



JUDGE COMMITTED TO COMMUNITY CHANGE

ALUMNI AWARDS

Larry Jones '75 graduated from The College of Wooster with the desire to work for change. "My philosophy since I left Wooster is that you should try to make a difference in this world," he said. Jones has done so throughout his career in law and government, for which he recently received a Distinguished Alumni Award from the College.



Larry Jones '75
Distinguished Alumni Award

When he first arrived at Wooster from an inner city high school, Jones had to adjust to the rigor of the College. "Wooster was very challenging. Going from an inner city school in Cleveland to the College was like night and day," he said. "For the first couple of years I really had to buckle down and become a good student and brush up on my skills." He found a mentor in U.S. District Court Judge Solomon Oliver '69 and decided to major in political science and pursue a career in law. Armed with the skills and confidence he gained as an undergraduate, Jones attended law school at Case Western Reserve University. "Wooster gave me a great deal of confidence and knowledge that if I could do well and excel at The College of Wooster, I could do well and excel anywhere," Jones said.

After law school, Jones was an assistant prosecutor in Cuyahoga County and a councilman on the Cleveland City Council. He then served on the Cleveland Municipal Court for 21 years before being elected to his current position as a judge of the Eighth District Court of Appeals in the state of Ohio. Jones is particularly proud of his work in establishing the Greater Cleveland Drug Court, which provides

treatment resources and reduces the incarceration and recidivism rate for drug offenders. He presided over the Drug Court for a decade and witnessed the significant changes it made. "Within those 10 years I got to see our county and the surrounding suburbs change the focus and I know that would not have happened without our court stepping forward. We made a difference in the community," Jones said. "One of the things that really tugs at my heart is criminal justice reform. I think that we have a problem with mass incarceration in this country. We have too many people going to jail for nonviolent offenses and too long of sentences to jail."

Though he has made a significant difference in his long career, Jones' original goal when he arrived at Wooster was simple: to graduate and find a job. He is thus humbled to receive a Distinguished Alumni Award that recognizes his accomplishments. "If you had told me 10 or 15 years ago or even when I graduated that one day I would be a Distinguished Alumnus I would say 'you have to be crazy,'" Jones said. "It really means a great deal to me."

WOOSTER HONORS INSPIRING ALUMNI

In addition to this year's Distinguished Alumni, The College of Wooster honored several inspiring alumni during its Virtual Alumni Weekend on June 6.

James R. Wilson '63, a longtime member of the College's Board of Trustees, received the Sara L. Patton Stewardship Award for his generous support to the College across numerous campaigns, capital projects, and annual fund years. He and his wife, Linda, endowed a professorship and endowed fund in business economics, the renovation of Kauke Hall, the construction of the Scot

Center, and support of the R. Stanton Hales Presidents' Discretionary Endowment Fund. They also established an endowment to support the ongoing upkeep of the Scot Center's Wilson Governance Room and created the Wilson APEX Fellowship Endowment.

Thomas A. Boardman '70 and Susan K. Boardman '71 received the John D. McKee Alumni Volunteer Award to honor their outstanding service to the College. About 50 years since becoming college sweethearts, they've made an undeniable impact on Wooster as

volunteers, attending college fairs, interviewing prospective students, writing notes to admitted students, hosting multiple reunions on campus, participating in Scots in Service, and serving on the Alumni Board.

Alexander R. Jue '10 and Kaitlyn L. Jue '10, received the Outstanding Young Alumni Award for their service to the College. They donate to the Wooster Fund annually and are advocates and volunteers for the admissions office, serving as hosts and participants for National Interview Day, among other activities.