2007 Award Recipient

William D. Cunningham

William Cunningham, your participation benefits the university, and your work with many of our alumni organizations only begins to describe your appreciation for your alma mater.

After receiving your bachelor of science in electrical engineering from WPI and your MBA from the Tuck School at Dartmouth College, you quickly worked your way up the corporate ladder while giving back to students at the university level.

You are currently CEO of Diamond Fiber Composites, an advanced materials company that manufactures nickel- and copper-coated carbon fiber for aerospace, electronic, biomedical, and defense industries. Before joining the company, you worked at AT&T, Data General, and Apple Computer in sales and marketing. In 1992 your first of five startup companies, CollegeView, opened for business. You taught entrepreneurship from 1995 to 2000 at Xavier University’s entrepreneurship department and served as director of its Entrepreneurial Center from 1997 to 2000. In 1999, Ernst & Young selected you as the Entrepreneurial Educator of the Year for the Ohio Valley Region. You are now an adjunct professor for the Northern Kentucky University Entrepreneurial Institute.

At WPI, you have served as a member of the Class Boards of Directors, the President’s Advisory Council, the Entrepreneurs Collaborative Advisory Board, the Alden Society, and the Trustee Search Committee. You’ve also been a Reunion volunteer, a class agent, and a phonathon volunteer. You exemplify the ideal WPI alumnus. Your dedication and commitment to helping the university remain connected with its graduates is a fine example of leadership and loyalty.

Bill Cunningham, we thank you. We are proud to honor you today with the Herbert F. Taylor Award for Distinguished Service to WPI.