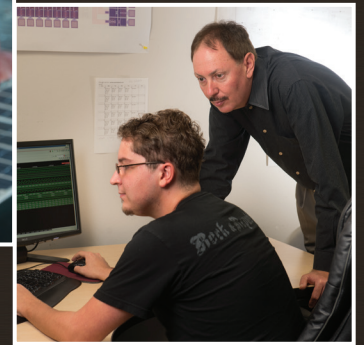


# ENGINEERING entrepreneurship

siue.edu/engineering

Dean's Report 2013



SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
**EDWARDSVILLE**  
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING



## Message from the Dean

Entrepreneur. Someone who identifies a need – any need – and fills it. The SIUE School of Engineering began its entrepreneurial journey with the formation of its engineering community in 2006 and has met each challenge since with resounding success.

- The quality of our incoming freshmen continues to rise.
- Our enrollment has climbed to a historic level.
- We have increased our global presence by developing partnerships with universities around the world.
- In response to our increased enrollment, we added a 32,000-square-foot annex to our Engineering Building.

Is this where our journey ends? No, we have only completed the first stage of our transformation. In order for the School to stay at the forefront of the engineering, computer science and construction disciplines, our engineering community needs your involvement.

With the high quality, well-prepared students that the School of Engineering has been attracting, the need for financial assistance has increased. Endowed scholarship support will open the door for the next generation of engineers who may not otherwise be able to participate in extra-curricular activities or to even enroll in the program. The School seeks to raise \$600,000 to reach our goal of \$1 million in endowed scholarships to provide opportunities to more students who can benefit from an SIUE education.

In order for us to continue to provide the students with the excellent education we have become known for and to give our students the chance to compete at a level with other universities, they need dedicated space to work and build their projects. The School has commissioned plans for a 14,000-square-foot Student Design Center to create a safe work area for our student competing teams, room for students to work on senior design projects, a shop and design area, additional space for research projects, a conference room, and outside space that can be used to showcase our student projects. The School needs to raise \$2 million of the \$4 million project.

In this year’s report we are featuring some of the entrepreneurial talent we have seen in the School of Engineering. We found that many of them referenced the fact that to be successful you need to surround yourself with talented people. Our alumni and friends are the most talented people we know. The pride you have in the School, whether you received your degree here or have a partnership with us, will increase ten-fold as our vision for the future becomes reality.

This is a defining moment for the SIUE School of Engineering, and as partners in our engineering community, you are in a unique position to play an active role in the shaping of the future. How will you participate?

Sincerely,

Hasan Sevim, PhD  
Dean and Professor

## Message from the Chancellor

Shaping the future of SIUE. Together. That was the primary focus as we recently updated the University’s strategic plan, which was originally developed in 2001. That plan served the institution well and was a guiding force as we envisioned the University’s goals for the future.

In 2012, a campus-wide committee was established to determine long-term goals and update the key elements of the strategic plan – SIUE’s mission, vision and values. The committee solicited input from internal and external stakeholder groups to guide SIUE through the next decade.

Additionally, the University’s Statement on Diversity was reviewed and revised, expanding on the value that SIUE places on an inclusive educational environment. Our welcoming climate encourages learning and understanding, as well as promotes the type of collaborations that lead to real and long-lasting societal advances.

Each of these new statements now reaffirms and enhances SIUE’s ongoing efforts at adapting to state, national and international trends, promoting and achieving student success, and continuing the University’s momentum amidst the dynamic evolution of 21st-century higher education.

As higher education continues to evolve, our students’ learning environment is becoming increasingly global. The School of Engineering continues to offer students learning and cultural opportunities to enhance their experiences in and out of the classroom, and is committed to broadening its global presence. This past year, the School of Engineering entered into agreements with Tongmyong University in South Korea and Shenyang Aerospace University in China to bring students from each university to SIUE through dual diploma programs. The School currently has a dual diploma program with Istanbul Technical University in Turkey.

The cooperation, hard work and persistence that have made the School of Engineering successful will be increasingly important going forward. Every SIUE stakeholder has a role in shaping the future of the University, and I am confident the future holds great things for SIUE.

Let’s celebrate the “e”!

Best wishes,

Julie Furst-Bowe, EdD  
SIUE Chancellor



[siue.edu/engineering](http://siue.edu/engineering)

## Vision

The vision of the SIUE School of Engineering is to be a partnership of faculty, students, staff, alumni and other professionals who work together to provide the highest quality education and maintain innovative resources that support the technical growth and economic development of the region.

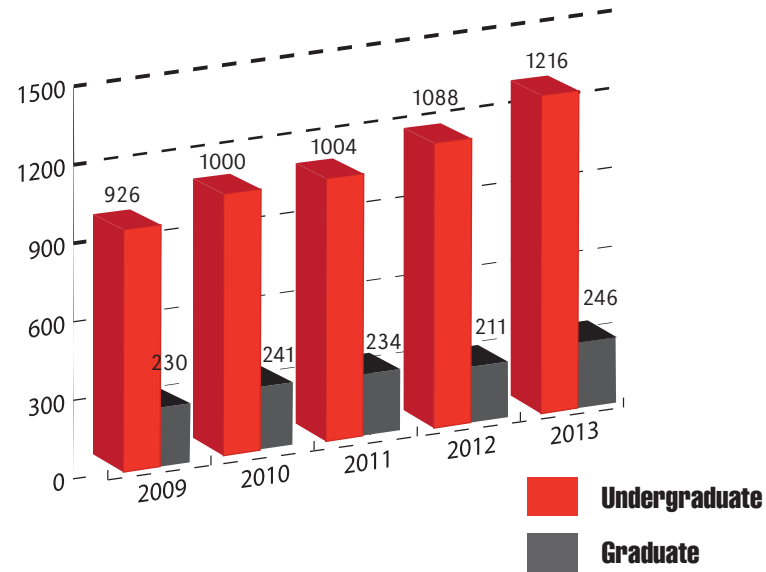
## About SIUE

Beautifully situated on 2,660 acres, SIUE is a public university offering a broad choice of degrees and programs, ranging from liberal arts to professional studies. Undergraduate and graduate degrees are offered in the arts and sciences, business, education, engineering and nursing. The Schools of Dental Medicine and Pharmacy award doctor’s “first professional” degrees in dental medicine (DMD) and in pharmacy (PharmD). Nearly 14,000 students choose SIUE for its enlightening programs, engaging faculty and convenient location, just 25 minutes from St. Louis.

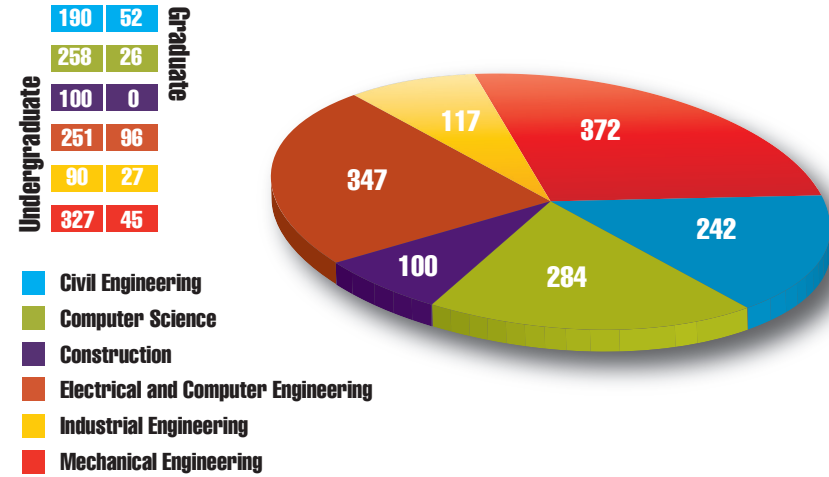
## About the School

The SIUE School of Engineering takes pride in its diversity and acknowledges that other people, voices and cultures can offer new ways of seeing the world, solving problems and working together. Diversity is a catalyst to innovation in engineering. The School believes that differences in age, gender, race, culture, nationality, education and other characteristics of a person's background can be leveraged as assets, particularly toward a goal of improving quality of life.

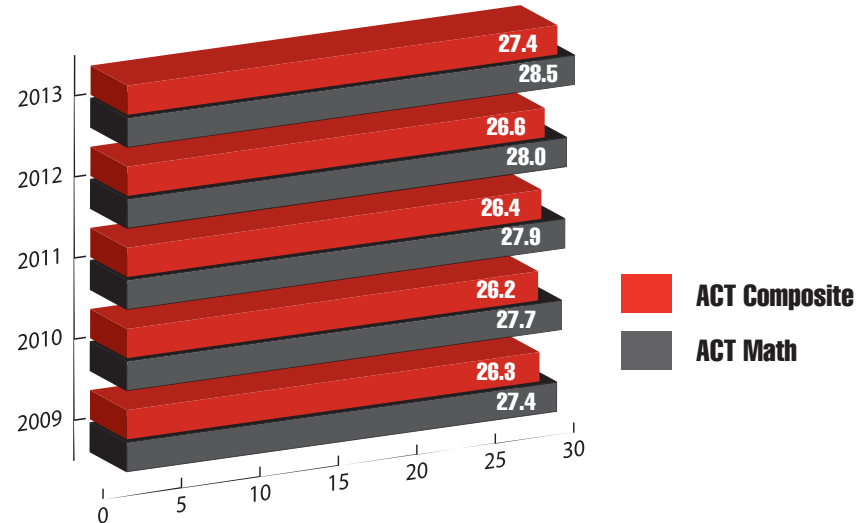
Record Enrollment



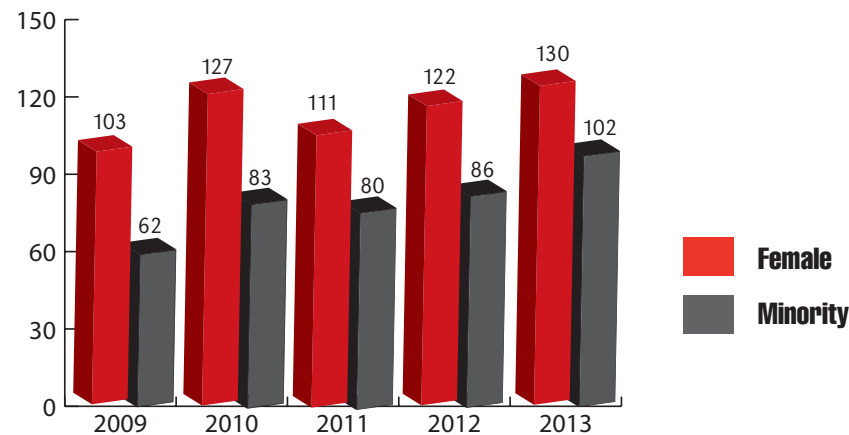
2013 Undergraduate and Graduate Enrollment By Program



ACT Scores – First Semester Freshmen



Minority and Female Undergraduate Enrollment



## Message from the Provost

The School of Engineering continues to experience record enrollment, rising ACT scores for incoming freshmen, and increases in scholarly publications and externally funded research on the part of the faculty. In light of the growth in both enrollment and scholarly activity, it is particularly exciting to know that the School's forward momentum is being supported by the expansion and renovation of the Engineering Building.

The estimated \$14.2 million construction project, which includes a new 32,000-square-foot annex, is designed to make room for the School's increasing student population and will facilitate delivery of a state-of-the-art engineering education that attracts highly qualified students. Faculty, staff and students moved in to the new space at the start of the spring 2014 semester.

With a plan to add a mechatronics degree program, the School of Engineering is constantly evolving its educational offerings as it effectively responds to rapidly changing technologies and workforce demands. Faculty lead these efforts, embracing the concept of the teacher-scholar model in which both innovative teaching and research can flourish, providing an environment where students can engage with faculty for optimal learning and alumni can succeed in the workplace.

This is an exciting time for the School of Engineering, and I am confident the School will thrive and continue to make an impact through innovative research and academic excellence.

Ann M. Boyle, DMD, MA  
Interim Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

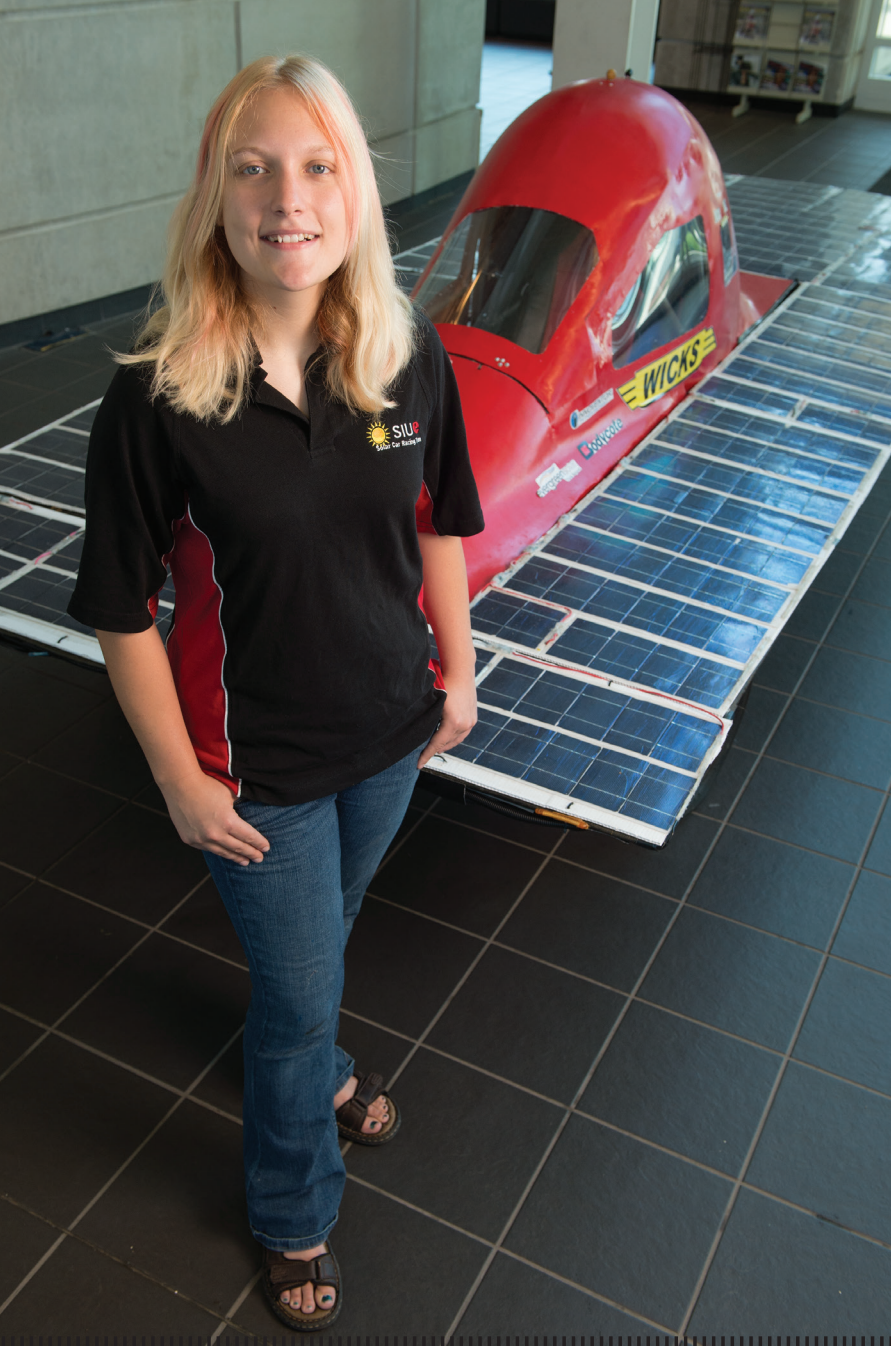


## Engineering Degrees

The SIUE School of Engineering offers a comprehensive collection of professionally accredited engineering programs:

- Civil Engineering – BS, MS
- Computer Engineering – BS, Minor
- Computer Science – BA, BS, MS, Minor
- Construction Management – BS, Minor
- Electrical Engineering – BS, MS, Minor
- Industrial Engineering – BS, MS, Minor
- Mechanical Engineering – BS, MS, Minor
- Engineering Science – PhD (collaborative program with SIU Carbondale)





## Building Connections and Building Cars

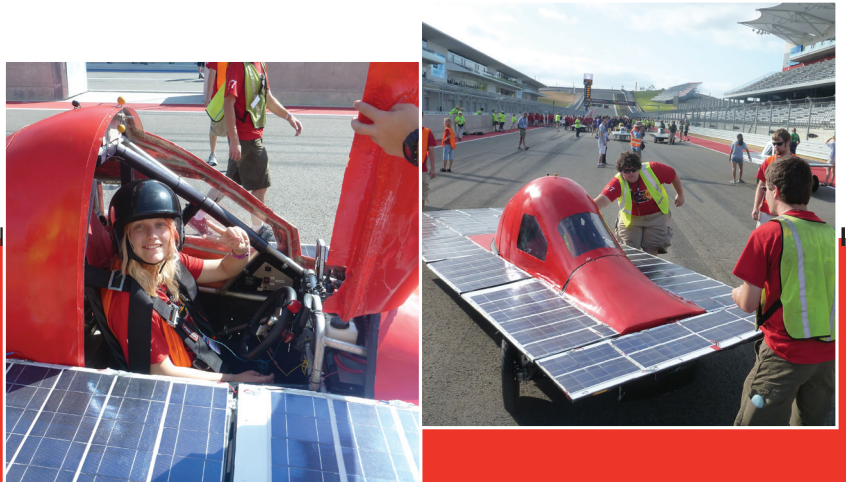
Every year, the solar car team at SIUE rebuilds and refines the automobile that gives the team its name; preparing it to race hundreds of miles around the United States. This is no easy feat, but if you ask Amy Sunderlin, project director and first year electrical engineering graduate student, their dreams are bigger than staying stateside. “Solar car racing is a worldwide event,” said Sunderlin. “One of our goals is to take our team abroad.”

Established at SIUE in 2005, the solar car team races in the Formula Sun Grand Prix, a road-style closed course race held in a different location each year. Every other year, solar car teams race to qualify for the American Solar Car Challenge, a cross-country race ranging from 1,500-1,800 miles. “The American race is the most challenging because the route changes every year,” said Sunderlin. “I would love to take this car to races in South Africa and Australia in the coming years.”

The solar car team has been Sunderlin’s passion since she joined in 2010. She works with the interdisciplinary team improving designs for the car, fundraising for materials and racing expenses, and promoting the organization. “I was so quiet and shy before I joined the team,” said Sunderlin. “I learned that the more we interact with the community, the more support we have, and the more successful we can be.”

Some of the outreach events the team has participated in include visiting local elementary schools to promote STEM learning, interacting with Boy Scouts at a local Jamboree, and securing a spot among classic Mustangs, Oldsmobiles and super cars at the Edwardsville D.A.R.E. Car, Truck and Motorcycle show.

Sunderlin hopes the development efforts of the team within the University and the surrounding community will lead to connections that will bring them closer to realizing the dream of races abroad. “We’re just like a small business,” said Sunderlin. “To do something this unique, we have to be self-motivated and work really hard.”



The solar car will soon have a new home. Currently housed in the atrium of the School of Engineering Building, the car will have a dedicated space in the new Student Design Center.

## Student Design Center

SIUE engineering students have had to use their ingenuity to make their projects come to life in the minimal space currently available. “Our dream is to give our students a facility specifically designed to meet their needs,” said School of Engineering Dean Hasan Sevim. “Senior design projects and student collegiate teams will benefit from the opportunity for hands-on learning and collaborative efforts between students, faculty and staff in this dedicated space.”

### Features of the two-story Student Design Center include:

- 14,000-square-feet of space for projects and research
- Five bay areas
- Hospitality room
- Shop and student design area
- Engineer’s Alley to showcase projects
- Amphitheater seating
- Conference room
- Second-floor terrace



The School is embarking on a campaign to raise \$2 million of this \$4 million project. The Student Design Center will involve renovation of existing space in the School along with new construction.

Contributions are needed from alumni and friends to make this dream become a reality and to meet our targeted completion date of October 2015. We invite you to be a part of this incredible opportunity for our students.

To make a contribution to the Student Design Center, please contact Karen Wicks, Director of Development, at [kwicks@siue.edu](mailto:kwicks@siue.edu) or call 618.650.5020.



## ||||||| Inspiring Innovation |||||||

From crystal radio kits to magnetic fingerprint signals, Dr. George Engel thrives in the world of innovation. Originally planning to be a high school English teacher, Engel discovered that engineering allowed him to express his creativity, build things and understand how they work. "I would build little crystal radios, and I thought that was really neat," said Engel, professor of electrical and computer engineering. "I put them together, but really didn't understand why they worked the way they did. That's what got me interested in electronics."

Engel earned his doctorate in electrical engineering from Washington University in St. Louis and joined the SIUE School of Engineering faculty in 1993. In addition to teaching, Engel conducts research and continues to express his creativity. He is the co-inventor of Magnaprint™ technology, a reliable method of authenticating and verifying credit cards, and helped develop the AUDIOScreener™, a portable instrument used to screen infants for hearing impairments.

In 2007, Engel co-founded Blendics Inc., with the goal of helping companies reduce the cost and time required to deliver reliable, maintainable and high performance system-on-chip designs. The company is funded by grants, including one from the National Science Foundation, which allows the company to hire graduate students to help conduct research. "The graduate students are the real heroes," Engel said. "The professors are interviewed and have their pictures taken, but it's the graduate students who make everything happen."

Engel believes in extending student learning opportunities beyond the textbook. He uses his research to help connect what students learn in the classroom to the real world. This experience has helped his students secure employment at the country's leading technological engineering companies, including Texas Instruments, Intel and Apple. Engel's passion for innovation has netted him many accomplishments, including nine patents with a tenth in the pipeline. However, what he is most proud of are the students he has helped to inspire along the way. Encouraging engineering students to consider a broad scope of careers is one thing Engel strives for. "I want to offer education that allows students to go wherever their dreams might lead them."



**"It's not just knowledge that students need, they need to see the process. You can't teach that in a lecture format."**  
*George Engel, professor of electrical and computer engineering*

## ||||||| Generating the Future |||||||

Chico Weber has always been ahead of his time. He drew technical drawings of things he wanted to create as a child, built his first computer while in junior high, and cannot remember a time when he did not research renewable energy. Now 23 and an industrial engineering graduate student, he's building a business around his own invention. "Renewable energy is evolving, and I realized I had the opportunity to build alongside it," said Weber.

In 2012, while an undergraduate at SIUE, Weber entered "The Other 40." Sponsored by the SIUE chapter of the Collegiate Entrepreneurship Organization (CEO) and supported by the School of Business, the competition offers prize money to students who present the best business idea in three minutes or less. Weber won by building a prototype he originally called the Mobile Onsite Renewable Energy Generator (MOREG). When connected to an energy-creating device, like a wind turbine, the MOREG plugs into an outlet in a building, reverses the energy flow coming from the outlet and powers the building.

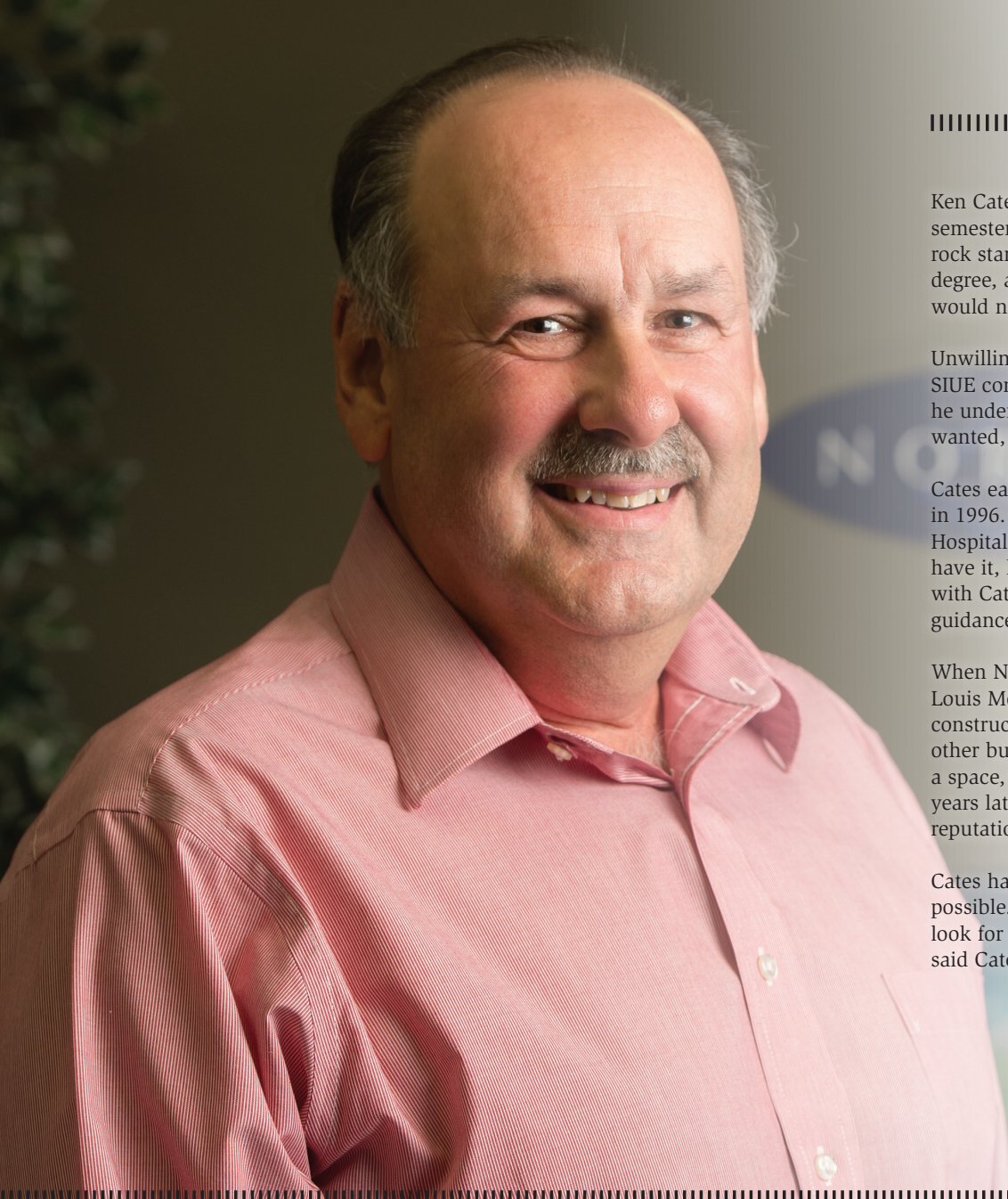
With his prize money, Weber focused on refining his invention. Upon graduating in May 2013 with his degree in manufacturing engineering, he continued to promote his business plan centered on what he now calls the Gemini Cube. "It's so important to network, include people and engage with the community," said Weber. "You benefit so much more than if you try to do it all alone."

Never one to stand idle, Weber and several of his colleagues have formed their own engineering design contest called the "Catalyst 7 Challenge." Contestants will have an opportunity to submit ideas in three stages of development of a pre-defined product idea; conceptual art, engineering designs and marketing material. One submission from each stage of development will be chosen as a grand prize winner, and the winners will be combined to be the next product Weber's business will manufacture. "It's all about developing the next phase of technology," said Weber. "It's a lot of risk and a lot of work, but I believe it's all worth it."



**"Success is more of how you participate in the world, not so much your GPA."**  
*Chico Weber, BS Manufacturing Engineering '13*





## ||||||| The Direction of Opportunity |||||||

Ken Cates is the first to tell anyone his journey to success wasn't a straight path. After a semester of college, he went on the road with a band. Returning home, broke and not a rock star, Cates continued college, but the struggle to find a balance between earning his degree, a full-time job, a family and playing in his band had him nearly convinced he would never graduate.

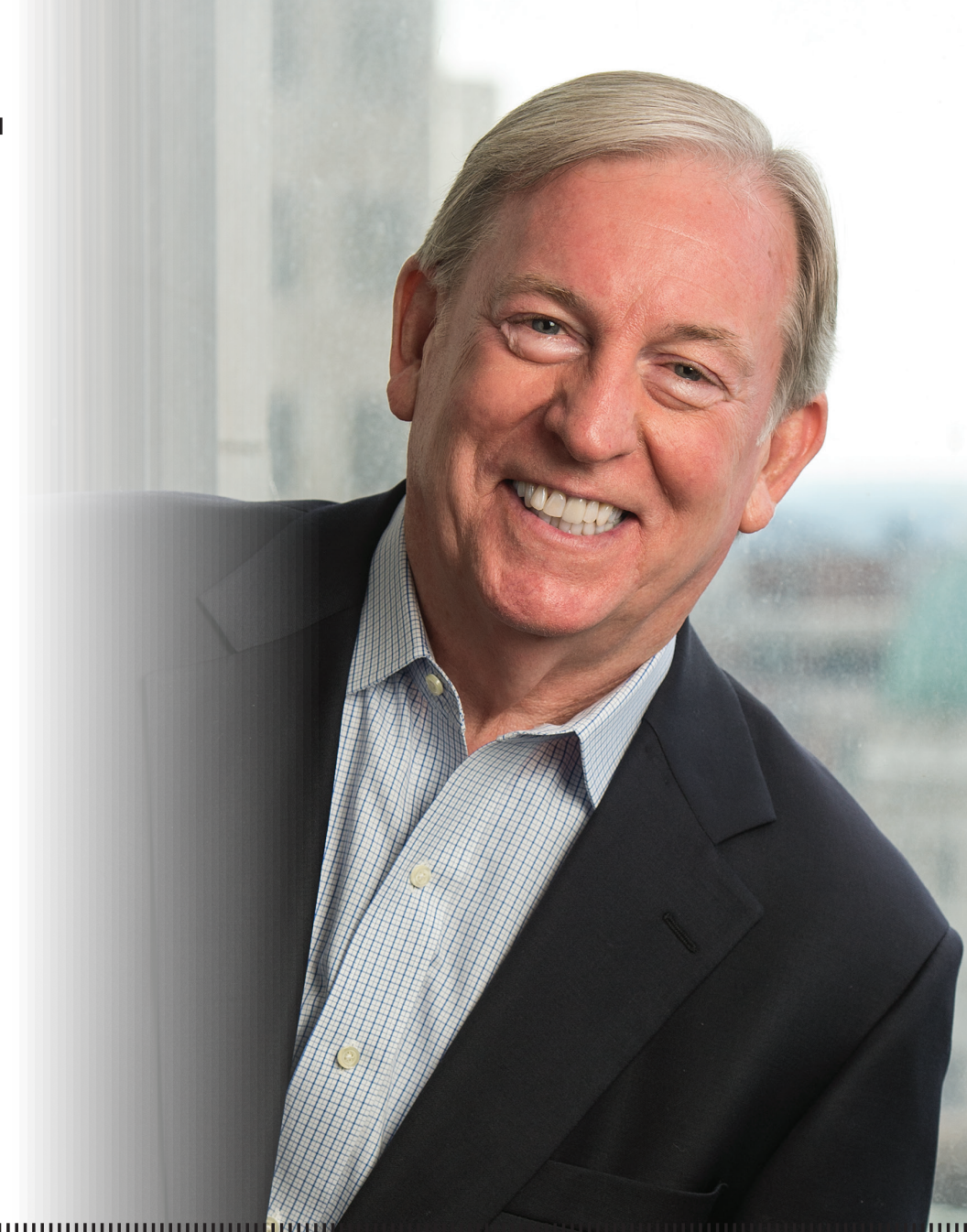
Unwilling to give up, Cates' life changed direction after meeting with the chair of the SIUE construction department. "My best memory at SIUE is meeting Luke Snell because he understood the situation I was in," Cates said. "He said I was the kind of student they wanted, and SIUE would help me earn my degree."

Cates earned his bachelor's degree in construction and graduated with Cum Laude honors in 1996. By that time, he was the director of the construction department at Barnes-Jewish Hospital and realized that corporate America wasn't where he wanted to be. As luck would have it, his boss, Ken Kadel, was also ready for something new and suggested joining forces with Cates to found Northstar Management Company, named for the well-known symbol of guidance and security.

When Northstar was formed in 1998, it was the first company of its kind in the St. Louis Metropolitan area to offer project management services specializing in health care construction. "There are technical components to health care that are above and beyond other building types," said Cates. "We have to consider not only the technical issues within a space, but also how our decisions may impact the safety of patients and staff." Fifteen years later, Northstar has evolved into a well-respected and successful company with a reputation for putting clients first.

Cates has never forgotten his experience at SIUE and those who made getting his degree possible. He has served on the Construction Management Advisory Board and continues to look for opportunities to help. "I love the School of Engineering. It changed my life," said Cates. "You never forget the people who showed you the possibilities."

**"No matter what field you choose, relationships and networking are critical to success." Ken Cates, BS Construction Management, '96**  
**This belief was tested on May 22, 2011, when Northstar's client, St. John's Regional Medical Center in Joplin, Mo., took a direct hit from an EF5 tornado. Within 30 minutes, using the network they had developed, Northstar helped assemble the team that would be sent to restore service.**



## ||||||| A Hand Up for Tech Start-ups |||||||

When you walk into Hal Gentry's office in downtown St. Louis, images of a tyrannosaurus rex greet you. The prehistoric carnivore reflects the technological growth that Hal envisions in St. Louis. "St. Louis is being recognized as an up-and-coming tech center," said Gentry. "We were the first company to move in here in 2011, and there are now 70 tech start-up companies in this building."

Gentry graduated with a bachelor's in computer science in 1982. His first job at Scott and Scott Consultants, one of the leaders in developing software for electric utilities, provided him with valuable insight. "I learned how a start-up company is run if you want to be on the leading edge of technology; how you develop your product; and how you educate the market to find buyers," said Gentry.

In 1986, Gentry left Scott and Scott to found his first software company, Gentry Systems, which provided mapping systems for electric utilities worldwide. After selling the company to Auto Desk in 2001, he co-founded a second business, Gridlogix, a company that developed energy management and integration software. After seven successful years, Gentry sold again.

Over the years, Gentry had become interested in funding new companies. He joined Arch Angels, an organization that helps fund early-stage companies with high growth potential, and began investing in software companies. There, he met Judy Sindecuse who wanted to start a new angel investment company with a twist. Together they formed Capital Innovators. This venture selects start-up companies to invest in and provides them with a 12-week accelerated program to build business plans and provides tools to grow their business. Today, Capital Innovators receives hundreds of applications each year. Twice a year, the top 15 participate in "pitch day," and five are selected to enter the accelerated program, receiving funding and project-based mentorship.

Gentry is proud of the nearly 30 businesses he has helped launch and believes it is all for the betterment of St. Louis. "We are helping jump start technology in St. Louis, and we are seeing the impact of these businesses we've helped to grow."

**"An entrepreneur doesn't build anything alone. You have to have a lot of good talent surrounding you if you're going to be successful, and it's important to share that success with the folks helping you to get there." Hal Gentry, BS Computer Science, '82**



## Engineering Fear

“We engineer fear.” A fitting tagline for a company run by an engineer with a scary sort of creativity. Kip Polley’s passion for engineering began while playing with mechanical toys with his grandpa. By high school, he knew it was something he wanted to make a career of. What he didn’t know, was that before completing college, he would start his own company.

In 2005, shortly before graduating with his bachelor’s in manufacturing engineering, Polley started Pale Night Productions (PNP). The company specializes in the creation of unique props, effects and haunted attractions. “I love all things horror,” said Polley. “I worked in a haunted house in St. Louis, and I thought I could produce better products. So against my parents’ better judgment, I cashed in the money they had put aside for me and started the business.”

That financial investment and more than three years of hard work paid off when Polley and his four-person team pioneered the concept of video integrated animatronics (VIA). VIA technology combines high definition video content with traditional elements of animatronics giving participants the performance of a live actor, with the interactivity and 3-dimensionality that they would not get from a video. Our VIA product line was the first thing to take off and made the business something I could do full time,” he said.

At roughly \$7 billion a year, Halloween continues to grow from a seasonal to year-round industry and is catching on in other parts of the world. This has provided PNP the opportunity to sell complete turn-key attractions to international clients. “It took a long time but we’re doing quite well,” said Polley. “International business is tricky. We work hard to develop very close relationships with our customers.”

Serving on the Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering Advisory Board is another example of Polley’s commitment to building and maintaining relationships. “I gained a great deal from my SIUE experience,” said Polley. “A lot of selfless people did so much for me. It’s only right that I turn around and give that back.”

**“Develop strong relationships with your clients. We always make sure that our clients are one hundred percent satisfied with what we give them.”**

*Kip Polley, BS Manufacturing Engineering, '05*

## Taking Care of Business

Paul Galeski knew he wanted to be an engineer when he was repairing televisions at the age of 12. When it came time for college, he knew he wanted to go to an accredited engineering school, and he would have to keep working to afford it. SIUE was a natural choice.

After graduating with a bachelor’s in electrical engineering in 1983, Galeski worked for several notable companies, including McDonnell Douglas Aircraft Company, Anheuser Busch and Monsanto. A few years later, a sizable layoff at Monsanto, where he thought he would spend the rest of his career, brought with it a tough lesson. “My father always said, ‘There’s no security except in what you know’,” said Galeski. “That’s when I decided to forge out on my own.”

Galeski founded Magnum Technologies with a staff of two in 1989. The company grew quickly and included a high performance team of engineers hired for projects involving manufacturing automation. In 1997, General Electric (GE) purchased Magnum. Remaining as president and CEO of GE Automation Services, Galeski found it difficult to transition from owner to employee. “There was more to it than just the sale of the company,” he said. “Protecting the environment, culture and people’s jobs were pretty tough.”

Galeski founded his second company in 2000. MAVERICK Technologies supports the needs of manufacturing plants through automation, enterprise integration and sustaining support services. Based in Columbia, Ill., MAVERICK Technologies has 500 employees, operates in 46 countries and counts many Fortune 500 companies as clients.

For Galeski, making a difference in customer operations and the careers of his employees are the best parts of his job. Although he spends the majority of his time traveling for business, he still finds time to promote the school that gave him the foundation for his success by serving on the SIUE School of Engineering Advisory Board. “I’ve worked with engineers from all over the country and different universities, and I can honestly say none of them have anything on my education.”

**“I recommend working for a business or two and learn organizational behavior, how things are structured and how business is conducted.”**

*Paul Galeski, BS Electric Engineering, '83*





## ||||||| **A Lifetime of Experience** |||||||

When Rollie Thouvenot graduated from SIUE in 1972 with a bachelor's in civil engineering, he did not give much thought to owning his own company. "Most college kids who study engineering want to design the super structure that everyone admires," Thouvenot said. "You don't really think about the business side."

After considering his job options, he chose Thomas, Wade and Moerchen (TWM) in Belleville, Ill. where he had worked off-and-on since the age of 15. He saw opportunities that were not apparent at other firms, and working close to home appealed to Thouvenot.

Thouvenot thrived as the small-town engineering and surveying firm grew. In 1977, his dedication and hard work paid off when he was invited to buy out Thomas' share of the company. The firm was incorporated as Thouvenot, Wade and Moerchen the following year, and Thouvenot became president in 1987.

With projects ranging from wastewater treatment plants, roads and bridges to banks and schools, TWM prides itself on being a well-established local firm offering the St. Louis area a broad range of services. "Our firm is big enough to take on large projects, but small enough to remember our roots," said Thouvenot.

Entrenching himself in leading the company and providing quality service to TWM's clients, Thouvenot has earned the respect and loyalty of his employees and the community. "Being an owner doesn't give you a key to easy street," said Thouvenot. "In fact, being a business owner means it's your responsibility to set the culture or tone of the business."

Under his guidance, TWM has grown from a small, local engineering firm to the number one industry leader in southwest Illinois and the 13th largest engineering firm in the St. Louis Metropolitan area with offices on both sides of the river.

In addition to running the company, Thouvenot makes time to give back to his community by serving as president of the Swansea Police Pension Board and chairman of the board for Protestant Memorial Medical Center in Belleville, Ill. Thouvenot stays connected to his *alma mater* by providing a scholarship for engineering students and hiring SIUE engineering interns and graduates. TWM currently employs 32 SIUE graduates, including 18 who hold professional engineer or land surveyor licenses.

**"To be an entrepreneur, you have to be a risk taker, but it doesn't stop there. It's important to surround yourself with 'A' players because you can't grow a company past a certain point by yourself. At TWM, I'm fortunate to have an excellent team, which has made our success possible."**

*Rollie Thouvenot, BS Civil Engineering, '72*



## ||||||| **Daring Business** |||||||

It wouldn't be far-fetched to say Jerrod Hock was born an entrepreneur. At the age of eight, he picked all the leftover sweet corn on his dad's farm, took it to town and sold it. It wasn't until he started working at a small manufacturing company, that he realized he had a passion for engineering as well. "I always had an interest in taking things apart and building things," said Hock. "I looked for ways to be more effective and efficient."

Hock graduated with a bachelor's in mechanical engineering in 2007 with offers to work for several companies, but he didn't want just any job. When Alipro, a project management consulting company, offered him a position as a design engineer, he was intrigued. "I was looking for the opportunity to come into a company, do something new and build into a leadership role," said Hock. That's exactly what he did.

In less than a year, Hock could see Alipro's growth potential, but it would require a change in how business was conducted. Convincing the CEO was a challenge. "She nearly fired me the first time I tried to talk to her about my ideas," said Hock.

Not one to give up, Hock approached his colleagues who convinced him he needed to develop a business plan. The second meeting was successful, and Hock was given the chance to implement the new strategy. His plan doubled the size of the company in each of the subsequent three years. At that point, Hock approached the CEO once again. Instead of a salary increase, he wanted stake in the company.

Today, Hock is part owner and vice president of Alipro. Now working internationally, Alipro uses its own strategically designed project management formula to combine project objective scheduling, finance modeling and training to help other companies achieve desired growth.

Currently, Jerrod is focused on empowering his managers to become leaders within their departments. "My goal is to develop people with the drive, ambition, aptitude and ability to achieve anything," said Hock. "That's my definition of success."

**"If you have the ability, desire and drive, then the sky is the limit."**  
*Jerrod Hock, BS Mechanical Engineering, '07*

**Hock currently serves on the Mechanical Engineering Advisory Board to help the School prepare students for the workforce.**



## Dear Fellow Alumni

It is with a great sense of pride that I write this letter to my fellow alumni of the School of Engineering. I hope you are as proud to be an alumnus from the School as I am. We received a great education that prepared us to find employment and have successful careers in engineering, computer science and construction.

If you have not been on the SIUE campus recently, you should visit. Our School has seen tremendous growth over the last few years and has been evolving to meet the ever-increasing demands of preparing students to enter the workforce.

As the School's reputation continues to increase; the stronger our resumes have become, which provides us with a higher profile in our respective work places and communities.

It is now time for us to give back to our School.

The School has two important fundraising initiatives that need our assistance:

- \$2 million for a new 14,000-square-foot Student Design Center
- \$600,000 in endowed scholarship support

You are probably thinking \$2,600,000 is a lot of money, and how could your contribution make a difference. **Collectively** we can make a significant impact. There are 6,735 living alumni from the School. If we each made a \$1,000 contribution, we would generate \$6,735,000 in support. Now, that is impressive! This would provide funding for the new Student Design Center, scholarships and program enhancements. **Your** participation is essential for this to happen.

I am already participating in this endeavor. It's a great feeling to be involved with the School of Engineering. Will you participate too? Make your gift at the level that is right for you. Check with your employer to see if you can double your impact with a matching gift. Contact Karen Wicks at kwicks@siue.edu or call 618-650-5020 to discuss ways you can support the School of Engineering.

It's our turn to invest in the next generation and be a part of what is yet to come.

Sincerely,



Hal Gentry  
BS Computer Science '82



## Alumni Hall of Fame Class of 2013

On October 4, David Brammeier (BS Urban and Environmental Engineering '75) was inducted to the SIUE Alumni Hall of Fame. David has always been driven to excel, from achieving the rank of Eagle Scout as a teen to becoming a professional engineer and civic leader. While attending SIUE, he began working for George Crawford and Associates. He received his degree in urban and environmental engineering in 1975 and two years later, at the age of 24, he became an owner, which triggered the reorganization of the company as Crawford, Bunte, Brammeier (CBB). At the same time, David was elected to public office and served 28 consecutive years as a civic leader.

He rose through the ranks at CBB, serving as vice-president, president and in 2005, became CBB's chief executive officer. In March 2013, he began his semi-retirement and currently serves as one of the principals of CBB. He focuses much of his effort and attention on the firm's Glen Carbon office in order to provide complete transportation engineering and planning services to Illinois communities. On the top of Brammeier's list of achievements is raising his two sons, Brad and Brian, both Eagle Scouts and SIUE grads.

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The School of Engineering Industrial and Professional Advisory Councils and the Industrial Advisory Board support the School in several ways. They help the School meet the constantly changing landscape of engineering education, provide student-internship opportunities, help assess strengths and weaknesses of current curriculum, bring contemporary issues and directions to the attention of the administration and faculty, help students develop employment contacts, and add credibility to the engineering programs.

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On behalf of the faculty, staff and students of the School of Engineering, I extend heartfelt thanks and gratitude to our alumni, friends, corporate partners, foundations and organizations that made contributions to the School from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013. Your investment in the School assists us in maintaining the quality of excellence in our programs. Thank you for your continued support of the School and your abiding belief in its important mission.

*Hasan Sevim, Dean, School of Engineering*

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