Parks Alum, Gene Kranz
Addresses the Class of 2014
PAGE 6

Firsts at Parks
PAGE 10

Meet the New Faculty of Parks College
PAGE 12

Alumni News
PAGE 19
Dear Colleagues,

The dedicated work of our students, faculty, staff, alums and friends has resulted in yet another outstanding year for Parks College.

Having awarded the first doctoral degree in Aviation in the world in May 2013, Parks College awarded another first at our May 2014 Commencement Ceremony: the first doctoral degree in Engineering awarded by Parks College, to Junsik Lee. This is the culmination of many years of effort to start and support our graduate programs.

We were privileged to have 1954 Parks Alumnus, Gene Kranz, give a very inspiring 2014 Wings Ceremony address. While he was in town, Gene talked with us and several local organizations about how Parks prepared him for his successful career.

Parks was rewarded with considerable success in our chair and faculty searches. Professor Sridhar Condoor, Ph.D., was appointed Chair of the Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering Department; Srikanth Gururajan, Ph.D. was appointed Assistant Professor of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering; Natasha Case, Ph.D., Andrew Hall, Ph.D. and Yan Gai, Ph.D. were appointed Assistant Professors of Biomedical Engineering; and Jalil Kianfar, Ph.D. was appointed Assistant Professor of Civil Engineering. The new department chairs and professors represent the largest number of academics hired in one year in the history of the College, and will be instrumental in the pursuit of the strategic goals of the College and University.

As we go to press we are informed that the incoming Parks College freshman class is not only the largest we have had, but their ACT score increased to above 29. Our undergraduate class has grown to 750 students and our graduate program has proved to be the fastest growing program in Parks with a total enrollment of 89 students. Parks College faculty continue to increase the publication of archival journal articles, reaching 69 in the last year, or an increase to 2.09 archival journal articles per full-time faculty member in the College, surpassing previous goals for such metrics. Several other such details can be found in the 2013-14 Annual Report, which is available online in http://issuu.com/parkscollege/docs/parks_college_annual_report-2014

Our Jesuit mission compels us to excel in research-led education, to prepare our students to be the leaders of tomorrow, and to promote service to humanity. As you will see in the following pages our students continue to excel in academic and extracurricular achievements. Parks College is a unique family of engineers and aviators sharing a common passion for excellence in everything they tackle. With an eye for innovation and entrepreneurship, we share a vision to apply our work to the benefit of the global society. Every day I am humbled by yet another achievement of a member of the Parks community.

I hope in the following pages you enjoy reading what else we have accomplished.

With kindest regards,

Thodosios Alexander, Sc.D.
Parks Today
Parks College is pleased to announce the Civil Engineering program has received full accreditation from ABET. This is a newly accredited program and therefore accreditation is extended to all past graduates from this program.

Since the proposal in 2008, the Civil Engineering department has been working towards viability of Exterior Beam Rotation Prevention Systems for Bridge Deck Construction.” The two-year project began in January 2014, and will provide financial support for two graduate students and some undergraduate students.

The funding was awarded through IDOT in conjunction with ICT. Hindi said that in the past, ICT funding has typically gone to schools located in Illinois.
PARKS ALUM MATT SUYDERHOURD JOINS BLUE ANGELS

Navy Lt. Matt Suyderhoud, a 2005 graduate of Saint Louis University’s Parks College, has joined one of the world’s most acclaimed aviation teams, the Blue Angels. On July 22, the U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron announced the 2015 team. Lt. Suyderhoud was selected as one of three new F/A 18 demonstration pilots for the team. He is the second Parks alum to join the Blue Angels after 2002 Parks graduate Major Brandon Cordill.

Parks College Dean Theodosios Alexander, Sc.D., expressed the school’s pride in Suyderhoud’s achievement.

“We are thrilled that Matt has joined the Blue Angels,” Alexander said. “He is a wonderful addition to the long history of Parks College contributions to aviation and engineering. We send Matt our heartfelt congratulations for this outstanding achievement.”

SLU JUNIOR RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS GOLDWATER SCHOLARSHIP

Morgan Elliott, a senior biomedical engineering major, was named a 2014 Goldwater Scholar by the Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation. She is the sixth SLU student to become a Goldwater Scholar since the first awards were made in 1989.

Elliott is the founder and president of the Disability Services Club, which received the Outstanding Student Organization Awards in 2013; is a charter member of the SLU Chapter of the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society; and a member of Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society.

DEAN OF PARKS COLLEGE AWARDED THE 2014 KENNETH HARRIS JAMES PRIZE

In a ceremony held in London, England, on May 13, 2014, the UK Institution of Mechanical Engineers (I Mech.E.) awarded the 2014 Kenneth Harris James Prize to the team of George Doulgeris, Theodosios Korakianitis (aka Theodosios Alexander), Eldad Avital, Pericles Pădolog and Panos Laskarides for their paper titled: “Effect of jet noise reduction on gas turbine engine efficiency.” (Dean Alexander publishes as Theodosios Korakianitis. The other members of the team are working at Queen Mary, University of London, and Cranfield University in the UK.) The paper was published in the leading UK archival journal in the field, the Proceedings of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, Part G, September 2013.

SLU Alum Shares Startup Success at SPICE

President of goBRANDgo! and SLU alum, Derek Weber, was the guest speaker for the SPICE (Speakers Pioneering Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship) series on February 12, 2014. Weber gave an interactive presentation by sharing his journey into the start-up world, discussing his “idea vortex” and his new service to young entrepreneurs, go-creator. Over the last decade, Weber has transformed his college T-shirt business into goBRANDgo!, one of the nation’s leading strategic branding and marketing firms for entrepreneurs.

PARKS COLLEGE HOSTS PRESTIGIOUS ENGINEERING DEANS’ CONFERENCE

Themes of the EDCU conferences include: reviews of performance metrics; reviews of the effect of the unique missions of EDCU Universities and the advantages it provides to engineering students; and student, faculty and staff development opportunities and challenges. In addition to the standard themes the second EDCU conference expanded on opportunities of EDCU Colleges to collaborate on: education advancements; pursue of technology to offer common courses; formation of interdisciplinary teams relying on existing research strengths of EDCU members to pursue large research grants; sharing of research equipment; developing College strategic plans; and interactions with our respective Communications and Advancement, Alumni Relations and Development teams.

The deans of many other schools in the group share similar sentiments - this conference is of particular value to the group.

“This group of engineering deans of Catholic universities all share the goal of making the world a better place through engineering and doing so with fidelity to our pursuit of truth and with a commitment to faith. I am delighted to be associated with these men and women and look forward to sharing best practices with them,” remarked Peter Kilpatrick, Ph.D, the Matthew H. McCloskey Dean of Engineering at the University of Notre Dame.

“I enjoyed the last EDCU Conference at Saint Louis University very much due to its beautiful venue, excellent host and superb organization. The host and its staff were very friendly and cooperative. I obtained a lot of information from my fellow EDCU deans and was impressed.

As dean of my school. In addition, I felt that the EDCU conferences, thanks to their small and cozy nature, have provided me with opportunities to build camaraderie with other EDCU deans which was impossible in bigger conferences. I look forward to attending future EDCU conferences,” said Charles Nguyen, D.Sc., Dean of Engineering of Catholic University of America, who has been at his post at a Catholic University for the longest amount of time.

It seems as though this conference will continue for years to come.

“The Engineering Deans of Catholic Universities represent a unique group of 22 engineering colleges and programs within the 300+ engineering programs that exist in this country. The colleges are ranked among the best engineering programs in the country, and we provide a unique educational experience that celebrates how a Catholic-based, engineering education can produce graduates with technical skills, leadership skills, and a commitment to use them to the betterment of society. Villanova is delighted to host the coming year’s meeting as we learn from one another how our engineering programs can continue to improve,” stated Gary Gabrielle, Ph.D., the Drosdick Endowed Dean of Engineering at Villanova University, who has been selected to host the 2015 EDCU Conference.

Richard Henry, Jr.

Parks College graduate student, Richard Henry, Jr., was named Outstanding Student Member by the St. Louis Chapter of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE).

Henry serves as Power Team Leader of the COPPER and ARGUS space missions through the college’s Space Systems Research Laboratory. In fall 2013, NASA launched COPPER, the first satellite sent into space for Parks College. Additionally, Henry is a member of the Scholars, a group of students who work to promote an entrepreneurial mindset in engineering and across the SLU campus. Henry also founded the SLU Robotics Club.

Parks College Dean Theodosios Korakianitis, a charter member of the SLU Chapter of the Outstanding Organization and New Disability Services Club, which received the Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation. She is the sixth SLU student to become a Goldwater Scholar since the first awards were made in 1989.

Elliott is the founder and president of the Disability Services Club, which received the Outstanding Student Organization Awards in 2013; is a charter member of the SLU Chapter of the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society; and a member of Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society.

PARKS STUDENT RECOGNIZED BY ENGINEERING PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY

Parks College graduate student, Richard Henry, Jr., was named Outstanding Student Member by the St. Louis Chapter of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE).

Henry serves as Power Team Leader of the COPPER and ARGUS space missions through the college’s Space Systems Research Laboratory. In fall 2013, NASA launched COPPER, the first satellite sent into space for Parks College. Additionally, Henry is a member of the Scholars, a group of students who work to promote an entrepreneurial mindset in engineering and across the SLU campus. Henry also founded the SLU Robotics Club.
Gene Kranz’s photo hangs in McDonnell Douglas Hall as a testament to his great contributions to space exploration following his 1954 graduation from Parks College. It’s an honor given to a select few, yet when he arrived at Parks more than 60 years ago, he was just a kid from Ohio who wanted to fly.

He did that and so much more, serving in the United States Air Force as a bomber pilot during the Korean War, working as a test flight engineer for McDonnell Aircraft Corporation and ultimately becoming a pioneer in the space exploration field as a legendary flight director at NASA.

Since retiring from NASA in 1994, Kranz travels the country to encourage students to “become leaders and pioneer the technologies of the future” at various speaking engagements and special events. He returns to the Parks campus every few years, but his visit last May held special significance because it included a series of events commemorating the 45th anniversary of the Apollo 11 lunar landing. The St. Louis Rocketry Association, Challenger Learning Center and St. Louis Science Center hosted special opportunities for school children, and Kranz spoke to the 2014 Parks graduates at their precommencement ceremony, better known by Parks grads as their “Wings Ceremony.”
Dean of Parks College, Theodore Alexander, S.C.J., introduced Kranz at the ceremony, praising him as “a unique individual, a childhood hero of mine and a shining example of the service, mission-driven, caring and leadership qualities of our education.”

Kranz’s affiliation with Parks has made an impact on current and potential students as well, with some even saying he’s the reason they chose the school.

Master’s graduate Manolo Peso said, “There are many things to learn from Gene Kranz, but there is one that has changed me forever: his teamwork model. When I see an opportunity where I can help my team succeed, I step up and take the lead. Once I’ve played my role and made my contribution, I return to my original place, become a team player and allow others to lead. I’m extremely thankful to have personally met such an eminent engineer.”

Kranz relied on his Parks flight experience when he entered the Air Force after graduation. He served as a fighter pilot and flight lead during the Korean War. At the precommencement ceremony, he told Parks students about one particularly harrowing day when he led a mission involving four planes through a typhoon.

“Occasionally I think of that day, because that experience has always given me the confidence to lead a team in crisis. Today I call it ‘my leadership moment’ — the day I assumed responsibility for the first time for events and for people. That leadership moment carried me through the rest of my life.”

After leaving the Air Force, Kranz worked for McDonnell Aircraft Corporation as a test flight engineer. His supervisor there told him, “When you sign off on an aircraft, you’re signing off for the lives of the crew and the future of the company,” which emphasized that flying was much more than a childhood fantasy. While working at McDonnell, he saw an ad in a flight magazine for a new space exploration program now known as NASA. All of Kranz’s personal, educational and professional experience culminated with his work in Mission Control at NASA. “I was exposed to great leaders, and that combined with knowledge and great teachers, you can do anything,” he said.

The position at NASA made Kranz a legendary figure in the field of space exploration and led to an inspirational portrayal of his work in the Academy Award-winning film Apollo 13. Though Kranz worked in Mission Control for many of NASA’s early flights and served as flight director for four Apollo missions, the film illustrates that his leadership during the Apollo 13 flight helped to save the lives of the three astronauts on the badly damaged spacecraft.

Kranz is passionate about working with young people to inspire them to become leaders and pioneer the technologies of the future, he said. He wants to be sure that students realize that through their work they can “derive satisfaction but also help make their communities better. It’s important to get young people to step up and help others,” he said.

Kranz acknowledged that new graduates definitely face challenges. He noted that a generation ago, there were multiple companies in aviation, but as the industry has consolidated, there is less competition to generate new ideas. Kranz said that a Parks education will help students succeed in spite of these challenges, and he encouraged students to take risks to become leaders in the field.

“I believe as a nation we have to be back in the exploration business. Space exploration establishes us as leaders. We have to develop a belief in this nation in our unique qualities,” he said. “For over 60 years, I’ve had the pleasure of doing what I love. I’ve done everything a kid from Ohio who just wanted to fly could get through anything later in life.”

Kranz tried to pass on this lesson of having faith to move forward from disappointing moments to find new opportunities. He said: “There’s great disappointment out there, and students have to learn to have fortitude” to keep going forward.

He recalled that one of his first major disappointments in life actually led him to attend Parks. He’d long dreamed of attending the U.S. Naval Academy, but when he didn’t pass the physical, he was devastated. He feared the cost to attend any other institution would be too high, until his mother and a nun from Toledo’s Central Catholic High School helped him find a scholarship to attend Parks. With the financial aid in place, Kranz was then attracted to Saint Louis University’s Jesuit affiliation, and he still fondly remembers classes at Parks with John J. Higgins, S.J., connecting his passion for both science and faith.

“I want to be sure that students realize that through the exploration business, Space exploration establishes us as leaders. We have to develop a belief in this nation in our unique qualities”
Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology celebrated its 2014 “Wings Ceremony” on May 15 at Saint Louis University’s Center for Global Citizenship. This year the college celebrated one more “first” in Parks history: the first doctoral degree in engineering awarded at Parks College.

Junsik Lee, Ph.D., was the first to receive a doctorate in engineering from Parks College. Through the Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering Department, Lee finished his degree after completing and defending his dissertation, “Jet Array Impingement Heat Transfer: Effect of Jet-to-Target Plate Distance, Reynolds Number, Hole Spacing, and Surface Roughness.”

“This is a significant milestone for Parks College. Awarding the first doctoral degree in engineering in the history of the college is one of the tangible outcomes of our long-term commitment to grow our graduate programs and research productivity, which then fertilize research-led excellence in our teaching programs,” said Parks College Dean Theodosios Alexander, Sc.D. “Several additional engineering Ph.D. students are in the pipeline and will soon follow in Junsik Lee’s footsteps.”

Parks College is recognized as one of only 17 schools across the country to participate in the elite Grand Challenges Scholars Program. Grand Challenges Scholars are tasked with completing five components — research experience; interdisciplinary curriculum; entrepreneurship; global dimension; and service learning — by combining their curricular and extracurricular experiences to solve challenges facing society in this century. Endorsed and supported by the National Academy of Engineering, the Grand Challenges are a call to action. This year, Parks College presented two of its 182 graduates as Grand Challenge Scholars: Gayatri Nijsure and Yoatl Ruiz de Gordoa. Both recipients were dual-degree students in biomedical engineering and electrical engineering.

Junsik Lee, Ph.D. (right) and Theodosios Alexander, Sc.D., Dean of Parks College.
Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology at Saint Louis University has announced three new department chairs and five other faculty appointments. Two of the newly appointed faculty members will be added to the Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering Department, four to the Biomedical Engineering Department and two to the Civil Engineering Department.

Sridhar Condoor, Ph.D., served as interim chair of the department since August 2013. He assumed the chair role permanently on July 1, 2014.

Condoor joined Parks College as assistant professor in August 1996. Since then, he has served as associate professor, professor and program director for Mechanical Engineering. In addition to his academic roles with Parks College, he also serves as a KEEN fellow, a Coleman Fellow and the editor of the Journal of Engineering Entrepreneurship.

“I am excited about the future of the Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering Department. I am honored to work with such a talented body of students, faculty and staff,” Condoor said. “Over the years, our Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering Department has produced many engineering thought leaders who have made a difference in the industry. I am thrilled to be a part of shaping the future.”

Theodosios Alexander, Sc.D., dean of Parks College, said, “Dr. Condoor understands the importance of multi-disciplinary research at the interface of engineering and scientific disciplines, its relation to innovation and entrepreneurship, and its integration into our teaching in a way that enhances the quality of our education programs and also assists in the development of the new-world economy. The above are key elements for the continued success and growth of our Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering Department. I am looking forward to working with him on several new initiatives.”

Condoor earned his doctorate at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas; his Master of Technology degree with a design engineering specialization at the Indian Institute of Technology in Bombay, India; and his Bachelor of Technology degree with a mechanical engineering specialization at Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University in Hyderabad, India.

An expert in his field, Condoor teaches sustainability, product design and entrepreneurship. His research interests are in the areas of design theory and methodology, technology entrepreneurship and sustainability. He is spearheading technology entrepreneurship education at SLU via Innovation to Product (I2P), weekly innovation challenges, Tinker Camp, and entrepreneurship competitions and funded research. He is the principal investigator for the KEEN Entrepreneurship Program Development Grants to foster the spirit of innovation in all engineering students. He has been running...
Srikanth Gururajan, Ph.D., Assistant Professor (left) and Sridhar S. Condoor, Ph.D., Chair (right)

Srikanth Gururajan, Ph.D., joins Parks College as assistant professor of aerospace and mechanical engineering.

Gururajan received his doctorate in aerospace engineering and master’s in mechanical engineering from West Virginia University in Morgantown, West Virginia, and a Bachelor of Engineering degree from the University of Madras, India.

Gururajan’s research has been in the fields of fault-tolerant flight control, experimental flight testing using small UAVs and UAV-based remote sensing applications in precision agriculture, pest management and emissions measurement and characterization.

Before joining the Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering Department at Parks College, Gururajan was a post-doctoral fellow in aerospace engineering at West Virginia University. There, he managed the UAV flight testing program and oversaw the design and construction of the UAV platforms, the design of experiments, as well as the flight test implementation and identification of aircraft parameters from flight data.

Additionally, Gururajan has been active in interdisciplinary research, having initiated and conducted research projects in collaboration with researchers from within the College of Engineering as well as the College of Agriculture at WVU.

His teaching interests are in the areas of flight dynamics and controls. Gururajan believes that student aerospace design competitions are ideal avenues for students to express their creativity while complementing the knowledge gained in the classroom. He feels the competitions promote collaboration and learning across disciplines.

Sridhar Condoor, Ph.D., department chair, is delighted in the appointment of Gururajan.

“Dr. Gururajan brings the unique experimental expertise of unmanned aerial vehicles that synergistically complements the existing strengths of the college. Srikanth’s strategic addition will enable us to offer an array of interdisciplinary courses and perform research in the area of UAVs. The department looks to new initiatives from Srikanth,” Condoor said.

Gururajan said, “It is a great honor to be a part of the SLU family. I look forward to collaborating with my esteemed colleagues and talented students in the Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering Department at Parks College in expanding the envelope of research in fault-tolerant flight control and cross-disciplinary applications of Unmanned Aerial Systems.”

Gururajan has authored and co-authored several publications in archival journals and has served as a peer reviewer for several leading journals and conferences in aerospace engineering. He also serves as an associate editor of the Aerospace Science and Technology Journal, the Canadian Aeronautics and Space Journal and the International Journal of Unmanned Systems Engineering.

Michelle Sabick, Ph.D., joins Parks College as the new chair of the Department of Biomedical Engineering.

Before joining the faculty at Parks, Sabick served as professor and chair of the Department of Mechanical and Biomedical Engineering at Boise State University in Idaho since 2011. In that role, she expanded the faculty from eight to 14 members and managed a large growth in student enrollment. Additionally, Sabick enhanced undergraduate teaching by infusing classroom lectures with more interactive and hands-on learning activities.

Sabick has worked on more than 20 funded research projects, published many journal articles and other scholarly publications, and holds two patents. Additionally, she has made more than 70 conference presentations. She has advised and directed more than 20 graduate students.

Sabick held other significant roles at Boise State University, such as director of product development and commercialization in the Center for Orthopaedic and Biomechanics Research, and director of the Biomechanics Research Laboratory.

Sabick earned her doctorate in biomechanical engineering from the University of Iowa and a bachelor’s degree in biomedical engineering from Case Western Reserve University. She worked as a biomechanics researcher at the Steadman Hawkins Sports Medicine Foundation in Vail, Colorado, and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the Department of Orthopedics at the Mayo Clinic.

“I am both excited and humbled to serve as the chair of the Department of Biomedical Engineering at Saint Louis University,” Sabick said. “I was attracted to Parks College due to the clear emphasis on academic rigor, development of the whole person and leadership excellence. The quality, cohesiveness and positive attitude of the BME faculty convinced me that this was where I wanted to work. My goal will be to work with this dynamic group to grow our graduate program while maintaining our excellent undergraduate program. We have the elements in place to do just that.”

Theodosios Alexander, Sc.D., dean of the College of Engineering at SLU, said, “Dr. Sabick will be a key contributor to moving our Biomedical Engineering Department into the next phase of its development. Her commitment to excellence in education and prior experience in biomechanics, product development and growth of educational programs is evident. She will be a catalyst for the future growth of our biomedical engineering department in output metrics and in continuous improvement of its national reputation.”

Natasha Case, Ph.D., joined Parks College this fall as an assistant professor.

Before her appointment at SLU, she served as a research scholar in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery in the Duke University School of Medicine. Her research interests are in musculoskeletal tissue engineering and biomechanics.

Case earned a doctorate in bioengineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology and a Bachelor of Science in biomedical engineering from Duke University. She conducted post-doctoral research in the Department of Medicine at the University of North Carolina. Her research experiences have focused on articular cartilage and bone, and have shared a common interest in understanding how cells from musculoskeletal tissues are influenced by mechanical loading of the skeleton.

DEPARTMENT OF BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING
"The commitment of the faculty within Parks College to achieving excellence in both teaching and research was a primary reason that I was attracted to Saint Louis University," Case said. "Discovering that the Biomedical Engineering Department had excellent research facilities, faculty with complementary research interests, and talented, enthusiastic students assured me that this was a great place to begin my academic career. I look forward to having many opportunities to interact with faculty and students in Parks College."

Department Chair Michelle Sabick is delighted in the appointment of Case. "Dr. Case’s research areas of cartilage mechanics and tissue engineering are clinically relevant to millions of people who suffer from joint pain and the need to be regenerated to heal damaged joints. She plans to concentrate her research on the mechanisms by which cartilage could be regenerated to heal damaged joints. Her research is expected to provide new insights into the development of cartilage repair and regeneration therapies."

"Dr. Case's research areas of cartilage mechanics and tissue engineering are clinically relevant to millions of people who suffer from joint pain and the need to be regenerated to heal damaged joints. She plans to concentrate her research on the mechanisms by which cartilage could be regenerated to heal damaged joints. Her research is expected to provide new insights into the development of cartilage repair and regeneration therapies."
Jalil Kianfar, Ph.D., joined Parks College as assistant professor of civil engineering in January 2014. Kianfar received his doctorate in civil engineering from Azad University in Iran. Prior to joining Parks, Kianfar was a transportation analyst with CBB transportation engineers in St. Louis, where he developed travel demand and traffic simulation models for Missouri and Illinois departments of transportation. Kianfar brings 10 years of research and industry experience to the classroom, and his goal is to prepare Parks graduates for designing and managing a transportation system that can safely accommodate the needs of pedestrians, cyclists, public transportation users, and personal and commercial vehicles.

“One of my long-term goals at Parks College is to serve the local transportation needs in the St. Louis region through collaboration with transportation agencies including MoDOT, EWGC, and cities and counties within the St. Louis region,” Kianfar said.

His research includes connected vehicles and intelligent transportation systems. He is working with a doctoral student to develop advanced driver-assistance models that use vehicle-to-vehicle communication data to warn drivers about a potential crash.

Ronaldo Luna, department chair, is delighted in the appointment of Kianfar.

“Transportation is personal to everyone; it affects all of our lives,” Luna said. “Dr. Kianfar has a transportation laboratory hub at his disposal in St. Louis. With his research capabilities he will contribute significantly to the systems that move our people and goods.”

Christopher “Keegan” Faudree was selected as the recipient of the 2014 Oliver L. Parks award. This award honors graduating students who excel in three categories: Academic Excellence, Leadership and Service. Faudree, who hails from Midland, Texas, graduated in May with two degrees, one in Mechanical Engineering and one in Business Administration, which he accomplished while maintaining a 3.9 GPA during his tenure at SLU.

Faudree was chosen for this award by a committee of Parks faculty and staff members out of a pool of 12 well deserving nominees. The committee chose him not only for his outstanding academic record, but also for his record of service to SLU and the greater community as well as his countless leadership roles both at Parks and the John Cook School of Business. Keegan noted that he aspires “to be an engineer who can connect the logical dots between business and engineering, as Oliver Parks was able to do with business and aviation.”

The 2014 Oliver L. Parks Award winner was Terrence Matter, M.S. (Parks ’64). After Parks, Matter served four years as an Aircraft Maintenance Officer for the U.S. Air Force. When he finished his service, Matter joined Northrop Corporation where he provided Product Support Services for worldwide users of the T.38 and F.5 series aircraft. In 1974, he received his M.S. in Operations Management from Northrop Institute of Technology.

Then, he went on to complete the Senior Management Development Program at Harvard Business School and the Executive Marketing Program from Anderson School of Business. Before retiring, he served as the Executive Business Development Manager at Northrop Grumman.

John O’Neill, Jr., Ph.D. (IT ’59) was honored with the Institute of Technology Alumni Merit Award. After graduating from SLU, O’Neill went to work for Bell Telephone Laboratories where he acquired 24 patents. O’Neill completed both his M.S. and Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering at New York University. In 1977, O’Neill founded a division within Storage Technology Corporation and acquired four additional patents. In 1980, O’Neill founded OneCom Inc., Since 1988, O’Neill has worked as the founder and Chief Technology Officer of Call Management Products.

To learn more and to nominate an alum for the awards please visit parks.slu.edu/alumni.

The Parks College Alumni Board wants to help you preserve your academic roots. Know that the Parks College Alumni Board is comprised of members of all ages, regardless of your stage in life.

Membership to the Alumni Board is open to all graduates of Parks College and SLU’s Institute of Technology. The Alumni Board is comprised of members of all ages, ranging from twenty-something to eighty-something, and membership is always open regardless of your stage in life.

The Alumni Board values professional experience as it strives to connect former and current students. The legacy of this institution is strong with accomplishments of alumni throughout the world. It is through this connection to the past that we continue to make this institution stand out among others. As you read this issue of Parks Today, consider joining the Alumni Board. Opportunities abound with networking events, alumni benefits and returning to your academic roots.

If you are interested in joining the Parks College Alumni Board, please contact Katie Hatley (khatley1@slu.edu).

The Parks College Alumni Board
Based in Seoul, Korea. B744 Captain with Korean Air. A B744 Captain with China years as a B737 training Captain.

In memoriam.

Reserve School of Medicine in 2011, and is finishing his residency in Emergency Medicine at Stanford University School of Medicine in nearby Palo Alto, CA.

Martin Whelan (Parks ’93) is the Director of Space Operations/ Deputy Chief of Staff for operations, plans and requirements at United States Air Force Headquarters at the Pentagon.

Charles E. White (Parks ’37) is one of the oldest living Parks alumni, having celebrated his 98th birthday in January. He is in good health and living in a retirement “resort” in San Diego, Calif. When he graduated from Parks, each graduate was called into the President’s office for a pep talk and an assessment of his prospects. Mr. Parks did not have a very positive estimate of White’s future, saying, “You are interested in too many things.” That being said, he was told to report to Consolidated Aircraft Co. in San Diego in two weeks. At that time, each graduate had a job, chosen by Mr. Parks. He was the only one left in his class to send to San Diego. In early 1940 he moved to Los Angeles to begin his career with a relatively new company, North American Aviation. For the next 35 years, he served as a Project supervisor in Advanced Design, Principal Scientist, Apollo Program, Space Division, and Chief of Systems Design, Ocean Systems Div.

Parks Today Saint Louis University 4360 Lindell Blvd St. Louis, MO 63103

Circa 1570 photo of female student working in the wind tunnel.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

SEND IN YOUR OLD PARKS PHOTOS TO PARKSTODAY@SLU.EDU TO BE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE.
“My scholarship gave me the motivation to keep doing well”

Help students reach their potential with a gift of scholarship. We’ll match it dollar for dollar.

Together, we’ll go further.

your gift. our match. go further.

The Scholarship Matching Program for Saint Louis University

giving.slu.edu

Desmond B.
HOMETOWN: INDIANAPOLIS
MAJOR: FLIGHT SCIENCE
CLASS OF 2017
HOUSKA SCHOLARSHIP AND THE GSLBAA SCHOLARSHIP