

Alumni Award

John Kercher

Class of 1963

It is a pleasure to honor John Kercher with this 2013 Alumni Award for outstanding dedication and service to Ohio Wesleyan University.

A native of Dayton, Ohio, John Kercher was an economics major, a member of Phi Gamma Delta, and a letterman in both football and lacrosse. While a student, he was awarded membership in the W-Clan, and that began his commitment to OWU athletics as an alumnus. John followed fraternity brother Dale Bruce as the President of the 5,000-member "W" Association from 2003-2010. Applying his skills as a private sector consultant and senior executive, John organized and energized the W Association and continued its growth and support for OWU Athletics through the TEAM OWU fund-raising arm. Today TEAM OWU provides a substantial portion of the operating budgets for OWU's 23 teams. To recognize his efforts, John was awarded the University's prestigious George Gauthier Award in 2010 for exemplary, widely recognized, and sustained contributions to Ohio Wesleyan athletics. John also played an important leadership role and provided major support for the comprehensive Remembering Mr. Rickey fund-raising effort, which has led to enhancements in all of the Ohio Wesleyan athletic facilities. Beyond his devotion to Ohio Wesleyan athletics, John also has served the University on the Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Following his graduation, John received an M.B.A. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and joined Price Waterhouse as a staff accountant. In 1967, he became a C.P.A. and transferred to Melbourne, Australia, to start the firm's Information Technology management consulting practice. After additional stints in Pittsburgh and Tampa, John was admitted as a partner in 1976 and led the Management Consulting Services practices in Florida and Puerto Rico. He was then transferred to Atlanta in 1988 to direct Management Consulting Services for the Southeast. From there, it was back to Tampa to become Regional Director of the firm's Public Utility consulting services.

Wherever he has lived, John has improved the life of the community, particularly in the arts and education. He has been a trustee of the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center. He also has served as a trustee and member of the executive committee of the University of Tampa, president of the Florida Orchestra, and trustee of both the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and the Pittsburgh Symphony Society. In Tampa, he has been a trustee of the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce Committee of 100 and Chair of the Board of the USS Forrester Sea, Air, and Space Museum. In addition, he has served the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants as chair of both the governmental relations committee and the committee on management consulting services.

Today, we join John's wife Diane and his reunioning classmates in saluting and thanking him for his service to Ohio Wesleyan University and as a valued member of the Ohio Wesleyan family.

May 18, 2013

