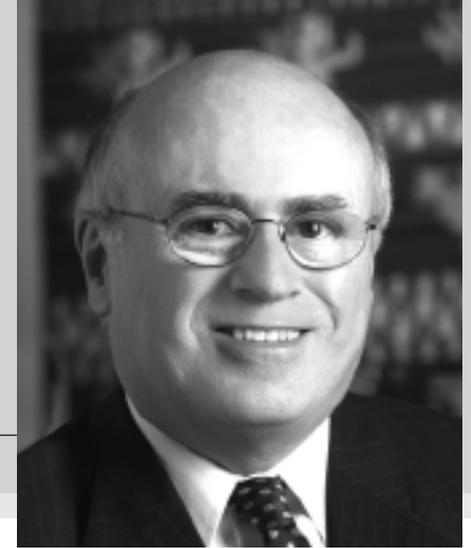




HONORARY ALUMNI AWARDS

Richard T. Clark



To Richard Clark for his guidance of Penn State students and his commitment to global healthcare access.

As a leader of a Fortune 500 pharmaceutical company, Richard Clark has been a champion for global access to healthcare for decades. A native of Johnstown, Pa., he has been an avid Penn State fan and supporter for nearly 60 years. He also presides over the board of directors of a company with a long history of providing Penn State students with experiences and opportunities to positively shape their futures.

Clark is currently the chairman of Merck and most recently served as CEO. For more than 40 years, Clark has been part of a company that is instrumental in providing opportunities for Penn State students and alumni. With a strong internship program at Merck and the variety of disciplines offered at Penn State, it seemed a natural fit to engage young people from the University, he said. In fact, the company has designated Penn State as one of only 24 universities in the United States as a core partner to identify future talent. The company currently has more than 130 full-time employees who are Penn State alumni.

Clark began his career at Merck in an entry-level position and three decades later became the company's CEO. He credits his success at the company to the great mentors and managers who were interested in his professional development. Counseling and career mentoring are important elements of the internship program at Merck, Clark said.

Earlier this year, Clark was instrumental in instituting a planned succession that named Penn State Distinguished Alumnus Kenneth C. Frazier '75 as Merck's new CEO. Clark and Frazier also share another commonality—they both earned degrees in history.

"Even history majors can become CEOs," Clark said. "I believe liberal arts education is very important and is an important stepping stone to whatever your goals are."

Clark is a supporter of the Penn State College of the Liberal Arts and recently endowed a Director's Fund in the George and Ann Richards Civil War Era Center. The fund will facilitate academic initiatives such as hosting conferences, launching new publications, and designing new programming about a multitude of Civil War topics—an area in

which Clark has a great interest. In fact, he says he soon hopes to start tackling the hundreds of books he has on the Civil War.

Under Clark's leadership at Merck, the company received recognition as one of the top donors in America by *The Chronicle of Philanthropy*, and it was ranked second in the 2010 Access to Medicines Index. Whether it's providing patient assistance in the United States or partnering with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to offer an HIV/AIDS prevention program in Botswana, Merck has facilitated the development and success of many global health initiatives.

"One of the things that is very important to me and all employees is that we have a responsibility to make sure people around the world have access to medicine," Clark said. "I'm proud that we're in a position to give back to communities on a global scale."

Clark also established a new global policy providing paid time off for Merck employees who choose to volunteer. "If you want to attract the top scientists and employees in the world, you have to make sure that you're reaching out and

being socially responsible. This not only is the right thing to do, but it is also critically important to the next generation of leaders," said Clark.

In addition to the global initiatives Clark launched as CEO at Merck, he is also involved in philanthropy on a personal level, serving on the boards of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and Project HOPE, an organization that is making healthcare available to people around the globe.

Clark visits Penn State several times a year and is looking forward to spending more time in State College during his retirement. Life members of the Alumni Association, he and his wife, Angela, live in Doylestown, Pa. They have two grown children and three grandchildren.

