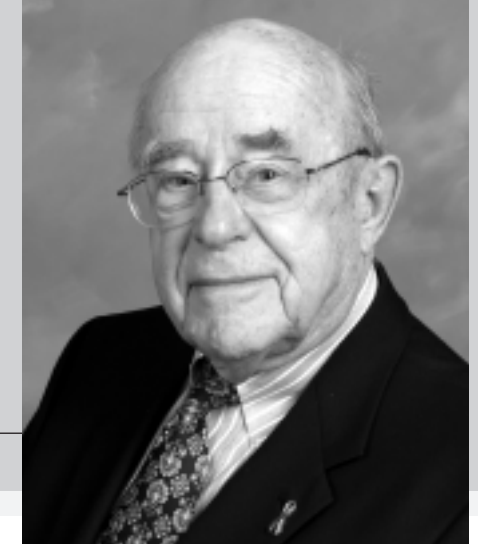




DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS

Harry L. Eberly '45



To Harry L. Eberly for an exemplary career in manufacturing and electronics and for his lifelong commitment to community service and education.

Retired manufacturing and electronics executive Harry Eberly says his lifelong commitment to community service started in a rural area of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. "I grew up in a very caring community during the Great Depression," he says. "People really looked out for each other and shared what little they had." Eberly also learned sharing and cooperation in the one-room schoolhouse he attended through eighth grade. There, older children were expected to help with younger children since one teacher had responsibility for about 40 students, he says.

Eberly attended Penn State with the help of a senatorial scholarship of \$50 per semester. On campus, he recalls professors and Dean Frank C. Whitmore instilling students with a sense of public service in addition to pursuing careers. Eberly earned a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering in less than three years in an accelerated program of three

full semesters per year that was designed to help with World War II efforts.

After graduating, Eberly's first job was as an engineer with Western Electric in New York City. In 1949, he joined RCA where he held various positions including being RCA's first manufacturing manager for integrated circuits and manager of purchasing for the computer systems division. Telex Computer Products hired Eberly in 1972, and by 1973, he was vice president for manufacturing. He was promoted to president of the communications products division in 1977 and was named executive vice president of supply in 1983. From 1983 through 1988, Eberly directed four divisions, and corporate revenue growth rose from \$208 million to \$870 million. Following a leveraged buyout merging the two multinational computer companies, he served as senior vice president for Memorex Telex Corporation from 1988 to 1990, when he retired after 45 years in the electronics industry.

Shortly after retiring, Eberly was recruited by the province of Alberta, Canada, to serve as interim chief operating officer of Novatel Communication, a cellular phone company \$750 million in debt to

the province. He recovered a major portion of the debt and saved most of the jobs by restructuring the business and selling it in two pieces. At the same time, he was helping a North Carolina company, Tri-Circuits, Inc., develop a recovery plan to emerge from bankruptcy protection.

Throughout his successful business career, Eberly has devoted considerable time to the Methodist Church and many community boards including North Carolina State University, Triangle East of North Carolina, Meredith College, Wake Technical Community College Foundation, Boy Scouts of America, United Way of Wake County, and the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce. Even as an emeritus member of many boards, he says he continues to work with them on an ad hoc basis.

For Penn State, Eberly served as chair of Southeast Regional Major Gifts for *The Campaign for Penn State* and was chair of the College of Education's development committee for *The Grand Destiny Campaign*. He and his wife, Marion, have established endowments in the College of Education that benefit both students and faculty members. Penn State has

previously honored Eberly with the 2003 Charles Lupton Volunteer Award, recognizing commitment to volunteer and public service.

In addition to Penn State, Eberly completed graduate studies at Lehigh University and Franklin and Marshall College and executive management programs at New York University and Harvard Business School.

Eberly, who is a life member of the Penn State Alumni Association, and his wife live in Raleigh, N.C. They have two daughters and four grandsons.

