



POSITION PROFILE

VICE PROVOST AND DEAN

Kummer College of
Innovation, Entrepreneurship,
and Economic Development

MISSOURI
S&T



Missouri S&T is one of the world's leading technological research universities and has a rich academic tradition dating back to its founding in 1870 as the Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy.

Missouri University of Science and Technology (Missouri S&T) seeks an exceptional leader for the recently launched Kummer College of Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Economic Development (Kummer College).

The Kummer College was established to serve as a path-breaking model for social impact, technology transfer, and interdisciplinary collaboration within a future-oriented STEM-focused university. Supported by the Kummer Institute Foundation at Missouri S&T, this unique college integrates key academic, co-curricular, and administrative activities related to technology commercialization, business innovation and entrepreneurship, systems thinking, and economic development.

Missouri S&T seeks applicants for the inaugural Dean of the Kummer College who are similarly innovative and forward-thinking. The Dean will play a critical role in refining and advancing the vision for the Kummer College and in developing groundbreaking new academic programs and co-curricular offerings.



Above

Dawson Jeffers, a Kummer Vanguard Scholar and student in engineering management, launched a business that prints 3-D custom products for Mazda Miata cars.

Designated as both a land-grant and space-grant institution, the university currently enrolls over 7,000 students and is home to more than 300 faculty. Nearly 80 S&T-affiliated researchers are recognized as among the [top two percent](#) in their respective fields. One of four universities within the [University of Missouri System](#), Missouri S&T is frequently commended as a leading institution for [career placement and return on investment](#) and a [top destination for engineering majors](#). The institution hosts over 20 student design teams in a broad array of science and technology areas. Under the leadership of [Chancellor Mohammad Dehghani](#) and [Provost Colin Potts](#), Missouri S&T is pursuing three primary "[North Star Goals](#)" in the coming years: growing enrollment, elevating the university's rank and reputation, and advancing to an R1 Carnegie Classification. Aside from these aims, the university is undertaking an aggressive expansion of its innovation ecosystem, of which the Kummer College is a central component.



ABOUT THE KUMMER COLLEGE

In 2020, the university received a transformational \$300 million gift from June and Fred Kummer (BS '55).

One of the largest philanthropic donations in the history of higher education, the Kummer gift has galvanized [new research centers, endowed professorships, student success programs, and K-12 STEM outreach initiatives](#) at Missouri S&T. These efforts are supported by the Kummer Foundation, with the unifying aims of elevating the university's profile and supporting economic development in the surrounding region and beyond.

In 2022, Missouri S&T officially launched the Kummer College of Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Economic Development to build upon the university's history of excellence in science and technology. Alongside the existing College of Engineering and Computing and the College of Arts, Sciences, and Education, the Kummer College was established to serve as a hub for collaborative, cutting-edge activities at the nexus of business, science, and technology.

As of Spring 2023, the Kummer College enrolled over 750 students in a diverse portfolio of graduate and undergraduate programs, including a growing array of online and certificate programs. The initial footprint for Kummer College includes the following academic departments at Missouri S&T:

“The Kummer College was founded with three exceptional academic departments and houses core components of the innovation ecosystem at Missouri S&T. The future holds endless potential for the college to become a leading center for interdisciplinary collaboration, social innovation, and technology commercialization activities.”

— Provost Colin Potts

Department of Business and Information Technology (BIT)

This department offers AACSB-accredited bachelor's and master's degrees in Information Science and Technology and Business Administration, with plans to introduce a new Master's in Business Innovation to complement the existing MBA program. BIT faculty are engaged in research in several areas, including enterprise systems, organizational development, and marketing, with specializations in manufacturing, healthcare, and entertainment. The university is currently searching for a Kummer Endowed Professor of Business Innovation to be appointed in BIT.

Department of Economics

The Economics department offers STEM-designated bachelor's degrees with available emphases in Energy Economics, Financial Economics and Technology, and Decision Data, with plans for a new MS program in Economics and Engineering Science (EES). The department is also exploring a new doctoral program in Energy Economics and Policy.

Department of Engineering Management and Systems Engineering (EMSE)

The field of Engineering Management was [founded at Missouri S&T](#), and the EMSE department offers bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in Engineering Management and master's and doctoral degrees in Systems Engineering. The bachelor's degree is ABET-accredited. Faculty research applications are diverse, including concentrations in healthcare, manufacturing, and military science. Missouri S&T is currently seeking a Sarchet Endowed Chair of the department and a Kummer Endowed Professor of EMSE.



The Kummer Innovation and Entrepreneurship (I&E) Doctoral Fellow program provides support for Ph.D. students like Adrian Batista Planas.

In addition to academic departments, the following administrative units are also housed in the Kummer College to further advance the college's mission of innovation and economic impact:

Kummer Student Programs

Approximately 1,200 graduate and undergraduate students receive financial and programmatic support each year from the Kummer Foundation. Undergraduate students with leadership potential are eligible for the [Kummer Vanguard Scholars](#) program, which provides co-curricular programming in innovation, entrepreneurship, community engagement and undergraduate research. A dedicated living-learning community is also currently under development for students in the program.

At the graduate level, Ph.D. students are recruited into the [Kummer Innovation and Entrepreneurship \(I&E\) Doctoral Fellows](#) program to conduct research that has a viable route to commercialization. These research areas are diverse and are not restricted to applied fields of study. During its first two years, the Kummer I&E Fellows program has funded students in every doctoral program at Missouri S&T.

Although open to all students at Missouri S&T, the Kummer Vanguard Scholars and Kummer I&E Fellows programs are based within the Kummer College of Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Economic Development to facilitate the college's aim of driving interdisciplinary collaboration and technology commercialization.

Division of Technology Transfer and Economic Development (TTED)

TTED is responsible for managing processes that bring faculty and student ideas to commercial fruition. The unit maintains relationships with industry partners and is housed in Missouri S&T's Technology Park. When the [Manufacturing Technology and Innovation Campus](#) opens in 2025 with the completion of the [Missouri Protoplex](#), TTED will work closely with industry partners to help them prototype ideas in collaboration with Missouri S&T researchers.

Each unit within the Kummer College shares a unique service orientation with the entire university. The Kummer College's academic departments bolster innovation through interdisciplinary research collaborations, general education courses, elective courses, minors and certificates. Meanwhile, Kummer Student Programs convenes a diverse and talented population of students from across S&T, and TTED provides consultation and services for the entire campus. Additional departments are likely to find a home in Kummer College in the future, and the inaugural Dean will be expected to continue evolving the college in a direction that best aligns with its goals.



Architectural rendering of the Missouri Protoplex facility as viewed from the northwest entrance.

MISSOURI S&T'S INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM

Missouri S&T has an impressive track record of technological innovation — and we're just getting started. Thanks to the June and Fred Kummer gift, additional funding from private donors, and [historic levels of state and federal investment](#), the university has embarked on a dramatic expansion of its innovation ecosystem. Below are several units on campus that form the nucleus of an innovation ecosystem alongside the Kummer College of Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Economic Development:

Kummer Research Centers

To accelerate the growth of Missouri S&T's research profile and enhance the university's economic impact on the surrounding region, the Kummer Foundation has supported the launch of research centers in high-priority fields of study. Three newly-established centers will support technology incubation, acceleration and commercialization in [Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Systems](#), Resource Sustainability, and [Advanced Manufacturing](#). A fourth center is pending development in the area of Advanced and Resilient Infrastructure. Rather than being tied to a specific college, the Kummer Research Centers are centrally based and overseen directly by the Vice Chancellor of Research and Innovation.

Manufacturing Technology and Innovation Campus

To accommodate future growth anticipated from the investments of the Kummer Foundation, the State of Missouri, federal agencies and industry partners, Missouri S&T has created a dedicated research park adjacent to campus. Phase 1 of this plan is the [Missouri Protoplex](#) facility, which will serve as the state's manufacturing innovation hub. Additional planned phases of growth will help further develop S&T's culture of innovation by providing new spaces for prototype development, entrepreneurial thinking and technology acceleration in alignment with the expansion of the university's research enterprise.



Innovation Lab

Centrally located in Missouri S&T's new [Arrival District](#), the Innovation Lab is a collaborative, highly functional academic facility with cutting-edge pedagogical spaces and student support services. Featured resources include active learning classrooms, cross-disciplinary laboratories, maker spaces, studios for digital content production, spaces for collaborative meetings and individual study, and an Innovation Forum for larger events.



Student Design and Experiential Learning Center (SDELIC)

All students, regardless of discipline, are encouraged to join one of S&T's [20 design teams](#). The SDELIC, housed in the Kummer Student Design Center, provides teams with advanced computer design labs, a complete manufacturing center, office space and logistical support assets. Center staff assist with technical, marketing, communication, and fundraising support to prepare students for successful careers.



Kummer Center for STEM Education

A key objective of the Kummer Foundation is to bring science to life for students and teachers, with an emphasis on reaching communities in Missouri that are underrepresented, underserved, and rural. The Kummer Center for STEM Education provides engaging STEM experiences for P-12 students, either on the Missouri S&T campus or at their schools. Programs and services include residential and day camps, career seminars or panels, field trips, professional development events for P-12 educators, and interactive outreach sessions via S&T's official [STEM Mobile](#).

THE VICE PROVOST AND DEAN

Reporting to the Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor, the Vice Provost and inaugural Dean of the Kummer College will develop and champion an aspirational vision that establishes the college as a global leader in transformational education and research.

The Dean will also oversee the development and execution of a strategic plan to operationalize this vision. A primary aim of the Kummer College project is the cultivation of an innovative academic community at the nexus of business, science and technology that yields real-world applications and economic impacts at regional, state, national, and/or global scales. Given the broad portfolio of the Kummer College — which includes not only academic departments but also technology transfer, economic development, and student success initiatives — the scope of potential impact for the Dean is unique within the UM System and across the entire higher education landscape. These possibilities are especially exciting in light of the thriving science and technology research enterprise in which the Kummer College is situated at Missouri S&T.

The Dean will facilitate effective and productive collaborations across disciplines that engage key industry, government, and academic partners. The Dean will build partnerships within the university community and beyond that link fundamental and applied research through cutting-edge practices in fields such as systems thinking, entrepreneurship, prototyping, and social innovation. The Dean will also be recognized as a key thought leader in one or more of these domains, both on Missouri S&T's campus and beyond. Ideal candidates will show the potential to readily identify and grow synergies between the Kummer College's academic and administrative units, S&T's larger innovation ecosystem, industry partners, and other external stakeholders.

The Dean will be an effective change leader with a commitment to organizational excellence. This commitment shall be demonstrated through respectful and inclusive communication practices and prioritization of the academic, professional, and personal development of students, faculty, and staff. Leading candidates will demonstrate an ability to build consensus and broker conflict resolution, as well as the capacity for responsible management of the college's finances, personnel, and physical assets. To be successful, the Dean must also demonstrate a capacity for engaging faculty, University Advancement personnel and other key partners to grow and diversify revenue streams for the college.

HOW TO APPLY

Nominations and inquiries for the Vice Provost and Dean position may be directed to Andrew Crain (amcrain@mst.edu), Lead Recruitment Consultant with the University of Missouri System. Interested applicants are requested to submit a curriculum vitae, cover letter, and five professional references using the link below. Professional references will not be contacted without candidate authorization.

► [Click here to apply](#)

All applications received by September 10, 2023, will receive full consideration.

We value the uniqueness of every individual and strive to ensure each person's success. Contributions from individuals with diverse backgrounds, experiences and perspectives promote intellectual pluralism and enable us to achieve the excellence that we seek in learning, research and engagement. This commitment makes our university a better place to work, learn and innovate. In your application materials, please discuss your experiences and expertise that support these values and enrich our missions of teaching, research and engagement.

The final candidate is required to provide copies of official transcript(s) for any college degree(s) listed in application materials submitted. Copies of transcript(s) should be provided prior to the start of employment. In addition, the final candidate may be required to verify other credentials listed in application materials. Failure to provide official transcript(s) or other required verification may result in the withdrawal of the job offer. All job offers are contingent upon successful completion of a criminal background check.



Left

Mahelet Fikru, an associate professor of economics, is studying hypothetical energy oligopolies to help the electricity industry remain profitable through the move to more renewable energy sources.

Missouri S&T seeks candidates who bring the following qualifications:

1

An earned terminal degree from an accredited university in a subject area appropriate for faculty appointment within one of the academic departments within the college

2

An impressive track record of scholarly achievement in systems thinking, entrepreneurship, prototyping, social innovation, or similar innovation frameworks; academic achievements must be commensurate with that of a full professor within the college

3

A record of outstanding administrative and leadership success in academic, corporate, and/or research organizations

KEY ATTRIBUTES OF THE VICE PROVOST AND DEAN WILL INCLUDE:

- ▶ Keen judgment to make timely, effective decisions and implement solutions that effectively address problems and challenge the status quo; develop solutions with creativity, appropriate use of stakeholder input, and a nuanced understanding of institutional complexities
- ▶ Excellent communication skills, with the ability to harmonize diverse agendas and convey a vision both internally and externally
- ▶ Demonstrated capacity to drive research activity that supports S&T's goal of obtaining R1 Carnegie status and the Kummer College's economic development objectives
- ▶ Student-focused leadership style, with consideration to a diverse population of undergraduates, graduate students, and professional, online, and/or non-thesis master's students
- ▶ Knowledge of trends in online education and academic program development, especially for mid-career students seeking master's degrees or continuing education certificates
- ▶ Relational approach to leadership that inspires trust, motivates top performance, and creates results that are greater than the sum of the parts
- ▶ Resource management skills that drive measurable results, with a commitment to seizing entrepreneurial opportunities and demonstrating accountability

Equal Opportunity is and shall be provided for all employees and applicants for employment on the basis of their demonstrated ability and competence without unlawful discrimination on the basis of their race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, protected veteran status, or any other status protected by applicable state or federal law. This policy shall not be interpreted in such a manner as to violate the legal

rights of religious organizations or the recruiting rights of military organizations associated with the Armed Forces or the Department of Homeland Security of the United States of America.

The University's nondiscrimination policy applies to any phase of its employment process, any phase of its admission or financial aid programs, or other aspects of its educational programs or activities. Further, this policy applies to sexual violence or sexual harassment, both forms of sex discrimination,

occurring within the educational program and instances occurring outside of the educational program if the conduct negatively affects the victim's educational experience or the overall campus environment.

Any person having inquiries concerning the application of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 or other civil rights laws should contact the Title IX Coordinator.



ABOUT MISSOURI S&T

Founded in 1870 as the University of Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy (MSM), the school was one of the first technological institutions in the nation. MSM was established as part of the federal government's land-grant movement initiated by the Morrill Act. In 1963, following the establishment of the UM System, the school became known as the University of Missouri-Rolla (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 (S&T) to broadcast more clearly its position as a leading STEM-focused university dedicated to discovery, creativity, and innovation that benefits 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 University of Missouri 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.

Today Missouri S&T enrolls over 7,000 students and is home to more than 300 faculty and 104 undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Entering students boast an average ACT score of 28.5, with 80% of all undergraduate students being Missouri residents and 22% being first generation students. The institution currently hosts over 20 award-winning student design teams in a broad array of science and technology areas, and frequently receives media recognition for the high caliber of its academic programs and the return on investment to a Missouri S&T degree. Designated a U.S. News and World Report Top 100 national public university, Missouri S&T counts over 55,000 living alumni that include world-famous astronauts, scientists, engineers, inventors, and business leaders. As part of the University of Missouri System, which enrolls more than 50,000 students, Missouri S&T also benefits from shared services, partnership agreements, and other forms of collaboration with the University of Missouri – Columbia (MU), the University of Missouri – St. Louis (UMSL), the University of Missouri – Kansas City (UMKC), as well as University of Missouri Health Care.

Nationally Recognized

Today, Missouri S&T offers a unique constellation of comprehensive programs that build on the university's rich history and continue to benefit Missouri, the nation, and the global community. The university has received numerous accolades in recent years, including the following high rankings:

- ▶ No. 1 public university in Missouri for return on investment (Georgetown's Center on Education and Workforce, 2022)
- ▶ No. 1 best value public university in Missouri (SmartAsset, 2022)
- ▶ No. 4 graduate online Industrial Organization program (Forbes Advisor)
- ▶ No. 5 Best College for Engineering Majors in the U.S. (*Money*, 2022)
- ▶ No. 7 graduate online engineering program for military veterans (*U.S. News and World Report*, 2022)
- ▶ No. 9 graduate online engineering program (*U.S. News and World Report*, 2022)

These strengths align well with Missouri S&T's current goals of growing enrollment, elevating research productivity, and achieving national and international recognition. Missouri S&T's excellence in STEM degree programs, student career outcomes, and broadening access also provide exciting opportunities to further impact students and communities in Missouri, throughout the region, and beyond.



Research Profile

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 the Division of Technology Transfer and Economic Development (TTED). Three new interdisciplinary research centers have been recently established on campus to support the growth of the university's Manufacturing Technology and Innovation Campus. Supported by the Kummer Foundation, these centers will focus on high-impact, commercially viable research activities

in Advanced Manufacturing, Resource Sustainability, and Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Systems.

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. Recent S&T career fairs have featured over 400 hiring organizations in attendance.

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, among others.

ABOUT ROLLA, MISSOURI

Living in Rolla, Missouri offers several great advantages and a high quality of life. Here are some reasons why Rolla is a fantastic place to live:

- ▶ **Strong Sense of Community:** Rolla has a tight-knit community that is known for its warmth and friendliness. The residents take pride in their city and create a welcoming environment for newcomers.
 - ▶ **Affordable Cost of Living:** Rolla boasts a low cost of living compared to many other cities in the United States. Housing, groceries, transportation, and other daily expenses are generally more affordable, allowing residents to enjoy a comfortable lifestyle.
 - ▶ **Outdoor Recreation:** Nestled in the scenic Ozarks, Rolla offers abundant opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts. The region is characterized by its beautiful landscapes and natural wonders, including forests, caves, rivers, and hiking trails. Residents can enjoy activities like camping, fishing, boating, and exploring nature.
 - ▶ **Rich History:** Rolla has a fascinating historical background, including its roots as a mining and railroad town. The city has preserved its heritage through historical sites, museums, and events, allowing residents to connect with the past and appreciate the town's unique history.
- ▶ **Family-Friendly Environment:** Rolla is an ideal place for families, with excellent schools, safe neighborhoods, and a range of recreational activities suitable for all ages.
 - ▶ **Vibrant Arts and Culture:** Despite its smaller size, Rolla offers a vibrant arts and cultural scene. The city hosts various events, concerts, art exhibitions, and theater performances throughout the year. The university's Leach Theatre showcases nationally renowned performers for campus and community alike. Residents can immerse themselves in creative expressions and enjoy the talents of local artists.
 - ▶ **Engaging Community Events:** Rolla hosts a variety of community events and festivals throughout the year, creating opportunities for residents to come together, celebrate, and enjoy shared experiences. These events strengthen community bonds and contribute to a lively social calendar.

Overall, living in Rolla offers a balanced lifestyle, with a supportive community, affordable living, beautiful natural surroundings and numerous opportunities for personal and professional growth.