2005 Award Recipient

Robert H. Cahill ’65
Bob Cahill, your loyalty, dedication, and enthusiastic support have been the hallmarks of your involvement with your alma mater. Though you've pursued your career far from campus, you have managed to be an active and influential volunteer - one who has had a significant impact on this university.

Your relationship with WPI began in 1961 when you enrolled as a freshman. A member of Phi Kappa Theta fraternity and an active participant in student government, you were recognized early on as a leader by your classmates, who elected you class president in your freshman and sophomore years. Upon graduating with a degree in civil engineering, you entered the U.S. Navy Seabees and served with the 3rd Marine Division in Vietnam, where you earned the Purple Heart and the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat V. In 1970 you attended the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania, earning an MBA in marketing.

Your career began in the sales and marketing arena, but before long you rose to significant leadership positions in several companies, including Adage Inc., which you served as president and CEO. Currently you are chairman of International Seal and Packing Co., a distributor of hydraulic seals, and president of Homalite, a manufacturer of optical plastics. You also serve on the board of directors of Cookson Door and on the advisory board of the Republic Bank of Delaware. The motivation and leadership you have provided to all these corporations has been extraordinary.

Despite your busy career, you have always made time for WPI. In fact, many would say you are in a class by yourself as you cheer for WPI and inspire the university. You have been a member of countless class committees and have served as chair of several class gift campaigns. Most notable is your recent work on your 35th and 40th Reunion gift campaigns. Your hard work and enlightened leadership as chair of both of these efforts, raised significant dollars that will have a lasting impact on those at the heart of this university - the students and the faculty. Through the years you have also worked as an alumni admissions representative, recruiting bright, talented students to your beloved alma mater. Ever the optimist, you view no job as too big or too daunting. You have always been willing to lend a hand to help WPI and remain dedicated to its continued success.

Bob Cahill, for your passion and commitment to WPI in so many ways, we are honored to present you with the Herbert F. Taylor Award for Distinguished Service to WPI.