As technology continues to transform our world, it also creates legal complexities that require an understanding of the fundamentals behind intellectual property and the laws meant to protect it. William Anthony, you have built your impressive career as a patent attorney by working at the leading edge of this intersection of technology and the law.

A highly experienced trial lawyer, you are known for your expertise in complex high-tech patent cases. In your current role as partner in the Silicon Valley Office of the firm Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe and a member of the firm’s Intellectual Property Group, you focus exclusively on technology and high-stakes patent litigation. You led that group of more than 100 lawyers for a number of years. You have tried a substantial number of cases, to both jury and bench, involving such forward-looking technologies as semiconductors, computers, and biotechnology. You have appeared many times before the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit and your impressive client list includes Cisco Systems, Oracle, and Microsoft. Among your many achievements, your work on behalf of Aureal Semiconductor in a case involving Aureal’s core technology, the 3D audio sound card, was named a “Top 10 Defense Verdict of 1999” by The National Law Journal. To this day, you are recognized in many “Best Lawyers” lists published by the legal journals.

Before joining Orrick, you were a partner at Brobeck, Phleger & Harrison LLP, where you headed the intellectual property practice and served as a lead patent litigator. Prior to that, you were a partner with Townsend, Townsend & Crew.

Your remarkable career is informed by your WPI education. You majored in mechanical engineering and honed your leadership skills through your ROTC experience and as a member of band, Masque, Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity, and Sigma Pi and Pi Tau Sigma honor societies. You served as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army and then earned your law degree at the University of Connecticut.

Invention is the engine that drives today’s global innovation economy. William Anthony, you help ensure that the engine of invention can continue to propel society forward. We are proud to honor you today with the Robert H. Goddard Award for Outstanding Professional Achievement.