

Featured Donors



Sharon Voskuhl, PE

A Big Thank you to Sharon Voskuhl for her donation to the MAE student leadership center!

Sharen grew up in Hennessey Oklahoma and then went on to earn her Mechanical Engineering degree here at Oklahoma State. While she was at OSU, Sharon juggled the schedule of a student-athlete and was the first female athlete to ever receive a full ride at OSU.

After that, she became facilities engineer with Cities Service. Her assignments ranged from facility design to drilling to production, all which included long hours in the oil field. She did this all while being a graduate student at OU. When Cities Service merged with Oxy USA in the

mid-1980s, she took her MBA to OXY's headquarters in Tulsa where she thrived in Acquisitions and Sales at a time when the petroleum industry was in a state of flux. After 20 years, she retired from Cities Service/Oxy USA and turned her attention to family business and investing.

Not only has Sharon done a lot in her career, but she also uses her skills through service to others. Recently, she offered her engineering expertise to Tulsa Public Schools. Her work was central to the design and construction of the \$12 million Memorial Veterans Arena, which won two prestigious design awards. Sharon serves in several professional societies and was past Chairman for the Society of Petroleum Engineers.

You might notice Sharon's presence still here at OSU when you see "Sharon V's Number Crunch Café" in the CEAT Student Excellence Center, or a painting of her family farm established in 1907 located at the Student Union Rancher's Club. Not only is her name still present here at OSU, but so is her loyalty. She continually gives back to her Alma Matter through The Voskuhl-Staab Charitable Foundation.

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Dr. Frank Eckhart (right) advising one of his students

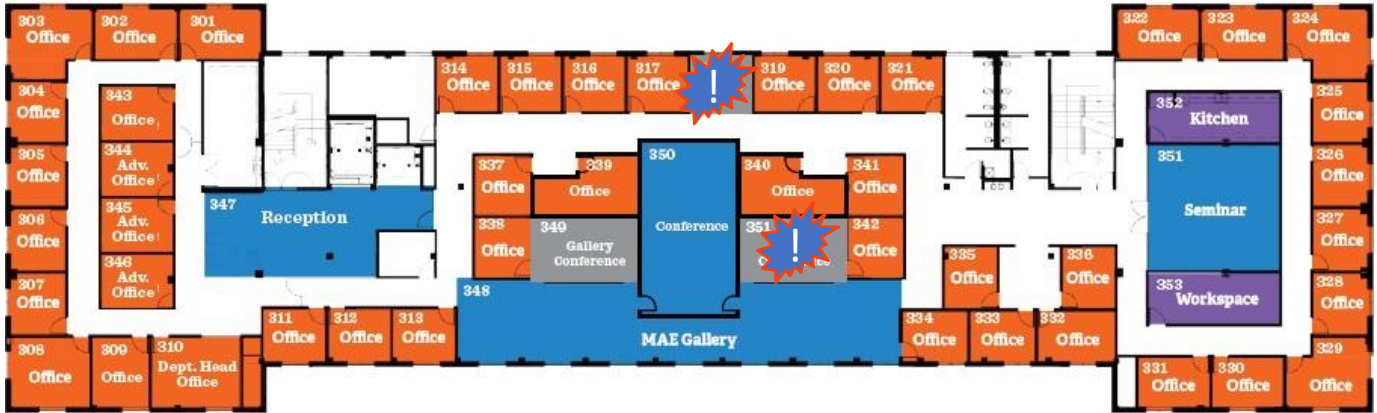
The vision of the MAE student leadership center is taking shape thanks to a generous gift from Brian, Gale, Kevin, Scot and Franklin Jr, in honor of their late father, MAE Associate Professor, Dr. Franklin F. Eckhart. Due to their donation, the MAE student leadership center offices and conference rooms will provide our student leaders with a place to meet and collaborate.

Before teaching at OSU, Dr. Franklin F. Eckhart spent many hours behind the controls of hundreds of planes and logged thousands of hours in the air. He spent many of those hours teaching young military test pilots, some who went on to become astronauts. He flew with astronauts John Sweigert and Joe Engle on the first in-flight simulation of the shuttle orbiter in 1972. Upon fulfilling his commitment to the military, Frank attended Princeton University, where he obtained a master's degree in aeronautical engineering. He then moved with his growing family to Buffalo, NY, where he went to work as a test pilot for the Cornell Aeronautical Laboratories (later known as Calspan). His efforts there included much of the early work on the space shuttle, and Frank worked closely with many future astronauts on developing in-flight simulation, particularly of the shuttle's approach and landing capabilities. He simultaneously flew in the Air National Guard, where he retired at the rank of Major.

In the mid-1970s, Frank transitioned to a career in education, and served as an associate professor in MAE until his retirement in 1996. He developed a unique 'inflight classroom'—a welcome relief from the traditional classroom and a vivid and cherished memory for many MAE aerospace engineering students. After 21 years of service to MAE and to his students, Dr. Eckhart retired in 1996.

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Named

349 Sharon V's Conference Room



Franklin F. Eckhart Conference Room



Arvind and Hema Amin Office