Thomas L. Pajonas ’77

Robert H. Goddard Award for Outstanding Professional Achievement

Thomas Pajonas, you have taken the lessons learned at WPI and risen to become an industry leader. We are proud to honor you today for your distinguished career.

A mechanical engineering major, you found a home in Alumni Gymnasium as part of the wrestling team during what is now known as the Grebinar Era. You are counted among those credited with playing a pivotal role in rebuilding WPI Wrestling into a powerhouse program that went on to accumulate 25 consecutive winning seasons, four New England championships, four New England runner-up finishes, 11 All-America winners, 29 New England Champions, 149 All-New England wrestlers, and 17 Scholar All-America wrestlers. To this day, the wrestling program you helped establish is known as one of the most successful athletic programs in WPI history.

The career you have built illustrates the value of WPI’s emphasis on educating the whole student. The engineering knowledge and skill learned in your courses and projects, combined with lessons in teamwork and leadership learned in Alumni Gym, laid the foundation for your leadership roles in a number of highly successful companies.

You are currently senior vice president and president of the Flow Control Division of Flowserve Corporation, the recognized world leader in supplying pumps, valves, seals, automation, and services to the power, oil, gas, chemical, and other industries. Prior to joining Flowserve, you were the managing director of Alstom Transport and senior vice president of Worldwide Power Boiler Business for Alstom Inc. You also served as senior vice president and general manager for international operations, and subsequently as senior vice president and general manager for Standard Boilers Worldwide at Asea Brown Boveri.

Although your career has taken you far from your home on The Hill in Worcester, WPI has remained close to your heart. In fact, your WPI family recently grew by one with your daughter, Meghan, joining the ranks of WPI alumni in 2007.

Thomas Pajonas, once known for your leadership on the wrestling team, we are pleased to recognize you today for your leadership in your profession. We present you with the Robert H. Goddard Award for Outstanding Professional Achievement.

Raymond P. Roberge ’72

Robert H. Goddard Award for Outstanding Professional Achievement

Raymond Roberge, your career in chemical engineering spans the globe and a range of leadership positions. We are pleased to recognize you today.

After graduating from WPI, you went on to earn a master of science in chemical engineering from the University of Michigan in 1973. You then embarked on a long and distinguished career at Praxair, the largest industrial gases company in North and South America and one of the largest in the world. Your career began in research and development, which led to positions in applications technology, business management, marketing, and accelerated quality implementation.

Your leadership abilities did not go unnoticed, as you progressed through management positions of increasing responsibility. In 1996 you became director of business development for advanced air separation and added ceramic membrane development to your portfolio two years later. In 1998 you joined Global Supply Systems as director of product line development. You were named vice president of Praxair/MRC in 1999 and vice president, sales and business development, for Praxair Electronics in 2002. In 2005 you became president of Praxair Electronics.

Today, you serve Praxair Inc. as senior vice president and chief technology officer. You are responsible for setting the strategic direction for corporate-wide research and development activities and for coordination of global market networks that facilitate the rapid transfer of technology and innovation to support customers. Your work impacts a wide variety of industries—aerospace, electronics, energy, and healthcare—that touch many lives around the world.

Through your work with engineers in all corners of the globe, you have a firsthand appreciation for the global perspective and team emphasis embedded in the WPI education delivered today, while serving as a shining example of that education realized in a successful career. Raymond Roberge, we are proud to honor you today with the Robert H. Goddard Award for Outstanding Professional Achievement.