PARKER HANNIFIN
Creates student lab in honor of alumnus

The course "Robotic Applications," or ETM 464, will integrate the lab into class activities on hydraulic and pneumatic clamping, grippers, and effectors. "Hydraulics and Pneumatics" ETM 320 will use the lab to expand its content to include motion control. "Kinematics and Dynamics of Machines," or ME 301, will use the lab for student projects that often involve hydraulic actuation.

"This lab is so meaningful because it links the university I love, education—which is my passion—and the company I worked at for 35 years," Myslenski says.

Industrial and Systems Engineering

PROFESSOR’S EXPECTATION OF EXCELLENCE LIVES ON

The late Helmut Zwahlen was known for his high expectations of students. "In Dr. Zwahlen’s simulation class, all the aspects of a real-world situation had to be distilled and recreated—simulated—within the confines of a computer program," says Russ College alumnus Michael Gardner, B.S.I.S. ’81. "Only with rigorous preparation and above-average effort was one able to succeed," Gardner adds.

Gardner, president of Findlay, Ohio’s Superior Trim, which manufactures interior trim components for heavy trucks, and his colleague Robin Hayward, B.S.I.S. ’85, recently made a $50,000 gift to establish the Dr. Helmut Zwahlen Award for Outstanding Student Achievement in Simulation. The annual award will provide $2,500 for an undergraduate student who is excelling in an advanced simulation course.

Zwahlen, who taught simulation, joined the Russ College in 1971 as an assistant professor of industrial and systems engineering and later became a Russ Professor.

"He was a prolific researcher whose work led to the creation of high-visibility highway signage in use on American highways today, where it continues to save lives," Department Chair Bob Judd says of Zwahlen.

Hayward, senior operations analyst at Superior Trim, participated as a subject and lead researcher in Zwahlen’s work for the Ohio Department of Transportation. He says that he and Gardner also wanted to recognize the global influence of Zwahlen’s research.

"The opportunity to be involved in projects and research that had a real-world impact was significantly more influential on me as time has gone on, as opposed to the classic textbook education," Hayward notes. "Dr. Zwahlen taught with an intelligent practicality that helped his students understand how what we learn can apply to real-life situations."