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Honoring Members of Fire Safety Advisory Board

Worcester Polytechnic Institute

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his supervision. The playing field and center running track were rebuilt and covered with all-weather synthetic surfaces. The renovations also included improvements to the baseball field and the construction of new tennis courts.

In addition, Miller has overseen the remodeling of Higgins House and houses on Townbridge and Hackfeld Roads, which are now the homes of the Continuing Education and Plant Services divisions, and the creation of several scientific laboratories, including recently completed lab space for the Biomedical Engineering and Fire Protection Engineering Programs.

Miller has also supervised one major construction project, Founders Hall, a residence hall built in 1985 to house 230 students.

Miller attended New York Maritime College and graduated from Clarkson College of Technology in 1956. He then received a master's degree in industrial management from Clarkson and was with the American Optical Corporation in Southbridge, MA, from 1971 to 1984.

RING MEMBERS OF ORGY BOARD

Telephone and Telegraph Company in 1936.

A resident of Concord, MA, he is vice president of the Concord Antiquarian Museum and a trustee of the Riverview School in Sandwich, MA, as well as a member of the Board of Governors of the Maine Maritime Museum, the Visiting Committee of the Peabody Museum, and the Editorial Advisory Board of The American Neptune, a publication of the Peabody Museum.

Duane D. Pearsall, general partner of Columbine Venture Fund, Ltd. Born in Pontiac, MI, Pearsall attended the General Motors Institute, leaving in 1942 to serve as a pilot in the U.S. Navy. He then graduated from the University of Denver and went to work for Honeywell, Inc.

He left Honeywell in 1955 to found Pearsall Company. In 1963, he founded Statitrol Corporation in Lakewood, CO. While he and other Statitrol engineers were working on a device to control static in darkrooms, they discovered the principle that would ultimately make low-cost home smoke detectors practical.

Statitrol introduced the first battery-powered home smoke detector in 1970, revolutionizing fire detection in small residential buildings.

An accomplished businessman himself—he was named national Small Business Person of the Year—he founded the Small Business Development Corporation in 1978 to work as an advocate for small businesses. In 1980, he received the Society of Fire Protection Engineers' "Fire Protection Man of the Year" award in recognition of his pioneering work. (For a profile, see the August 1986 issue of the WPI Journal.)

Morgan and Pearsall, both charter members of the WPI Fire Safety Board, retired from their posts after two consecutive terms. The Board was created in 1981 to serve as a source of information, advice and counsel to the fire protection engineering program.

Charles S. Morgan (C), retiring member of the Firesafety Advisory Board, receiving the Herrick A. Drake Award from Firesafety Center Director David A. Lucht (L) and President Jon C. Strauss.