

Roger Gafke

Few of us have traveled such a long Journalism School journey. Few of us have contributed so much.

Roger Gafke came to Mizzou as a student. After a brief detour to the Air Force and St. Louis area newsrooms, he came back to teach at the School of Journalism and serve as news director at KFRU, the forerunner to KBIA.

In those early days, Roger taught the Missouri Method in a newsroom

consisting of two desks pushed together between the men's room and the women's room in the back of the Columbia Tribune newsroom. It was glamorous.

Years later he served the School as department chair and assistant dean. Then Chancellor Barbara Uehling coaxed him to Jesse Hall, where over time he was promoted to Vice Chancellor of Development. He guided the fund-raising and construction of the Reynolds Alumni Center.

Back at the J-School, he became the most successful fund-raiser in Mizzou history — more than \$100 million dollars for construction and programs at the Donald W. Reynolds Journalism Institute, where we now gather to honor him at his retirement....

