Brian Chu, you are a role model for our students in setting high expectations and achieving them. We honor you today for your impressive professional accomplishments.

You came to WPI, in part, for its wrestling program. Under the guidance of legendary WPI coach Phil Grebinar, you became a star wrestler, finishing your career as a one-time All-American, New England Champion, and three-time place-winner at the New England Championships. You placed fourth in the nation at the 142-pound weight class in your senior year.

You took lessons about competition, confidence, leadership, and aiming high taught on the wrestling team and forged a successful career through an unconventional path. You focused on IT project management, performed in a rock band, and took on much of the band’s business management. This experience ignited an interest in business leadership, prompting you to earn an MBA at the MIT Sloan School of Management.

Your impressive career in strategy, operations, and finance includes positions at Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, Bain & Company, and The Boston Beer Company. Since 2007 you have served as executive vice president at Bain Capital, a global investment firm with more than $70 billion in assets under management. You work with the management teams of Bain Capital’s portfolio companies to grow their businesses and deliver returns to investors. In addition, you have worked for nonprofit organizations, including Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program, where you served as the CIO, and Women’s Lunch Place, where you were on the Board of Directors.

Your success has been supported by a strong family. You and Alison have three children who are active in gymnastics, soccer, baseball, music, and academics—with coaching from you. It is fitting that you receive this award on October 6, your father’s birthday. Your father introduced you to the world of engineering, and he and your mother watched many hours of WPI Wrestling.

For your success as a wrestler, you were inducted into the WPI Athletic Hall of Fame in 2002. The WPI Alumni Association is proud to recognize you today with the Ichabod Washburn Young Alumni Award for Professional Achievement.