

## ***Champion of Engineering Education Award***

*Mr. Harry Wall, B.Sc. EE, M.Sc.EE*



Mr. Harry Wall graduated with a B.Sc. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Manitoba in 1963 and a M.Sc. in Electrical Engineering in 1965. He first registered with APEGM in 1965, but voluntarily withdrew from registration in 1966 to pursue a career in teaching high school math, physics, and calculus. During his time as a teacher, Mr. Wall was proud to be an engineer and was a shameless promoter of engineering as a career to his senior math and physics classes. It is important to note that not many teachers or guidance counsellors typically know a lot about engineering as a career, so to have an engineer inside the secondary school system so passionately promoting the profession was a huge benefit and had a significant impact on students. It is also important to note that Mr. Wall made sure that the girls in his classes also knew that engineering was

a rewarding, challenging, and necessary career that more women needed to pursue.

Mr. Wall has been a strong supporter of the profession in his role as a high school academic, encouraging his students to consider the engineering profession as a positive career option. During the years that Harry Wall was the high school physics & math teacher at Mennonite Brethren Collegiate Institute, 113 MBCI graduates came to the Faculty of Engineering, out of a total of 1229 students who came to the University of Manitoba (all faculties combined) during the same time. This means that 9.2% of MBCI graduates who came to the U of M chose to enter Engineering. The Office of Institutional Analysis pointed out that this is higher than most schools: Engineering in general is only 5% of the undergraduate population, so MBCI grads were choosing Engineering at almost twice the expected rate during the time that Mr. Wall taught grade 11 & 12 physics and math. One of these students, now a professor at the Faculty and Director of the Internationally Educated Engineering Qualification program, nominated him for this award.

Mr. Wall's recruitment efforts were clearly successful on the home-front as well, as his daughter, Carolyn, is also a P.Eng., and is currently serving as an Engineer-in-Residence and Director of the Co-op & Internship Programs at the Faculty of Engineering.

A passionate educator, at the beginning of his career Mr. Wall was briefly an instructor in engineering technology at Red River College in Winnipeg before finding his niche as a high school math and physics teacher at MBCI. During his 40 plus years at the school, Mr. Wall taught Physics and Math at the senior high level, spent 12 years as Vice-Principal, 6 years as Principal and took a two year leave to serve with the Mennonite Central Committee as Assistant Director of Personnel and Voluntary Service.

For his decades of service to the education of future engineering students, and his tireless promotion of the engineering profession, the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Manitoba, together with the Association, is pleased to award the 2012 Champion of Engineering Education Award to Mr. Harry Wall.