educational materials and lab techniques that could be used to create lesson plans to be integrated into their existing curriculum at their home school. One hour of graduate college credit in Advanced Technologies or 2.0 Continuing Education Credits were available options for

attendees through the University of Missouri - St. Louis, and each attendee was awarded a stipend for attending all three sessions.

### Giving Students a Head Start

**This summer Ranken had eleven young new faces on campus working as interns through the National Science Foundation's Advanced Technological Education (ATE) grant.** With an emphasis on two-year colleges, the ATE program focuses on the education of technicians for the high-technology fields that drive our nation's economy. The program involves partnerships between academic institutions and employers to promote improvement in the education of science and engineering technicians at the undergraduate and secondary school levels. The ATE program supports curriculum development; professional development of college faculty and secondary school teachers; career pathways to two-year colleges from secondary schools and from two-year colleges to four-year institutions; and other activities. Another goal is articulation between two-year and four-year

programs for K-12 prospective teachers that focus on technological education. The program also invites proposals focusing on research to advance the knowledge-base related to technician education.

Ranken was awarded the \$900,000 grant in September 2011, which was part of a \$1.9 million package to create an "educational pipeline" to careers in technical fields. This grant combines with the College's new \$1 million scholarship fund, which is used to ensure St. Louis city students have access to an education at the College.

"There is a significant need for highly-skilled technical workers in this region," said Ranken president, Stan Shoun. "We have to make sure that we are graduating enough students with the right skills to meet the needs of employers." In order to do that, Shoun says the school has to do three key things. "We have to provide a great technical education, we have to make sure that education remains accessible to all types of students, and we also have to get these kids interested in a technical career at a young age. This grant and scholarship fund will help students learn more about the lucrative, secure careers that are available."

Other programs included in the grant are Ranken's Summer Adventure Academies, workshops for educators and support for local robotics leagues. **R**



Photo: Ranken hired 11 students as interns this summer through the NSF's ATE grant.



# Recession? Not in IT

**W**ith the recession still weighing heavy on many Americans and the unemployment rate still over 7% it's hard to believe that any industry is thriving. According to recent job market reports not only are Information Technology (IT) professionals finding jobs, they have one of the most sought after skill-sets in the country. Nationally, IT-related employment is projected to increase by 30% through 2018 - much faster than the average 10% that total employment is projected to increase for all occupations, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. More notably, earlier this year St. Louis was named the seventh-fastest-growing city in the U.S. for tech jobs by Dice.com, a career site for technology and engineering professionals. According to Dice.com, the St. Louis IT market has grown for 22 straight months.

While the market is great for people with IT experience, it is causing problems for companies looking to fill positions.

"We get a lot of calls from companies looking to hire our IT students or alumni," said Janie Summers, Ranken's director of Career Services. "In fact, we have a list of more than 200 companies that have hired our graduates and in the various tracks in our IT program we have 4-8 job opportunities per graduate available." Some of the companies that have hired Ranken graduates include BJC Healthcare, Enterprise, Daugherty Business Solutions, Savvis Communications, Wells Fargo, MasterCard, Bank of America and Oakwood Systems Group.

The current shortage is due to several variables over the past few years. One major issue is that college students are not declaring IT majors. The number of students graduating with bachelor's and associate degrees in computer science in Missouri fell 38% from 2005 to 2009 according to a Dice.com analysis of data from the National Center for Education Statistics and fell 35% in Illinois during the same period.

"A lot of IT jobs were lost when the 'dot com' bubble popped," said Evan Gudmestad, Ranken IT instructor and

assistant division chair. "It created a huge fear of going into the IT industry so students started choosing other careers. We have to start rebuilding and showing students that a career in IT is worthwhile."

Another reason for the shortage is that more than just technology companies want to hire IT professionals now. Due to the rise in importance of IT and rapidly evolving technologies, all industries have gone digital so web- and code-savvy employees are needed at almost every company in America.

"One way Ranken is trying to meet the demand in our area is to constantly review and update our curriculum to provide the employers with the types of skill-sets that they are looking for," said Gudmestad. "We currently have four different tracks that our IT students can follow: Network Architecture & Design Technology, Network Systems Management, Network & Database Administration and Internet & Web-Based Technology. We are trying to cover all of the bases we can."

One major change that has occurred in the program over the past couple of years has been an overhaul of the Internet & Web-Based Technology (IWT) track.

"The program originally focused on the design of websites and how they look. Our students weren't getting jobs once they graduated, so we had to re-evaluate," said Gudmestad. "After meeting with our advisory board and businesses in the industry, we realized that they needed people who knew more about the programming side and how sites function."

IWT redid the curriculum to focus on programming and data analysis and is already seeing an increase in employment opportunities available to their graduates. "Businesses in general are more tech-savvy now and want to make informed decisions based on hard facts and data," said Gudmestad. "They want to hire employees who can take a problem and solve it by creating and running a program that helps them more efficiently analyze that data."

Another step IWT has taken to prepare their students for the workforce is to bring in guest speakers from businesses and companies that give them insight on what companies are looking for as well as resumé and interview help.

"One thing we have found is that the students that

## IT JOBS

Median unemployment rate for IT jobs

2%

Increase in St. Louis market over last year

26%

Percent of executives that report challenges in filling IT positions

65%





have great IT skills as well as the soft skills such as good oral and written communication, customer service and presentation skills, really have an edge-up on students who haven't perfected those skills," said Gudmestad. "The old stereotype of a programmer who sat in a dark room and didn't socialize is being turned upside-down. Today's programmers have to be able to sit down with a potential client, listen to their problem, work with a team to develop a solution and then be able to present it back to the client. Social skills are a must now."

Two representatives from Advanced Resources, a staffing agency specializing in information technology, contract engineering and direct placement services located in Chesterfield, Mo., recently visited an IWT class to give students an update on the job market. Raquel Long, recruiting director and Jaime Nunnelee, sales director gave the students information on companies seeking their skill-set in the St. Louis area, tips on how to get their resume noticed by potential employers and projections on where the industry is heading.

"Programming is a great skill-set to have right now," said Long. "We currently have 86 local companies looking to hire employees with this experience."

In the past many companies wouldn't even consider hiring someone with less than a bachelor's degree, but with the extreme shortage they are re-evaluating that philosophy.

"Companies are realizing that they can hire two entry level employees and train them from the ground up for the price of one mid-level programmer," said Nunnelee. "I have been working with several employers in the area and showing them Ranken's curriculum. They love that the students are getting hands-on experience in addition to learning the theory aspect of the job."

Though many employers still seek candidates with bachelor's degrees, most are putting more emphasis

on previous work experience. "We really encourage our students to get internships or accept volunteer positions where they can gain additional experience in their field," said Gudmestad. "It is important for them to continue their education, especially since IT is a field that is constantly changing and growing, but our philosophy is that they can continue their education while they are making a living and gaining the experience they need to move to the next level in their field."

Students who graduate from Ranken's IWT program tend to enter positions as a web developer, web programmer, software developer or database administrator and the entry level salaries range from \$30,000 to \$45,000 per year. The big payoff comes with just a few years of experience (and in some cases a bachelor's degree) when salaries jump to a range of \$82,000 to \$121,000 per year.

IT jobs can be found within the top 10 of every 'jobs in demand' list that you find online. In fact, on the recent list of 'Best Jobs in America' put out by CNNMoney.com, three of the top 10 were jobs in the IT field.

"Information Technology is definitely a field that high-schoolers or even adults thinking of changing careers should look into. They would be hard pressed to find another industry with this type of demand and projected growth opportunities."

For more information on Ranken's Information Technology programs, contact our Admissions office at (314) 286-4809. **R**

## Update from Walker Hall

Walker Hall continued its five-year growth trend this fall, when it became home to 117 new Ranken students. Ranken's Residential Life department, responsible for the residents' living experiences in the dormitory, works each year to offer on-site programs to engage students and teach them valuable skills for surviving dorm life. Their goal is to increase the number of high-quality programs offered each year and encourage resident participation in the programs.

Programs and events were held Monday through Thursday and occasional Fridays and included a weekly Bible study and a "Women of Walker" group that went bowling and to the spa for manicures and pedicures. Residents also had the monthly opportunity to take a trip to Wal-Mart for groceries and supplies and enjoyed surprise outings to Moolah Lanes and movies at the Galleria Mall.

Cultural activities were offered such as the Artistic Expressions workshop where residents had the chance to express themselves through painting and read poetry during a Coffee House/Open Mic Night event. Resident Assistants hosted programming to help keep residents fit by working out to the Insanity Program and hosting yoga nights.

Weekend outings were planned once per month and this semester included a trip to SkyZone, an indoor trampoline park, Fright Fest at Six Flags, NASCAR Speedpark at the St. Louis Mills Mall and to Edison Theater to see The Nutcracker Ballet.

Programming was also planned to help residents stay focused on aspects of success such as physical



Photo: Residents have the option of choosing a four-bedroom apartment which comes equipped with a kitchen and two bathrooms.

health, financial management, time management, spiritual wellness and other subjects. The department of Residential Life is dedicated to building a community focused on growth, respect and responsibility.

January 2013 marked Walker Hall's five year anniversary! Residential Life is planning a Walker Hall Resident Reunion Night for former residents to return to speak with current residents, see the improvements and tell their stories of the first years of Walker Hall history. Additional information will be sent out regarding this event as it becomes available.

To keep up-to-date on what is going on in Walker Hall, follow Latrina's blog at [http://rankentechnicalcollege.typepad.com/whats\\_happening\\_at\\_ranken/residential-life/](http://rankentechnicalcollege.typepad.com/whats_happening_at_ranken/residential-life/) or follow them on Facebook! **R**



Pictured L-R: Dorm residents Alexis Simmons and Shelby Snider.



Photo: The large common area in Walker Hall includes a pool table, ping pong table, a big screen television, tables and chairs and several couches.



## Headhunters Claim Turkey Bowl Trophy

On Wednesday, November 21, Ranken held their 5th annual flag football intramural championship game, the Turkey Bowl. On this stunningly crisp, bright autumn afternoon "Team Shaq" and the "Headhunters" faced off on the Finney Lawn in a no tackle, positive and sportsmanship-focused game. The outcome seemed *a fait accompli*, as the "Headhunters" had dominated the early part of the season, but with consolidation of players from teams that folded mid-season, "Team Shaq" added to their already impressive roster to have a serious resurgence late in the season.

It was not enough, however as the champion "Headhunters" capitalized on their superior speed to dominate the game winning 59-46. Each member of the "Headhunters" was presented with a 10 inch red trophy topped with golden turkeys.

Thank you to Fresh Ideas for donating pretzels, popcorn and hot cocoa, which were sold at a nominal charge to raise money for the next intramural season. Thank you to all of the faculty and staff who helped make this event a success including Brian Sieve, pathway specialist who headed up the event, Shawn Bowers, bookstore manager who helped keep score and general education instructors Patsy Zettler and Mike Godt who helped with the vending. Thank you to students Chris Tise, Brandon Buckner and Riley Brueggeman who served as referees.

The next intramural sport planned is three-on-three basketball in the spring. Watch for more information in March 2013. **R**



### HEADHUNTERS

- » Blake Byrne - co-captain
- » Jake Dockery - co-captain
- » Britton Kettelkamp
- » Brett Eubanks
- » Louis Bailey
- » Tommy Hapner
- » Leonard Johnson
- » Kyle Willis



### TEAM SHAQ

- » Shaquille Smith - captain
- » Joel Byrd
- » Patrick Kimminau
- » Justin Carrico
- » Robert Parnell
- » Christopher Cross
- » Daniel Jefferson
- » Kyshaun King
- » Sirleon Stuckey





## scholarship awards

### Mayor Francis Slay

On Tuesday, June 12, Ranken President Stan Shoun and Don Pohl, vice president for education, visited [Mayor Francis Slay's office](#) for the presentation of a \$2,500 scholarship. The recipient was [Brie'ana Morehouse](#) who is a graduate of the Construction Careers Center Charter High School. Morehouse is currently enrolled in Ranken's Construction and Building Technology program.

"We think giving Ranken scholarships to the Mayor's office and the local Alderman is a really great tool they can use to encourage students from the City to continue their education," said Shoun.

"With some help and incentive, these students can get a degree and go on to celebrate the rewards of a successful career in a technical field," said Pohl.



Photo: Mayor Slay presented Brie'ana Morehouse with a \$2,500 scholarship.

### Red Bud Industries

As part of the celebration of its 50th anniversary in 2009, [Red Bud Industries in Red Bud, Ill.](#), established a \$5,000 annual scholarship to Ranken Technical College. The goal of the scholarship is to help the company remain a leader in their industry by helping the next generation of local students gain the skills necessary to build world class equipment for a global economy.

The scholarship is awarded annually to a student who has been accepted for admission to Ranken, and first preference is given to students who graduate from Red Bud High School or Christ Our Savior Lutheran High School in Evansville, Ill. Awardees must be enrolled full-time in one of the following degree programs: Control Systems Technology, Electrical Systems Design Technology, Electrical Automation Technology, Industrial Technology or Precision Machining Technology. Selection is based on class rank, grades, ACT/SAT scores, high school activities and community involvement.

On August 15, Red Bud Industries presented the 2012 scholarship to [Steven Roy](#) of Red Bud, Ill. Roy graduated from Red Bud High School in May 2012 and began Ranken's Control Systems Technology program this fall.

Roy is the son of Kevin and Jacquie Roy.



Pictured L-R: Kevin Roy, Brent Piel, Steven Roy and Jacquie Roy.

### Metro Vocational and Technical School Assistance Program

On Tuesday, September 11, members of the [Metro Vocational and Technical School Assistance Program \(MVTAP\)](#) met in the College's CARSTAR classroom in the Rodenheiser building and presented their annual scholarships to two Ranken Automotive Collision students.

MVTAP was started in 2004 with the mission to professionally advise and assist vocational-technical collision programs in the Metropolitan St. Louis area. The program is currently made up of 20 members who are all associated with AASP-Missouri, local body shops, insurance companies or collision suppliers or vendors. MVTAP strives to collect and distribute donations (such as scholarships) with the intention of raising the quality of education and training for students to better prepare them to enter the collision repair industry. [MVTAP provides \\$6,000 in scholarships each year to students graduating from North and South Technical high schools and Lewis and Clark Career Center.](#) The scholarships can be used at any post-secondary technical school but are matched if the

student chooses to attend Ranken.

During the meeting, first semester ACR student **James "JD" Chesser**, a graduate of Lewis and Clark, was awarded a \$1,500 scholarship from MVTAP and will receive the same amount for the spring 2013 semester. Ranken will match both of the scholarships provided by MVTAP and has also awarded Chesser \$4,500 in scholarships for his excellent outcomes at the district, state and national SkillsUSA competitions.

**Mike Smith**, a first-semester ACR student from South Technical High School was also awarded a scholarship during the meeting in the amount of \$750. Like Chesser, Smith will receive this amount again in January and Ranken will match both scholarships. Smith also received \$1,000 from the College for his performance during the SkillsUSA competitions.

Along with providing scholarships, MVTAP offers support by providing financial assistance with SkillsUSA membership dues for students, assisting with the Regional SkillsUSA competition held at Ranken, sponsoring Ranken's annual car show and serving on the advisory boards of the eligible high schools to guide programs with their expertise in the industry and by suggesting equipment needs and curriculum. MVTAP hosts an annual golf tournament to help raise funds to support their program's mission.

To apply for the scholarship, students must meet the following criteria:

- Academics (Maintain 80% or B average in shop class. Maintain 70% or C average in academic classes)
- Reliability (able to complete assigned tasks in a timely manner)
- Dependability (maintain 80% attendance in both shop and academic classes)
- Leadership (the ability to influence others in a positive manner)
- Teamwork (the ability to work toward a common goal

by supporting / encouraging others)

- Work ethics (act ethically and honestly in all business practices)
- Pride in their Work (having a positive attitude in completing a quality repair job)
- Member of Skills U.S.A. (in good standing)
- Recommendation from shop instructor or school principal.
- 500 word essay on why they want to be a collision repair technician.
- Reliability (able to complete assigned tasks in a timely manner) **R**



Pictured: Back row L-R: John Heltebrand, ACR division chair; Sean Crader, ACR instructor; Mike Smith, scholarship recipient and Walt Rundell, ACR instructor. Front row L-R: Katie Beck, former scholarship recipient and J.D. Chesser, scholarship recipient.

**If you or your business are interested in offering a scholarship to students at Ranken, please contact our Development office at (314) 286-3674.**

# Campus Life

## Women In Technology

On Thursday, November 15, guest speaker Andrea Holmes gave a presentation to the [Women In Technology](#) group about nutrition and creating a personal positive feedback loop. Holmes is a Washington University graduate with degrees in Biology and Spanish and is currently completing a Master's in Curriculum and Instruction degree at the University of Missouri St. Louis. She has been working for Washington University for the past 18 years, currently as the community and



Photo: John Wood presents Andrea Holmes with a certificate of appreciation.

school liaison for the Washington University Institute for School Partnership. She previously spent 14 years working as a research technician and outreach coordinator at the Genome Sequencing Center at the Medical School.

The Women In Technology (WIT) group provides female students and female employees at Ranken a forum to discuss issues, socialize and get acquainted with other females on campus. The group has monthly meetings throughout the school year which include speakers from local businesses, successful women in the community and Ranken alumni. The group also hosted orientation sessions for new female students that started at Ranken in the fall. Sessions included lunch, the chance for students to meet other women faculty, staff and students on campus and to learn more about the Women In Technology program and other ways to get involved on campus.

## Student Ambassadors

During the final week of fall classes Ranken's [Student Ambassadors](#) took time to celebrate the members who were graduating. At the last meeting of the semester, held on Wednesday, December 12, each graduate received a bronze medallion to be worn during the commencement ceremony in May. **R**



Photo: December graduates L-R: Katherine Bangert (IWT); Bryan Rauckman (IWT); Ricardo Culberson (IWT); Shelby Snider (IWT), Alexis Simmons (IWT) and Damon Steele (IT). Not pictured: Shauna Wollmershauser (HPRT) and Clay Williams (ACR).



## ambassador award

Congratulations to **Marcus Chaplin** who was recently awarded the Fall 2012 Exceptional Ambassador Award in recognition of his dedication to Ranken's Student Ambassador program.



Chaplin is a student in Ranken's Industrial Technology (INT) program, is currently serving as president on the Student Ambassador program officer council, serves as a student assistant, evening school instructor and tutor in his major, all while maintaining a 3.9 GPA.

Chaplin was nominated by several instructors in the INT program who commented on his work ethic, professionalism and dedication to excellence.

Other nominees included: Katherine Bangert (IWT), Justin Birsinger (IT), Alexis Simmons (IWT), Cedric Williams (HVACR), Leonard Johnson (INT), Shauna Wollmershauser (HPRT) and Taryn Underwood (ART).





## student spotlight

Like many other students, **Andrew Castiaux** has a family connection to Ranken. His dad, William Castiaux graduated from Ranken's Automotive Diesel program in 1989. Unlike his father, Andrew's interests didn't lie in cars but in computers. As a kid he loved to play on the computer and as he got older he started taking an interest in how things worked and what made them run.

Once he completed his freshman year at Bayless High School in Affton, Mo., he knew that he wanted to explore a career in Information Technology (IT). "I took no interest in book work in school," said Andrew.

"So of course my parents talked to me about Ranken, and it seemed like a good fit." That March the family attended the College's spring open house event and took a tour of the IT program. "I was hooked," said Andrew. **"The labs and equipment were not only current but on the cutting-edge of technology. The instructors were all very knowledgeable about the field and answered all of my questions."**

Andrew made the decision to attend Ranken that day and continued to attend every open house event that was held until he graduated from high school. "It was a great networking tool for me to keep in touch with the instructors, and it also enabled me to keep up-to-date on the newest technologies since Ranken was constantly updating their labs," he said. **"Each time I visited it just reinforced to me that I was making the right decision. I couldn't wait to start school here."**

His visits to campus also helped him figure out which one of the four track options in IT he wanted to pursue: **Information and Web-Based Technology (IWT)**. Focusing on Internet and Web-based programming with experience in Web design, students utilize industry-standard applications such as Microsoft's Visual Studio and Adobe DreamWeaver®; and learn hand-coded HTML, CSS, JavaScript, T-SQL and the Microsoft® .NET framework. Students use a variety of programming languages to design, develop and maintain software applications to help businesses solve real-world problems and discover new opportunities via data-driven Web-based applications.

"I really liked the challenges that came with the IWT field," said Andrew. "I really liked that there was the opportunity to find various solutions to one problem and that every day would be different."

Enthusiastic and ready to jump in with both feet, Andrew started classes at Ranken in August 2010, but things didn't start out how he hoped. "It was really tough," he said. "I knew nothing about programming and learning that first language was very difficult." At the end of the semester Andrew found out he was going to have to retake a major

course and was devastated. "I really wanted to drop out and look for a new career path," he stated. "In the end there were several factors that kept me going - the biggest two being my teacher Mr. Gudmestad and my parents."

After that semester Andrew came back, worked hard to learn what he needed to know to move forward and began to thrive in the program. "Andrew has an outgoing, positive and upbeat personality," said Evan Gudmestad, IT instructor and assistant division chair.

"He is very enthusiastic and passionate about web development and enjoys providing solutions to business problems utilizing technology.

You always hear that how a person reacts to their failures is what makes the person. **Andrew is the person that when he fails, he gets back up, re-strategizes and tries again."**

His perseverance paid off when he was invited to interview for an internship position at Daugherty Business Solutions at last year's spring job fair held on campus and was hired. "I knew going in that this position could be a great opportunity for me," said Andrew. "The last Ranken student who interned with Daugherty was hired on full-time once he graduated. This has pushed me to work really hard and show them that I could be an asset to their company." During his internship Andrew was able to learn more about general programming, several different programming languages and had the opportunity to be a part of a team that is working on a large scale project for MasterCard. **"It was such an amazing learning experience and gave me confidence that I can be successful in this field."**

After graduating in December, Andrew began full-time employment at Daugherty and plans to pursue a bachelor's degree in computer science. "I think it's really important to further my education, especially since the IT field is always changing and growing," said Andrew. "I am so grateful for the education I received at Ranken. I think I have an advantage over students who went right into a four-year college due to my hands-on experience. **The IT field is so much more than what you learn in a book. Ranken's hands-on approach prepared me for what an actual work environment would be. I knew the material, but I also knew how to be a part of a team and how to troubleshoot various issues. These things can't be taught just sitting in a classroom."**

"With Andrew's personality, approach and willingness to learn he will undoubtedly have a long and successful career as a programmer/web developer," stated Gudmestad. "It was a pleasure to have him as a student. He is truly one of a kind." **R**



## Architecture Students Visit Chiodini Associates



On November 8, Ranken's Architecture S-STEM students visited local architectural firm Chiodini Associates to learn more about what to expect in an office environment. Chris Chiodini, vice president and senior project manager, and Rebecca Kleba, architecture alumnus and a project manager/ architect at Chiodini, spent over an hour discussing the importance of leadership and how being an effective team player contributes to success in their firm.

Chiodini Associates is a diversified mid-size architectural firm with a reputation for innovative yet practical design. They provide services from programming, master planning, architecture and interior and graphic design. Chiodini works with clients in various industries including but not limited to collegiate, commercial, corporate, financial, governmental, healthcare and religious. Ranken has worked with Chiodini Associates on various projects on campus including the new R.W. Staley auditorium and classroom spaces in the Mary Ann Lee Technology Center, and they are currently working on the remodel of the Rodenheiser building.

## IT Students Compete in Cisco NetRiders

During the week of November 12, four students in Alan Poetker's fourth-semester Cisco class participated in the second round of Cisco Networking Academy NetRiders. NetRiders is a competition that utilizes Cisco's Web 2.0 technologies to create an interactive networking skills contest that enhances classroom learning, unites students from across the world and promotes further technology education and training.

Organized by Cisco, these competitions are a great opportunity for Networking Academy students to learn valuable Networking/IT skills through a series of online exams and simulation activities using Cisco Packet Tracer.

Competitions are offered for students currently or recently enrolled in a Cisco Networking Academy course. The competition offers benefits such as recognition for outstanding achievement, hands-on practice and experience, career opportunities and internships and top achievers may win prizes, including a week-long trip to Cisco San Jose, California, with other top achievers from around the world.

During the round two competition, Information Technology students Damon Steele, Ben Reener, Charles Wadum and Andrew Kaminski participated in a one hour theory session and a one hour hands-on packet tracer test. All four of Ranken's students scored in the top five of all Missouri competitors (Steele - 1st place, Reener - 2nd place, Wadum - 4th place and Kaminiski - 5th place).

The top three contestants from each state/territory are invited to advance to the third and final round of the competition. However, each Academy can only send one representative, so only Steele was eligible to move on to the International Theatre Finale which took place on Friday, November 30.

"This is such a great opportunity for our students," said Poetker. "We are very proud of where they all placed in the second round, and we were proud to have Damon represent Ranken in the final round."



The final round consisted of two virtual exams, one 60 minutes long and one 90 minutes long. Out of 94 participants from the U.S. and Canada, Steele placed 5th overall. He barely missed an all-expenses-paid trip to California but will receive a \$300 cash prize. **R**

### Get the FULL campus experience... Live in Walker Hall!

Walk to class, save gas and meet lots of new friends! There are many benefits of living in Walker Hall so apply today!

To take video tours of Walker Hall or apply for residence, visit [www.ranken.edu/student-life/residential-life](http://www.ranken.edu/student-life/residential-life).

Applications can also be picked up in the Admissions office or by contacting LaTrina Rogers, director of residential life at (314) 286-4824 or via email at [larogers@ranken.edu](mailto:larogers@ranken.edu).

## Ranken Wins Exemplary Program Award



On October 16, Barbara Bragg, STEM pathway development coordinator and Ben Wohldmann, Precision Machining instructor, attended the 2012 National Council for Continuing Education and Training conference in Reno, Nevada, and accepted the Exemplary Program Award on behalf of Ranken Technical College.

Ranken's presentation "Designing the Future: Ranken Technical College's Precision Machining Technology Program - Through the Pipeline" was submitted in the Workforce and Economic Development Category by Amanda Pratt, grant writer in Ranken's Development office.

This achievement touted the success of Ranken's "Priming the Pipeline" program supported by the National Science Foundation Advanced Technological Education grant received in 2011.

## Employees Take on Weight Loss Challenge

For 22 weeks this summer, more than 20 employees competed in Ranken's version of the TV show "The Biggest Loser."

Contestants paid an entry fee, were required to weigh in each week and were fined for not losing or for gaining weight. Incentives were offered on some weeks, and success was based on the percentage of weight lost.

On Friday, August 17, all contestants did their final weigh in and the winner was announced at the Roadkill Cookoff held

on August 20. Congratulations to Steve Jones from HVACR who was Ranken's "Biggest Loser!" Jones won a trip for two provided by the President's office and beat out the other contestants by losing more than 50 pounds and 23.17% of his body weight. The second place finisher was Barbara Bragg from Education who lost 22.46% and won \$300, and Kevin Andert from Admissions came in third at 21.39% and won \$200.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the contest. The 15 contestants who completed the contest lost over 328 pounds total.

## Tom Ely Retires

On Friday, July 13, Ranken Technical College and the Precision Machining Technology department said goodbye to a long-time faculty member and friend.

Tom Ely began his career at Ranken in August 1983 as an instructor in the Machine Shop program. He was promoted to Machine Shop department head in 1989 and to the Precision Machining department chair in 2009. Ely has been involved in many projects over the years



but is best known for his work with the robotics team from Gateway High School.

"When I started at Ranken it was Tom's first year of

teaching. I was in his NC (numerical control) class before Computer Numerical Control was invented. Now it has been my honor to join him as an instructor if only for a few years. Good luck Tom." - Gwain Marron, PMT instructor

"It has been a pleasure working with Tom and he will be missed. It will be hard for the next instructor to fill his shoes." -Ben Wohldmann, PMT instructor **R**



## Welcome to the Following New Full-time Employees

<b>James Allee</b>	Admissions Counselor (Kansas City)	<b>Andy Mayer</b>	PMT Instructor
<b>London Davis</b>	Public Safety Supervisor	<b>Derek Baugh</b>	General Maintenance Tech

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

<b>Chris Weaver</b>	IS Support Specialist	<b>Keith Batey</b>	BSAM
<b>Jason Davis</b>	ACR (evening)	<b>Chad Crouch</b>	HVACR (evening)
<b>Mark Jarvis</b>	HPRT (evening)	<b>Calvin Guthrie</b>	BSAM
<b>Ian McFarland</b>	AMT (evening)	<b>Mike Larabell</b>	INT (evening)
<b>Samir Sacic</b>	BSAM	<b>Patti Price</b>	General Education English
<b>Jenna Stutsman</b>	HVACR (evening)	<b>Ann Storey</b>	General Education
<b>Julie Voix</b>	BSAM (evening)	<b>Ellen Usher</b>	General Education
<b>Roy Yarbrough</b>	BSAM	<b>Carl Wilson</b>	General Education Psychology
<b>Alan Townsend</b>	AMT (evening)	<b>John Stieven</b>	BSAM
<b>John Toler</b>	Electrical	<b>Chad Secrist</b>	BSAM



## employee accolades

Congratulations to **Deborah Beyer**, an adjunct instructor in Ranken's General Education and BSAM programs, who was recently honored with the 2012 Outstanding Adjunct Instructor Award from St. Louis Community College - Meramec.

Beyer was selected as the recipient by a selection committee made up of academic deans, department chairs and program coordinators, and their decision was based on classroom observations, student evaluations and responsiveness to departmental policies and deadlines.

"We are very pleased to recognize your exceptional teaching abilities and commitment to students," said a letter from the campus President George Wasson.

"We are so proud of Deb," said Patsy Zettler, general education department chair for English, communications and humanities. "She is a wonderful instructor and is an asset to Ranken's general education department."

Congratulations to general education instructors **Con Christeson** and **Lois Ingram** who were both named as Grand Center's 2012 Visionary Award winners! The award recognizes women for their contributions to the St. Louis arts community. Over the past nine years,

more than 50 women have been recognized. Christeson was named Successful Working Artist for her work as co-founder and managing artist of the community collaborative at Peter & Paul Community Services. Ingram was named Outstanding Arts Educator for her instruction in photography at the St. Louis Art Museum, Ranken Technical College, North St. Louis Art Council and the Public Policy Research Center at the University of Missouri - St. Louis. The 2012 honorees were chosen by a selection committee, which included women in the arts and in the community and former honorees. The only award not chosen by the selection committee is the president's award. Ken Kranzberg, Grand Center Inc. board chairman and Vincent Schoemehl, Jr., president and CEO of Grand Center Inc. choose that honoree. This year's committee was chaired by Roseann Weiss, 2009 honoree and director of community art programs and public art initiatives at the St. Louis Regional Arts Commission and Cheryl Walker of Bryan Cave LLP.

Congratulations to **Mike Larabell**, evening school chassis fabrication instructor, whose work was sourced in two recently published articles -one in Car Craft magazine and one in Super Chevy magazine. Larabell owns Larabell Race Cars located in Eureka, Mo.

# 10TH ANNUAL CAR SHOW & ALUMNI REUNION!

4.21.13

- On-site registration from 9:00a.m. to 12:00p.m. Open to the public.
- A "Participant's Choice" award will be awarded in each class.
- Registration is only \$10 per vehicle

- » Live DJ and Music
- » Raffle Prizes and 50/50 Drawing
- » Vehicle Photos
- » Vendors, Food & Drinks
- » Dash Plaques for First 100
- » Alumni Reunion
- » Rain or Shine Event
- » Family Friendly

For more information visit our website at [www.ranken.edu](http://www.ranken.edu) or call (314) 286-4834.



## recent promotions

Congratulations to **LaTrina Rogers** who was recently promoted to Residential Life director reporting to Pete Murtaugh. Rogers joined Ranken in September 2005 as an admissions counselor

and was promoted to assistant residential life manager (50%) and prep academy pathfinder (50%) in March 2010. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in criminal justice from Columbia College. Rogers is filling the position previously held by Jeremy Sutton who will be moving to serve as the site coordinator for the new Wentzville location.



Congratulations to **Missy Borchardt** who was recently promoted to Architectural Technology assistant department chair. Borchardt joined Ranken in August 1996 as a teaching assistant and was promoted to Architectural Technology instructor in September 2004. She previously worked as a draftsman at Suntide Homes and a machine operator at SC Manufacturing.

She has an Associate of Science degree in architectural technology from Ranken and a Bachelor of Arts degree in art history from the University of Missouri - St. Louis.



Congratulations to **Evan Gudmestad** who was recently promoted to assistant Information Technology division chair. Gudmestad joined Ranken in August 2006 as an Information Technology instructor. He was previously an IT analyst with Spartech Corporation and an on-site computer technician with CompuType.

He has an Associate of Science degree in computer networking technology from Ranken and also holds Microsoft Windows Server 2003, Microsoft XP, A+ Operating Systems and Hardware certifications.





## Lucian C. Haney, Refrigeration - 1936

**L**ucian C. Haney passed away on October 27, 2012, at the age of 97. Prior to his passing, Haney was on record as Ranken's oldest living alumnus and participated in his 75-year anniversary celebration in May 2011.

Prior to joining Ranken's brand new Refrigeration program in 1934, Haney worked in a shoe factory nailing heels to women's shoes. While going to school he lived in one of the boarding houses surrounding campus for a rate of \$2 a week and \$0.25 a meal. With the country in the midst of the Great Depression, the cost of an education (\$90.00 for two years) was hard for him and his wife to come by.

"It was a new program and no one had money so there was little equipment for us to work on," he stated during a visit to campus last year. "But I was provided with a good education and a career that helped me earn a living and raise a family."

He graduated in 1936 as one of the first alumni of the Refrigeration program and took his first refrigeration

job at Quality Dairy in 1937, which paid \$14.00 a week. He was referred to the dairy by his Ranken instructor, and all of his classmates were also able to go to work after graduation. He moved to Pevely Dairy in 1938, making \$21.00 a week with every other Sunday off. There he worked on milk boxes and ice cream cabinets. During this time he decided to pay \$10.00 to join the Steamfitters Union (later named the Pipefitters Union) and became a service technician. After becoming a Union fitter, he received a pay increase but had to work around the clock and rotated call on weekends.

Haney retired after 40 years of service but maintained his membership in the Plumbing and Pipefitters Union Local #562 after his retirement for a total of 75 years.

"Ranken taught me a trade and gave me the skills to get and keep a job in times when jobs were hard to come by," said Haney. "We had little time to play, but track and field was offered. I remember practicing all year to run track, and then I backed out at the last minute for some reason. I'd tell students to go to Ranken, tell the



Pictured L-R (back): Steve Young (son-in-law), Mary Young (daughter), Eileen Haney (wife) and Dawn Uhl (daughter). Lu Haney is seated in the front.

truth, work hard, and you will earn a good living.”

Haney is survived by his wife Eileen whom he met when their children attended a camp together. They had both lost previous spouses and hit it off immediately. After joining their two families, they shared 45 years together. As a couple they were active as volunteers at Watson Terrace Christian Church where Haney served as the volunteer maintenance man.

He is also survived by four children, eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Steven Ule, Haney’s son-in-law, is a 1992 Electrical division alumnus, and his grandson, Zach Ule is a current student in Automotive preparing to graduate in 2013.

**R**

## Edwardsville Shop Seeks Out Ranken Grads

**Loren Early opened LRE Automotive located on Seminole Street in Edwardsville, Ill., in 1992.** It started as a small three bay shop and grew quickly. In 1999 the company needed more space and moved to its current location which includes a six bay shop with six mechanics and three office personnel. Early decided to sell the business in 2008 to the company’s service writer of 10 years, Terry Rode.

Rode rarely has to hire due to low turnover, but when he does have an open position he turns to Ranken. Currently three out of his five full-time technicians are Ranken graduates; Jay Van Arsdale (AMT 1985), Robert Turner (AMT 1997) and Dave Mansholt (HVACR 2010, AMT 2011). Turner and Mansholt started with LRE before they graduated and Van Arsdale worked at a dealership and some independent shops before joining LRE in 1999.

Russell Wepking, a State Farm select service inspector who trains, coaches and audits a Select Service Collision repair facility’s performance speaks highly of LRE Automotive.

“It’s worth your time to read the bios of the technicians at this shop. They help us out from time to time when some mechanical aspects of collision repair are beyond a body shop’s ability,” stated Wepking. “I probably only get in this shop once or twice a year, but they have always impressed me. Now, I know why most of the techs are Ranken graduates! The impact that a great shop with Ranken grads has on the Edwardsville community is big. This is proof positive that Ranken is the beginning of a great career as

demonstrated by these technicians at LRE. Ranken has grown into a full College with a wide variety of course offerings and the opportunity for the full ‘college experience.’ The Ranken story is a great one. It needs to be told.” Wepking also serves as a member of the Ranken collision repair industry advisory board.

Check out the LRE website for more information on the services they provide as well as to learn more about the Ranken graduates employed there at [www.lreautomotive.com](http://www.lreautomotive.com). **R**



Photo L-R: Terry Rode, Jay Van Arsdale, Robert Turner and David Mansholt.



## Alumni Return to Campus for Fall Job Fair

**As many as 142 companies attended the fall job fair in the hopes of recruiting graduates, many sending Ranken alumni back to campus in a recruiting capacity.**

Oakwood Systems Group, Inc. sent six of their recent Ranken hires to act as recruiters for new positions available in the company. The group was led by Lloyd Miller III, a 1971 Communication Electronics graduate who believes using alumni to recruit new employees is a good recruiting tactic.

Other alumni in attendance included Tim Korte from Boxes, Inc., Mike Koirtyohann from Valent Aerostructures, Jason Pritchard from Collision Plus, Bob Weber from Holten Meat, Chris Marfia from Engage Software, Anthony Abbate from VoicePro, Dusty Rhodes from

Anheuser-Busch, Mike Kreher from Schneider Electric and Jake Vezzoli from Basler.

Ranken graduates enjoy lifetime placement services and are welcome to attend job fairs and use the College's online e-Recruiting jobs database. The next campus job fair will be held March 7, 2013, from 11:00 to 1:30 and is open to all alumni seeking employment.

## Nominate an Outstanding Ranken Graduate

**Do you know an outstanding Ranken graduate?** Each year we seek out the best Ranken graduate who "sustains the reputation of the founder, David Ranken Jr., in leadership, service and career success," and we need your nominations!

Nominations for the 2013 Distinguished Alumni awards are needed by March 1, 2013. Anyone can nominate a Ranken alumnus who has been successful in his/her career, active in the community and sustains the giving reputation of David Ranken Jr. Two awards will be given, and the recipients will be announced at the Golden Graduate

breakfast on May 11, 2013. Categories for nominations are: Distinguished Young Alumnus who graduated between the years of 1993 and 2012; and Distinguished Alumnus who graduated from Ranken in 1992 or earlier.

Go to [www.ranken.edu/alumni/honoring-our-alumni](http://www.ranken.edu/alumni/honoring-our-alumni) to read more about these awards or about our 2012 recipients, **Missy Borchardt** and **Bill Fennewald**. You can also complete and submit an electronic nomination form or print out the form and send it to Alumni Relations, 4431 Finney Avenue, St. Louis, Mo., 63113.

## Where Are They Now?

**Using Facebook and other social media has become a way to reconnect with former classmates.** Another resource is to use Ranken's Alumni Relations office, which can help you reconnect with former classmates

Recently, Robert Heitz, a St. Louis resident, called and wanted to connect with the family of his old friend Ted Fischer from Poplar Bluff, Mo., Robert and Ted graduated from Machine Shop in 1958 and 1959 respectively. Bob knew Ted had passed away, but his wife, Sue had also been a part of their group of friends. The Alumni Relations office helped him contact Sue. They were happy to catch up with each other again and honor Ted's memory through stories of their Ranken youth.



Photo: A few alumni returning as recruiters from Oakwood Systems Group. L-R Chris Meyers, Lloyd Miller III (rear), Kory Wagner, Andrew Varble (rear), Chaunce Gwinn and Megan Waters



Did you know you can create a social media page for your class? Contact the Alumni Relations office for more information.



Photo: Members of the 1962 Automotive class. L-R: Tom Giovanni, Kathy Davis and Joe Davis.

Through alumni records, we are able to reconnect friends who have lost touch. If you would like to find your Ranken classmates again or learn more about the process, contact Kathy Fern in the Alumni Relations office, (314) 286-4895 or email [ktfern@ranken.edu](mailto:ktfern@ranken.edu).

Ranken respects the privacy of individuals and maintains confidential College records. No contact information is

released without prior permission from all of the parties involved.

- Joe Davis is searching for 1962 automotive classmates. Driven by a class picture and aided by the alumni office, Joe has made contact with four of his classmates. If you are a member of this class and would like to get in contact with Joe, please contact the Alumni Relations office.
- Tom Kasprovich recently made email contact with two classmates from the 1971 Communications Electronics class.

## ART Says Goodbye to Advisory Board Member



**Kevin Wallis graduated from Ranken with an Associate of Science in Architectural Technology degree in 1998 then completed a Bachelor of Science in Architectural Technology in 2006.** He joined the Architectural advisory board shortly after and has participated in industry trend discussions, Q & A sessions and student portfolio review as part of the Board activities.

In 1998, Wallis started his career at Code Consultants, Inc. as an entry level CAD technician and quickly moved up the ranks eventually becoming CCI's first graphics manager, directing all activities related to the development and production of life safety graphics and drawings. In 2006, he was promoted to production manager, supervising both the graphics and CAD departments.

As of August 1, 2012, Kevin became part owner of Virtual Media Group, LLC, whose main product is Virtual Sales Pitch ([www.vspitch.com](http://www.vspitch.com)), an online video sales tool.

We wish the best of luck to Kevin as he moves forward in his new career and thank him for his many years of service to the Architectural Technology program.

All alumni are invited to participate on department advisory boards many of which meet once a year. If you have an interest in providing input to curriculum development or general feedback and you have graduated within the last five years, please contact Kathy Fern for more information. **R**

## Join our eScrip Program!

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

Thanks to the 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.

Thanks to 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!

scholarship to honor a friend or loved one?  
office for more information!

## Alumni Leadership Council Update

The Alumni Leadership Council met and welcomed returning member Rebecca Kleba (ART 1995).

The Council generally meets five times during a school term and represents the voice of the alumni from each of the educational program areas. Similar to other department advisory boards, this group provides input on alumni planning, participates in campus events, alumni and student activities, alumni awards, student scholarships and serves as the Ranken alumni representative in the community.

Volunteers are needed for Plumbing, Electrical, Industrial Technology and Information Technology seats at this time. If you are a Ranken graduate interested in getting involved on campus and would like more information on this group or to be part of an alumni advisory group, please contact Kathy Fern via email [ktfern@ranken.edu](mailto:ktfern@ranken.edu).

The first Alumni Association Scholarship, a scholarship fund created by this council, was awarded this year to Theo Murphy Jr., husband of recent alumna, Megan Williams Murphy (ART 2012).



Pictured L-R: Don Huster (AMT), Brett Randoll (CRP), Rich Weinhold (PMT), Larry Schmidt (ACR/Faculty Representative), Bill Rueckert (AMT), Dean Alinder (AMT), Rebecca Kleba (ART)

Members not pictured are: Dave Garvin (HVAC), Dave Riley (HPRT/AMT), Larry Kelso (ACR)

## Alumni Entrepreneur Workshop

Two Ranken Architectural alums became the first to present an entrepreneur workshop in the new R.W. Staley Auditorium completed in March 2012. Justin Eilermann (2007 ART) and Ben Wiedman (2006 ART) presented their path to business ownership to students and alumni in the speaker series held on campus.

Classmates, friends, partners and co-owners, Eilermann and Wiedman started Precision Design and Build LLC (PDB) located in Highland, Ill., in 2008. PDB specializes in custom residential, multi-family housing, commercial retail and convenience store/petroleum industry. PDB quickly built their construction portfolio of over \$5M in projects in four years and grew to nine employees. However, during the trying years of 2009-2011 layoffs and restructuring occurred bringing the company back to basics. Today, PDB is currently handling due-diligence on several large multi-use developments in St. Louis and on the brink of returning its business back to the size and strength envisioned in 2008.

Below are some tips the men gave for future entrepreneurs:

- Evaluate your commitment to the degree or field
- Build strong friendships
- Set goals
- Obtain an internship, volunteer or work part-time in the related field to get experience

Anyone interested in a copy of this presentation in its entirety or is an alumnus who owns his/her own business willing to share their success story through the Alumni Entrepreneur Workshop program may contact Kathy Fern in the alumni office.

The next Workshop will be held on Wednesday, February 27 at 11:00 a.m. in the R.W. Staley Auditorium and will feature Bill Fennewald, 2012 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient and former president and CEO of Fennewald Pump. All alumni are invited to attend. **R**



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



# class notes

ALUMNI

## 1940s

### **Robert Bartlett (Welding 1940)**

currently resides in Florida. His daughter Susan is writing his life story and including Ranken in the memoirs.

**Jim Kyle (AMT 1941)** alumnus and former automotive instructor, enjoys crafting wooden cars, tractors and trucks for local charities. "I can never give back to Ranken what Ranken gave to me many years ago", remarked Kyle, who turned 91 in August.

**Eugene Henleben (Communication Electronics 1948)** retired from AT&T after 25 years of service 25 years ago. He enjoys his sunny days in Longwood, Fla.

## 1950s

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

is still very active and is a volunteer member of Ranken's Alumni Mentor program.

## 1960s

**Don Bastian (Lithography 1960)** is retired and is 81 years old. "Thanks for sending the news about Ranken, as I still enjoy hearing about it."

**Rich Weinhold (Machine Shop 1960)** celebrated his 50th wedding anniversary this summer by taking his bride to Las Vegas.

**Charles Livingstone (Industrial Electricity/Electronics 1962)** retired after 39 years as an elevator mechanic and spends his free time traveling. He and his wife visited Alaska for the sixth time this year.

**Charles Lenau (Industrial Electricity/Electronics 1962)** is a former Ranken instructor and celebrated his 70th birthday in October.

**Roger (David) Richards (HVAC 1962)** attended the 50-year Golden Graduate celebration in May. "Ranken was a start to a great education and a working future. I worked for 45 years and am lucky now to enjoy retirement."

### **Ron Haller (Mechanical Drafting 1962)**

was recently contacted by former classmate Bill Eickhoff (Mechanical Drafting 1962). They had a great time catching up from the past 50 years. Ron retired two years ago and has been married to his sweetheart Lucille for 50 years!

**Robert Wort (Architectural Drafting 1962)** worked for 10 years in the architectural industry in Peoria and Quincy, Ill., then returned to farming. He still produces hay and grows grapes on his farm in Mt. Sterling, Ill.

**George Fleischmann (Industrial Electricity/Electronics 1963)** worked in a co-op for IBM for three months during his classroom time at Ranken which resulted in him graduating later than all of his 1962 classmates. He retired (the first time) from IBM in 1992 as managing technical support, and more recently from Anacomp (third time). He now spends his time traveling.



Photo: Mike Butler

## 1970s

**John Hicks (Communication Electronics 1970)** is the second generation owner of a 36-year-old Maytag Sales & Service business located in Gillespie, Ill. He is selling the business and interested parties may contact johnhicksmaytag@frontiernet.net.

**Lloyd Miller (Communications Electronics 1971)** is currently the director of delivery assurance at Oakwood Systems Group, Inc. He has had two sons graduate from Ranken and still remembers his student ID number 31 years later!

**Tom Kasprovich (Communications Electronics 1971)** retired as a drafting CAD specialist from DRS Technologies in December 2010 after 32 years of service and lives in Granite City, Ill.

**Tom Eaton Jr. (Communications Electronics 1971)** retired in 2006 as a

quality and electrical technician from MacDonnell Douglas and lives in Elsberry, Mo.

**Mark Lucas (THERP 1978)** is the operations manager for Bill's Truck Service in Maryland Heights, Mo., and supports Ranken by hiring students in auto body and truck repair.

## 1980s

**Michael Caponi III (Communications Electronics 1984)** is currently the director of engineering for Multiband Engineering and Wireless Midwest Inc. in St. Louis and resides in Millstadt, Ill.

**Mike Butler (INEET 1986)** recently visited campus after many years. Butler taught in the electrical program at Ranken and has worked for Union Electric, now Ameren Missouri, since 1992.

**Brian Fahrenkamp (Refrigeration 1987)** lives in Lehigh Acres, Fla., and is getting his state contractor license. He would like to eventually return to the St. Louis area.

**Craig Ryan (AMT 1987)** is currently the CEO of Ryco Equipment, Inc. located in Florissant, Mo. Ryan stated, "With this economy, students need to learn that to succeed you must be aggressive. Do not be afraid to move where the jobs are. I have learned the best employees are the ones who work like they own the business."

**William Piffner (ACR 1989)** stated, "I had great instructors and was taught the latest trends in the industry. I had great classmates and we built a strong camaraderie between us. We had the latest and the best tools and equipment in the shop. The school invests in the best for their students and expects the best out of them in return."

**1990s**

**Rick Overschmidt (INT 1991)** has been a facilities maintenance technician for three years at Patients First, a medical group office building in Washington, Mo.

**Dan Brumley (ACR 1991)** recently opened a new automotive business called Dan's Automotive located on N. Illinois Street in Fairview Heights, Ill., which was pictured in the June Belleville News Democrat.

**Chris Hammer (AMT 1993)** is currently employed as a mechanic for the Monarch Fire Protection District in Chesterfield, Mo.

**Missy Borchardt (ART 1995)** rode 175 miles in the September 2012 Bike MS: Express Scripts Gateway Getaway.

**Shelly Wilson (AMT 1996)** is the owner of an Express Lube - Plus and is the assistant pricing coordinator for Harbor Freight Tools. Wilson recently received an Associate of Science in Management. Wilson was the first African American female to graduate from Ranken's AMT program and remembers the three wonderful mentors/instructors that supported her; Mrs. Bogart, Mrs. Block and Mr. Bumpas.

**Captain Anthony Newsome (CRP 1997)** retired in August 2012 from the 4th District Firehouse #19 as a City of St. Louis firefighter after 25 years of service. He was stationed at three firehouses during his career and worked at Firehouse #24 for 16 1/2 years.



Photo: Anthony Newsome

**2000s**

**Peter Jensen (AMT 2001)** is the lead technician for Premier Automotive Service Center in Cape Coral, Fla.

**Chris Cubellis (PLT 2001)** has opened Little-Big Plumbing in Honolulu, Hawaii, where he recently added his second truck, hired a dispatcher and specializes in solar water heating and general plumbing repairs.

**Michael Rau (CNT 2003)** is a senior network engineer for Hospital Corporation of America in Nashville,

Tenn. and was married to Megan Neel of Columbia, Mo. in 2011.

**Michael Murphy (ACR 2003)** was married to Melissa Venverloh in June 2012 and is employed by Jet Aviation in Cahokia, Ill., as a painter.

**SPC Travis Peters (INEET 2003)** is an interior electrician (12 Romeo) for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

**Maurice Riddle (EET 2004)** was married to Janelle Clayton in June 2012 and lives in Kansas City, Mo.

**Jeff Eilerman (INT 2005)** was married to Abigail Ruyle in May 2012 and is co-owner of Eilerman Construction, LLC.

**William Lewis (ART 2005, BSAM 2007)** is currently working for McClure Engineering and enrolled in the Mechanical Engineering program at the University of Missouri - St. Louis.

**Matthew Baer (PMT 2005)** is a programming manager for ALM Tech Group (Carden Machine Shop) in Sullivan, Mo.

**Craig Bettlach (CRP 2005)** is a union journeyman carpenter for Landco Construction in St. Louis, Mo.

**Joshua Brown (INT 2005)** is a maintenance mechanic at Kraft Foods, and was married and became a dad in 2010.

**Barb Cleveland (ACR 2006)** was married to Ross Tumbarello in 2011 and was joined by baby Ross Jr. in April 2012. The Tumbarellos live in St. Charles, Mo.

**Sean Hoyle (CNT 2006)** recently accepted a promotion in the Centene Network Operations Center as a systems engineer. Sean also welcomed Alexander to his family of six - 3 boys and 3 girls!

**Justin Eilermann (ART 2006)** is co-owner of Precision Design & Build, Inc. located in Highland, Ill., and was married in November 2011.

**Matt Walter (AMT 2006)** was married to Leah Kelly in September 2012.



Photo: Maurice Riddle and wife Janelle.

**Ben Wiedman (ART 2007)** is co-owner of Precision Design & Build, Inc. located in Highland, Ill., and will soon welcome his first child.

**Eric Kinzinger (AMT 2007)** who lives in Ruma, Ill., was married to Nicole in 2010 and welcomed a son, Hunter, in June 2012.

**Rob Banden (EAT 2008)** is currently an electronics technician at Hunter Engineering in Bridgeton, Mo.

**Russell Butler (AMT 2004, EAT 2008)** is engaged to Amy Daniels and is planning an April 2013 wedding.

**David McGhaw (AMT 2008)** was married to Ashley Buchanan in October 2012 and lives in Florissant, Mo.

**Brendan Shreve (IT 2009)** is the network administrator at 1st Mid America Credit Union.

**Kyle Dent (IT 2009)** graduated from basic military training from Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Tex. in 2012 as an Air Force Airman 1st Class.

**Joshua Thompson (PMT 2009)** is a CNC lathe programmer and was married to Katie McGough in April 2012.

**Brian Hutchinson (ESDT 2009, BSAM 2011)** was married to Hannah Heitzig in July 2012 and is employed as a contract administrator at WorldWide Technology.

**Robert (AMT 2009) and Amanda Diehl Berding (PMT 2009)** welcomed their first child, Lilly Annabelle on July 12, weighing in at 7 lbs. and 3 oz.



Photo: Bobby, Amanda and Lilly Berding.

**Chris Bohnert (ESDT 2010)** was married to Kasie McDonnell in September 2012 and lives in O'Fallon, Mo.

**Jason Gronek (ESDT 2011)** was offered a job as electrical designer with Sargent & Lundy LLC right after graduation then relocated to Naperville, Ill.

**Brad Werner (INT 2011)** and his wife Maureen welcomed a daughter, Jeanne, in November of 2011.

**Andrew Zykan (IT 2011)** moved to California to work as an engineer for Google. After being called to serve in Afghanistan for a year during his second semester at Ranken, he came back and graduated at the top of his class.

**Dustin Penkunas (EAT 2011)** is working at Nucor Yamato in Blytheville, Ark.

**Chad Martin (ESDT 2012)** was recruited by Sargent & Lundy LLC in Warrenville, Ill., and recently took assignment in Chattanooga, Tenn.

**Duston Murphy (ESDT 2012)** took a position with Sargent & Lundy LLC in Warrenville, Ill. as a drafter and now lives in Willowbrook, Ill.

### Alumni Memoriam

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

#### **Robert Ruth (AMT 1942) - October 2012**

Mr. Ruth was an automotive instructor at Ranken for many years and touched the lives and careers of many students.

#### **Lucian (Lu) Haney (Refrigeration 1936) - October 2012**

Until his passing, Mr. Haney was on record as the oldest living Ranken graduate at age 97.

#### **Lyal Broemmelsick (AMT 1947) - August 2012**

#### **Melvin (Duke) Havel (Refrigeration 1960) - August 2012**

#### **Gary Beeler (AMT 1960) - August 2012**

#### **James Gard (AMT 1958) - July 2012**

#### **Norman Dohrman (CRP 1954) - June 2012**

#### **Paul Beckey (Mechanical Drafting 1962) - May 2012**

Paul was a guest at our recent 50-year Golden Graduate celebration and stated "After a less than stellar semester at a local university, my father suggested I go to Ranken and boy, was he right!" Paul passed away unexpectedly shortly

after celebrating this 50-year milestone with his former 1962 classmates and his son, Will, who walked with his dad for his diploma commemorating his 2012 graduation.

#### **Eugene Luettinger (Machine Shop 1958) - March 2012**

#### **Terry Vallery (HVAC 1990) - January 2012**

#### **Charles Tichacek (INT 1949) - January 2012**

#### **Richard Koprowski (Machine Shop 1948) - November 2011**

#### **Thomas Earnhardt (AMT 1962) - September 2011**

This excerpt and tribute was provided by son, Matthew Earnhardt in honor and memory of his father, Thomas Earnhardt, and taken from the Ryder Roundtable Newsletter September 2011 issue. Earnhardt would have been celebrating his 50-year anniversary of his 1962 graduation along with his classmates in May 2012.

In Remembrance ... of our friend and colleague, Thomas Earnhardt.

It is with deep sadness that we remember our friend, colleague and long-time Roundtable member, Thomas Earnhardt. Thomas passed away on March 19, 2011, after a courageous battle with cancer. Thomas was a warm, generous individual with a tremendous work ethic, who cared deeply about his customers. He volunteered to do things that few people would and fought for and advocated for his customers tirelessly. He cherished his family, loved spending time with them, and his friends at Table Rock Lake in Missouri. An avid car enthusiast, Thomas enjoyed taking his Austin Healey to area car shows. Over the course of almost 40 years in the industry and close to 30 years with Ryder, Thomas served in various sales positions. He was inducted into the Ryder Roundtable April 24, 2001. Thomas is survived by his wife of 47 years, Vickie Earnhardt; his children Robin Roberts, Julie Joyner and Matthew Earnhardt and seven grandchildren. Our hearts and prayers go out to the Earnhardt as we remember a dear friend and colleague for

his passion for excellence, his dedication and hard-working professionalism.

#### **Joseph Rettig (HVAC 1947) - November 2010**

#### **Faculty**

**Al Lamprecht** passed away in July 2012. Al grew up in St. George's parish, was a 1946 graduate of South Side Catholic High School, and 1957 graduate of Washington University. He worked as an Electrical Engineer in Dixon and Urbana, Illinois, and in St. Louis. After retirement, he began a second career teaching at Ranken Technical College and Southwestern Illinois College where he was an adjunct instructor until November 2011.

#### **Friends**

**Jamie G. Cannon** passed away on October 15, 2012 after a prolonged battle with cancer. In 1984 he founded Jamie Cannon Associates which he helmed until retirement in 1997. He volunteered tirelessly in the community and served on the Ranken Technical College Architecture Advisory Board for many years making many contributions to the advancement of the program.

**Malcolm Katt**, owner and president of Chelar Tool & Die Co., celebrating its 50th year in business in Belleville, Ill., passed away in October 2012. His son, Bryan, is a 2012 Ranken Precision Machining Technology graduate. Many Chelar Tool & Die employees are graduates from Ranken Technical College and Ranken has been honored to be one of the charities to receive his kind support. The Malcolm Katt Memorial Scholarship has been established. Please contact Ken Meyer at (314) 286-3649 in Ranken's Development office for more information. **R**

### 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).



## Grads Come Back for Information Technology Reunion

**The recent Information Technology (IT) reunion held on campus during the fall open house brought a group of graduates back to campus from varied career backgrounds in IT.** The event was hosted by several former graduates who are now instructors in the IT department including current Department Head, Charles Corrigan (1988), Assistant Department Head, Evan Gudmestad (2005), Ashley Reddick (2008), Kyle Vann (2008), Alan Poettker (1999) and Pat Duchinsky (1980).

One of our guests, Von Hester (Computer Technology 1993), made his first visit back since graduation. After graduation, Hester continued his education and enrolled in Saint Louis University; an MIS major with a minor in music (Von has played the viola since 3rd grade). He graduated with a BS degree in 1998 and began working for Station Casinos in the operations department. When a position opened in IT in 1999, he transferred as a junior operations specialist working nights with one other Ranken graduate. The department is relatively small with only seven employees. Day-to-day operations include installation, support and project management of over 130 systems, both locally and remotely.

"I still love my job," said Hester. "The other Ranken graduate also still works there, but he's now the operations project manager, overseeing pretty much any changes to the whole facility."

Hester was overwhelmed by the changes in the facilities and in the way Ranken has expanded the field of IT into separate, specific curriculums.

"This gives those who may have a passion for an area the opportunity to concentrate on what they love and learn other facets of the field as they see fit," stated Hester. "One of the students asked me what reaction I get when I tell people that I attended Ranken. I told him that the mention of Ranken still holds a great amount of respect as to what others perceive your knowledge and skill-set to be. You are highly regarded by IT professionals and amongst your peers by graduating from this college. The growth and advancement both as an individual and a professional are only as good as the foundation upon which you were built. Ranken has provided me with not only that foundation, but the tools to continue escalating my growth in the ever changing field of IT."

Other career updates from some of our IT Reunion guests:

**Robert Hamm (IWT 2010)** works as a web developer at Scott Air Force base for the Surface Deployment and Distribution Command (SDDC), a branch of the Army. He single-handedly operates and develops the Defense Table of

Official Distances (DTOD), which is the website used by all of the U.S. government and military to calculate distance between locations. In addition, he is a contractor working from home doing web development for companies in the St. Louis area.

**Kyle Kinder (IT 2007)** is currently working at BJC on a project closely related to the transition in healthcare from paper to digital.

"I'm glad I came to the event. It was great to see all the changes and progress being made. I'm excited for all the new things you have going on!"

**Robert (Bobby) Chapman (IT 2007)** is an engineer in data modeling for MasterCard and is responsible for designing conceptual, logical and physical relational data models for applications and performs data analysis to ensure the integrity of enterprise data.

**Andrew Fouse (IT 2007)** went to work after graduation with a local consulting company and quickly starting taking on wireless projects. He traveled the nation, assisting in the design and roll out of multiple large scale wireless deployments. In 2008, he heard that a company named FusionStorm was opening an office in St. Louis and needed a wireless expert. He soon found himself building out FusionStorm's wireless practice and growing the wireless opportunities with enterprise level customers, most notably Apple. For the past four years, he has been designing and deploying wireless networks for Apple around the world. Just over a year ago, he was promoted to engineering management.

"I now manage a team of about 25 engineers who all travel globally to support all of our enterprise customers. I am proud to say that I have been able to hire three other Ranken graduates, who have all proven to be amazing additions to the team, and I am working diligently to increase that number." **R**



Pictured L-R: Kyle Kinder, Bobby Chapman, Chris Marfia, Von Hester, Mike Stuesse and Terrell McRae. Seated is Robert Hamm.

## Golden Grads Attend Founder's Day Event

On November 29, all alumni who have participated in a past Golden Graduate celebration commemorating their 50 year anniversary were invited to attend a luncheon celebrating Ranken's Founder's Day. Twelve former classmates, instructors, graduates and guests attended, some coming to campus for the first time since graduation.

The event was hosted by Don Huster, member of the Alumni Leadership Council, and guest speakers included Architecture student Taryn Underwood, Director of Planned Giving and Major Gifts Ken Meyer and Ranken President Stan Shoun. Also during the event Bill Rueckert was honored as the newest member of the Ranken Legacy Society. **R**



## Leaving a Legacy

**R**obert Raymond Ruth, automotive graduate and instructor passed away in October 2012 at the age of 90.

As a young man, Ruth always had a knack for fixing things and started his career as an airplane mechanic. After graduating high school he entered the Automotive program at the David Ranken Jr. School of Mechanical Trades. After completing the program, he joined the U.S. Navy (1942-1946) and was discharged as an aviation machinist mate first class.

He then went to work for local auto dealerships as an automotive mechanic before returning to Ranken as a full-time instructor in the automotive division in 1964. He retired in November of 1984 but continued to teach evening school classes through the fall of 1987. Ruth was awarded an honorary associate degree in 1995, which was only the second one to be awarded in the school's history (Ollie Ruhl received the first one in 1994).

Ruth was preceded in death by his wife June and surviving him are two sons, five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Memories from former students and colleagues:

"Mr. Ruth always asked us why. It wasn't enough that the motor was broke or not running and we were trying to fix it. He always challenged us to think about why it broke. I have a great respect for him.," - Mike Hecht (Automotive 1975-1977).



"Bob Ruth was tireless in his role as an officer in the Automotive Technicians Association (ATA). He was always very meticulous and precise in every task or responsibility for which he willingly volunteered. Bob was also a valued friend," - Bill Rueckert (AMT 1956), ATA's past president.

"Bob Ruth's enthusiasm and love for Ranken is beyond compare," - David Chasnoff (Automotive 1977-1979).

"I will always remember Bob as Mr. Ruth (as a student I never called him Bob until we were teaching full-time together at Ranken). He called me while I was working at a repair shop in Wood River, Ill., in 1984. I didn't know it then, but Al Davenport, John Wilson and the rest of the automotive department were listening in on the phone call, encouraging Bob to outline the benefits of working at Ranken. He convinced me to come to Ranken, fill out an application and interview for an instructor opening in AMT. You might say that Bob was a mentor to me in my early years at Ranken. He used to say, 'go to the classroom loaded for bear.' What he meant was...always be well prepared and have plenty to teach to students. Thanks, Mr. Ruth," - John Wood (AMT 1975), former automotive faculty member and current vice president of student success at Ranken.

The Robert R. Ruth Memorial Scholarship has been created for any automotive maintenance student enrolled in the program for the 2013-2014 term who meets criteria for financial need. Applications for this scholarship will be available through the Financial Aid Office. Anyone interested in donating to this fund in Mr. Ruth's name may send their donation to Rose Crawford, Development Office, 4431 Finney Avenue, St. Louis, MO, 63113. Please specify your gift for the Robert R. Ruth Memorial Scholarship. **R**

## STEM Grant Offers More Than Tuition Assistance

Two years ago, Alex Glenn, an incoming Industrial Technology student from O'Fallon, Ill., was thrilled to learn he won a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) scholarship provided by the National Science Foundation (NSF). Upon graduating last May, Glenn realized he received much more than that.

Glenn won the scholarship through a competitive process for students majoring in Architectural Technology (ART), Information Technology (IT), Precision Machining Technology (PMT) and Industrial Technology (INT). The scholarships, awarded annually to approximately 25 incoming Ranken students, are designed to assist students with tuition but also focus on building their professional character and leadership skills through mentoring, advising and professional development activities.

Each S-STEM student is assigned a faculty mentor from whom they seek academic and professional advice. These mentors help students maintain scholarship standards, find potential internships and make job connections.

"I entered the workforce as a better-rounded professional than I would have without the scholarship," Glenn said. "I was able to identify my strengths and weaknesses and figure out what kind of leader I can be."

Glenn graduated in May 2012 with an associate degree in Industrial Technology and is now a member of Ranken's facilities management team.

S-STEM recipient Roger Mudd, an IT student from Ft. Wayne, Ind., said his mentors have been critical to his success at Ranken. Mudd said instructors Ashley Reddick and Ron Vaughn helped him map out his academic plan, offered him moral support and encouraged him to apply

for jobs for which he didn't think he was qualified.

"I am learning a lot through this process," Mudd said. "I am learning how to sell myself better and articulate my skills. My mentors helped me see the value in going after what I wanted and learning from what comes next."

Mudd graduated in May with an associate degree in Information Technology and is currently enrolled in Ranken's Bachelor of Science in Applied Management program.

S-STEM students also learn to network by taking professional field trips to major St. Louis corporations each semester. For example, students visited Emerson where IT students toured the data center, Architecture students toured with Mike Fox, the architect who designed Emerson's campus, while PMT and INT students toured with the facilities manager.

"These aren't your ordinary public tours," said Melissa Borchardt, assistant chair of the Architectural Technology department and Ranken's S-STEM coordinator. "These are behind-the-scenes tours where students see what it takes to work there. Tours can last up to four hours, so students have time to get comfortable, network and get every single question answered."

Since the S-STEM program was implemented in 2009, students have visited companies like AB-InBev, the Boeing Company, Washington University, Saint Louis University, the global architectural firm HOK and Savvis Incorporated.

"The tours are phenomenal," said Rachel Schmittling, a S-STEM student from Belleville, Ill., who completed her first year of ART this May. "When we visited HOK, the architects gave us very specific tips on how to look for and apply for jobs. It was incredibly helpful advice that I'm sure will give me an edge when I'm ready to enter the job market."

The tours are followed by luncheons with company management, including CEOs, CFOs and human resource directors, who speak to the students about leadership qualities and the importance of teamwork.

Teamwork is also a critical element of the S-STEM program. Each semester, Borchardt plans a team-building exercise off campus. This year, it was a paintball adventure. Last year, scholarship recipients participated in a YMCA TEAM Works Adventure at Forest Park, in which both physical and mental challenges were designed to strengthen the five components of team building: effective communication, problem solving, consensus building, goal setting and trust.

Borchardt finds it interesting to watch students from the four departments - two primarily office-based and two primarily manual labor-based -

### Keep Up-To-Date with the Alumni Newsletter!

Subscribe to the alumni newsletter TODAY! Supplement campus news with the alumni newsletter delivered every two months to your email address. Get notices of upcoming alumni events, campus news and announcements, faculty updates, scholarship and gift information.

Go to [www.ranken.edu/](http://www.ranken.edu/) subscribe or scan the code

with your Smartphone.

Even if you have received enews in the past, you must subscribe in order to receive further email newsletters and ecommunications from the Alumni office. If you have questions, please contact Kathy Fern at (314) 286-4895.







Photo: S-STEM students participating in the YMCA TEAMWorks activity in Forest Park.

come together and learn how to communicate under pressure.

**"You can see almost instantly who are the natural leaders and who are the followers," said Borchardt. "The activities allow students to figure out who they are, because people who know themselves better will know where they fit on a team."**

Borchardt said she also switches it up by putting natural leaders together on the same team and natural followers on another to encourage all students to work outside their comfort zones and try new roles.

Team building also encourages students to leave their academic silos and mingle. At the start of the day, students tend to stick with other students in their major, but by the end of the day, Borchardt said you can't tell which students are from which programs.

**"Getting out of one's comfort zone is important, given that these students are going into a global marketplace where collaboration between industries and sharing information is more important than ever," she said.**

All incoming students in the specified majors are eligible for S-STEM, but Ranken encourages granting the scholarships to females and minorities who are underrepresented in the sciences. The scholarship requires students to maintain a 2.5 grade point average—although one of Ranken's goals is to have 70 percent of S-STEM students maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Another goal is having 100 percent of S-STEM recipients either employed by graduation or enrolled in advanced degree programs.

S-STEM students also are encouraged, but not required, to volunteer at least four hours a semester in their given industry. Architectural Technology students volunteer with Habitat for Humanity, and PMT and IT students have gone to area schools to install equipment.

**"We're not just trying to graduate students," said Borchardt. "We're trying to graduate leaders who can contribute to society as a whole."**

Since receiving the \$582,000 federal grant that supports S-STEM, interest in the program has grown significantly on campus.

**"Every week I have at least one student in my office asking how they can get into the program," she said. "Students see the program's value beyond the money. They know S-STEM students are the cream of the crop." R**



Photo: S-STEM field trip to Emerson in 2010.

## TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TRAVEL DISCOUNTS THROUGH AHI TRAVEL!

Taking a much needed vacation this year? Use AHI Travel for your destination planning. AHI is used by many colleges and university alumni groups across the country and is known for using local guides and promoting local culture for their travelers.

Ranken alumni will receive discounts on packages and can visit destination locations that include: China, East Africa, India, Tuscany and more. Visit <http://raatravel.ahitravel.com> for more information or call the AHI expert (800) 323-7373.

Visit [www.ranken.edu/alumni/benefits](http://www.ranken.edu/alumni/benefits) for other discounts and benefits available for Ranken alumni.



## save the date

**2.22.13**

### **Employer Breakfast**

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

**2.21.13, 4.03.13 or 5.01.13\***

### **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!

\* Automotive only date

**2.26.13 \*, 3.05.13 or 4.23.13**

### **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

**3.07.13**

### **Spring 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).

**3.14.13**

### **Ranken Wentzville Open House**

Join us at our open house from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. to tour our new facility in Wentzville, Mo., meet the instructors and learn more about the programs being offered at our new location. Watch [www.ranken.edu](http://www.ranken.edu) for additional event dates at this location.

**3.24.13**

### **Spring Open House**

Join us at our spring 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.

**4.5.13**

### **Ranken Scholarship Luncheon**

Private and corporate scholarship donors are invited to join Ranken student scholarship recipients for a luncheon in their honor. For more information contact Jackie Barnes at (314) 286-3674.

**4.19.13**

### **Spring 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.

**4.21.13**

### **Ranken Car Show**

All car enthusiasts are invited to attend our family-friendly car show! Participant's Choice awards are presented in each category. For more information visit [www.ranken.edu/carshow](http://www.ranken.edu/carshow).

**5.11.13**

### **2013 Commencement & Golden Graduate Ceremonies**

All eligible students will receive information from the Career Services office regarding ceremony details and how to order a cap and gown.

All eligible alumni will receive information about the Golden Graduate celebration from the Alumni Relations office.

**6.20.13**

### **Summer Open House**

Join us at our summer open house from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Take the opportunity to tour our programs, meet the instructors and speak with an Admissions counselor. All attendees will have the opportunity to register to win a \$500 scholarship.

## 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

TECHNICAL COLLEGE

4431 Finney Avenue | St. Louis, MO 63113

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage

**paid**

St. Louis, MO  
Permit No. 2147



[facebook.com/ranken-technical-college](https://facebook.com/ranken-technical-college)



[twitter.com/ranken](https://twitter.com/ranken)



[www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com)



[search for ranken technical college](#)



## 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.

