

WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

ROBERT H. GODDARD ALUMNI AWARD



THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

PRESENTS TO

LYNN M. FODEN '03 MBA

THIS AWARD IN RECOGNITION OF

**OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL
ACHIEVEMENT**

LYNN FODEN, your dedication to bettering humanity brings pride to the WPI community. You serve populations all over the world, working to improve health conditions and education for countless children. For these reasons, the WPI Alumni Association honors you today for your impressive career.

Your education has provided a strong foundation for the work you've done throughout your career. You graduated with bachelor's degrees from Barnard College and Columbia Engineering in geology and mining engineering in 1983 and 1984, respectively. You attended Tufts University Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and received a master's degree in 1989. At WPI, you earned your MBA in technology management.

Your international career began in 1984 as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Zaire, now known as the Democratic Republic of Congo. After graduate school in 1990, working with Mozambiquan refugees in Malawi with the International Rescue Committee, you trained and empowered women in hand pump maintenance and improved sanitation techniques. After two years at the World Bank researching community engagement in large scale infrastructure projects, you returned to Africa as an associate Peace Corps director in Mali, West Africa. You spent the next few years working for the Peace Corps as both country director in the Central Africa Republic and special assistant to the Africa regional director in Washington.

From 2012 to 2017 you served as chief of international operations at Room to Read, a leading nonprofit focused on girls' education and children's literacy in

Asia and Africa. You oversaw 10 country programs that dramatically improved primary school literacy levels, created lifelong readers, and supported girls to complete secondary school with critical life skills.

You are currently CEO of Thrive Networks, an international NGO pioneering evidence-based programs and technologies in health, including water, sanitation, hygiene, and education for underserved populations in Southeast Asia. You work with in-country teams to drive the strategic vision for Thrive Networks across its programs in water, sanitation, health, and education, while ensuring high-quality implementation of programs in Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos. You also share results from Thrive's innovative financing and private sector engagement approaches with the international development community. You collaborate with funders to develop new programs that promise excellent outcomes and sustainability. Your deep technical knowledge and expertise in water, sanitation, public health, and education—with over 25 years of experience in these fields—have made you a valuable asset to the organization.

Lynn Foden, you have been an inspiration to many—the people you serve and those who look to you as an expert, mentor, and friend. The WPI community is proud to call you one of its own. For these reasons and for all the work you've done to improve the quality of life for communities and countless individuals, the WPI Alumni Association is proud to present you with the Robert H. Goddard Alumni Award for Outstanding Professional Achievement.

June 2, 2018

President, WPI Alumni Association