Joyce Kline '87

HERBERT F. TAYLOR AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO WPI

Joyce Kline, your steadfast dedication to WPI serves as an example to your fellow alumni and to the students who will soon join the ranks of the Alumni Association.

Your service to WPI is expansive. Of special note is your work to lead the formation of the Boston Alumni Club and then take that effort national as chair of Regional Clubs. You served on the Class Board of Directors and the Executive Committee of the Alumni Association, and on what was then the Alumni Fund Board, where you chaired the Corporate Agents Board. As chair of the Marketing and Communications Committee of the Alumni Association, you and your committee launched The Bridge, WPI’s monthly e-newsletter. In addition, you volunteered for your reunion planning committees, mentored students, and served the Alumni Admissions Program for more than 15 years.

When you became president of the Alumni Association in 2009, you were able to build on the foundation laid by your prior service and that of your predecessors. During your tenure, you launched the Goat’s Head Award, which recognizes faculty and staff who have had a profound impact on WPI alumni and students. In addition, under your leadership, the Alumni Association in partnership with the Student Affairs office began Community Service Day, where students and alumni join forces for a day to volunteer to aid organizations in the Worcester Community. You also advanced the regional program into 17 thriving U.S. and international WPI alumni chapters. You helped continue the reshaping of the Alumni Association into a dynamic body with more opportunities for alumni engagement. You helped establish new student mentoring programs and, notably, reinvigorated the Alumni Association’s commitment to raising scholarship funds for deserving undergraduate students.

Your service to WPI as an alumna is a reflection of the value you place on your student experience. Orientation leader, residence hall director, resident advisor, campus tour guide, Skull honor society member, Student Alumni Society chair, Alpha Gamma Delta sorority member—these just begin the list of your many and varied student activities.

This is not the first time your peers have expressed their gratitude for your service. In 2002 you received the Alumni Association’s John Boynton Young Alumni Award for Service to WPI and the Volunteer Excellence in Alumni Programming Award in 2003. Today the WPI Alumni Association is proud to present you with the Herbert F. Taylor Award for Distinguished Service to WPI.

William R. Grogan

GOAT’S HEAD AWARD FOR LIFETIME COMMITMENT TO WPI

William Grogan, you are well-known to the WPI community as an architect of the WPI Plan and one of its greatest champions. It is our distinct pleasure to recognize you for your contribution to this bold model of educational innovation and for the positive impact you have had on generations of WPI students.

As a professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering in the 1960s you were a member of the faculty committees that developed WPI’s distinctive project-based curriculum known as the WPI Plan. No one captures the excitement and drama of that tumultuous time quite the way you do—the negotiations with faculty, the enthusiasm of the students, the nail-biter faculty vote that made the Plan a reality. You were at the center of it all.

As WPI’s first dean of undergraduate students, you were then charged with implementing the Plan. Early on, you saw globalization on the horizon and sought project partnerships in London and Switzerland to help prepare students in an ever-shrinking world. Even in your retirement, you worked tirelessly to help develop the Global Perspective Program into one of WPI’s signature programs. Today, more than 50 percent of WPI undergraduates complete at least one academic project off campus, gaining the valuable skills that come from working in teams to solve problems at the intersection of engineering, science, technology, and human need.

In addition to your contributions to the curriculum that has shaped the lives of generations of alumni, you are known as a wise counselor to countless students and alumni. Over the years, you have advised students on their project work and helped students and alumni envision their lives after WPI. In addition, you have served as a mentor to Phi Kappa Theta for more than 60 years. You areas much a fixture on campus as our beloved Two Towers—a true icon of the university.

In 2005 you received the Presidential Medal on the occasion of the inauguration of President Dennis Berkey. At that ceremony you were described as a “WPI visionary” and one of “the giants on whose shoulders we stand today.”

For your endless gifts of talent and creativity, time, and boundless energy, the WPI Alumni Association is proud to present you with the Goat’s Head Award for Lifetime Commitment to WPI.