

alumni



Alumnus honored for entrepreneurial leadership

Gary Spanner, who received a Ph.D. in industrial engineering from Arizona State University's Fulton School of Engineering in 1994, received an entrepreneurial leadership award on Feb. 21, 2006.

Spanner, who leads Pacific Northwest National Laboratory's Economic Development Office (www.pnl.gov/edo) in Richland, Wash., received the 2006 Sam Volpentest Entrepreneurial Leadership Award for his distinguished record of contributing to entrepreneurial business growth in the Tri-Cities for more than a decade.

Spanner develops and directs programs to serve the technological needs of businesses and to diversify the local and regional economy. From providing technology and business assistance to 400 firms, supporting the formation of the Tri-Cities' first private equity investment group, and creating information resources for startup businesses, Spanner's programs have won 19 national and regional awards, including being named a national model of economic development by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

The award was presented at the Richland Rotary Entrepreneurial Awards luncheon, co-hosted by the Port of Benton, the Tri-City Industrial Development Council, and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory.