The Future of Education Built a Century Ago

100 YEARS 1919–2019

YOUR FORMULA FOR SUCCESS. YOUR FORMULA FOR LIFE.

PHILANTHROPY REPORT 2018
Dear Alumni and Friends,

During the last 100 years, we have changed our name. We have created new facilities and new academic programs. And the community around us has changed. What has not changed over the last century, however, is the truly unique way in which we educate and prepare the world’s finest engineers, scientists, business executives, entrepreneurs, and leaders.

Our centennial motto is: The future of education built a century ago. We were unique when we were founded, and we remain so today. We are also more relevant and representative of the future of STEM education than we have ever been. Indeed, since our founding many other universities have embraced elements of our educational model, but none have come close to duplicating the comprehensive approach to education that we have been perfecting since day one. As we begin the commemoration of our centennial year, I hope you will join us in reflecting on this wonderful legacy as well as the vital role that Kettering University continues to play in preparing students to meet and solve the grand challenges the world faces today.

The multitude of personal and professional successes of our alumni are proof of the tremendous impact that a Kettering education has on the lives of our graduates. However, to continue to provide this education and to build on this legacy of impact and excellence, we must constantly invest in our students and our faculty, and in modernizing our facilities and our curriculum.

It is only through the generosity of alumni and donors like you that we are able to do so. As you will read in this publication, the support of our alumni, industry partners, and donors has had a profound impact on our students and our campus – an impact we would be delighted for you to see in person by visiting campus, by participating in our many centennial events (which you may find listed on the back of this publication), and by interacting with our students, faculty, and staff.

As I write this, we are nearing completion of Harris Mobility Research Annex, a state-of-the-art facility that includes lab and meeting spaces, garages, and an observation deck to view the test pad and road course at Kettering University’s GM Mobility Research Center – one of only a handful of autonomous vehicle engineering proving grounds on a college campus in the country.

Thanks to support from generous alumni and donors, a student was able to complete a thesis project by building a sustainable greenhouse on a Native American reservation in South Dakota. We have been able to provide new scholarship opportunities to help make our education as affordable and accessible as possible to students of all backgrounds. Students on our SAE AutoDrive autonomous vehicle competition team – one of only a handful of autonomous vehicle engineering proving grounds on a college campus in the country.

As we celebrate our centennial over this next year, I invite you to come back to campus, to participate in our celebration, and to see firsthand the impact your support has on this incredible University.

Thank you for your support, thank you for the example you set for our students, and thank you for moving us boldly forward into our bright future.

Warmest regards,

Dr. Robert K. McMahan, President
Diana Tremblay ’82 and Daniel Tremblay ’81 know when students graduate from Kettering University, they are ready to contribute and lead. The Tremblays have pledged a gift to the Kettering University Learning Commons and a bequest to the University.

Diana Tremblay, chair of the Kettering University Board of Trustees since November 2016, and Daniel, earned Industrial Administration degrees from the University and went on to careers at General Motors.

After graduating from Kettering, Diana earned a master’s degree in business management from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Diana worked for GM for 40 years, starting in manufacturing and engineering positions with GM’s Powertrain division and in roles in the United Kingdom and Belgium. From 1996 to 2000, she served as Director of Labor Relations for the corporate labor relations staff in Detroit. She became the Vice President of Manufacturing & Labor Relations at GM and General Motors North America in 2009, and took the role of GM Vice President of Global Business Services Group for four years until September 2017. She now is the Chief Executive Officer at Riverhawk Consulting. In 2007, Crain’s Detroit Business magazine named Tremblay one of the Most Influential Women in metro Detroit.

Daniel Tremblay is retired from his role as the Manager of Lean Implementation for the GM Global Powertrain Engineering Division.

He served in various roles at GM throughout his career, including as purchasing supervisor, labor relations director for GM Powertrain and Global Manufacturing System Manager for GM North America.

While Kettering has added the C.S. Mott Engineering and Science Center and Connie and Jim John Recreation Center since the Tremblays attended, the basic student gathering areas haven’t changed much. Diana said it’s important to them that Kettering has a building where students can interact, study and collaborate. Kettering’s intense academic program makes it critical for students to have such a work environment, she said.

Diana is impressed with Kettering’s commitment to being a key part of the Flint community through projects such as the Atwood Stadium renovation and building the Kettering University GM Mobility Research Center that help the rebirth of the area.

“When you come down the hill, the University has proper signs. It looks like an awesome place. The transformation of the school and surrounding area makes the whole college experience different,” she said. “The Learning Commons is going to be a capstone of a lot of that activity. The Learning Commons is focused on the students and investing in the student experience.”

Diana’s father, who attended what was then General Motors Institute, first brought her to campus for a tour while she was deciding what college to attend. Although the campus was small, the friendliness of the school impressed her, she said, and she liked having a lot of like-minded people around her.

“I think with the development of the campus and all the other changes, it’s moving to be a world-class facility,” she said.

Kettering has had a huge, positive impact on the lives of the Tremblays—it’s where they met. Both of them praise the educations they received at Kettering. The University teaches students how to handle the workload, and the curriculum allows students to become a flexible thinker, Daniel said.

“The quality of the education is outstanding. The work experience sets Kettering students apart from everyone else,” Diana said. “It really set us up for success at life. If we would do it all over again, we would go to Kettering. It’s worth every penny. We have earned it back many, many times.”

“The Learning Commons is going to be a capstone of a lot of that activity. The Learning Commons is focused on the students and investing in the student experience.” Diana Tremblay ’82
Lear has a strong commitment to giving back to the community, and in demonstrating this effort, the company has made a $2.5 million donation to Kettering University.

This donation will name the iconic entrance to the future Learning Commons “Lear Corporation Gateway.” The Lear Corporation Gateway will welcome Kettering students, faculty, staff, and guests into the state-of-the-art academic facility—filled with flexible learning spaces, laboratories, a digital library, and new dining spaces.

“I have been honored to serve on the Kettering Board of Trustees since 2012,” said CEO and President of Lear Corporation Ray Scott. “During this time, I have always been impressed by the drive for innovation and education on the part of the students, faculty, and administration. All of us who have joined together, to continue supporting Kettering and Flint, form a special bond by giving back to the community. I am very optimistic about the future of the city of Flint, Kettering, the community at large, and Lear’s role in it.”

The Lear Corporation Gateway will welcome Kettering students, faculty, staff, and guests into the state-of-the-art academic facility—filled with flexible learning spaces, laboratories, a digital library, and new dining spaces.

“The Gateway and Commons will encourage the combined energy of Kettering students to exchange ideas and have an innovation mindset,” she said.

Lear has maintained a close partnership with Kettering since 1984 and has a long history of philanthropic support of the university. The Southfield-based corporation has more than 32 Kettering alumni in key roles, including the vice president of global non-production purchasing, vice president of global sales, and program manager of metals and mechanisms.

“Being successful at being innovative with the highest possible manufacturing quality is what helps provide job opportunities, and it’s what Lear is all about,” Sarti said. “We are excited and focused on the convergence of advanced technologies transforming the automotive industry, and we anticipate Kettering graduates and Flint will be part of our story.”

One of Lear’s core values is supporting communities where the company does business. Scott was born in Flint, and he has made the act of giving back an important part of his career.

The commitment to innovation provides the vision for both Kettering and Lear. Sarti noted Kettering’s
planned upgrades throughout the campus and facilities demonstrate a commitment to take things to the next level. Similarly, in summer 2018, Lear opened its new Flint seating plant on the previous site of the historic Buick City complex, making Lear the first major automotive supplier manufacturing facility built in Flint in more than three decades. The facility is expected to employ 600 people by 2019.

“To me, the most exciting part of Flint’s revival is the opening of what I call the iconic Lear Flint Seating plant,” said Stacy Binelli ’11, Seating Product Engineer at Lear. “It is already becoming very instrumental in making the Flint environment conducive to learning for current and future Kettering students.”

As part of its commitment to give back, Lear works with many charities, including the United Way of Genesee County and Catholic Charities Center for Hope. The company recently completed the refurbishment of Flint’s Dort Park with new landscaping, a picnic area, horseshoes, a modern and safe playscape, basketball courts, and asphalt walking paths that allow families in the area to enjoy the local community.

Lear’s leaders also are excited about Kettering’s Lives Improve Through Engineering (LITE) program, Sarti said. LITE is a summer camp for 11th-grade girls to learn about what engineers do and how they use math, science, and technology to improve lives.

Sales and Program Manager Sheri Darrah ’00 said the program is an excellent way to engage STEM interest. A partnership between GM, the local UAW, and Genesee Area Skills Center changed her future and led her to Kettering.

“Programs like this, in addition to Kettering’s LITE, truly make a difference in helping to spark interest and draw young women into STEM careers,” Darrah said.

For Greg Deveson ’84, life wouldn’t be the same without Kettering University. That’s why he and his family have chosen to give back to create a space for students to learn in innovative ways.

The family donated a naming gift to name the Knowledge Market in the Learning Commons, a planned building on Kettering’s campus that will have flexible and collaborative spaces, a modern electronic library, new food service venues, academic space and more. The Learning Commons will be constructed adjacent to the Connie and Jim John Recreation Center, creating a main quad on campus. The Learning Commons and Knowledge Market will provide technology-enabled spaces for students to study, learn, create, and innovate.

“It’s the old adage of learning by doing,” he said. “If you have a venue under which you can do that, it’s going to be a huge enabler for success once they graduate and step into whatever their line of work is.”

Deveson started his career as a co-op student at the General Motors Fisher Body Division in Hamilton, Ohio. He was hired as a production supervisor after graduating from Kettering University in 1984. He worked at GM’s stamping plant in Indiana, Saginaw, Michigan and Ontario, Canada. In 2000, he became plant manager of the Oshawa facility in Ontario. Two years later, he was appointed Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of SAAB Automobile AG in Europe. He became Vice President of Manufacturing for the Fiat-GM Powertrain Joint Venture in 2005, and later became CEO of the project before he took the role of President for Magna Powertrain Americas. In 2008, he was promoted to Senior Vice President of Magna Powertrain and was in this role until April 2016.

In April 2017, Deveson was named President of Powertrain for American Axle & Manufacturing.

During Deveson’s career and seven years on the Kettering University Board of Trustees, he became a more fervent believer in experiential learning and co-op education. When he saw the plan for the Learning Commons, he said, it makes a lot of sense for the University to improve its curb appeal, improve campus life, and create a dynamic, collaborative space that mirrors new spaces being used in industry. Deveson and his family had a discussion about the plan and chose to make a contribution to help execute the vision.
When Deveson was at Kettering in the early 1980s, the library was the only place for students to gather. Conversations, however, weren’t encouraged.

“It was difficult to find a place on campus where you could sit together, exchange ideas and dream,” he said.

The Learning Commons and Knowledge Market will be motivating environments for learning, ideation and innovative thinking, he said. The Knowledge Market will have academically-focused resources such as a walk-up area for academic support partners. It will be a place for students to interact with faculty and their peers. Deveson believes the Knowledge Market and Learning Commons will help students in their careers.

“In industry, what we are looking for in new hires and performers inside the company are individuals who understand the value of teamwork, who understand the value of collaboration, respecting others’ ideas and being open to listen and learn from others,” he said.

The space is a natural way to promote learning to leverage diversity of thought and background, he said, and it will give students a chance to experience that dynamic.

“I can’t think of a line of work where those skill sets are not valued and necessary for today’s workforce,” he said.

The Learning Commons also will increase appeal to the surrounding community, he said.

Kettering was two buildings when he attended, a pragmatic but not inspiring campus.

“This is a campus that now feels more like a university campus,” Deveson said. “I absolutely credit Dr. McMahan with moving in the right direction. It’s imperative for the school to continue to move itself down this path.”

A FAMILY HISTORY
Part of Deveson’s motivation for giving is connected to his family’s history. The donation to the Knowledge Market is in the family name in recognition of the collective impact the University has had on his family. His father, Ivan Deveson ’59, came from his native Australia to attend Kettering, known then as General Motors Institute, where he met his wife-to-be, Maryellen Perez. Perez was working in GMI’s English department. Greg Deveson enrolled in Kettering in 1979, where he met his future wife Rosalie, a University of Michigan-Flint student who was studying in the Kettering library. They married a few years later and had two daughters.

“I wouldn’t be around if it wasn’t for the school. Our kids wouldn’t be around if it wasn’t for the school. That connection motivates us,” he said.

“In industry, what we are looking for in new hires and performers inside the company are individuals who understand the value of teamwork, who understand the value of collaboration, respecting others’ ideas and being open to listen and learn from others”  

Greg Deveson ’84
Dr. Edward Harris believes Kettering University is the future of Flint.

In accordance with that belief, he recently donated $1 million for the Harris Mobility Research Annex. Construction was completed in the fall at Kettering University’s GM Mobility Research Center.

“I’ve just been extremely impressed with what’s gone on with the expansion of programs at Kettering,” Harris said. “The scholastic side has always been on the cutting edge, but I think it’s more so now than it has ever been, which I think is very critical.”

A member of the Board of Trustees from 1983 to 1992, Harris is a Flint native and former General Motors engineer and sales representative. In 1995, Kettering bestowed Harris with an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters.

“We are grateful for the support from Dr. Harris and his family,” said Dr. Robert K. McMahan, Kettering University President. “Harris Mobility Research Annex will allow innovative students, faculty researchers, and industry partners amazing opportunities to develop the next generation of mobility and transportation resources right here on our campus in Flint.”

The Harris family has a long history in Flint. Harris’s father graduated from high school in 1907, and worked for Buick after serving in World War I. Harris left the area at age 35, but retained ties to Flint through his family.

Harris graduated from Flint Central High School and the University of Michigan. He served in the U.S. Navy as an ensign from 1943 to 1946. Immediately after earning his degree in 1945, he worked as an engineer at GM-Buick Motor Company. In 1953, he took a new position as a sales representative for GM accounts at Bohn Aluminum & Brass in Detroit. He worked for two years as plant manager at Bohn Aluminum and Brass in South Haven before becoming the company’s Vice President of Sales.

In 1968, he moved to the Bohn Heat Transfer Division in Danville, Illinois, and served as the Vice President and General Manager for two years before

Kettering University’s annual faculty and staff giving campaign, the FUNd Drive, had a record-setting year. See the key stats:

- **4 WEEKS**
- **2 CHAIRPERSONS**
- **28 TEAM CAPTAINS**
- **350 of 413 FACULTY AND STAFF**
- **$100,015 GIVEN/PLEDGED (LARGEST AMOUNT EVER)**
- **13 DEPARTMENTS ACHIEVED 100% PARTICIPATION**

COUNTLESS PROGRAMS AND STUDENTS IMPACTED
being promoted to President of Bohn Group, Gulf and Western Company. He was the President and CEO of Gulf and Western Company from 1978 until he retired in 1991.

Harris joined the Kettering Board of Trustees shortly after General Motors Institute separated from GM in 1982 and served for nine years. That’s when Harris started giving back to the institution and its students. In 1983, the Harrises created the Harris Family Endowed Scholarship. His brother and sister also contributed to the fund.

“’We all had a good background in Flint and just wanted to support the school,’ he said.

He donated $663,360 in 2000 to create the Harris Playing Fields behind “the beach” on campus to help develop student life opportunities.

In 2017, the Harrises donated additional funds to the family scholarship. Eleven Kettering students received scholarships from the fund in 2017-2018.

His wife, Jean Harris, was a driving force behind the couple’s additional donations to the scholarship fund, Ed Harris said. A retired elementary school principal, Jean Harris was impressed when they visited Kettering in 2016 and met recipients of the Harris Family Scholarship at the Donors and Scholars Luncheon.

“This scholarship is going to make a significant difference in my life over the course of an entire year,” said Harschal Patel ’18, a Harris Family Scholarship recipient. “I can’t thank you enough for providing me with this opportunity.”

In addition to the academics at Kettering, Ed Harris also loves to see the work the University has done to improve Flint, something that’s incredibly personal to him. He recalls football games in Atwood Stadium and thriving neighborhoods near the University with the well-paying jobs that GM and Buick brought to the city.

Now, Kettering and the other higher education institutions in Flint are critical to the future of the city, he said. Harris believes supporting students and faculty at Kettering has a major impact on many of his passions.

“If you’re going to do something, the more impact it has, the better it is,” Harris said. “(Kettering) is a perfect world for my wife and I to give support.”
Alumna’s Gift Will Allow Students Chance to Explore Creative Passions

Jane Boon ’90 wants to bring more art to Kettering University.

It’s why she’s donated to create the Jane Boon ’90 and Norman Pearlstine Music Studio and Practice Rooms in Kettering’s Campus Center—a fabulous way to serve students while acknowledging that Kettering students have a breadth of passions that merit pursuit, she said.

“I think engineering and STEM education can be really immersive and at times, overwhelming,” she said. “Having a place for the arts in life is a wonderful outlet. It informs the technical work in ways we’re only beginning to understand. There’s so much overlap between math competency and musicianship.”

Boon is the Kettering Board of Trustees Secretary and a consultant for Prosper, a San Francisco-based marketplace lending platform. She studied Industrial Engineering at Kettering and earned her master’s degree in technology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She earned her Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering from Northeastern University.

Design is part of engineering, she said, using Apple as an example. The product is designed to be beautiful as well as functional, and the human-tool interface is something students study in industrial engineering. Bringing an element of style isn’t that alien to the discipline, she said.

With a trend in changing STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) to STEAM (adding art), Kettering can become more attractive to students who are looking for a science and math-focused school that doesn’t forget about music and art. Not only do the arts aid in education and engineering, they provide an increased quality of life for students.

“We have so much evidence that shows that STEM students who actively engage in the arts lead happier and more productive lives,” said Laura Vosejpka, Dean of the College of Sciences and Liberal Arts. “I am thrilled that our Board member Jane Boon is helping the University offer opportunities to engage in music in a hands on way.”

Why music? Boon played piano and clarinet in her youth, but left the clarinet behind when she came to Kettering. A music room is a straightforward addition to help students sustain that outlet and provide a place to play without worry.

“It's fun! It's satisfying, creative, fun, noisy. When you do it right, it's joyful. Don't we all need some of that?” she said. “It's for yourself or for your friends. The risk of failure is low—if you make a dissonant note, who cares?”

Boon has a history of giving back to Kettering in many ways. She’s lead donor to the LITE pre-college program for girls and often donates to crowdfunding campaigns. Boon likes the specificity and grittiness of crowdfunding. One such project has been raising money for the SAE Clean Snowmobile Challenge. A young alumni who previously participated in the challenge could donate to remain connected to campus, she said.

“Usually, they offer follow up information so you can find out how teams do. It's a great way to stay connected and engaged,” Boon said. “There’s often a project that speaks to different interests.”

She encourages her fellow alumni to visit campus. In many ways, she said, it remains a school they know. It has changed in significant ways, however. There are now more than a dozen majors rather than the five when she was at Kettering. The education is dynamic and exciting, and it has been expanded to include pre-med and biomedical-engineering.

“There’s a lot of physical infrastructure that’s eye opening and astounding,” she said. “The GM Mobility Research Center is amazing. Having a test track is extraordinary for a campus.”

Boon also is impressed with Kettering’s commitment to community vitality. The University is a part of Flint, she said, and she believes it’s honorable the degree to which the Kettering community is involved with the development of the city.

“I think engineering and STEM education can be really immersive and at times, overwhelming. Having a place for the arts in life is a wonderful outlet. It informs the technical work in ways we’re only beginning to understand. There’s so much overlap between math competency and musicianship.”

Jane Boon ’90
Couple’s Gift Inspired by Knowledge of Talented Graduates Produced at Kettering

David Hoyte ’71 and Dr. Regina Greenwood, a former faculty member at Kettering University, know Kettering students are remarkable.

That knowledge inspired the husband and wife to give a naming gift to the Kettering University Learning Commons and to include the University in their estate plans.

“The quality of students at Kettering is exceptional and it gets better every year,” Hoyte said. “Kettering really makes a difference in people’s lives and in American industry.”

Both Hoyte and Greenwood know the University well. Hoyte studied Industrial Engineering at Kettering and has been a member of the Board of Trustees for two decades. Greenwood taught Management at Kettering. She has been a Management Department Chair and faculty member at Nova Southeastern University since 2007.

“Regina always uses Kettering students as a benchmark for what college students should be: their motivation, enthusiasm, ability, and resulting record of high achievement,” he said.

They know Kettering is a place of collaboration, and that’s why they are giving to the Learning Commons. The state-of-the-art facility will be constructed adjacent to the Connie and Jim John Recreation Center to create a main quad on campus. The building will provide technology-enabled spaces for students to study, learn, create, and innovate.

“The Learning Commons will be a modern, bright, attractive facility to promote collaboration, a place where students can solve complex problems, and a focal point for the campus,” Hoyte said. “You can see it becoming really the beehive of activity for students. The modern, open, flexible design further promotes the kind of collaboration for which Kettering is known. Unlike students at other colleges who see classmates as rivals, Kettering students work well with each other. They learn early how to collaborate with a sense of common purpose. It becomes a preparation for the rest of their lives. As a result, they become effective team members and outstanding leaders for their companies.”

Hoyte is the founder, president and managing member of Transformation Management LLC, a Florida-based management consulting firm. He’s an Executive in Residence at the Huizenga College at Nova Southeastern University and a Distinguished Fellow of the Center for Operational Excellence at OSU. He previously worked in private equity as Executive Vice President at CHP Ops and Managing Director at TMB Industries. Hoyte was also President and CEO of JL French Automotive Castings, Inc.; President of Arvin Ride and Motion Control Products; Executive Vice President of Operations for Frigidaire Company; and Vice President of World Wide Manufacturing for Cummins Engine Company.

“Kettering was a solid foundation. I’m sure I owe my success to the Kettering experience,” Hoyte said.

Through the high-intensity curriculum, students learn time and project management, analytical thinking, and a broad understanding of sciences, such as physics and chemistry. The courses are intertwined with projects in the co-op workplace, providing students with not only work experience, but also deeper insight into how complex systems fit together, he said.

Hoyte is excited about the opportunities Kettering provides students.

“What other colleges have a crash lab? An autonomous vehicle test track? Kettering is providing an educational program immersed in emerging technology and has superior facilities to do that,” he said. “President Robert K. McMahan and his staff have done an excellent job of furthering the mission of the school and managing the complexities of meeting today’s challenges in higher education.”

“The quality of students at Kettering is exceptional and it gets better every year. Kettering really makes a difference in people’s lives and in American industry.” David Hoyte ’71
Brose Partners with Kettering University to Prepare Students for the Future

When Brose created its co-op program with Kettering University in 2004, company leadership saw the importance and potential it would bring to their organization and the future of engineering. Fourteen years later, Brose’s partnership with Kettering has grown tremendously.

Three co-op students from the original group are now top talents at Brose and many more Kettering students have come through and stayed with the company, said Kerry Curvey, Vice President of Human Resources at Brose North America, who started the co-op program there.

Most recently Brose has committed to partnering with Kettering University by giving a naming gift for a room in Kettering’s planned Learning Commons on campus. On top of that they are supporting pre-college programming and mobility research on campus over the next five years.

“You have to bring your company to where the talent is. Having these different innovative spaces that they can come to is important. We are really trying to open up that space and mobility,” Curvey said. “We love the uniqueness of Kettering’s co-op program. We have searched the country for similar co-op programs and found limited opportunity to develop what we have with Kettering. Therefore, anything we can do to help support the school we will continue to do so. We have benefited tremendously from the program. For me what sells the Kettering program is that our people are

AutoDrive Challenge™

Kettering University’s SAE AutoDrive team, one of eight student autonomous vehicle competition teams in the world, finished fourth overall and won five awards at the first competition in the spring.

- SRG Global - $150,000 CASH
- Autoliv - $60,000 CASH
- Velodyne LiDAR® - $16,000 EQUIPMENT
- GM - $36,000 CASH
- SAE International® - $30,000 CASH
- CHEVY BOLT-CAR
always asking for Kettering grads. We have made that investment early and it's paid off.”

It's important to talk about STEM to youth as early as possible, Curvey said, which is why Brose supports pre-college. As a company, they sponsor a FIRST Robotics team and invest in the younger generation.

By the time students come to Kettering, they want to showcase even more what the students are capable of.

“By the time they graduate from school they are already really able to get the ball running quick. We have a 95 percent fill rate to company jobs after completing the Kettering program,” Curvey said. “There’s a bigger picture. We are only as strong as the people we can attract to our industry.”

Chris Nuccio ’09 was in the first group of Kettering students to co-op at Brose in Auburn Hills, Michigan. Now he holds the title of Customer Team Director for Door System Division.

“The co-op experience shaped my career path starting my freshman year at Kettering. Brose rotated me through different areas of the company. Not only did I gain an understanding of various aspects of the business, I found my calling in sales and project management, something I didn’t know I was interested in until I did it,” Nuccio said. “Now I am fortunate to lead a team of engineers, project managers and salespeople.”

Curvey said Brose’s core development focus is “The house that builds us.” They look at every one of their employee groups and make sure they are doing all the right things to prepare their employees for the future. The key strategic question is how do they ensure company growth goes hand in hand with employee growth.

Throughout the five-year program, Kettering students, go through every phase of the engineering process and have the chance to work in Germany and also visit a manufacturing facility.

Brose’s partnership with Kettering started in 2004 as a recruiting strategy and a co-op program. Now the collaboration between the two helps shape the future of engineering. And soon that will include a new innovative and collaborative space in the future Learning Commons.

**Bosch Establishes $500,000 for Student Fellowships**

The Bosch Fellowship was established in the fall of 2017 with a $500,000 endowment from the Bosch Community Fund to support annual fellowships for academically-talented Kettering University students. Eligible majors for the fellowship include mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, computer engineering, and computer science.

“We are excited to announce this partnership with Kettering University,” said Mike Mansuetti, president of Robert Bosch LLC and a member of the Kettering University Board of Trustees. “With an aim of diversifying the workforce and inspiring the next generation of engineers and scientists, the primary goal of the endowment is to support high-achieving but underrepresented people in pursuing STEM programs and careers.”

Robert Bosch LLC is the North American arm of Bosch, a leading global supplier of technology and services. The Bosch Group has four business sectors: Mobility Solutions, Industrial Technology, Consumer Goods, and Energy and Building Technology. The company is a longtime corporate partner of Kettering University.

“We are grateful to Robert Bosch LLC for establishing The Bosch Fellowship at Kettering University,” said Dr. Robert K. McMahan, Kettering University President. “Kettering prepares students to be leaders and innovators in the global workforce like no other institution in the country, and support from generous partners like Bosch provides our students with the critical resources they need to continue their studies while making it possible for us to deliver to them the world-class STEM and business education for which we are known.”

“We are excited to announce this partnership with Kettering University. With an aim of diversifying the workforce and inspiring the next generation of engineers and scientists, the primary goal of the endowment is to support high-achieving but underrepresented people in pursuing STEM programs and careers.” Mike Mansuetti
Charlie Baker ’82 recognizes his successful career and life path would not be what it is without Kettering University.

Starting in 2015, Baker has funded five endowed scholarships in honor of those who gave him a chance when he needed it most. A sixth endowed scholarship is in the planning stages.

“If I look back through my career, Kettering is a pivotal experience. I have worked hard but have also been lucky throughout my career. The ability to get into Kettering which required someone to be charitable and good to me at one critical point changed everything,” Baker said. “I was able to put together a career path that I wouldn’t have been able to do if Kettering had not existed.”

Kettering (then General Motors Institute) was where Baker wanted to be, but it wasn’t that easy. After high school he worked as a mechanic for four years. Three years into his job as a mechanic, he knew he wanted more. He applied to Kettering and was denied. He wrote another letter and was again denied.

He then tried something radical. He left work on a Tuesday night and drove through the night from Minnesota to Flint to meet with former Associate Dean of Academic Affairs William Fugenschuh. He had no appointment, but Fugenschuh was gracious enough to meet with him and after some creative dialogue give him a chance.

He was admitted to Kettering to begin studying Mechanical Engineering and Electrical Engineering. The first endowed scholarship honored Fugenschuh.

Baker started at Pontiac Motor Division during his co-op at Kettering. Baker subsequently worked both at Pontiac and Saturn Corporation as an engine test and design engineer. He left General Motors and worked at Honda R&D Americas for 15 years, eventually as Chief Engineer for five Honda vehicle programs in Japan and the U.S., as well as Vice President of Honda R&D Americas in Ohio.

He left Honda and was Group Vice President for Engineering for Johnson Controls Automotive Experience, then Vice President for Engineering at Harley-Davidson. Baker rejoined GM in 2010 as the Executive Director and Global Functional Leader for Interior and Safety Engineering, and in 2014 he became Executive Director for Product Marketing for the GEM project.

After retiring a couple of times, Baker has now started a joint venture with a partner and Lumiant Corporation to commercialize Xaedra, a revolutionary Artificial Intelligence platform that is the world’s first material property prediction engine, he said.

“As I thought back about my life, I asked myself how do I make a positive difference? Once I was able to think about that for a while it was very clear that Kettering was a great place to do some good,” he said. “Kettering is the school for people similar to myself who don’t have an enormous amount of money but were willing work hard to have a great engineering career. Giving back to people who are just like me and who need a chance was just a great idea. My wife is also a Kettering grad with a similar story, so she was part of this thought from the beginning.”

In February 2016, he created the James E. Lyons Endowment. Later in 2016, Baker created another endowed scholarship in honor of Tom Davis, who was a key executive and mentor at one of his first work assignments at Pontiac.

“I am incredibly humbled by your generosity toward my education. It will inspire me to strive harder than before. I will never be able to thank you enough for your kindness but I will promise to make you proud.”

Maegan Taylor ’23, Chemical Engineering, Suzanne and Raymond Baber, Jr. Scholarship
In 2017, Baker created the Leo Hilke Endowment and the James Bay Endowment. Hilke was another mentor, friend and supervisor at Pontiac and Saturn and was responsible for all emissions development at Pontiac in the time Baker was a student. James Bay was the Department Head of the Automotive Engineering Department. His mentorship and support of a Turbo 301 IndyCar engine project when he was in school was critical in Baker’s early career, and ultimately allowed him to be sponsored by Product Engineering at Pontiac Motor Division.

“James Lyons was a great mentor and supporter. Tom Davis looked at the proposal for the 301 Turbo IndyCar engine development and took a chance on a kid who was pretty rough around the edges. Leo Hilke was a mentor all through my life, believed in me and gave me some great opportunities. Jim Bay was absolutely a great friend and mentor throughout my time at Kettering. I can’t say enough good about them,” he said.

Baker is currently discussing a gift to endow his 6th scholarship in honor of Harry McKinley, who encouraged him to become involved in student government, where he eventually served as president of the Firebirds club, as well as the sophomore representative of the Policy Council.

“The idea of doing it in honor of the people who had helped me in my career just seemed like a great way to recognize people that it’s impossible to pay back. How do you pay back the people who gave you the chance to completely alter your life’s trajectory? How do you repay that?” Baker asked. “I encourage Kettering alumni to look in their hearts and ask ‘Would I be leading the life I am now without the Kettering experience?’ Take time to reflect on where you are now and how much of this was due to Kettering and the people who helped you. The school needs us now. This is a karma thing.”

Dr. Laura Vosejpka, Dean of the Kettering University College of Sciences and Liberal Arts (CSLA), and her husband, Dr. Paul Vosejpka, a Senior R&D Director at The Dow Chemical Company, have created a new endowed scholarship for students studying sciences at the University.

The Vosejpkas made a gift that was matched by the Dow Chemical Company Foundation Matching Gift Program to create the CSLA Student Scholarship Endowment Fund. The scholarship is aimed at growing the science disciplines at Kettering University.

The CSLA Endowed Student Scholarship is for upperclassmen majoring in Applied Biology, Chemistry, Biochemistry, Chemical Engineering; Computer Science; Mathematics or Physics. Preference will be given to students participating in faculty-sponsored research. This is the first scholarship that is designated specifically for CSLA students. Vosejpka hopes others will follow in her footsteps and provide more scholarships for students in the sciences.

“My husband and I are both first generation college students. We never would have known about opportunities for graduate study in chemistry had it not been for faculty who invited us to do research as undergraduates,” she said. “We want to make sure we continue that legacy by supporting student research at Kettering.”

Eugene H. Kratt ’57 and Sandra Kratt have continued to believe Kettering University students are worthy investments.

Although Gene Kratt came from a Ford family, he attended Kettering University, then General Motors Institute, and studied engineering. He then had a 30-year career working at GM plants in Michigan and Indiana. Kratt took an early retirement in 1983 and started his own real estate brokerage firm, Kratt and Associates. He retired in 2006.

In 2012, Gene and Sandra Kratt decided to give back to Kettering with a $400,000 donation to create the Sandra W. & Eugene H. Kratt Endowed Scholarship.

“I’m very pleased with my education. It was a very good background in engineering,” he said. “I just feel like I should give back.”

Sandra Kratt guided the process and wanted the scholarships to be for female engineering students from Michigan in their junior and senior years to ensure women have opportunities in the field. The Kratts made a $40,672 investment into the endowment in November 2017, and have included Kettering in their will. The scholarship will be given in the 2018-2019 school year.

“It was a great challenge for me. I just kept cranking,” he said of his studies at Kettering. “It was very, very interesting and fulfilling. I had good feelings, and I still talk about it.”
Alumni From Jamaica Create Scholarship for AIM Students

High school students from Jamaica are getting the opportunity to come to Kettering University’s award-winning Academically Interested Minds (AIM) pre-college camp thanks to the efforts of alumni.

A group of alumni established the Jamaica AIM Alumni Scholarship (JAAS) in 2013 to provide funds for Jamaican students from low-income families to attend the five-week, residential, pre-college summer program at the University. The camp provides students with college-level courses in business management, calculus, chemistry, computer programming, economics and physics, with labs included in multiple courses. AIM students have the opportunity to earn Kettering scholarships.

The JAAS fund started when Kettering alumni who had benefited from corporate sponsorships to attend the AIM camp wanted to give current high school students the same opportunity. The alumni donated money to pay the $500 fee for students who wanted to attend, said Jheanell Johnson ’11, who does public relations for JAAS.

“We decided we wanted to keep the pipeline open,” she said. “All members decided to start this award a year or two after graduating from Kettering, and this is proof that we can start giving back right away as Kettering alumni.”

The group has sent six students to the camp since 2013. All students were offered scholarships to attend Kettering, and some are studying at the University.

JAAS also offers mentoring, assisting students with college applications, and connecting with students interested in STEM fields.

In March 2017, JAAS hosted its first banquet and raised $12,000 to sponsor three students. Faurecia, Cooper Standard and Chrysler Automotive were among the donors at the event. One of the students who attended AIM in 2017 earned a full-ride scholarship to Kettering.

At the 2018 banquet, JAAS raised $7,321. Moving forward, JAAS hopes to sponsor two students per year to maximize their potential to get scholarships to Kettering. They also are expanding mentorship and support for younger students, from meals for students who need them to exposing students to STEM.

“This fundraising opportunity will not only sponsor students for AIM 2018, we also intend to broaden our scope to community development,” Johnson said.

Helping Students Succeed is a Passion for Graduate

Mike Riggs ’76 knows he wouldn’t be where he is today without his Kettering University education. The opportunities that were made available to him through Kettering are the source of his motivation to continuously give back to new generations of Kettering students.

Beginning in 2014, Riggs, CEO and President of Jack Cooper Holdings Corp., and his company have made multiple contributions to the University, with special focuses on supporting student scholarships and the School of Management.

“My undergraduate degree certainly would not have been possible without Kettering University.

“It was GMI back then but the ideals were the same. The idea that you could work six months out of the year and pay for your college was the only reason I was able to go to school,” Riggs said. “Kettering has changed my life

“This scholarship aids in my educational development which I am very thankful for. With the knowledge and skills I obtain from Kettering University and my co-op, I can plan a life of service to others.”

Savanna Sojourn ’22, Mechanical Engineering, Rodney and Rosemary Briggs Scholarship
in many positive ways, and not only my life but my children’s and hopefully my six grandchildren’s lives as well.”

The Riggs Scholarships are awarded to five incoming freshmen who each receive a $5,000 award annually for a total of four years. Riggs has also surprised students when he’s visited campus for speaking engagements, providing each student in attendance for his talks with $1,000 scholarships.

“My goal is to try and make sure as many students trying to go to college have the necessary funding to make it through,” Riggs said. “It’s a challenge these days. I consider it a gift to help as many students as I can.”

Beenish Ali ’19 received a Riggs Scholarship in 2015 and was thankful for the impact it made in her education.

“I am very humbled by Mike Riggs’ generosity. Many big goals and dreams are connected to education. This scholarship truly puts in perspective the significance of my own education,” said Ali, who is studying Business Administration at Kettering. “I hope to one day be able to help others pursue their goals and dreams, through education, the same way Mike Riggs is doing for me.”

Riggs graduated from Kettering with an Industrial Administration degree and completed his master’s in Business Administration at Harvard in 1979. Riggs credits his time at Kettering for preparing him for Harvard and he hopes to create similar opportunities for current and future students.

“Kettering was not only an excellent education, it was a way to get experience in the workforce. Many students in Harvard’s MBA program were asked to have 5-to-10 years of work experience before coming and were usually 28-to-32 years old. I was able to come at age 23 or 24,” Riggs said. “I got admitted at a young age and I felt like I had as much work experience as the 28-to-32-year-olds. Both the theoretical and practical experience helps you excel. We were well prepared to compete and that is all because of Kettering.”

Jack Cooper, a family-owned business, focuses on five values to guide the company – integrity, trust, excellence, responsibility and longevity. Riggs admitted that he has experienced failure a few times before owning Jack Cooper, but those experiences only further pushed him toward attaining his future goals.

Kettering taught him to persevere and work hard. And because of that he’s happy to be able to give back and help other students succeed.

“We are proud whenever we can help somebody. Until the day I die I will want to contribute to Kettering because it’s the best thing about America,” Riggs said.
“I was fortunate when I attended Kettering University (then General Motors Institute), because GM essentially provided its students with a full-ride co-op scholarship. I didn’t come from a family with much money, so most colleges would’ve been out of my reach,” he said. “That scholarship meant the world to me, so now that I’ve accumulated a couple of bucks in life, I want to give something back.”

Pos came to Kettering University in 1964 to study mechanical engineering and earned a minor in electrical engineering. During his time at the University, he was a member of the Robot Society and Alpha Tau Iota and Tau Beta Pi honorary engineering societies, as well as the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. He also was awarded the Sobey Scholar, which remains Kettering’s highest distinction, awarded to Robots who are members of one of Kettering’s academic honor societies.

Pos said he joined Sigma Alpha Epsilon as a way to live near the school, as there was no residence hall, and find life-long friends coupled with a great social life in Flint. The fraternity was exceptionally active in campus activities, and as a result, he became heavily involved with Kettering and serving as chairman of the Social Council and president of the Ski Club, among other leadership opportunities.

“Instead of rewarding students for their high school performance before they start their university career, Pos is honoring proven student leaders at Kettering who have demonstrated personal integrity, positive ethical behavior and are recognized by their peers as worthy of this awesome scholarship,” said Robot Society faculty adviser Bob Nichols. “Hopefully this scholarship will encourage more students at Kettering to want to become members of the Robot Society, while demonstrating its true ideals.”

At Kettering, Pos recalls not only the academics and extracurriculars, but the fun he had with fellow students working on the Social Council and, in particular, leading the Ski Club. GM provided snow skiing equipment for the winter and a boat with water skiing equipment for the summer at Silver Lake in Fenton, Michigan. GM, which students affectionately called “Generous Mother,” paid all of the expenses except for gas.

“This wonderful school/work experience certainly prepared me for getting my master’s degree at MIT. Quite honestly, MIT academically was easier than Kettering,” he said. “With Kettering’s new labs and facilities, I would really love to be going there now.”

After Pos finished his academics at Kettering, his co-op, the former aerospace research group at the Allison Engineering Company, which is now part of Rolls Royce Aerospace, provided him with a full-ride scholarship to attend the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Pos then returned to Allison working in research and development and received patents in the U.S. and Canada. Several years later, he moved to Hawaii and founded Unitek Environmental Services, an affiliate of Hawaii-based Pacific Marine. As Unitek’s president, he established five environmentally-related companies with facilities and operations on the major Hawaiian Islands and Guam, with clients and projects located throughout the Pacific Basin. He sold his interest in the company and retired in 1993 at the age of 47.

Sam Hoff ’90 believes the future of Kettering University means promising things for students and the community and he wants to be a part of it.

“So many times kids go to engineering school and they graduate and they don’t really know the practical applications of their engineering degree. Some schools certainly do internships and similar co-op programs, but the majority of the co-op experience at Kettering you are really embedded in the industry more, because many times you go back to the same place each term.

“You really find out what it’s like to be an engineer,” Hoff said.

Hoff, CEO of Patti Engineering based out of Auburn Hills, Michigan, supports Kettering and its future in multiple ways, but it wasn’t always like that. After he graduated, he focused on building his career, but 20 years later he got an opportunity to help his fraternity in a meaningful way.
and that started him on a path he wished he would have started earlier.

“I was like most graduates for the first 20 years. I didn’t give Kettering a second thought. But then I started interacting with administration at Kettering and I met some really great people. I really started reflecting back on what a great and totally unique education I was able to get from Kettering. I thought it was important that future generations get that education also.”

Hoff comes back to campus often to speak with students and share his experiences. He is also part of the Post 1982 Campaign Committee, encouraging other alumni to get involved on campus, supporting students and the University’s future.

Sam Hoff and his wife, Patti, also created the Clayton R. Smith Memorial Scholarship in 2013 in memory of a Kettering engineering student who co-oped with Patti Engineering and passed away. The scholarship is awarded annually to an Electrical Engineering student with a GPA of 3.0 or higher. So far four Electrical Engineering students have benefited from the scholarship.

Most recently Hoff and Patti Engineering made a naming gift in support Kettering’s Learning Commons.

“I think it’s really great because I like the fact that there’s so much collaboration that goes on between students these days. The Learning Commons will foster more of that with its design concept. I think it’s an important, more modern building for them,” Hoff said. “You’re bringing 21st century learning to campus through the Learning Commons. I’m pretty excited.”

Hoff encourages other alumni to take time to reflect on the education they received from Kettering and to consider how they can make a difference.

“I encourage alumni to get back to campus as they will be blown away with the improvements.” Hoff said. “The Chevy in the Hole area is the biggest difference now that the Kettering University GM Mobility Research Center is almost complete.”

Making a Kettering Education Accessible to More Students

Walt Rosebrough ’77 believes in the Kettering University model and is pleased to support more students in their education.

Rosebrough, president and CEO of STERIS Corporation, has been giving back to the University for many years and most recently decided to establish the endowed Rosebrough Family Scholarship. The scholarship would support one or more African American engineering students, preferably from Northeast Ohio, interested in having their co-op at STERIS.

“Kettering University’s program is beneficial because of the work and study balance. That’s good for the education and good for students to get through school without having a mountain of debt,” said Rosebrough, who studied Industrial Engineering at Kettering. “It’s the kind of program I think we should have more of. We are pleased to help Kettering by helping students through scholarships.”

“New scholarships are a great asset to Kettering University’s recruitment efforts,” said Teressa Hupfer, Kettering University Director of Admissions. “Not only do scholarships provide access to enhanced financial resources as students plan for college, they also show prospective students and families the tremendous pride that our alumni have in what a Kettering education did for them. That support from our alumni is an invaluable tool.”

Rosebrough has been back to campus on a few occasions, including fall of 2017 to speak to Kettering students about his career and his time at Kettering.

Even though he was an industrial engineering student at Kettering, after completing his MBA at Stanford, he realized general management was his long-term career path. He moved from production to finance, strategy and business development, marketing and ultimately general management. He has spent his career as a company CEO since 1988.

In October 2007, he accepted the position of President and CEO of STERIS Corporation, a provider of infection prevention and procedural products and services, focused primarily on healthcare, pharmaceutical, research and medical device customers.

“What I like about the job is there’s always something different going on. I like the ability to have an impact on our healthcare customers’ lives and their patients’ lives. I like being able to make people’s jobs better, easier and safer,” Rosebrough said. “I like the fact that we are doing things that are worthwhile and that I have the ability to make a positive difference.”

“Kettering University’s program is beneficial because of the work and study balance. That’s good for the education and good for students to get through school without having a mountain of debt.” Walt Rosebrough
Kettering University's College of Engineering formed a Dean's Advisory Council this year to continue preparing students for the future and ever-changing industry.

The Advisory Council, which is comprised of 10 members, first met in May of 2018. All but one are Kettering University alumni.

“It's absolutely essential to be getting feedback from our corporate sponsors. This lets us think at a higher and more holistic level,” said Dr. Craig Hoff, Dean of the College of Engineering at Kettering. “Ultimately the purpose of the council is to move this College of Engineering forward. We want to be relevant. We want to prepare young people today for the future. The world is changing and engineering is at the forefront of that. Everything we are doing is for the students.”

Input from the Advisory Council will enhance on-campus research programs and the curriculum.

For now the council will meet as a whole on a bi-annual basis with subcommittees meeting more frequently. More people will be added to the council in the future, as well.

Hoff said he was thankful and impressed by the board members’ willingness and eagerness to be involved with the council and bring new opportunities to the College of Engineering.

“We basically put in front of them an opportunity to come back and help Kettering and they all were thrilled to give back,” Hoff said. “The people who we asked are all in positions that require them to think strategically about their companies and the future. That’s exactly what we need for the college — people who can think strategically about the future of engineering and apply that to the future of the College of Engineering at Kettering.”

THE KETTERING UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING DEAN’S ADVISORY COUNCIL INCLUDES:

- Mike Brosseau ’90, Former President of Brose North America, Inc.
- Brady Ericson ’94, Executive Vice President & Chief Strategy Officer of BorgWarner Inc.
- Denise Gray ’86, President of LG Chem Michigan Inc. Tech Center
- Elizabeth Griffith ’77, Director of Engineering at Faurecia Interior Systems
- Mary Gustanski ’85, Senior Vice President & Chief Technology Officer at Delphi Technologies, Inc.
- Louis Infante ’73, Principal Consultant at VehNergy Consulting
- Doug Patton, Senior Technical Advisor at DENSO International America, Inc.
- Ron Rath ’91, Chief Executive Officer at TECAT Performance Systems
- Jason Roycht ’96, Vice President & Regional Business Leader, Commercial Vehicle & Off-Road Division at Robert Bosch, LLC
- Carla Sarti ’98, Vice President, Global Business Services at Lear Corporation
Flint Students Build Robots in Ford Summer Camp

Flint high school students spent two weeks learning how to design, build and program robots in Kettering University’s FIRST Robotics Community Center thanks to Ford Motor Company.

This was the second year Ford Motor Company’s Corporate STEAM fund sponsored the Ford Summer Camp, which was available only to students who live in the city of Flint. The FIRST Robotics summer day camp introduced students to various aspects of a STEM curriculum through hands-on exercises and challenges. The first week of the camp focused on electric cars, teaching the campers to program autonomously, and then students built and programmed robots during week two.

“I think it’s a great learning experience,” said Damien Shirah, a student at Way Academy in Flint, Michigan. “I like getting help with my programming issues since I’m a rookie at it. I am able to learn the ropes about everything.”

Damien is part of FIRST Robotics team C3 Waybots, Team 5251, at Way Academy. During the camp, he learned more about the electrical board and how it works, but his favorite part was still building the robot and putting it all together.

The camp, which ran June 18-29, was designed for students interested in robotics and programming and also helped students prepare for the ACT/SAT.

Ford has a history with supporting robotics and Kettering University. Ford Motor Company sponsored back-to-back FIRST Robotics district competitions on Kettering’s campus in 2017 and 2018. In 2014, Ford also presented a $50,000 grant to Kettering University that helped purchase some of the state-of-the-art equipment, tools, and technology in the Kettering FIRST Center’s machine shop.

Earl Dixon, a student at Southwestern Classical Academy in Flint, was happy he attended the Ford Summer Camp this year. He has been thinking about joining a FIRST Robotics team, so enjoyed experiencing what it’s like to build a robot, he said.

“It’s been really enjoyable and fun,” Earl said. “Outside of building the robot, I have learned responsibility and accountability. It’s been exciting.”

“I think it’s a great learning experience. I like getting help with my programming issues since I’m a rookie at it. I am able to learn the ropes about everything.” Damien Shirah, a student at Way Academy in Flint, Michigan
Metal Muscle Takes First Place in China

Kettering University’s Metal Muscle, FIRST Robotics Team 1506, took first place this summer at their first International Invitational Competition in China.

Metal Muscle was in the winning alliance, alongside Team 694 StuyPulse and Team 5522 Stargazer, at the Qianjiang International Robotics Invitational in HangZhou. Metal Muscle was one of nine international teams invited to the invitational.

“The experience was unbelievable. My goal was to have the students and mentors see and understand that all people are basically the same. We may come from different cultures, backgrounds, and governments, but we all love our families, have dreams, are passionate about things, like robotics,” said John Wolfert, executive coordinator for Kettering’s FIRST Robotics Community Center.

On top of their own competition, Metal Muscle mentored a Chinese team during the Robotics Championship China immediately following the international invitational. Metal Muscle worked with Team 9102 HangZhou Infinity Intelligence - H.I.I, which is considered a pre-rookie team, meaning they will compete as a rookie team next year. Team 9102 also was in the winning alliance in their competition.

“Metal Muscle’s phenomenal success is a testament to Kettering University’s FIRST Community Center, an accomplishment of a true visionary, Dr. Robert McMahan, with successful operation by Mr. Bob Nichols,” said Dr. Henry “Doc K” Kowalski, professor emeritus and founding faculty mentor of Metal Muscle. “As the center’s anchor team, Metal Muscle’s diversity, mentor dedication, parental support, continuous improvement, and synergy between center teams contributed to its world-renowned accomplishment.”

In just one week, a crowdfunding campaign championed by Kowalski had 36 donors who donated $15,100 to send the team to China.

There were many memorable moments for Metal Muscle team member Charles Buffington during their trip to China. Among his favorite memories was working with the pre-rookie teams, he said.

“Seeing the team we worked with have nothing but a single mentor and basic FIRST Robotics Documentation should be an inspiration to all FIRST rookie teams that with time and dedication you can succeed. The biggest thing that I learned is that overcoming obstacles that people, family, or government may put in front of you, is key to finding who you are,” said Buffington, a student at Genesee Christian School in Burton, Michigan. “I felt quite ecstatic being in the winning alliance, definitely a moment I will never forget. And seeing team 9102 being picked by the number one seed and winning the China Robotics Competition made the team as a whole beam with pride. I am sure it is a moment they will never forget.”

When the team arrived at the International Competition, there were many similarities to the competitions at Kettering University. They helped put the field together, they met with other teams and learned from each other, and they had fun. It also was very different in the sense that they were in a culture they were unfamiliar with, and they had some language barriers.

Tori Bradburn ’23, a Metal Muscle alumnus and mentor, accompanied the team on the trip. Helping a Chinese pre-rookie team and seeing them be happy to win a competition really impacted her and the team.

“It was really incredible. We got to see so many teams we had never seen before and never would have gotten to if it weren’t for this trip,” said Bradburn, a Mechanical Engineering major at Kettering. “I just want to thank Kettering and everyone else who donated to our trip. Without them none of this would have been possible, and I will never forget it. It was a great experience for all of us to see a whole new culture and do what we love during it.”
Physics Faculty Member Receives NSF Grant

D r. Ronald Kumon, Physics faculty member at Kettering University, along with collaborators from multiple disciplines across campus, has been awarded a National Science Foundation - Major Research Instrumentation (NSF-MRI) grant for $251,274. Kettering University faculty have received 12 NSF-MRI awards since 2012—more than any university in Michigan during that time.

The NSF-MRI grant allows Kettering University to purchase an advanced fluorescence microscopy system, which will allow faculty and students to take high-resolution, three-dimensional imaging of cells on a microscopic scale. These capabilities allow molecules and nanoparticles that have potential for enhancing disease treatments to be tracked relative to various parts of the cell. Among other research, faculty members will conduct interdisciplinary research broadly themed around physical, chemical and biological methods cellular processes with the goal of improving treatment of cancer and other diseases.

“We want to understand how we can use nanoparticles to treat cancer and other diseases,” Kumon said. “Nanoparticles are promising. They are small and can get into cells. We have to understand how the interaction happens, how they are taken into cells, how they could be used to heat up cells. If you want to use them for treatment, you have to know how they work.”

Co-principal investigators include Dr. Lihua Wang, Chemistry and Biochemistry; Dr. Gillian Ryan, Physics; Dr. Corneliu Rablau, Physics; and Uma B. Ramabadran, Physics.

Projects planned for the microscope include:
- Studying the mechanisms of ultrasound-mediated delivery of fluorescent agents to cells in the presence of microbubbles to potentially enable better non-invasive spatiotemporal control of drug delivery.
- Studying the symmetry-breaking mechanisms of eukaryotic cells during movement with fluorescent dyes to contribute to an improved understanding of metastasis.
- Studying the uptake and distribution of fluorescent magnetic nanoparticles in cancerous cells and spheroids with magnetic and ultrasonic methods. The magnetic nanoparticles can potentially be used for noninvasive hyperthermic cancer treatment via induction heating.
- Studying the biotoxicity of fluorescent silver nanoparticles on yeast as a model for treating infectious fungi.
- Testing the fluorescent gold nanoclusters as a means to image beta-amyloid aggregates and study the process of beta-amyloid plaque formation toward a better understanding of Alzheimer’s disease.
- Developing fluorescent quantum dots and characterize their ability to act as nanothermometers in the intracellular environment during hyperthermia.

Student Creates Sustainable Greenhouse on Reservation

K ettering University engineering students are problem solvers and innovative thinkers. Noah Lukins ’19 took that notion one step further for his thesis project.

Lukins and his thesis advisor Dr. Laura Sullivan, designed, developed, and installed a photovoltaic system that would power both a rain harvesting/water pumping system and ventilation system for use in a greenhouse on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. The greenhouse is located at the Singing Horse Trading Post on the reservation, so access to a properly working greenhouse would benefit the community.

“The trading post is a unique cultural melting pot where all these individuals come together. Rosie, the owner, will be able to grow her own vegetables for herself and others in the community. It will also serve as an educational tool for the community,” said Lukins, a Mechanical Engineering major at Kettering. "It was an absolutely phenomenal experience. At what other school would you get the chance to work on something like this from the beginning to end? From the very first stages of design and even before that I was thinking about what we could do that is meaningful and beneficial to all parties involved.”
Students Build Giant Lite Brite for Special Needs Classroom

Kettering University students brought a childhood memory alive when they created a giant Lite Brite for a local school. Students with Kettering’s Student Association for Global Engineering (SAGE) created a 6-foot wide, 4-foot tall Lite Brite for Genesee Intermediate School District’s Marion Crouse Instructional Center (MCIC) to be used in the school’s sensory room.

The students researched plans and made the Lite Brite from scratch during A and B Sections. Kettering University and MCIC have worked together on various projects during the last six years. Previous projects include 3D printing a specialized part for a wheelchair and developing a sensory box.

Megan Harlow ’18 heard that A-Section SAGE students had started the Lite Brite project, she knew she wanted to jump at the opportunity to get B-Section involved, too. She remembered when she had a Lite Brite as a kid.

“I’d spend hours putting together diamond shaped patterns and other geometrical shapes that would fill each side of the cube. It was really fun to be able to draw on the fun that I had with my Lite Brite as a kid as inspiration for continuing this project. I’m sure that the Lite Brite is going to bring a lot of children a lot of joy,” said Harlow, B-Section SAGE president. “I know the children are going to love it because of both its colors and size.”

A Kettering alumna even gave a helping hand when the students needed a little extra assistance. Jennifer Johnson ’99, executive director of strategy at Yanfeng Automotive Interiors, volunteered to help the SAGE group when they realized they didn’t have the equipment to cut such a large sheet of acrylic without the risk of cracking. Johnson and her colleagues transported the materials to their facilities in Holland, Michigan, and took care of machining the acrylic sheet and cutting long acrylic bars down to pegs.

“Beyond the nutritional benefits of fresh produce, the educational opportunities with solar technology, and the extended growing season, this relatively small project inspired hope. Through your contribution, an entire community of people has the opportunity to smile, to be excited, to look forward to the good things that will grow in the greenhouse, and that is hope.”

Lukins’ project was a unique thesis project, researched and completed outside of his co-op experience. The sustainable greenhouse and the project overall was made possible thanks to supporters.

“To all who supported me in this project, I want to genuinely thank you. In any underserved community the ultimate gift one can give is hope,” said Lukins, especially thanking Harris Ng ’95 for his support. "Beyond the nutritional benefits of fresh produce, the educational opportunities with solar technology, and the extended growing season, this relatively small project inspired hope. Through your contribution, an entire community of people has the opportunity to smile, to be excited, to look forward to the good things that will grow in the greenhouse, and that is hope.”

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Lukins, president of Kettering’s Student Association for Global Engineering (SAGE), had the opportunity to volunteer at Pine Ridge Reservation during two prior SAGE trips before starting his thesis. It was those experiences that created a bond with the people on the reservation. There are about 15,000 people living on the reservation, and it’s the second poorest county in the country, Lukins said.

When Lukins and Sullivan, Mechanical Engineering faculty member at Kettering and faculty advisor of SAGE, started brainstorming, they wanted to impact the reservation in a practical way. The greenhouse wasn’t working well as it would often get to 115 degrees or hotter during the high heat of the day. Part of the project was to bring in a fan that would properly cool the building using solar power.

The construction of the photovoltaic system that incorporated three solar panels, rain gutters, two water storage tanks, and a solar-powered water pump, took two weeks. Lukins and Sullivan worked to make all systems interact with each other, including a gutter system that fed a rain barrel, from which water was pumped into a water tower. The elevated water tower then provided gravity for moving water into the greenhouse to irrigate the produce.

Lukins’ project was a unique thesis project, researched and completed outside of his co-op experience. The sustainable greenhouse and the project overall was made possible thanks to supporters.

“To all who supported me in this project, I want to genuinely thank you. In any underserved community the ultimate gift one can give is hope,” said Lukins, especially thanking Harris Ng ’95 for his support. "Beyond the nutritional benefits of fresh produce, the educational opportunities with solar technology, and the extended growing season, this relatively small project inspired hope. Through your contribution, an entire community of people has the opportunity to smile, to be excited, to look forward to the good things that will grow in the greenhouse, and that is hope.”

When Megan Harlow ’18 heard that A-Section SAGE students had started the Lite Brite project, she knew she wanted to jump at the opportunity to get B-Section involved, too. She remembered when she had a Lite Brite as a kid.

“I’d spend hours putting together diamond shaped patterns and other geometrical shapes that would fill each side of the cube. It was really fun to be able to draw on the fun that I had with my Lite Brite as a kid as inspiration for continuing this project. I’m sure that the Lite Brite is going to bring a lot of children a lot of joy,” said Harlow, B-Section SAGE president. “I know the children are going to love it because of both its colors and size.”

A Kettering alumna even gave a helping hand when the students needed a little extra assistance. Jennifer Johnson ’99, executive director of strategy at Yanfeng Automotive Interiors, volunteered to help the SAGE group when they realized they didn’t have the equipment to cut such a large sheet of acrylic without the risk of cracking. Johnson and her colleagues transported the materials to their facilities in Holland, Michigan, and took care of machining the acrylic sheet and cutting long acrylic bars down to pegs.
We wish to thank all of Kettering University alumni and friends who are helping to make a difference in the lives of our students. The goal of the Kettering University Philanthropy Report and Donor Honor Roll is to recognize your thoughtful and generous support over the past year. Together alumni, friends, corporations, and foundations have made a significant impact in the life of the University. Your cumulative support continues to be transformational.

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Richard ’67 and Emilie Rosenberg
Philip P. ’72 and Judi Rosenkranz
Michelle A. Ross ’96
Thomas ’59 and Barbara Roth
Robert ’85 and Marcelyn ’85 Roth
Charles C. Roy
Robert F. Rudney ’73
Gerald ’68 and Barbara Russell
Richard G. Russell ’99
Robert A. ’76 and Mary Russell
Anthony ’64 and Marilyn Rutkowski
Gillian Ryan
Kaitlyn N. Rye
Mr. Ghassan Saab and Mrs. Manal Saab
Gregory Sabonis ’92
Leonard ’75 and Linda Sabatini
Joseph L. Sabin

Joseph Salasuce
Dominic Salladino
Joyce A. ’93 and Gregory M. Salisbury
Cheryl S. Samaniego
Glen Sampson ’85
Stanley Samuel ’10
Mark J. Scharf ’00
Michael ’76 and Elaine Scanlatelli
Fred ’70 and Rebecca Schafto
Michael Schaal
Eric C. Schack ’89
Robert ’55 and Ann Schaefer
Gregory A. ’83 and Patricia A. ’84 Schaffer
Lury Schall
Joseph L. Schallhorn ’72
David ’96 and Jami L. Scharrer
John ’09 and Alicia ’10 Schaub
Milton R. Scheffler ’77
Joseph F. Schoering ’66
Brian D. ’98 and Maureen Schickel
Gary A. Schirzinger ’71
Bernard R. Schneider ’82
Edward J. Schneider ’51
Paul J. ’88 and Minnie Schnebrick
Donald C. ’53 and Mary Lou Schostek
Lawrence ’58 and Blanche Schott
Dennis R. Schrader ’76
Rogene Schnick
David Schroeder ’97
Sarah Schuch
Robert ’77 and Cynthia Schwabel
Kevin Schwall ’99
Christopher J. Schwartz
Glen Schwartz ’70
Randall J. ’74 and Ronda Schwarz
James ’57 and Mary Scorton
Sherry Seaman
Stacy Seeley
Chad D. Seiltz ’80
John ’78 and Andree Senn
Robert ’80 and Kathleen ’79 Sexton
Cynthia Seymour
Mr. and Mrs. Nelson R. Sharp ’66
Maria M. ’89 and Carl Shaw
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Sheehan Jr. ’61
Keith ’70 and Gwen Sheldon
Richard ’68 and Cheryl Shelton
Robert L. Shelton ’56
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Michael J. ’78 and Sue Shirley
Dustin R. Short
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James R. Sittari ’88
Julie E. Simmons
Bruce ’79 and Janice Sing
James ’83 and Jane E. Sitko
Charles ’55 and Doris Skarvan
Glenn F. Sloan ’70
Barbara J. Smith ’91
Bruce R. ’95 and Arlene G. Smith
Catherine A. Smith
Charles ’60 and Karen Smith
Joseph ’77 and Janice Smith
Kevin Smith ’13
Michael E. Smith
Michelle E. Smith
Richard ’64 and Genevieve Smith
Robert J. Smith ’54
Robert J. ’60 and Carolyn S. Smith
Wendy ’85 and Gordon Smith
Brian Snodgrass ’89
Eric C. ’75 and Sonnda Snowdeal
Benjamin N. Snyder ’45
David F. Snyder ’50
Richard Socci ’52
Kenneth S. ’70 and Billie Soffoch
John D. Soltan ’89
Thomas J. Sommer
Jon ’59 and Theresa Sonstroem
Frank ’70 and Susan Sonye
Marta Sorge and Edward Lapham
Teresa A. Soroy ’99
Robert L. ’56 and Diane L. Sovis
Eugene ’48 and Doris Spanski
Steven ’78 and Carolyn Sprague
Viola M. Sprague
Edward ’56 and Kathleen Stadler
Gabriel ’69 and Martha Stahl
Dan ’64 and Beth Stalforth
Pete Stanchak
Sean Stanley
William ’59 and Ruth Stambio
Steven Stapleton ’92
Jack ’70 and Nancy Steele
Eugene W. Stefanyshyn ’81
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Robert A. ’72 and Cindy Stephenson
Cory Charles Steuben ’10
Juegen Steupert ’73
Kenneth D. Steward ’73
Deborah Steward ’12
Paul Stirling ’60
Jack and Nancy Stock
Donald Stockton ’89
Denise A. Stodola
Matthew J. Storm
Michael Stoyko ’65
Julie ’88 and Gerald Straka
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Douglass Streeter
Roy ’83 and Kathleen Streitz
Thomas F. Streif ’57

Susan G. Strieker
Thomas ’75 and Carol Striffler
Thaddeus ’78 and Glenda Stump
John Suh ’80
Laura and John Sullivan
Ryan Sullivan ’08 and
Kristin Rice Sullivan ’08
Nicholas J. ’02 and Dawn M. ’02 Sup
George P. ’82 and Marina Sup
John Suriano ’85
James W. ’77 and Bethany Sutton
Cassandra ’04 and Michael Svendsen
Kathryn Svinarich
Robert L. ’51 and Melanie L. Swadner
James ’59 and Keitha Swaim
Ronald G. Swan ’71
Dawn Swanson
Virgil ’60 and Lois Swearingen
Benjamin R. Sweaney Jr. ’49
Matthew J. ’03 and Amanda Svideriski
Mikki and Jim Swisher
Bonnie Switzer
Donald Szamier ’54
Tony A. ’87 and Anna Szezonka
Norman Szomolieski ’74
David S. Szymski
Ronald J. Tackett
Louis ’82 and Jean Tarricone
Fredric K. Taube ’91
Massoud Tavakoli and
Martine Wyngaard-Tavakoli
Allan R. Taylor ’09
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Mark E. Taylor
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Richard ’73 and Joanne Taylor
Ron Taylor ’76
Kevin G. Tebeest

William ’59 and Mary Tennant
Ray ’73 and Darlene Tessier
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Alan W. Thebord ’57
Cedric ’66 and Mary Theel
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Shatougha Thimmoppa ’02
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Stacy ’68 and Margaret Thompson
Nadine L. Thor
Matthew R. Thornburg
Wesley J. Thornburg
Kimberly Thornton
Ann K. and James W. * Thropp ’58
Raymond ’64 and Carrol Tidrow
Russell ’91 and Rene Tiejema
William B. ’81 and Linda M. Tiger
Charles ’57 and Dolores Timko
Dennis ’58 and Norma Tino
Thomas ’52 and Lois Toepner
Louis E. Todk ’57
James F. Tomincasca ’80
Edward ’55 and Marcia Toth
Dung ’80 and Thu ’92 Tran
Scott M. Travis ’17
William Trehane ’89
Diana ’82 and Daniel ’81 Tremblay
Myron U. ’68 and Patricia Trenna
Robert J. Trew ’88
James ’66 and Marybeth Trunk
Robert O. ’78 and Margaret L. Trystlag
Robert H. ’82 and Beverly Trukayama
Joanne L. ’82 and Brian Tubo
Gerald ’66 and Karen Tumbush

* Deceased
# Loyalty Society Member
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

PLEASE SAVE THE DATES AND JOIN IN THE CELEBRATION OF KETTERING’S CENTENNIAL

PRESIDENT’S CENTENNIAL LECTURE SERIES
February 19, 2019
Kettering University campus, Flint, MI
Speaker, Marie Johnson ’90, PhD
May 15, 2019
Capitol Theater, Flint, MI
Speaker, TBA
September 12, 2019
Kettering University campus, Flint, MI
Speaker, Sean McBurney ’03

SOCIETY OF WOMEN ENGINEERS CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY
March 8, 2019
Kettering University campus, Flint, MI

SAE AT THE DAC
April 9, 2019
Detroit Athletic Club, Detroit, MI

MAJOR SOBEY GOLF OUTING
June 8, 2019
Coyote Preserve Golf Club, Fenton, MI

COMMENCEMENT
June 15, 2019
Kettering University campus, Flint, MI

ATWOOD STADIUM RACE AND COMMUNITY CELEBRATION
July 20, 2019
Flint, MI

FOUNDER’S WEEK CELEBRATION
October 14 - 18, 2019
Kettering University campus, Flint, MI