A nominator uses this quote from Henry Brooks Adams to describe Dr. Stephenson: “A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where influence stops.”

Dr. Stephenson’s passion for Engineers Without Borders, a program that partners with developing communities to improve their quality of life, is contagious and has transformed the lives of many both in far-away lands and those close to home. What started as one project in one country quickly grew to four projects in four countries. Since the group’s first trip to Guatemala in 2005 with 12 students and faculty, Missouri S&T’s chapter of Engineers Without Borders, under the guidance of Dr. Stephenson, has blossomed to 26 overseas trips involving more than 280 students and professionals from the campus and the Rolla professional community.

Serving as the group’s mentor, travel agent and cheerleader, Dr. Stephenson has transformed the lives of all involved. Many of his students have gone on to the Peace Corps to work as missionaries or to work for or start their own non-governmental organizations. And even those who continue on a more traditional career path have had their eyes opened to the bigger world. They see how they can make a tremendous difference in the world, often becoming future leaders in industry and government and putting into action much of what they learned by making decisions based upon a much greater global world view.