Vice Provost and Dean of the College of Engineering and Computing
2022
Missouri University of Science and Technology (Missouri S&T) is seeking a bold and visionary leader of the College of Engineering and Computing. Engineering and computing are at the core of Missouri S&T’s mission as a STEM-focused university, and the vice provost and dean is therefore expected not only to lead the college but also to collaborate with other members of the senior leadership team in all matters of academic strategy and shared operations.

This is an exciting time in Missouri S&T’s history, with fresh leadership, a focused vision, and the transformational opportunities afforded by several significant philanthropic gifts. The dean will join the university’s leadership team of Chancellor Mo Dehghani, Provost Colin Potts, Vice Chancellor for Research Kamal Khayat, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Operations, Alysha O’Neil, and the new deans of Missouri S&T’s other two colleges: the College of Arts, Science, and Education, and the Kummer College of Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Economic Development. All are working toward four “north star” goals: to increase enrollment significantly, especially in graduate education; promote student success, thriving, and retention; broaden the research base, and achieve Carnegie R1 status; and elevate Missouri S&T’s national and international stature and reputation. Several significant endowed positions are being filled in all three colleges, enabled among other gifts by a transformational donation of $300 million by Fred and June Kummer, and Missouri S&T has embarked on the building of an ambitious Arrival District complex of buildings and public spaces. Four major research centers have been created in trans-disciplinary, problem-focused areas that will bring basic and translational researchers together to address socio-technical challenges: advanced and resilient infrastructure, resource sustainability, advanced manufacturing, and artificial intelligence and autonomous systems. Public and philanthropic commitments have recently been made to support a satellite campus devoted to manufacturing outreach and cooperative research.

In summary, Missouri S&T’s future is bright and assured. Although the groundwork is already in place, there is ample opportunity and freedom to define and refine the college’s vision and its role in shaping the future of the university. We are seeking a dynamic leader who is eager to accept that challenge and make a long-term difference.
About Missouri S&T

Missouri University of Science and Technology is one of the nation’s top technological research universities and one of four distinct universities of the University of Missouri System. Missouri S&T is a public university with three academic colleges: the College of Arts, Sciences, and Education; the Kummer College of Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Economic Development; and the College of Engineering and Computing. The University offers quality educational opportunities, with 101 different degree programs in 40 areas of study in engineering, science, computing and technology, business, social sciences, humanities, and education. Together, the colleges are home to almost 400 full-time faculty, in addition to part-time faculty. Missouri S&T has total student enrollment of 7,271 for Fall 2021 with graduate student enrollment of approximately 1,545. There are 552 doctoral students pursuing one of 22 programs offered in STEM fields, and over 832 students enrolled in graduate programs serving working professionals. Missouri S&T is classified by the Carnegie Foundation as a doctoral university with high research activity, and at the close of FY2021, research expenditures at S&T were $53,315,090. Approximately two-thirds of funding comes from federal sources and the remaining one-third of funding comes from industry/private partnerships.
History of Missouri S&T

Founded in 1870 as the University of Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy, the school, known as MSM, was one of the first technological institutions in the nation. MSM was established as part of the land-grant movement established by the federal government through the Morrill Act. In 1963, following the establishment of the UM System, the school became known as the University of Missouri-Rolla, or UMR, and the university’s national reputation was established under that name. In 2008, the university changed its name to Missouri University of Science and Technology to broadcast more clearly its position as a leading STEM-focused university dedicated to discovery, creativity, and innovation to benefit the citizens of Missouri, the nation, and the world. As one of the original land-grant universities in the state, and the only space-grant university in the UM System, Missouri S&T is poised to capitalize in the coming years on the growing importance of STEM education throughout the state and the nation.

Missouri S&T Today

Missouri S&T has a unique constellation of comprehensive programs that benefit Missouri, the region, and the nation.

Research

Missouri S&T receives federal funding for externally sponsored research from the National Science Foundation (NSF), U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Department of Energy (DOE), Department of Defense (DOD), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), among others. The university is home to two U.S. DOT University Transportation Centers, a DOE SunShot consortium, and an FAA Center of Excellence. With NSF, Missouri S&T has a long history of successes in the MRI program, CAREER awardees, and EAGER and GOALI awards. It is also home to an I-Corps site and both CyberCorps®: Scholarship for Service (SFS) and Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (S-STEM) Programs.
Missouri S&T is well known for its industry-focused research programs. Currently there are six active industry consortia, three of which have more than a dozen industry members. The three largest consortia are: the Center for Electromagnetic Compatibility (NSFI/UCRC), the Center for Aerospace Manufacturing Technologies, and the Kent D. Peaslee Steel Manufacturing Research Center. This industry activity is supported by an active Economic Development/ Technology Transfer Office.

The scholarly productivity of the faculty goes well beyond the STEM disciplines to provide rich benefit and international recognition to S&T. With prestigious grants funded by such agencies as the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and Fulbright Program, S&T is home to some of the most highly productive social science and humanities scholars in the state of Missouri.

Corporate Partnerships

Numerous corporate partners worldwide support Missouri S&T’s academic programs. The university has relationships with nearly 3,000 companies and government agencies that hire our students, provide internship and co-op experiences, sponsor research, and collaborate in degree and non-degree education.

Companies such as Boeing, Apple, Google, Honeywell, Nucor, ArcelorMittal, Caterpillar, Black& Veatch, Burns & McDonnell, Chevron, Conoco Phillips, ExxonMobil, Garmin, Anheuser-Busch, Cisco Systems, PepsiCo, and General Motors are among the more engaged corporate partners. The HyPoint Industrial Park in Rolla is home to several high-tech small businesses that also work closely with the university. In addition, Missouri S&T fosters partnerships with numerous federal agencies including Sandia National Laboratories, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the U.S. Army via its nearby base at Fort Leonard Wood, and others.

The Kummer Institute

The Kummer Institute for Student Success, Research and Economic Development was established in October 2020 through a gift of $300 million from June and Fred Kummer, longtime benefactors of Missouri University of Science and Technology. Part of the gift will support the establishment of four new research centers at Missouri S&T: Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Systems, Advanced Manufacturing, Resource Sustainability, and Advanced and Resilient Infrastructure. These research centers will elevate Missouri S&T’s national reputation, position Missouri S&T as a leader in their respective fields, and leverage, build and grow academic-industry-government partnerships to lead the economic transformation of the region, state, and nation.
The College of Engineering and Computing

The College of Engineering and Computing (CEC) is the largest college at Missouri S&T. It is comprised of nine departments and offers 16 undergraduate degree programs and 14 minors - one of the widest arrays of engineering programs offered in the U.S. The CEC offers Bachelor of Science degrees in aerospace engineering, architectural engineering, ceramic engineering, chemical engineering, civil engineering, computer engineering, computer science, electrical engineering, environmental engineering, geological engineering, geology and geophysics, mechanical engineering, metallurgical engineering, mining engineering, nuclear engineering, and petroleum engineering. All engineering programs and computer science are ABET accredited. In addition, students may specialize in one of more than 60 emphasis areas within these degree programs. At the graduate level, CEC is home to 18 master’s degree and PhD programs. PhDs are offered in all departments, with some departments offering multiple PhD programs.

Total CEC student enrollment for the 2021-2022 academic year, including enrollment in the Department of Engineering Management and Systems Engineering, which will be one of the founding departments of the Kummer College, is 5,931. Undergraduates represent 4,723 of this total, with 749 master’s and graduate certificate students and 459 doctoral students. Students are taught and supported by 223 faculty and 40 staff members. Faculty in the college have been the recipients of many national and international awards recognizing their excellence in teaching, research, and impact in their fields.

Faculty in the CEC are actively involved in collaborative work through several research centers at Missouri S&T, such as the:

- Center for Biomedical Research
- Center for High Performance Computing
- Center for Infrastructure Engineering Studies
- Center for Research in Energy and Environment
- Center for Science, Technology and Society
- Materials Research Center
- Energetic Materials, Rock Characterization, and Geomechanics Research Center

These centers house state-of-the-art equipment, research specialists, technicians, and administrative support personnel to assist expert faculty with externally sponsored research, education, and outreach. In addition, the CEC will play a pivotal role in the establishment and growth of the four Kummer Research Centers.
The Vice Provost and Dean

Reporting to the Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor, the Vice Provost and Dean of Engineering and Computing provides academic, budgetary, and administrative leadership for CEC. The Vice Provost and Dean is responsible for advancing excellence in teaching, research, engagement, and development in the College. The Vice Provost and Dean is involved in developing strategies for increasing interdisciplinary research, building partnerships, and promoting outreach efforts that increase the support for the college. The Vice Provost and Dean attracts and works to retain excellent and diverse faculty, staff, and students and builds collaborative, long-term, strategic relationships with leaders in the business, engineering, and academic communities, as well as with other academic leaders within the university. The Vice Provost and Dean should have unwavering integrity and character, and exhibit decision-making rooted in transparency, collaboration, and empowerment.

Candidates must have a doctoral degree and demonstrated credentials to be tenurable at the rank of full professor in a department of the College of Engineering and Computing; significant leadership experience; a proven commitment to achieving and nurturing a diverse and inclusive environment where all members feel empowered to collaborate and contribute to the advancement of shared goals; outstanding communication and consensus-building skills; the ability to develop and sustain collegial, inclusive and productive relationships with on- and off-campus constituencies; an understanding of emerging trends and initiatives in engineering education, research, and practice; and an appreciation for multidisciplinary
The University seeks candidates who bring the following skills and experiences:

- Demonstrated scholarly and professional accomplishments commensurate with an appointment as a tenured full professor in a department within the college
- An ability to lead a diverse faculty community that encompasses an array of different disciplines through facilitation of a collegial environment and interdisciplinarity
- Demonstrated administrative ability to delegate, prioritize, and make timely, transparent, and collaborative decisions
- Experience with the alignment of resources with strategic goals
- An ability to identify and secure financial resources that support the college
- A record of effective budget management for a college or department-wide unit or comparable organizational unit
- An ability to raise financial resources and build the financial infrastructure of the college
- Demonstrated commitment to equity and diversity, and to continuing to foster an organization that values and practices diversity, equity, and inclusion for all college constituencies
- Experience facilitating significant research programs that address major scientific and engineering challenges
- Ability to guide the development of curricula and programs that prepare students for rapidly changing fields
- An informed grasp of key issues affecting faculty recruitment, retention, promotion, and scholarly productivity
- An ability to actively listen to key stakeholders and clearly articulate the college’s vision, goals, and accomplishments in a way that will forge productive links and support from the University administration and external constituencies

Application materials should include a letter of interest addressing how the candidate’s experience matches the position description, a current curriculum vitae, and a statement explaining how their previous and potential contributions enhance a culture of diversity and inclusion through administration, teaching, research, creative activity and/or service.

Nominations, applications, and inquiries of interest may be sent in confidence to the college’s executive recruitment consultants:

Martin M. Baker, Managing Partner
Chelsie Whitelock, Principal
Buffkin/Baker
mstcece@buffkinbaker.com