JOSEPH KILAR, your professional expertise in civil engineering and your oversight of several large-scale construction projects is impressive. We at WPI are excited to honor you today.

You graduated from WPI in 1977 with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering. Upon graduation, you began your professional career working for Turner Construction, based in Boston. You spent 29 years with Turner, growing your career. You held a variety of positions such as project executive, chief estimator, vice president and special projects division manager. While working for Turner, you took on an additional role with Hochtief, Turner’s parent company, relocating to Düsseldorf, Germany. You coordinated the procurement efforts of Hochtief worldwide with a high-level team of procurement specialists and support staff across four continents. This leveraged Hochtief’s buying power from a volume of over $11 billion in 2003. When you moved back to the U.S., a shift to California to serve Turner, you held a vice presidential role and general manager of Turner’s Orange County office.

In 2006 you began a new role, as president of R.D. Olson, a mid-sized construction company operating throughout the United States with the majority of its work focused on the west coast. You developed the company vision, strategy, and business plan. You also directed all aspects of the firm including construction, corporate finance, marketing and stakeholder management.

After working for R.D. Olson, you moved abroad to work as the chief operating officer and president of the real estate division for King Abdullah Economic City in Saudi Arabia. During the three years you spent in Saudi Arabia, you oversaw a high-profile, $27 billion project on a site of 168 square kilometers, running along the Red Sea. This project incorporates residential, commercial, transportation, utility, education, and social uses. You oversaw the creation of the first new city in Saudi Arabia of which five more have followed. Not only did you oversee the creation of the city, but you were the first resident in the city designed for an ultimate population of two million people – foreigners and locals, businesses and individuals. You continued your international experience as head of global construction for Samsung C&T responsible for major projects throughout Asia and the Middle East.

You currently serve as the head of construction and execution strategy at Oberoi Realty Limited, a real estate developer in Mumbai, India. Oberoi has developed over 39 projects at locations across Mumbai with focuses on residential, office space, retail, hospitality and social infrastructure.

Your success is truly amazing, Joe. You make WPI proud of the way you’ve utilized theory and practice throughout your career while working with many different cultures. For this, the WPI Alumni Association is pleased to present you with the Robert H. Goddard Alumni Award for Outstanding Professional Achievement.

June 2, 2017

President, WPI Alumni Association