

Philip B. Ryan '65

WILLIAM R. GROGAN AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MISSION OF WPI

Phil Ryan, few have given more to WPI in leadership, loyalty, and commitment than you. We are proud to recognize you today for all you have done to advance the mission of our noble university.

Your service to WPI began in the early 1970s and has spanned nearly every alumni volunteer role—from class agent to Reunion Committee chair, from advisory board member to leadership positions in the Alumni Association. In 1999 you were elected to the WPI Board of Trustees and you have served on every board committee and as chair of Academic Planning for several years. In May 2013 you were elected chair of the board—a role you did not keep for very long. At the start of a presidential transition, you stepped down as board chair when you agreed to serve as interim president of WPI.

From June 2013 to May 2014, you guided the WPI community with the vision and fortitude of an experienced leader and with the energy and enthusiasm of a dedicated alumnus. On campus you strove to keep the university moving forward, while also working to reassure students, faculty, staff, and alumni that the university remained on firm footings.

Known for your genuine interest in people and your affection for the WPI community, you also took seriously your responsibility to tend to the world beyond campus. You hosted alumni events in Worcester, throughout the country, and around the world. You assisted with major fundraising endeavors, representing WPI so well that some of our most illustrious alumni gladly decided to generously support their alma mater. You introduced and welcomed public officials and business

leaders to WPI. You acted as official host, featured speaker, and award presenter at Alumni Weekend and Homecoming. Through it all, your wife, Judy, was always at your side representing her adopted university.

Your time as interim president and now again as board chair is the culmination of years of service and support. You and Judy are longtime members of the President's Circle, WPI's leadership group of annual donors, and you became Presidential Founders in 2009 in recognition of your lifetime philanthropy. You are members of the Alden Society and you support WPI students through the



Philip Ryan Family Endowed Scholarship.

To this day, you credit much of your success to the long friendship and mentoring of Dean Emeritus Bill Grogan '46, who engaged you and your classmates in discussions about the philosophy of science and engineering education, which led to the development of the WPI Plan. After the great service you performed on behalf of your alma mater, we could think of no more fitting way to recognize you than with the award that bears Dean Grogan's name.

Phil Ryan, your commitment and passion for WPI has won the eternal respect and admiration of your fellow trustees, the administration, faculty, staff, students, and alumni—indeed the entire WPI family. You serve as a role model and exemplify the very best that WPI has to offer. In recognition of your remarkable dedication to your alma mater, the WPI Alumni Association is honored to present you with the William R. Grogan Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Mission of WPI.