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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oct. 12, 1983 Contact: Michael Shanley (617) 793-5616

WORCESTER, Mass. -- Worcester Polytechnic Institute has announced the establishment of a graduate fellowship honoring Duane D. Pearsall of Golden, Colo., for his contributions to the field of fire safety engineering.

The "Duane D. Pearsall Fellowship" will provide full tuition for a student at WPI's Center for Firesafety Studies.

Pearsall is president of the Small Business Development Corporation of Golden. He pioneered development of the low cost home smoke detector, a device credited with saving more than 1,000 lives annually.

In 1976, President Gerald R. Ford named Pearsall "Small Businessman of the Year". The Society of Fire Protection Engineers in 1980 recognized him as "Fire Protection Man of the Year," that group's highest award. He is a member of the Firesafety Board of Advisors at WPI.

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