INNOVATION TEAM

Lever 1.2

To foster innovation and help catalyze good ideas, Missouri S&T developed an Innovation Team. In the past fiscal year, six innovation proposals were funded that involved the creative use of technology in the writing center; increased mental health awareness through the rock musical Next to Normal; sponsored research in Autism Spectrum Disorder; and developed state-of-the-art virtual interview capabilities in career services. The team also took on streamlining the scholarship process, making it more customer-friendly for students, donors and academic departments. The new and successful process, which launched last fall, has offset more than $900,000 in general operating revenue to date.

BREAKING DOWN SILOS

Lever 2.1

It has been said the solutions to many of today’s great challenges lie at the intersection of the disciplines. That is certainly the case with our four, multidisciplinary signature research and teaching areas: Advanced Manufacturing, Advanced Materials for Sustainable Infrastructure, Enabling Materials for Extreme Environments, and Smart Living.

As of fall 2015, we have hired seven of the 12 faculty members to support the growth of these areas. In addition, the university funded research that ties into the signature areas from departments that span the campus and include economics, chemistry, biological sciences, math and statistics, and arts, languages and philosophy.

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS

Lever 3.2

Missouri S&T is committed to providing excellent service to existing partners and identifying and establishing new partnerships to enhance research, economic development, education, philanthropy and employer relations. As guided by our strategic plan, we have created a new office of corporate relations, and in August John F. Eash began as our executive director of this office. Eash is the prior division director for Supplier Quality Regional Operations for Boeing, a Missouri S&T graduate and past president of Miner Alumni Association.

In the past year, Missouri S&T inked three important research and collaboration agreements.

- Boeing
- Phelps County Regional Medical Center
- Honeywell Federal Manufacturing and Technologies

CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

Lever 2.3

The university is focused on enhancing research and continues to make progress. For example, NSF grant expenditures per tenured, tenure-track faculty for FY15 was $19,184 — a 30 percent increase over our baseline.
As we begin the third year of implementing *Rising to the Challenge: Missouri S&T’s Strategy for Success*, the landscape of Missouri S&T is changing — literally and metaphorically.

New buildings are rising. The promenade now welcomes students to campus. One of the most comprehensive geothermal systems on a college campus is complete.

The university is changing in other ways, too. We are building a culture of collaboration by strengthening partnerships. We have become more efficient and, as a result, more resources are being directed toward students and our research programs.

Missouri S&T is a university amid transformation, and the results are beginning to add up. This report will give you a sense of the progress we’ve made in the past year as we implement our bold strategic plan.

— Chancellor Cheryl B. Schrader, Ph.D.

**PATHWAYS TO MISSOURI S&T**

**Lever 2.2**

At a time when many universities are seeing declines in enrollment, Missouri S&T continues to experience record growth. This fall, we have about 8,900 total students — our largest and most diverse student body to date. In surveying our new students, it’s clear the university continues to see dividends from its pre-college programs designed to fortify the pathways to higher education. For example, our new students reported:

- **33% took at least one class through Project Lead the Way**
  Missouri S&T has been the state affiliate for this program since 2006, and nearly 1,800 teachers have trained here since then
- **19% attended one of our summer camps**
  Sixteen academic summer camps are offered at Missouri S&T
- **15% participated in FIRST Robotics**
  Missouri S&T has hosted the FIRST Tech Challenge since 2011
- **12% involved in VEX Robotics**
  Missouri S&T is hosting the VEX State Championship on Feb. 20, 2016