

ASSOCIATION OF RICE ALUMNI
GOLD MEDAL NOMINATION FORM

Nominee Bruce Dunlevie Phone (650) 322 7104 Fax _____
Address 80 Santiago Drive
City/State/Zip Atherton, CA 94027 Rice Class Year(s) 1975 - 1979
Degrees/Majors/Years/Institutions English, History 1 Yr. Cambridge University MBA Stanford University
Occupation/Professional Field Venture Capital
Current Title/Position Partner - Benchmark Capital

The Gold Medal is the highest award bestowed by the Alumni Association, and is designed to recognize Rice alumni, faculty, staff, or friends who have rendered extraordinary service to the university. The following criteria will be considered:

- a) outstanding service in promoting the ideals of the founder of the university
- b) unusually deep dedication to and advancement of the academic excellence of the university
- c) uncommon generosity of time and means in support of the university

Please attach a letter of recommendation describing the merits of the nominee. Consider the following question in support of the above criteria: **Does this candidate foster a true lifelong connection to, or influence upon, the university, showing concern for its ongoing vitality and helping to shape its future direction?**

Please note that incomplete nomination forms cannot be considered.

Nominated by Peter Thaler Phone (415) 431 2848 Fax (415) 431 2847
Address 646 Church Street
City/State/Zip San Francisco, CA 94114

Please list two other people (i.e., colleague, classmate) whom you have asked to write a letter of support to further validate your nomination.

Name Tim Griffy tim.griffy@ey.com Relationship Classmate
Address _____ Phone _____
Name Robert Winter winter@daviscapitalgroup.com Relationship Classmate
Address _____ Phone _____

Please return nomination material to:

Lauren Linn
Assistant Director
Office of Alumni Affairs - MS 520
Rice University
P.O. Box 1892
Houston TX 77251-1892

or fax to: 713-348-5210



Ernst & Young LLP
5 Times Square
New York, New York 10036-6530
Direct: 212 773 7650

Timothy T. Gruffy
Americas Vice Chair - Quality & Risk Management
Office of the Chair

28 September 2009

Ms. Lauren Linn
Assistant Director
Office of Alumni Affairs - MS 520
Rice University
PO Box 1892
Houston, Texas 77251-1892

Dear Ms. Linn,

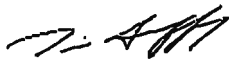
I am delighted to provide this letter of recommendation for Bruce Dunlevie, in consideration of his nomination for the Association of Rice Alumni Gold Medal. I have known Bruce since we were (randomly) assigned to the same suite in Sid Richardson College in 1975 and our friendship is one of the many gifts that I took from my years on campus. He is deserving of your highest consideration for this prestigious award for any number of reasons. But in answering the question of whether he "foster(s) a true lifelong connection to, or influence upon, the university, showing concern for its ongoing vitality and helping to shape its future direction" I think there are demonstrable actions that support an affirmative response.

First, and most obviously, is Bruce's service on the Board of Trustees since 2002. Serving in such a capacity is a significant honor, and many if not most would accept an appointment simply for that reason. But having discussed on many occasions with Bruce how he has approached this position, and knowing that ego plays little if any role in the decisions he takes about how to parcel out his time, serving on the Board for Bruce is a challenge. Quite simply, his mission is to live up to the responsibility of sustaining Rice University and making the institution better, and provide exceptional vision and leadership in doing so. As an alumnus, I know that Rice is better because Bruce has made this commitment.

Secondly, he has committed the financial resources to ensure the ongoing vitality of the school. Endowing two chairs (one in history and one in English) are meaningful not only in the financial support that the chairs provide. Although Bruce has made his business reputation in the field of venture capital, his heart and soul remain where they were on South Main - in the humanities. He hasn't lost sight of the inspiration and intellectual growth that began for him at Rice, and giving back to the school in this way again demonstrates his "lifelong connection" to the university.

Finally, and perhaps the hardest to express well, is Bruce's passion for the school. What many people don't know about Bruce that have become acquainted with him in recent years is that Bruce was a high school quarterback. His intensity and competitiveness is deep seated, and resulted in athletic success beyond what his physical gifts probably warranted. But that aspect of Bruce's personality has been transferred to the things that really matter to him - his family, his firm, and undoubtedly Rice University. I think the Association of Rice Alumni should strongly consider Bruce for such high recognition because his lifelong dedication of time, treasure and talent to the school have indeed shaped its future direction. I hope you will accept this recommendation with the deep seated admiration for Bruce with which it is presented.

Sincerely,



Tim Griffy
Class of 1979

MATTINGLY | THALER ARCHITECTURE

It is an enjoyable challenge to write this nomination for Bruce Dunlevie to be awarded the Association of Rice Alumni Gold Medal, for this is a man with great integrity who has shown time and again the importance of scholarship and the need to build a bridge between the banks of ideas and the world of actions. This takes unconventional wisdom.

Bruce Dunlevie contributes his uncompromising dedication to Rice as alum, as entrepreneur, as educator and as friend

As has been stated, The Gold Medal is the highest award bestowed by the Rice Alumni Association in recognition of an individual who has rendered extraordinary dedication to the University. At Rice there is no 'what if' that cannot become 'what is' It just takes radical thinking to get there – and a community of brilliant passionate dreamers and doers to lead the way forward into the regional and global communities.

Outstanding Service in Promoting the Ideals of William Marsh Rice

For Bruce, the notion of 'second place' or 'pretty good' or 'almost' has never been an acceptable goal. Fortitude is the bedrock of his goals and fidelity to friends and environment is uncompromised

Dedication to department and professors such as David Minter, Charles Garside, Terry Doody

Examples of dedication to advancing of academic excellence of Rice

Tutoring students as they learn the skills needed for reading and understanding an author's work.

Sponsoring lectures for students by archaeologist Dr John Hale, meeting with Richard Smalley and assisting the foundation for NanoEducation.

Examples of uncommon generosity of Time and Means in Support of Rice

Donations to departments of Science, English and History, alumni trustee and member of the fund raising team at Rice

As has been desired by many, including James A. Baker III, and proudly offered by this nominee, Rice's campus of ideas can inform and extend beyond the hedges and help guide the global actions.

First, there is the concept of leadership and a need to care for it, cultivate it and care for it when it is found.

Second, there is a need for communication between all members of our culture, interdependence and a form of diplomacy to overcome the intellectual needs and the economic challenges felt by our university

Third, there will be an ever increasing need for satisfying practical needs at both the local and international scales.

Fourth, there will need to be a dialog between the growing academic intellect and the conditions of our society, our culture, our technology and ourselves.

Fifth, and foremost, there will need to be a need for the academy of ideas to question the philosophy guiding all public actions including a deep questioning of the assumptions, concepts and theories that lend structure to the world of actions, from technology to fine arts, from society to the economy.

One stellar example of this man's dedication to educational achievement and academic excellence can be found 1,800 miles from 6100 South Main Street in a community which was in serious need. In East Palo Alto, CA there was no public Middle or High School. The majority of children came from disenfranchised homes and underprivileged backgrounds.

Students were forced to bus to upper-middle class communities where they encountered ruthless prejudice and had no support for academic growth or intellectual achievement and the majority was soon to become high-school dropouts. Bruce became involved at the level of fund-raiser, curriculum supporter, campus planner and member of an academic team which saw no barriers and know no limits.

By supporting plans for a new campus which both protected students from violent surroundings and provides all with middle-school and high-school facilities where they are now able to study at and be competitive with any other college prepared student. Today, 90 percent of the students qualify as high school graduates from the East Side College Preparatory School in East Palo Alto, CA. 100 percent of these graduates have been accepted at institutions of higher learning every year since the campus was founded.

The future is likely to see more social unrest as the income gap widens between the developed and the developing worlds as the disparities are brought into every home by the 'mass media'. There is likely to be an increase in religious intolerance as disenfranchised people fight for their beliefs and their own homes. There will likely be increased environmental degradation as those with resources fight to maintain their advantage.

The future is also likely to see great leaps in human knowledge as supercomputers are brought into existing and new fields. The future is likely to see great explorations- in space, in our oceans, in physics, in microbiology and in molecular computers.

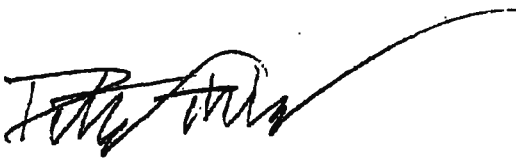
The shape of this future and the coming world order will take enlightened leaders and dedicated hard work.

With his integrity, Bruce always provides a close reading of the materials offered, an enlightened and clear understanding of the goals desired, an illumination of the various options possible, and an offering of clarity in joining the stars of ideas with the landscapes of action.

Bruce contributes his clear skills of motivation, contribution and collaboration, and he strives for the betterment of our world. He seeks to fulfill this mission by cultivating a diverse community of learning and discovery that produces leaders across the spectrum of human endeavor.

In August of 1975, I was fortunate to meet Bruce on the second day of Freshman Week at Rice. After five days of campus-wide introductions to the various locations for academic activities, our entering class met with former president Norman Hackerman for the annual Matriculation address. After listening to our fourth president outline the history of this fine university, the immediate needs and long term goals for our growth, we walked out into the sweltering August night. My naive comment to Bruce was "That's a lot to remember!". Bruce's response to me was "That'll be the easy part. There's a lot of hard work that needs to be done"

Let's recognize Bruce Dunlevie as one who has already achieved so much and who can work with our team and become Rice University's diplomat into the unknown future.



Peter Thaler
BA 1979
BArch 1981