

New Jobs, Fond Memories, and a Proposal

Kayla Yates and Peter Schonberg have grown significantly since their May 2021 graduations from Missouri S&T. Yates has a Bachelor of Arts in English with minors in geology, creative writing, and linguistics, while Peter has a Bachelor of Science in Technical Communication. Although they have different degrees, they are both working as technical communicators.

Kayla began her studies at S&T as a major in geological engineering. While she found moderate success during an engineering internship, she realized that she didn't want to be an engineer. "The part I liked the most [about the internship] was writing about what I did during the day." Kayla soon transferred to the ETC department. As an ETC major, she received guidance and inspiration from multiple professors. She especially enjoyed Dr. Sarah Hercula's linguistics courses. "I was really inspired to learn as much as I could about why people think saying what they say is okay. It gave me a lot of perspective and a lot of growth."

Kayla works as a technical writer for EquipmentShare, a nationwide company based in Columbia, Missouri. She writes instruction manuals for installing equipment on commercial vehicles, such as forklifts. She also creates new channels for private internal communications.

Peter began his studies at S&T as a major in physics. Although he enjoyed reading and writing about physics, he did not enjoy the complex math that the degree required. Kayla convinced Peter to join our department, and he was happy she did. "Almost every class I took was about developing hard skills," he said.



Peter and Kayla visited Olympic National Park in March 2022.

Peter found success thanks to multiple professors in ETC. He attributes his love of science fiction to Dr. Dan Reardon's sci-fi course, adding that he uses this information in interviews to introduce companies to his personality. Dr. Carleigh Davis was influential to him in numerous ways; he worked with her on research projects before he graduated.

Peter is now working for Mastercard as a senior content analyst. He is part of a team that creates and delivers digital content such as user guides, release notes, and reference documentation for API developers.

Outside of work, Peter and Kayla wrote a code of conduct for the Amateur Fencing Association of Missouri. In August 2022, Peter proposed to Kayla at a winery in St. Louis, and Kayla said yes. They now live comfortably in O'Fallon, Missouri, with their cat Solaris.



Noah displays his Shakespeare-inspired art at the S&T Renaissance Fair in April.

Shakespeare at the Annual Renaissance Fair in Havener

For a project in ENGL 3214 The Plays of William Shakespeare, taught by Dr. Ed Malone in Spring 2022, ETC major Noah Hayes drew sketches of actors performing in films such as *Much Ado about Nothing* (1993) and *The Tempest* (2010) and sculpted figurines, or weenicons, of their characters. Projects by other students included a bust of the drowned Ophelia (see page 15 in this issue), posters and a script for a new ending to *Hamlet*, a photograph of the assassination of Julius Caesar with one person playing all the roles, and various Renaissance foods, such as venison pie (a popular dish in Shakespeare's day).

