2000 Award Recipient

Edward Cheung '85

Edward Cheung, you have come a long way since your first experiments with spacebound containers as a student at WPI. As chief engineer for the Hubble Space Telescope Servicing Project at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, you have helped assure that the Hubble remains one of the "crown jewels" of the space program.

You joined NASA in 1991, after completing master's and doctoral degrees in electrical engineering at Yale University. After completing pioneering work in robotics, you joined the Hubble team in 1996. Working from Earth, you have solved in-flight problems in the telescope's cooling system, gyroscopes and vital data-recording devices. Working within a tight time frame, you designed and installed the HOST Controller -- an elegant, low-cost computer to command all of these instruments and provide a data link to ground control.

But even as you have worked long shifts at mission control, you always made the time to share your experiences with family and friends. You gave your wife and children the rare experience of witnessing a space shuttle launch, and your e-mail bulletins and Web page have brought us all a little closer to the final frontier.

Edward Cheung, your dedication and vision have advanced NASA's mission and the scientific standing of the United States. It is indeed an honor for WPI to present you with the Ichabod Washburn Young Alumni Award for Professional Achievement.