



Citation of

Stephen Kmiotek

for the

**2023 Board of Trustees' Award for
Outstanding Academic Advising**

Each year, the WPI Board of Trustees honors a WPI faculty member who is an exceptional Academic Advisor. This year's recipient has received praise from multiple students who say this person is a truly caring professor who supports students in their academic, career, and personal aspirations.

WPI is an institution that holds firm to "the founders' directive to create, to discover, and to convey knowledge at the frontiers of academic inquiry for the betterment of society. [We believe] Knowledge is created and discovered in the scholarly activities of faculty and students ranging across educational methodology, professional practice, and basic research." This faculty member puts our mission into practice by "[going] above and beyond to make students comfortable in the classroom" and by "always [being] supportive of his students." With that, we recognize the important advising work of Stephen Kmiotek, Professor of Practice.

One student described Professor Kmiotek as a "precious asset at WPI, especially over the last academic year and during the tragedies we have experienced. He is very involved on campus and has been proactively building our mental health task force." Another student commented that "it's pretty clear to most that he loves his students and truly cares about them, their achievements, and their well-being." Multiple students mentioned Professor Kmiotek's friendly smile and consistent willingness to make himself available to students. Students find that Professor Kmiotek truly cares for them. One student explained that "before each class he stands there and reminds us that we are important, that we are more important than grades, we can work through anything, and that Chem Eng is there to make sure we can. [He] deeply cares about his students even if they're not his advisees." To sum up Professor Kmiotek's impact as advisor, one student shared that, "He actively goes out of his way to make himself available if I have a question related to academic help or even if I just need to chat about my personal life. He always leaves his door open and is always a positive presence on campus."

Please join me in congratulating this year's Trustees' Award for Outstanding Academic Advising recipient Stephen Kmiotek.

2023 Committee

Paul Reilly, Assistant Dean, Student Success

James Doyle, SSPS, Committee on Advising and Student Life representative

Adam Powell, MME, Committee on Advising and Student Life representative

Michela Benazzi, Tau Beta Pi representative

Ashleigh Matsis, Tau Beta Pi representative