2003 Award Recipient

Myles McDonough, Trustee Emeritus

Myles McDonough, entrepreneur, civic leader and dedicated volunteer, WPI is proud to honor you today for your years of dedicated service in support of the university.

Your formal relationship with WPI began in 1989 when, as a non-alumnus, you accepted an invitation to serve on its Board of Trustees. As founder, chairman and CEO of Flexcon, a Spencer-based company that manufactures pressure-sensitive laminates and self-adhesive films, you brought a keen sense of the business world to the board and its deliberations.

You have served on six committees of the board since 1989, including the Physical Facilities Committee during a critical period of time. You played a key role in the building of the Campus Center, the closing of West Street and its transformation into a pedestrian mall, the renovation of Higgins Labs, and the restoration of almost all of WPI's residence centers. You have also been an important member of the Academic Planning and Student Affairs, Budget and Finance, Nominations and Trusteeship committees, as well as the Executive Committee. Your quiet but sound leadership and counsel has been a hallmark of your service as a trustee.

Your steadfast belief in WPI and its educational program to prepare young men and women for careers in science and engineering has led you to pursue and ultimately hire many WPI graduates and to encourage WPI students to work at your company as summer interns. These young people couldn't have asked for a better mentor.

During your tenure as a trustee you were instrumental in helping WPI launch the most ambitious fund-raising initiative in its history, The Campaign for WPI, and you made an early leadership gift to that effort. You are a member of WPI's Presidential Founders, a lifetime member of the President's Advisory Council and a charter member of the Alden Society.

A graduate of Seton Hall University, you, along with your wife, Jean, have committed yourselves to the improvement of the Greater Worcester community, demonstrated most vividly by the creation of the McDonough Charitable Foundation that provides support and leadership to local not-for-profit organizations and social service organizations. The commitment you have demonstrated to the Worcester Art Museum has been very special; you have also served as a trustee of the Medical Center of Central Massachusetts.

Myles McDonough, in recognition of your extraordinary leadership, loyalty and generosity, WPI is proud to present you with the WPI Award for Distinguished Service.