2003 Award Recipient

Judith Linnea Donahue SIM ’82

Judith Linnea Donahue, a 1982 graduate and Student Council member of WPI's School of Industrial Management, has been President and Treasurer of Donahue Industries in Shrewsbury, MA, since 1985. She joined the firm, which was founded by her father, Irving James (Jim) Donahue, Jr., WPI Class of 1944, in 1979.

JudE was voted "best leader" of her 1968 Shrewsbury High School class. She was Class VP for four years, Co-Captained two sports teams, was an officer in many activities and was inducted into the National Honor Society. Donahue earned a bachelor degree in education from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst in 1972. A certified K-12 teacher in Massachusetts in general education and physical education, she was a third-grade teacher and a K-8 physical education instructor in the Spencer, MA, School System. During those years, she also coached the women's varsity tennis team at Clark University and Shrewsbury High School sports teams. In 1974, she became the Town of Shrewsbury's assistant to the director of the Health Department. Three years later, she was named the first woman housing inspector in the Code Inspection Department for the City of Worcester. She left that post in 1979 to join Donahue Industries due to her father's poor health.

Donahue has been actively involved as a volunteer for the Shrewsbury School Department for nearly two decades. She has served on Advisory Councils for the Jobs for Bay State Graduates Program, Shrewsbury School Reform and for the Shrewsbury High School Alumni Association where she currently serves the association as Treasurer, and membership/database chairperson. She has served on the board of directors of the Central Massachusetts Employers Association and the Better Business Bureau of Central New England. At WPI, she served as a member of the Alumni Association Publications Committee from 1987 to 1996. She is a notary public in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and a member, since 1993, of Who's Who of Emerging Leaders of America.