WPI's Robert A. Foisie School of Business is proud to have been ranked the #1 part-time MBA in the Northeast by BusinessWeek.
Our Mission

The Robert A. Foisie School of Business at Worcester Polytechnic Institute is rooted in WPI’s strengths in technology, engineering, and science, and is known for developing innovative and entrepreneurial leaders for a global technological world.

We focus on

- Creating and leading technology-based organizations
- Innovating by creating new processes, products, and services, based on technology
- Integrating technology into the workplace

We emphasize

- Innovative and project-based education that integrates the theory and practice of management, and prepares students to assume positions of leadership in an increasingly global business environment
- Basic scholarship, while also valuing the scholarship of application and the scholarship of instruction
- Interaction with the business community, focused primarily on technological innovation, and both individual and organizational entrepreneurship

Cover Photos:

The arm-and-hammer weathervane that adorns the Washburn Shops cupola has, since 1868, symbolized the “practice” in the WPI motto, “Theory and Practice.” It was originally designed by Charles H. Morgan, a WPI trustee and a leader in the American wire industry, whose original sketch was given to WPI in 1911 by his son, Paul B. Morgan, upon his father’s death. The current weathervane was given as a gift in 1977 from Richard Johns, a contractor who at the time was restoring the Washburn Shops.

Inset photos, from top to bottom, are Robert A. Foisie ’56, whose $40 million donation this year was the largest in the history of WPI; Professors Diane M. Strong and Sharon A. Wulf, who were, respectively, named Researcher of the Year and Teacher of the Year by the WPI Board of Trustees, and Helen G. Vassallo, who was named Advisor of the Year in a student vote.
The Robert A. Foisie School of Business has just completed a vibrant and dynamic year. The 2013-14 academic year represented a watershed period of events that have added to the strategic growth and visibility of the school.

The first and most visible change is the naming of the Foisie School of Business, which took place less than five years after the formation of the school. The naming came in recognition of Robert A. Foisie’s many years of contributions to WPI, culminating in his gift of $40 million, which is the largest gift ever made to WPI. We are proud to have his name attached to our school.

It has also been a year of major transitions. The appointment of Laurie A. Leshin as WPI’s new president occurred under the leadership and guidance of Philip B. Ryan ’65, who served as interim president. In addition, Mark P. Rice, founding dean of the Foisie School of Business, has taken on new responsibilities as vice provost of innovation and entrepreneurship, and the school is in the process of seeking a new dean.

The Foisie School of Business is now a signatory to the United Nations Global Compact Principles of Responsible Management Education. We will provide our first report to the U.N. this year.

We have also seen the arrival of four tenure-track faculty members – Dimitrios Koutmos, Karla Mendoza-Abarca, Purvi Shah, and me. The faculty had a productive year, introducing innovative courses and publishing articles from their ongoing research in dozens of publications.

The value of contributions by our faculty and staff was also recognized, as Foisie School of Business faculty were given the Board of Trustees’ awards, which are the most prestigious annual awards presented to faculty. Professor Diane M. Strong is the first faculty member from either the Foisie School of Business or its predecessor, the Department of Management, to be recognized as Researcher of the Year by the Board of Trustees. In addition, Professor Sharon A. Wulf received the Board of Trustees’ Teacher of the Year Award. These awards are further recognition of the quality of research and teaching provided by the school’s faculty. We believe there will be many more accolades for our faculty in the future.

The Foisie School of Business is the healthiest it has ever been, with some of the largest incoming classes we have ever seen. Growth continues at both the graduate and undergraduate levels, and our students are among the best in the world.

Our students have also been involved in a broad set of activities that have contributed to and been acknowledged by our communities. One of the biggest events held on campus this year was the Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE) Northeast Regional Conference. Tyco CEO George R. Oliver ’82, a member of the WPI Board of Trustees, served as keynote speaker, presenting to hundreds of industrial engineering faculty, professionals and students. In addition, we received our share of student awards for major qualifying projects (MQPs), interactive qualifying projects (IQPs), and graduate qualifying projects (GQPs).

The Foisie School of Business has also joined other doctorate-granting business schools, recruiting and welcoming four students into our brand new doctoral program.

The list of activities and milestones this past year has brought is extensive. There are many more I have not identified.

Periods of transition bring challenges, but also opportunities. We will continue to meet the challenges and take advantage of opportunities as we grow and contribute to society. We are all looking forward to contributing to the continued vibrancy and dynamism that is the Foisie School of Business at WPI.

My warmest regards,

Joseph Sarkis
Dean ad interim, Foisie School of Business
Department Head, Management
Robert A. Foisie School Of Business

The Robert A. Foisie School of Business provides cutting-edge, project-based education, designed to integrate management practice with technological advancement. Understanding how business and technology integrate is at the core of our business curriculum.

**Undergraduate Programs**
- BS in Industrial Engineering
- BS in Management
- BS in Management Engineering
- BS in Management Information Systems

**Minors**
- Business Management
- Entrepreneurship
- Industrial Engineering
- Management Information Systems
- Social Entrepreneurship

**Graduate Programs**
- MBA
- MS in Information Technology
- MS in Management
- MS in Marketing and Technological Innovation
- MS in Operations Design and Leadership

**Ph.D. in Business Administration**
- Entrepreneurship
- Information Technology
- Operations Management

**Certificate Programs**
- Information Security Management
- Information Technology
- Health Systems Innovation*
- Management of Technology
- Technology Marketing
- Customized Certificate Programs

*NEW CERTIFICATE

**Our Students**

The Robert A. Foisie School of Business attracts committed students who want to be leaders in our fast-moving global economy. Of our 641 total students, 238 (37%) are undergraduates and 403 (63%) are graduate students.

Our students understand that the ability to manage and leverage the ever-changing advances in technology is critical to innovation and competition. We encourage them to sharpen their entrepreneurial and leadership skills to build a foundation for success. Through real-world preparation, our students are able to take on some of the most difficult challenges in business and technology, and demonstrate how their involvement impacts society and improves lives.

**Enrolled Students by Degree** *(from WPI Fact Book)*
- MBA – 202
- MS in Information Technology – 46
- MS in Management – 61
- MS in Marketing & Technological Innovation – 52
- MS in Operations Design & Leadership – 42

**Undergraduate**

For AY 2013-14, the Foisie School of Business had 238 undergraduate management students – an increase of almost 5% over the previous year. They majored in the following areas:
- Management Engineering – 88
- Industrial Engineering – 78
- Management Information Systems – 43
- Management – 29

University-wide, 89 students declared minors from the Foisie School of Business, a nearly 20% increase from the prior year:
- Business – 57
- Entrepreneurship – 17
- Industrial Engineering – 5
- Management Information Systems – 8
- Social Entrepreneurship – 2
Naming the Robert A. Foisie School of Business

The Robert A. Foisie School of Business has been named to honor Robert A. Foisie ’56, whose recently announced $40 million donation for scholarships is the largest in the history of WPI.

In addition, the Foisie Innovation Center will be located in the renovated Alumni Gym on the WPI campus in honor of Foisie’s lifetime giving. Foisie received an honorary doctorate of engineering at the 2014 WPI Commencement ceremony. Even before his donation, he was WPI’s largest donor, having contributed $23 million in scholarships for 580 WPI students. His philanthropy includes the establishment of the Robert Foisie Scholars Fund in 2009; he also established 17 undergraduate scholarships named in honor of WPI professors who influenced him.

A trustee emeritus, Foisie, who lives in Port Saint Lucie, Florida, is an innovator and entrepreneur. Born and raised in West Hartford, Connecticut, he was the first member of his family to attend college when he enrolled at WPI in 1952. He worked after school as a clerk and truck driver to pay for his education and, with scholarship assistance, he graduated with a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering, and then earned a master’s degree from Cornell University in 1958.

“The financial assistance that I received during my time at WPI allowed me to stay in school and realize my potential as an innovator and entrepreneur. This university means a great deal to me, and the knowledge that I gained here, the people I engaged with, and my experiences have been invaluable to my growth as a person and a successful businessman. This gift is the fulfillment of my dream to establish a scholarship fund that would support qualified students with financial need and a burning ambition to make a difference in the world.”

— Robert A. Foisie ’56

Foisie School of Business by the Numbers

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Rank by <em>Businessweek</em> for part-time MBA programs in the Northeast.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Number of years <em>Businessweek</em> has ranked the part-time MBA program #1 in the Northeast region.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2.7M</td>
<td>Amount of project grant money in which our faculty participates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Rank by <em>Businessweek</em> for undergraduate programs in the country in MIS and entrepreneurship.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$40M</td>
<td>Gift from Robert A. Foisie, resulting in the naming of the Foisie School of Business in his honor.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>National rank by <em>Businessweek</em> for our undergraduate program in operations management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>150</td>
<td>Years since WPI was founded.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Years as a school of business.</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Rank by <em>Businessweek</em> for part-time MBA programs in the United States.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Years since we started the first management degree at WPI. Masters in Management introduced in 1970.</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Number of full-time faculty members.</td>
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<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>Number of editorial positions held by faculty in the Foisie School of Business.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>655</td>
<td>Average GMAT and GRE score</td>
</tr>
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Accreditations

- AACSB International
- Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (for WPI’s Industrial Engineering Program)
Major Faculty Awards & Honors

Researcher of the Year
Professor Diane M. Strong, director of the Management Information Systems Program, believes computers can help people live healthier lives and that healthcare is “the current frontier” for information technology. Toward that end, this year’s Researcher of the Year, chosen by the WPI Board of Trustees based on her lifetime of research, is leading a team of researchers who are developing a smartphone app to help those with advanced type 2 diabetes manage their disease. Their research is in the third year of a four-year $1.2 million grant from the National Science Foundation.

The app tracks a person’s glucose levels, weight, and physical activities, and provides feedback on their progress. If, for example, someone has not exercised in two days, it will send the person a motivational message. The app also uses the phone’s camera to capture images of a patient’s diabetic foot ulcers; it analyzes the images and reports progress with healing. Strong expects the app to be ready next year for use by patients at UMass Memorial Medical Center in Worcester.

Strong earned her bachelor’s degree from the University of South Dakota, and master’s degrees from the New Jersey Institute of Technology and Carnegie Mellon University before receiving her doctorate from Carnegie Mellon’s Tepper School of Business. She joined WPI’s faculty in 1995.

Teacher of the Year
Sharon A. Wulf was named Teacher of the Year by the WPI Board of Trustees. She teaches graduate courses in Group and Interpersonal Dynamics in Complex Organizations, and Interpersonal and Leadership Skills, and an undergraduate course in Leadership Practice; she also oversees the Graduate Qualifying Project (GQP) program.

She serves as the faculty advisor for major qualifying projects (MQPs) and graduate qualifying projects (GQPs), and was recognized in both 2013 and 2014 for meritorious achievements as GQP faculty advisor. She volunteers as a faculty advisor to Sigma Phi Epsilon, Massachusetts Beta Chapter, a 106-member fraternity.

Wulf sees her mission as giving students the courage and self-confidence to tackle high-risk challenges and equipping them with the problem-solving skills they need to succeed throughout their careers.

Advisor of the Year
Helen G. Vassallo has advised the WPI chapter of Phi Sigma Sigma sorority since the early ‘80s and this year was named Advisor of the Year, an award based on a student vote.

It’s one of many awards she’s received during her career, including WPI’s Goat’s Head Award for Lifetime Commitment (2013), Teacher of the Year Award (2003), and Women of Strength Award (2008). She also received the Women of Consequence Award from the City of Worcester (2008) and was named the American Business Woman of the Year by the American Business Women’s Association (1981).

This Advisor of the Year Award is special, though, she says, “because it’s from the kids.” As advisor to Phi Sigma Sigma, each year she hosts a pizza party with incoming initiates and each term she holds tea parties with sorority members in groups of eight. The teas are formal affairs with pastries from a local bakery and cloth napkins, where, she says, “I can talk toe-to-toe with each one about their hometown and where they came from, and give them inspirational speeches. The students talk about their aspirations, laugh about the boys in the library, things like that.”

Student Awards and Award-Winning Projects

- **2014 Thomas J. Tracy Foisie School of Business Spirit Award**
  - Kathryn Anne Remillard ’14 (MSMG)

- **2014 Salisbury Prize Winner - José Luis Ortiz Rosero ’14 (IE)**

- **2014 Charles O. Thompson Scholars**
  - José Luis Ortiz Rosero ’14 (IE) and Sylvia Parol ’14 (MG)

- **Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals Representative - Sonja Kent ’14 (IE)**

- **GRAD 2014 first place award for business and social science projects**
  - Siavash Mortazavi ’14 (IMGD), advisor Soussan Djamasbi,
  - “Gaze As Input: A New Way To Play Games”

- **GRAD 2014 People’s Choice Award**
  - Amruta Gore’15 (MTI), advisors Eleanor T. Looiacono and Purvi Shah,
  - “Theory of Technology Acceptance Model and Consumer Behavior”

- **2014 Provost’s Major Qualifying Project Award Finalists**


  “Improving the Scheduling of Operating Rooms at UMass Memorial Medical Center,” Courtney Carroll ’14 (IE), Meredith Juers ’15 (IE), Sonja Kent ’14 (IE), advisor Andrew C. Trapp, sponsor UMass Memorial Medical Center.

From left, Andrew D. Campbell, Sitaram Ramaswamy, Vice Provost Mark P. Rice, David G. Roscoe, advisor Sharon A. Wulf, Carlton Vaz, and Daniel J. Geoffroy.

Top Graduate Qualifying Project (GOP)

“Feasibility Study and Company Valuation for Girihlet Inc., an Early Stage Biotechnology Startup,” Andrew D. Campbell, Daniel J. Geoffroy, Carlton Vaz, David G. Roscoe, Sitaram Ramaswamy, advisor Sharon A. Wulf, sponsor Girihlet Inc., Brooklyn, N.Y.
Rankings

*Businessweek* again ranked the Foisie School of Business the #1 part-time MBA program in the Northeast, a position we have held since the advent of this ranking in 2007. Our program is currently ranked #16 in the U.S.

Student Organizations

The Chapter of the National Association of Women MBAs (NAWMBA) was named Student Chapter of the Year. Special thanks to our NAWMBA leadership team: Kathryn Anne Remillard, Jingmin Qiu, Xue Luan, Liang Yu, Yinglin An, Yu Wang, Haotian Zhao, Xinrui Che, and Qi Li.

The Foisie School of Business sponsored students to attend the following conferences and competitions:
- The Association of Operations Management (APICS) Northeast Case Competition, Albany, N.Y.
- Collegiate Entrepreneurs’ Organization (CEO) Conference, Chicago, Ill.
- Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE)/Rockwell Simulation Competition (Web-based)
- National Association of Women MBAs (NAWMBA) Conference, Boston, Mass.
- Wall Street Oasis Conference, New York, N.Y.

Company Tours

The Foisie School of Business organized student tours of the following companies:
- Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc., St. Louis, Mo.
- Cisco Systems, Inc., San Jose, Calif.
- DEKA Research and Development Corporation, Manchester, N.H.
- EMC Corporation, Hopkinton, Mass.
- Unicor LLC, Albuquerque, N.M.

Global Transition Program

Under the leadership of Professor Kevin M. Sweeney, the Foisie School of Business launched the Global Transition Program, which is designed to provide all full-time international graduate business students with a unique set of experiences and tools to help them succeed both at WPI and in their professional careers.

The program explores issues such as cultural integration, academics, study preparation, and career development, with an emphasis on the students’ global experiences and needs as international students. Faculty and students report that this new initiative is having a positive impact on the B-School community.

New Course Offerings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Faculty</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Health Systems</td>
<td>Associate Professor Sharon A. Johnson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consumer Behavior</td>
<td>Assistant Professor Adrienne Hall-Phillips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing Research</td>
<td>Assistant Professor Purvi Shah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optimization Methods for Business Analytics</td>
<td>Assistant Professor Andrew C. Trapp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Globalization, Social Responsibility and Organizational Strategy</td>
<td>Professor of Practice Kevin M. Sweeney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developing Managerial Talent</td>
<td>Professor of Practice Karen A. Hebert-Maccaro</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MBA Cohort Program

Twenty new students enrolled in the part-time MBA cohort program. There are four women and 16 men, with an average of 10 years of work experience and an average age of 32.


Cohort 1 Graduation

Our first cohort finished its MBA program in December 2013. Interim President Philip B. Ryan visited the students during their last class to congratulate them. Later that evening, we had a celebration that included remarks from Dean Mark P. Rice, Peter Thomas from Alumni Relations, and Professor Helen G. Vassallo. The entire cohort MBA community was invited and included other cohort students, faculty, and staff from the Foisie School of Business.
Undergraduate Programs - Overview

Rankings
Businessweek ranked WPI’s Foisie School of Business nationally:
• #1 undergraduate business school for entrepreneurship
• #1 undergraduate business school for information systems
• #4 undergraduate business school for operations management

Student Organizations
Our student organizations had a banner year, culminating with the Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE) chapter hosting the 2014 Northeast Regional IIE Conference in March. More than 150 students, representing 10 universities, attended the three-day conference, taking full advantage of the variety of workshops, speakers, and company tours arranged by the IIE group. Special thanks to our IIE conference committee: Veronica Vallenilla, Marina Chevis, Kelsey Rieger, Luis Rovayo, Julia Alvidrez, Kimberly Chan, José Luis Ortiz Rosero, Lili Zhang, Jiahui Li, and chapter advisor Professor Renata Konrad.

Other student organizations were also very active.

New Course Offerings
Finance, Technology and Risk Analysis  Assistant Professor Dimitrios Koutmos and Professor Arthur Gerstenfeld
Engineering Optimization* Assistant Professor Andrew C. Trapp

Four additional experimental courses were developed and approved:
Social Entrepreneurship  Assistant Professor Karla Mendoza-Abarca
Assessing Entrepreneurial Opportunities  Professor Mark P. Rice
Consumer Behavior  Assistant Professor Adrienne Hall-Phillips
Working in Diverse, Global Environments  Associate Professor Steven S. Taylor

* NEW PERMANENT COURSE
The Information Technology Program

The information technology (IT) program is a core strategic area for various majors at the graduate and undergraduate level, and for all students enrolled in the Robert A. Foisie School of Business.

Our IT programs continue to grow and improve. Our research and educational delivery are among the strongest in the U.S., and our undergraduate IT program has been recognized by Businessweek as No. 1 in the country.

IT Educational Programs

**PhD IT concentration**
We have accepted our first two students into the IT concentration of our new PhD program.

**MS in IT**
With the national interest in data analytics and associated IT infrastructure, our MS in IT is enjoying healthy demand. There is increased interest from students in the Metal Treating Institute (MTI) in taking IT courses, and a new master’s degree program in data science has created increased demand to the point where we need additional faculty.

**BS in MIS**
Enrollment in our BS program has increased this year.

Service to WPI, Foisie School of Business, and the IT Profession

**WPI and Foisie School of Business**
Members of the IT group are active on the four key committees within the Foisie School of Business. Diane M. Strong, director of the Management Information Systems program, is also actively involved in creating and launching a new master’s in data science degree.

**Professional Service**
All faculty with an IT focus are actively involved with the Association for Information Systems, serving in various leadership positions and attending two regular conferences -- the Americas Conference on Information Systems (AMCIS) and the International Conference on Information Systems (ICIS). Based on this activity, the IT program was asked to lead and manage the AMCIS 2017 conference in Boston, with Strong as conference chair, Associate Professor Eleanor T. Loiacono as program chair, and other faculty chairing various aspects of the conference committee.

The Industrial Engineering Program

The Industrial Engineering (IE) program is uniquely located within the Foisie School of Business, creating one of the few such arrangements in the world. The IE program is accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET), which represents the highest quality accreditation for engineering programs. While the IE major is at the undergraduate level, our faculty’s expertise includes research and graduate education.

IE Program Updates

- As of November 2013, there were 76 IE majors, a record number for the program.
- The Annual IE Advisory Board meeting took place on campus on Nov. 8, 2013, with seven board members attending. Undergraduate IE and graduate Operations Design and Leadership students, as well as Operations and Industrial Engineering faculty, joined the board for discussion and networking.
- WPI’s student chapter of the Institute of Industrial Engineering (IIE) successfully organized the Northeast Regional IIE Conference, which took place on campus from March 21-23, 2014. More than 120 students from 13 universities in the northeast attended.
- The IE program is undergoing ABET accreditation review in the 2014-15 academic year. The review team will be on campus Nov. 2-4, 2014. The review will be the fourth for the program since its inception in 1995 and initial accreditation in 1996.
- The experimental course, Engineering Optimization, designed and offered by Assistant Professor Andrew C. Trapp, was accepted as a permanent official course, Practical Optimization: Methods & Applications, starting in AY 2014-15.
User Experience & Decision Making (UXDM) Research Lab, Foisie School of Business

**Director:** Associate Professor Soussan Djamasbi  
**Sponsor:** Dynamic Network Services Inc. (Dyn)  
**Mission:** Conduct high-quality user experience research with significant contributions to theory and practice, while providing an outstanding learning opportunity for WPI students who wish to advance their knowledge and skills in this emerging area of research.

**Research Collaborators**  
Those who collaborated on research for the User Experience & Decision Making (UXDM) Research Lab during the past year:  
Soussan Djamasbi, Associate Professor  
Adrienne Hall-Phillips, Assistant Professor  
Dan McAuliffe, User Experience Manager, Dyn Inc.  
Purvi Shah, Assistant Professor  
Marisa Siegel, User Experience Specialist, Google  
Tom Tullis, Senior Vice President of User Experience, Fidelity Investments  
E. Vance Wilson, Associate Teaching Professor  
Rachel Young, Global Product Life-Cycle Management Team, Hewlett-Packard Networking

**Publications**  
The User Experience & Decision Making (UXDM) Research Lab published 10 peer-reviewed journal articles and conference papers, made three presentations, and created five graduate research posters – four at WPI’s 2013 Graduate Research Achievement Day (GRAD) and one at the Worcester Incubator for Innovation Transportation Day at the EcoTarium.

**Gifts**  
Director Soussan Djamansbi received $170,000 from Dyn of Manchester, New Hampshire, and Tobii ATI of Dedham, Massachusetts, in January 2013 to expand the UXDM laboratory. The UXDM lab was expanded successfully and became operational in September. An open house in November 2013 attracted more than 100 attendees from the WPI community, as well as representatives from EMC Corporation, Dyn, Tobii, and elsewhere. The event was covered by the Telegram & Gazette, Channel 3 cable news, and WPI’s Research magazine.

Healthcare Delivery Institute (HDI)

**Managing Director:** Vera Tice  
**Faculty Director:** Sharon A. Johnson

**About HDI**  
The Healthcare Delivery Institute (HDI) at WPI is a university-wide, multi-disciplinary research and education institute that works with industry, healthcare providers and academic and government partners to develop new ways to deliver quality care to keep people healthy, while lowering costs. Affiliated with the University of Massachusetts Medical School (UMMS), HDI continues to evolve into a national hub for creating innovative healthcare solutions.

Professors Sharon Johnson, Diane Strong and Bengisu Tulu co-founded HDI with managing director Vera Tice and Professor Isa Bar-On. Currently, more than 25 faculty members across WPI are affiliated with HDI, including nine in the Foisie School of Business. Professors Johnson and Strong participate in setting strategic direction for HDI as part of its Faculty Steering Committee, which also includes faculty from engineering, and arts and sciences.

**One-Year Highlights in Collaboration with the Foisie School of Business**

- Developed and received approval for a certificate in health systems innovation. Two new courses were developed to support the certificate - one an introduction to the healthcare industry (Introduction to Health Systems, taught Spring 2014) and another focused on developing operational excellence in healthcare organizations (Health Systems Modeling and Improvement).

- Co-developed a physicians’ leadership development program with the UMass Memorial Physicians’ Group and launched the program in May 2014.

- Building on the strategic affiliation agreement between HDI and UMMS, Professors Strong and Tulu participated in the UMass Research Retreat on May 20, 2014.

- Signed an agreement with Oriol Healthcare to sponsor a major qualifying project (MQP) in 2014/2015.

- Advised students involved with MQPs sponsored by UMass Memorial Health Care and St. Vincent Hospital that were focused on healthcare delivery. Also served as advisor for an interactive qualifying project (IQP) focused on exergames.

- Professors Soussan Djamansbi, Johnson, Renata Konrad, Eleanor Loiacono, Fabienne Miller, Diane Strong, Tulu, Justin Wang, and E. Vance Wilson participated in national thought leadership related to healthcare delivery research by publishing in peer-reviewed journals and proceedings, and presenting their work at national conferences.

- Participated in national thought leadership related to healthcare education. Associate Professor Johnson, as president-elect of the Health Systems Engineering Alliance, gave an education-focused presentation at a national conference.
Extending Entrepreneurship Education Throughout WPI and Beyond

**Director:** Frank Hoy  
**Associate Director:** Gina Betti

**Competitions**  
With generous support from benefactors, the Collaborative for Entrepreneurship and Innovation (CEI) conducts multiple competitions:
- The Robert H. Grant Invention Awards for students with a proven aptitude for invention.
- The Aram Kalenian Award to support and advance the ideas and inventiveness of WPI students.
- The Henry Strage Innovation Award to develop student knowledge and practical experience by translating creative ideas into viable new products or ventures.

CEI also coordinates the 3R Video Contest and co-sponsors The Venture Forum’s Business Plan Competition and 5-Minute Pitch Contest.

**Faculty Entrepreneurship Fellows**  
Thanks to annual grants from the Coleman Foundation, CEI has designated 11 faculty members outside of the Foisie School of Business as entrepreneurship fellows. The fellows will introduce concepts of entrepreneurship to students within their disciplines.

**Student Organization**  
WPI students continue to acquire entrepreneurship skills through the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Club, which is affiliated with the international Collegiate Entrepreneurs’ Organization (CEO). WPI members attended the annual CEO conference in Chicago and sponsored on-campus events, such as the announcement of the 2014 MassChallenge Competition.

**Entrepreneurship Speaker Series**  
CEI hosts numerous speakers throughout the academic year. Examples include WPI’s Entrepreneur-in-Residence Jim Giza, and Micah Chase, CEO of Checkerboard Ltd., who co-taught an entrepreneurship course.

Two prominent scholars also spoke on campus: R. Keith Sawyer, Morgan Distinguished Professor in Educational Innovations, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and David B. Audretsch, Ameritech Chair of Economic Development and Director of the Institute for Development Studies, Indiana University.

**Successful Transgenerational Entrepreneurship Practices (STEP)**  
WPI is one of 42 universities worldwide participating in Successful Transgenerational Entrepreneurship Practices (STEP), which researches multi-generational family enterprises. The purpose of the project is to learn from family enterprises that have survived transgenerational ownership, and to apply that knowledge to educate current and future business leaders in both family and non-family businesses. The WPI team has five Foisie School of Business faculty members.

**Mark P. Rice Appointed Vice Provost for Innovation and Entrepreneurship**  
In September, WPI appointed Mark P. Rice, former dean of the Foisie School of Business, to serve as vice provost for innovation and entrepreneurship. New initiatives started by the vice provost are designed to complement and extend the programs managed by CEI.

**Key Initiatives:**
- WPI recognized its third Innovator of the Year in October. Robert L. Diamond ’56 shared his insights about his entrepreneurial journey with the campus community. Approximately 200 faculty, staff, students, and alumni attended the event in Alden Memorial.
- The Tech Advisors Network (TAN), WPI’s virtual incubator, has grown to approximately 60 active advisors that have helped more than 30 faculty, students, alumni, and friends of WPI with new venture development. WPI has also launched a West Coast TAN, which has about a dozen alumni volunteer advisors.
- In partnership with the Office of Technology Transfer, CEI created the Accelerator Fund, which will serve as a pre-seed source of investment in new technologies and new ventures that come through TAN. The investment decision committee includes WPI trustees Michael E. Aspinwall and James P. Baum, and local venture capitalist Tripp Peake, a managing partner at Long River Ventures.
- To advance the integration of innovation and entrepreneurship across WPI, the vice provost has launched faculty and student advisory councils, which will complement the Council of Strategic Advisors.
WPI Wall Street Project Center

Under the leadership of its director, Professor Arthur Gerstenfeld, the WPI Wall Street Project Center has maintained a productive and collaborative partnership with many prestigious international investment banks for more than 15 years.

Last year, these partnerships resulted in the implementation of major qualifying projects (MQPs) at JPMorgan Chase & Co., BNP Paribas, Barclays, and Bank of America. Seventeen students majoring in computer science, electrical and computer engineering, management engineering, industrial engineering, and management participated in the project center in fall 2013, and completed seven projects in London and New York. Two or three students participated in each project. Sponsors not only ensured that student teams were given important and substantive projects that will have a real impact, they provided substantial financial support to the WPI Wall Street Project Center.

2013 Projects

London
- JPMorgan: Broker Exposure Dashboard
- BNP Paribas: Predictive Analysis for Network Data Storm
- BNP Paribas: Data Driven Decision Making
- Bank of America: Bloomberg Functionality Replication in Quartz

New York
- JPMorgan: Quality Assurance for Asset Management Applications
- Barclays: A System to Identify and Manage Exceptions to Messages and Trades
- Bank of America: Credit Dashboard
- Bank of America: Quartz World Map Infrastructure Monitoring

2014 Annual Wall Street Conference
The WPI Wall Street Project Center hosted its 2014 Annual Wall Street Conference on campus on April 25, 2014. Managing directors and other senior leaders from current sponsor firms – JPMorgan, BNP Paribas, Barclays and Bank of America – and other firms joined Gerstenfeld for a panel discussion open to the WPI community. The panel addressed issues such as risk and future directions for investors and firms, and the role of engineering and science in financial markets.

2014 Student Recruitment
Student interest in the Wall Street Project Center has grown substantially in the past few years. For 2014, nearly 40 students applied for 18 available slots in the program. The final 18 students represented industrial engineering, electrical and computer engineering, computer science, and management information systems.

2014 – 15 Upcoming Plans
- Past sponsors have committed to hosting seven projects in B-Term 2014. In addition, JPMorgan has agreed to host two projects with two students each at its European Technology Centre in Glasgow, Scotland. The PQP for all project teams took place during the A-Term 2014.

- The annual meeting of the Wall Street Project Board of Advisors will take place on Oct. 22, 2014 in New York City. The board is composed of senior executives from various investment banks and other investment firms. The board provides an ongoing collaborative connection between the investment community, the Wall Street Project Center, and WPI.

New Associate Director
Professor of Practice Kevin M. Sweeney joined the WPI Wall Street Project Center as its associate director beginning in the 2013-14 academic year.
WPI Appoints Giza
Entrepreneur-in-Residence

Jim Giza is working with undergraduates, MBA students and the Tech Advisors Network to identify emerging tech companies.

WPI has named Jim Giza, founder and former vice president of technology at KAYAK, as the university’s entrepreneur-in-residence.

Working with undergraduates, graduate students, faculty, and alumni, he will identify early-stage technology start-ups and guide them through WPI’s Tech Advisors Network (TAN) to help accelerate company growth.

“The growth of interest from alumni in entrepreneurship and innovation has been accelerating so fast, we’re trying to get volunteers to take control of these initiatives,” said Vice Provost for Innovation and Entrepreneurship Mark P. Rice. “Jim is one of the key networkers and will manage the internal processes.”

While Giza will network with entrepreneurs across the state to identify candidates for TAN, his primary focus is on UMass Medical Center, where he will connect with people who are creating new medical products.

Giza earned a master’s degree in computer science from WPI in 1995, and played a technology leadership role with KAYAK from its inception through its initial public offering and acquisition. He is the principal owner of Throughput LLC, a consulting business for early stage startups. He became interested in TAN after attending some of its meetings.

“I’m a startup guy,” he said. “The whole point of TAN is connections.”

“A large part of what I do will be getting companies into TAN,” Giza said. “A lot of people come to WPI with ideas, but don’t know how to implement them. I want to see a few successes come out of TAN.”

TAN is a virtual incubator with about 60 entrepreneurs, investors and business leaders who advise and support students and faculty, helping to turn ideas and research into commercial ventures. TAN members offer advice on business plans, marketing strategies, potential partners, and funding.

The WPI Innovator of the Year Award

The WPI Innovator of the Year Award annually recognizes a graduate or friend of WPI who has demonstrated exemplary accomplishments as an innovator, showcasing individuals who have excelled in driving innovation.

Robert Diamond ’56 is the 2013 WPI Innovator of the Year. A true 21st century serial entrepreneur, he continuously combines engineering vision with marketing savvy to create technologically innovative companies, inventions and services by pairing market opportunities with consumer-proven technology. He was instrumental in bringing the Hughes CMOS chip technology to Timex for watches and to Milton Bradley for portable game technology, and the Fairchild LED technology to Monroe to produce an early four-function calculator.

Later, his firm focused on telecommunications, manufacturing telephones for AT&T and launching a caller ID business. He co-founded Xanboo, Inc., one of the original providers of home automation and monitoring across mobile devices. His most recent venture, Xeleum, designs and manufactures advanced LED lighting products. He was awarded an honorary doctor of engineering degree from WPI in 2005 and is a recipient of the Ernst and Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

Innovator of the Year Award Recipients

2013  Robert L. Diamond ’56
2012  David P. Norton ’62
2011  James P. Baum ’86

Advisory Boards

Several advisory boards operate at the department, program, and initiative levels. Their charge is to provide feedback and insight from an executive or managerial perspective, and to offer guidance on the strategic direction of the Robert A. Foisie School of Business and its programs.

Council of Strategic Advisors

Lindal Leigh Richert Aberdale ’88, Project manager/team leader, HP Enterprise Services (retired)
Andrew Aberdale ’89, CFO and CAO, Aberdale and Associates, LLC
Michael Aghajanian ’80, President and CEO, PRTM Management Consultants (retired)
Michael E. Aspinwall ’75, Managing partner, CCP Equity Partners
James P. Baum ’86, CEO, Netezza Corporation (retired)
Craig R. Benson, Co-founder and CEO, Cabletron Systems (retired)
Ann Marie Connolly, Trustee, Colby College, Lahey Clinic and the Fenn School
Richard F. Connolly, Jr., Financial advisor, Morgan Stanley
Henry Fitzgerald ’75, Vice president, Genzyme (retired)
Elizabeth Hitchcock ’02, Owner, Hitchcock Creations, LLC
Jeremy Hitchcock ’04, Co-founder and CEO, Dyn
John Joseph ’86, Co-founder and president, DataGravity
Jack McCabe ’68, Vice president, mergers/acquisitions/divestures, Nynpro
Thomas Newman ’64, Registered professional engineer, state of New Hampshire
David P. Norton ’52, Co-developer, The Balanced Scorecard
Mark P. Rice, Vice Provost for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Professor, Foisie School of Business

Industrial Engineering Program Board

The Industrial Engineering Program Board provides projects and offers advice, insight, and guidance to the industrial engineering program.

Keith Kelble ’91, Senior VP of Operations, Mold-Rite Plastics
Joseph M. Mazzulo, Senior VP of Business Process, Granite Construction
Claudio M. Gelman ’95, Industrial Engineer, New Balance Athletic Shoe
Mervyn P. Chung-Fat ’99, Product Line Manager, Houghton International
Kristen McCloskey Daxter, Hub Engineering Support, Fed-Ex Ground
James Cain, Director of Engineering, Northeast District UPS
Ronald V. Alciati, Tooling Solutions Manager, Nypro/Jabil
Deborah A. McManus ’97, Product Manager, Morpho Detection
Kathryn Dawson-Townsend, Senior Healthcare Executive and Healthcare Change Advocate
Joseph Markiewicz ’00, Plant Manager, GE Aviation
Laura Ann Gregory Roberts ’93, Manager, Hospital Information Systems, St. Francis Hospital & Medical Center
Amy Z. Zeng, PhD, Professor and Director of Industrial Engineering Program, WPI, Ex-officio and Board Chair
Books Published


J. Zhu (2014). Data Envelopment Analysis: Let the Data Speak for Themselves, (Used as a textbook)

W.D. Cook and J. Zhu (2013). Data Envelopment Analysis: Balanced Benchmarking, (Used as a textbook)

Faculty Journal Publications


ABOUT WPI

Founded in 1865 in Worcester, Mass., WPI was one of the nation's first engineering and technology universities. WPI's 14 academic departments offer more than 50 undergraduate and graduate degree programs in science, engineering, technology, management, the social sciences, and the humanities and arts, leading to bachelor's, master's, and PhD degrees. WPI's world-class faculty work with students in a number of cutting-edge research areas, leading to breakthroughs and innovations in such fields as biotechnology, fuel cells, information security, materials processing, and nanotechnology. Students also have the opportunity to make a difference to communities and organizations around the world through the university’s innovative Global Perspective Program. There are more than 40 WPI project centers throughout the Americas, Africa, Asia-Pacific, and Europe.