2009 Award Recipient

Glenn Yee '74

Glenn Yee, you were among the first students to enroll in the WPI Plan, which you have credited with teaching you valuable lessons in discipline, teamwork, and dealing with uncertainty and risk. Those lessons have served you well in your impressive career as an entrepreneur who can identify and seize opportunity.

Born in China, you emigrated to the United States with your family and settled in Cleveland, Ohio. In your youth, you recognized your strengths in math and science and were drawn to engineering and to WPI. You majored in mechanical engineering and enjoyed the flexibility of the WPI Plan, which you once said required you to "think outside the box' often."

After graduating from WPI, you joined GE's Technical Marketing Program, where you discovered an interest in the business and commercial side of engineering. After earning an MBA at Columbia University, you joined Continental Can Company in Stamford, Conn., as a corporate finance analyst in international finance. Two years later you joined the company's Asian Pacific Office in Hong Kong, where you performed financial evaluations of joint ventures and acquisitions in the region. Your skill did not go unnoticed, and you were promoted through the corporate ranks to become managing director.

When you recognized an opportunity to develop the market in China, you decided to strike out on your own. In 1992, you founded Pacific Can Company, which specializes in the manufacture of aluminum beverage cans. Today, Pacific Can operates three modern facilities in Beijing, Dalian, and Xiamen; it is one of three major beverage can manufacturers in China, and is an established supplier to many global and Chinese branded beverages.

You have never forgotten your WPI roots and have served your alma mater in myriad ways over the years, including your current service as a WPI trustee.

Glenn Yee, in recognition of your distinguished career and dedication to WPI, we are proud to honor you with the Robert H. Goddard Award Award for Outstanding Professional Achievement.