
Successfully spanning the realms of industry and academia, Dr. Louis T. Rader has shared with the world an unparalleled life of service and achievement. His career arc is remarkable: Having secured an international leadership role in the electronics industry through top management positions at GE, Sperry Univac and ITT, Lou also pioneered new approaches to engineering education as chairman of the University of Virginia's Department of Electrical Engineering. Still revered by his former co-workers and students, Lou remains in high demand as a consultant, adjunct professor, and lecturer.

A LEADER IN INDUSTRY

During his years in industry, Lou managed organizations varying in size from the advanced development level (ten people) to entire corporate divisions (over 40,000 people). Regardless of the size of the command, Lou was noted for his open-minded, innovative approach to administration. Lou's style served him and his employers well. Along the way, Lou directed seminal work on industrial numerical control, oversaw installation of the first real-time communication via satellite (Telstar) between two earth-based stations, and inspired Terminet—the first successful electronic printer for computer application.

A LEADER IN ENGINEERING EDUCATION

At the University of Virginia, Lou brought to the classroom and the laboratory a strong industrial perspective, as well as a deep reservoir of practical problem-solving experience. Lou also became a challenging and thought-provoking mentor to



"I always admired the manner in which he combined superior technical and executive leadership with a sincere empathy for the people he led, and I set my own standards accordingly."

— J. POLEO, GE PROGRAM MANAGER, 1990

"Louie pursues truth and principles with the zeal and integrity of a great philosopher. His life is living proof of the wisdom of such dedication. Where Louis touches our lives we all are better for it."

— WARREN BRAUN, FOUNDER OF COMSONICS, INC., 1994

"What have we learned? Many, many things which perhaps we can put all together in that rather wonderful, simple yet fundamental admonition given by our dear old friend Lou Rader who, when asked what he had learned in 30 years in business, responded: 'Never run out of money.'"

— PIERRE RINFRET, 1980

dozens of undergraduates, graduate students and faculty members. Under his guidance, the Department of Electrical Engineering implemented several new courses and labs. Indeed, Lou's innovative approach to instruction, coupled with his aggressive recruitment of talented new faculty, placed the department on the road to its current standing as one of the nation's very finest electrical engineering programs.

THE LOUIS T. RADER PROFESSORSHIP

To acknowledge his love of teaching and to recognize his exemplary contributions to the field of electrical engineering, Lou's colleagues and friends at the University of Virginia have established the Louis T. Rader Endowed Professorship in Electrical Engineering. The Rader Professorship will be used to attract and retain outstanding electrical engineering teachers and researchers. Thanks to the Virginia "Eminent Scholars" Program, the Commonwealth will match, dollar-for-dollar, all income generated by the Rader Professorship endowment.

Aided by several significant nucleus gifts, the University now invites Lou's friends and former students to join us in this meaningful and well-deserved tribute.

To contribute to the Rader Professorship, or to obtain additional information, contact:

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ABOUT LOUIS T. RADER

Born in Frank, Alberta, Canada, Lou took a B.S. in electrical engineering from the University of British Columbia in 1933, then earned an M.S. and a Ph.D. from the California Institute of Technology in 1935 and 1938, respectively. Lou next joined General Electric in Schenectady, N.Y., where he remained until he returned to academia in 1945 as chairman of electrical engineering at Illinois Institute of Technology.

Lou moved back to GE in 1947 and progressed through a series of increasingly responsible positions. In one of those positions, Lou was responsible for selecting Waynesboro, Va. as the site for a new GE plant. That decision was significant for Lou, as it initiated a personal relationship with the Commonwealth of Virginia that continues to this day.

Lou later joined the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation, holding the titles of Group Vice President and Director. He subsequently moved to the Sperry Rand Corporation, where he served as president of its famous Univac Division.

Lou then returned to GE one more time, as Vice President and General Manager of the Communications and Controls Division. It was from this position that Lou was recruited to join the University of Virginia in 1969 with a joint appointment as Chairman of Electrical Engineering and Professor of Business Administration. Lou served as department chair until 1974, but he has continued to teach and lecture at the University's engineering school and graduate business school ever since.

He has been a member of boards of directors for several corporations: International Telephone

and Telegraph, ComSonics, Smith Transfer, Chase Investments, and Sprigg Lane Investments. Lou has also served on advisory boards for numerous non-profit organizations: California Institute of Technology, Lafayette College, St. Johns College of Annapolis and Santa Fe, Blue Ridge Community College, the University of Virginia Patents Foundation, Human Resources Research Corporation, the Taft Institute of Government, and the Niskayuna (N.Y.) School Board.

He is a member of the National Academy of Engineering and a Fellow of IEEE. Lou has also received the California Institute of Technology Outstanding Alumni Award.

Lou is married to the former Connie Wayland, who now lives with him in Charlottesville. Their sons, Louis and John, are both successful engineers and have shared with Lou and Connie five grandchildren.

THE LOUIS T. RADER PROFESSORSHIP IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

*AN EMINENT SCHOLARS
PROFESSORSHIP
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING
AND APPLIED SCIENCE*