Ronald D. Ondechek Jr. '99 Eng

Ronald Dennis Ondechek is an investment professional at Altira Group LLC, a venture capital firm that invests in breakthrough energy technology companies.

At Altira, Ondechek's responsibilities are fairly broad. As a member of the firm's investment committee, he sources new investment opportunities and plays a significant role in supporting Altira's portfolio companies throughout the growth process. Ondechek is involved in performing organizational, technological, and market analysis and is a frequent speaker and panelist regarding the energy industry. Ondechek has overseen dozens of transactions valued at more than $300 million. He has also been a board director or observer for a total of eight portfolio companies.

Ondechek began his career as a chemical engineer and project manager for ExxonMobil and went on to start several successful service and technology companies. Prior to joining Altira, Ondechek was an exploration and production securities analyst for AG Edwards and Howard Weil. He is currently a member of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory Advisory Board, a member of Tulane University's Entrepreneurs Association Board, and a director for Enerpulse, Inc., a fuel ignition technology company.

In addition to his Penn State degree, Ondechek earned an MBA from Tulane in 2003. He is a first generation Penn Stater and the first in his family to earn a graduate degree. Since graduation, Ondechek has maintained strong ties to Penn State. He serves on the College of Engineering Industrial and Professional Advisory Council and frequently lectures in engineering classes.

Ondechek is a life member of the Penn State Alumni Association and lives in Denver.