

# 2012 Hall of Fame Honoree



## *Dr. Leo E. Hanifin* Class of 1964

Dean of the College of Engineering & Science and Chrysler Professor of Engineering at the University of Detroit Mercy, Dr. Leo Hanifin built upon his experience in the computer, aerospace and automotive industries and later developed unique university, industry and government partnerships. He began his career at the University of Detroit with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering, then spent two years at Hughes Aircraft and as a Hughes Fellow at the University of California at Los Angeles. Dr. Hanifin returned to the University of Detroit for his master's and doctorate degrees in engineering.

After working for Chrysler Corporation for many years, he directed the launch and growth of the Center for Manufacturing Productivity and Technology Transfer at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute into a 300-person collaborative research and technology center. He also was co-director for the NYS Center for Advanced Technology in Automation and Robotics at RPI and helped guide the Northeast Manufacturing Technology Center into one of three regional centers for manufacturing technology transfer created by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

Other directorships include the Greenfield Coalition (1993 - 1996), one of eight engineering education coalitions funded by the National Science Foundation. Dr. Hanifin has been the director of the Michigan Ohio University Transportation Center since 2006 and serves on the board of the American Society for Engineering Education - Cooperative Education Division. Awards include the Lead and Outstanding Young Engineer honors from the Society of Manufacturing Engineers and the Outstanding Engineering Alumnus of the Year from the University of Detroit Mercy. Dr. Hanifin is currently leading a team of researchers from his university and Villanova, Baylor and Dayton Universities in a major study of innovation in large companies.

Dr. Hanifin resides in Dearborn, Michigan, with his wife, Angela, and enjoys bicycling, skiing, kayaking, golfing and playing with their five grandchildren.