2005 Award Recipient

Marshall S. Levine '55

Marshall Levine, WPI takes great pride in your accomplishments in the invention of medical devices and the development of medical device companies.

A graduate of Classical High School, you earned your bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering at WPI, where you were a captain in ROTC, leader of the ROTC Band, a tennis player, and a member of the Glee Club, Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity, and the student chapter of ASME.

Upon graduation from WPI, your first jobs were in production engineering and design engineering at Pratt & Whitney. You then worked in sales engineering and marketing consulting for other companies. In 1970 you co-founded Geometric Data Corporation, a subsidiary of SmithKline, to market the HEMATAK instrument, for which you shared a patent with company co-founder Melvin Miller. This computerized microscope quadrupled the speed of differential blood tests, facilitating the detection of a variety of illnesses, particularly leukemia. You now hold 14 patents for medical devices.

In 1979 you founded and served as president of Thermal Data, a company you formed with Larry Katzman '69. Thermal Data developed the Residential Energy Computer to promote residential energy conservation. At about the same time, you and a friend co-founded the Institute for Human Development, a nonprofit organization that employs more than a hundred Philadelphia residents to recondition furnaces.

In 1987, after spending some time as a self-employed consultant, you took a break to complete a 10,000-mile sailing trip with four crew members on your 38-foot sloop 'Free Spirit.' Since 1992 you have been chairman of Alpha Scientific Corporation, a manufacturer of medical instruments, including a blood dispensing device used in more than 1,500 hospitals in all 50 states. Company president is your son David; your son Daniel, who graduated from WPI in 1992, serves as vice president.

Marshall Levine, your initiative and mechanical engineering talent make you a credit to WPI. It is an honor to present you with the Robert H. Goddard Award for Outstanding Professional Achievement.