

12TH ANNUAL

# DR. THOMAS J. O'KEEFE LECTURE

## Leading and Building Engineered Products Businesses

### **Fred W. Niemeier**

*Group President and Senior Vice  
President, Strategy & Operations  
Harbour Group*



Fred Niemeier, a metallurgical engineering graduate of Missouri Science and Technology, is currently a Group President as well as the Senior Vice President of Strategy and Operations at Harbour Group. Harbour Group is a privately-owned, operations-

focused holding company that buys manufacturing, distribution, and specialty service companies across several diverse industries.

Niemeier earned his metallurgical engineering degree from Missouri S&T in 1995 and started his career at General Motors. At General Motors, he worked as a production supervisor, metallurgy lab supervisor, and quality analyst. He quickly realized that he was more interested in the business side of the company and left General Motors to attain an MBA from Harvard Business School. After getting his MBA, Niemeier worked for the management consulting firm PRTM – now part of PricewaterhouseCoopers – in its industrial-technology practice helping senior-level executives make step-function changes to improve their businesses. Niemeier then worked as an executive at Danaher Corporation, the private equity firm Baird Capital Partners, and IDEX Corporation. At IDEX, Niemeier progressed through several general management positions, where he was responsible for all strategic, commercial, operational, and financial aspects of running global business units. Now at Harbour Group in St. Louis, Niemeier works with the portfolio company leaders and investment teams to acquire and build attractive and profitable businesses.

On Thursday, December 1, join Mr. Niemeier as he speaks about the exciting career paths available to engineering graduates who want to lead and build businesses that make engineered products.

**Thursday, Dec. 1, 2022**

**2:45-3:15 p.m. Reception, McNutt Commons  
3:30 p.m. Planje Auditorium, 204 McNutt Hall**



## DR. THOMAS J. O'KEEFE

Dr. Thomas J. O'Keefe, MetE'58, PhD MetE'65, taught in the metallurgical engineering department from 1965 until his death in 2008.

Named a Curators' Professor in 1985, O'Keefe was an expert in electrometallurgy, hydrometallurgy, deposition processing, materials recycling, corrosion, and metal films and coatings. Over a span of 43 years, he graduated over 60 Ph.D. students, published 170 articles in refereed journals, had 11 issued U.S. and foreign patents, and received numerous research, teaching, alumni, lectureships and outstanding paper awards. He was an active member in the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical, and Petroleum Engineers (AIME) as well as The Minerals, Metals and Materials Society (TMS).

## ABOUT THE SERIES

The Dr. **Thomas J. O'Keefe** Lecture Series was created in memory of O'Keefe, Curators' Distinguished Professor emeritus of metallurgical engineering, and dedicated to his influence on the lives of S&T students. It was funded by **Sally and Joe, MetE'72, Rupp**, who was a student of O'Keefe's.

The Rupps felt this named lecture series would be an excellent way to maintain the strong academic environment and technical education that O'Keefe helped to establish over his 40-year career at Missouri S&T. It provides an opportunity for an alumnus or other outstanding individual to speak to students and the campus community about the impact and importance of education on their career.

### Previous Thomas J. O'Keefe lecturers

- 2019: Joe Rupp, BS MetE'72, PD'87
- 2018: Lucie Johannes Sommer, MetE'02, PhD MetE'06
- 2017: Martin G. Perez, PhD MetE'05
- 2016: Laura L. Ely, MetE'04
- 2015: James L. Spehr, MetE'64, MS MetE'69
- 2014: William E. Horst, MetE'51, MS MetE'52
- 2013: Christopher J. McReynolds, MetE'84
- 2012: Scott D. Morrison, PhD MetE'85
- 2011: Benjamin P. Winter, MetE'80
- 2010: Kenneth D. Gielow, MetE'70, MS MetE'71
- 2009: Robert C. Tooke, MetE'62, MS MetE'66, PhD MetE'72