

William F. Gasko '65 MS, '69 PhD

HERBERT F. TAYLOR AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO WPI

William Gasko, your service to WPI has left a lasting impression on the university, helping fuel its commitment to entrepreneurship education.

After earning a master's degree in aeronautical physics and a PhD in theoretical physics at WPI, you went on to a highly successful career as an entrepreneur and expert in technology transfer. You served as chairman and CEO of several companies, including Millis Corporation, Aster, Vivascan, and the Center for Technology Commercialization, and served as vice president of marketing at Amrita TV, of Kerala, India. Your work took you around the world to such countries as Ireland, Finland, Germany, China, Japan, Taiwan, India, and Russia. You also served as the northeast regional technology transfer executive director for NASA and led programs for the national review of commercial technology for the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration and the development of technology access and visibility for the National Institute of Justice.

As your impressive career often took you far from Worcester, you recognized the critical importance of creating a



culture of entrepreneurship at your alma mater. For three years, you served as a full professor, holding the Grant Chair of Entrepreneurship. You developed courses in entrepreneurship, organizational behavior, and cross-cultural behavior. With several fellow alumni, you helped establish the WPI Venture Forum, a valuable resource for entrepreneurs and inventors, and served as its chairman for the first five years. You have been an advocate for further integration of entrepreneurship and business education into WPI's engineering and

science curriculum. Now you are seeing the fruits of your advocacy, with the university's renewed emphasis on entrepreneurship education backed by faculty and academic support in this area. You remain active in the life of WPI, serving as a judge for the WPI Venture Forum business plan contest and as a member of the Citations Committee of the WPI Alumni Association.

William Gasko, your contributions to the life and work of WPI will continue to impact generations of students and alumni. We recognize you today with the Herbert F. Taylor Award for Distinguished Service to WPI.

To be presented at a Venture Forum event on June 12