

Jack Stadler

Mr. Stadler was appointed to the Board of Trustees in 1990. He has served as Vice Chairperson and continues to be a member of the Board, bringing his total service to a current total of eighteen years and still continuing.

Mr. Stadler serves the larger community in several creative roles. He and his wife Ralynn, now deceased, established the annual "Poet in Residence Program" at Bucknell University and in 1988, the "Stadler Center for Poetry" was dedicated. This is located in Bucknell Hall in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. As a collector of antique maps, he is a member of the New York Map Society and The Society for the History of Discoveries.

Many new curricula and degrees have been created during Mr. Stadler's time of service on the Board and he has enthusiastically supported each one. In addition, he was instrumental in the creation of many articulation agreements with area colleges, paving the way for seamless student transfers. He was and is a supporter of on-line courses and degree programs which bring the college to the student. He has also favored dual-enrollment whereby high school students can take courses at their schools and receive college credit. Currently 1,000 WCC students are participating in this initiative.

After being appointed to the WCC Foundation Board of Directors in 1984, he was elected Chairman of the Board, serving from 1994-2005. During this time, he dedicated himself to raising scholarship money for students. This year, in his twenty-fourth year of service, he realized his dream of providing \$1,000,000 in scholarships for WCC students. He was also a prime mover working for the committee to raise money for a newly proposed building which would serve the needs of immigrants coming to Westchester County and the College. This past fall another dream was realized when ground was broken for this building called "The Gateway Center."

Mr. Stadler has attended a number of meetings and conferences of the NYCCT. He was also dedicated to assuring that members of his own Board have the opportunity to participate in meetings and sponsored those Trustees who were able to attend the meetings.

Mr. Stadler is a vigorous and committed supporter of community college education including making exceedingly generous contributions of nearly \$400,000 to the Foundation's scholarship fund. His support of scholarships has inspired many more community individuals to contribute to the Foundation. He supports all of the Foundation's fund-raising events. It has been said of him, when he was honored in 2007 with the Abeles Donor of Distinction award, that he "not only talks the talk," but also "walks the walk!" Opening the door to a two year college education begins the process which culminates in transfer to a four-year college. This positively affects all of the colleges in the community, the County, the State and the nation as well.

Mr. Stadler has been active in his advocacy for the College. Often he would attend meetings of the Westchester County Board of Legislators to support the College when its budget was under review. He also worked by lobbying at the state level to ensure that adequate funding streams would be maintained. He has supported new courses, new curricula, and understands the need to continually be responsive to the needs of the community and to the demands placed on its residents.

Mr. Stadler's role with the Westchester Community College Foundation has been centered around both meeting the need for adequate funding for programs and scholarships, but also to ensure a well-rounded education for students. As such, he has been pivotal in bringing artists and scholars to the campus through his generous establishment of an Endowed Chair in the Arts.

His support of postsecondary associations is demonstrated by his encouragement and sponsorship of WCC's hosting NYCCT meetings. His encouragement of his Board members' participation extends to opportunities they may have in national meetings as well. He is supportive of learning on all levels and with all individuals, no matter what their role may be.

Mr. Stadler has exhibited his passion for education the residents of the County of Westchester in an infinite number of ways. His dedication is exemplary and his influence is felt by all. He has richly enhanced this College, provided opportunities for thousands and thousands of students and is most deserving of the prestigious Marvin A. Rapp Award for Distinguished Trustee Service.