Tooker House

About Diane and Gary Tooker

Tooker House, a new Arizona State University seven-story, co-ed living and learning community, is named for ASU alumni and long-time supporters Diane and Gary Tooker.

A legacy of Sun Devil support

Gary and Diane Tooker are strong supporters of the advancement of ASU and the New American University mission and charter. Their investments across ASU build a community of support for students in STEM fields. Tooker House is the embodiment of their cumulative investments in students, faculty and the technological ecosystem at ASU. Through Tooker House, the Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering connect skilled, diverse, and motivated STEM students within a community and learning environment in which diversity of thought and experience develop strong and successful engineers.

In 1999, Diane and Gary were joint recipients of ASU's James W. Creasman Award of Excellence. Together, they have advanced ASU through the President's Club for over 20 years as lifetime members, serving as co-chairs from 2011 to 2013. Diane and Gary have invested as individuals and through the Tooker Family Foundation to create endowed scholarships for students supporting the ASU Medallion of Merit Scholars Program, and the President's Club scholarships, as well as endowed scholarships in the Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College and the Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering. They have also endowed the Diane and Gary Tooker Chair and Professorships for Effective Education in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

Entrepreneurship and industry leadership

Throughout their own educational journey, Diane and Gary have experienced the impact of STEM degrees. Diane earned a degree in early education, BAE '61 and Gary in electrical engineering, BSE '62 with further studies in business administration from ASU. This coursework set a foundational path for both of them.

Diane taught students in Phoenix and Scottsdale schools and holds a degree in interior design. She is an entrepreneur who ran her own business, Designovations, established in 1982, and also worked as a realtor. Diane is an active ASU supporter, who served on the board of the ASU Alumni Association (1999-2003) and helped start the Medallion of Merit Scholars program.

Gary joined Motorola in 1962, rising to Chief Operating Officer in 1988, President in 1990 and Vice Chairman and CEO in 1993. Gary retired from Motorola in 1999 after serving as Chairman of the Board. In addition to serving on Motorola's board of directors, Gary served on the boards of Eaton Corp, Avnet Inc., ARCO, and Axcelis Technologies Inc. During his career, Gary has served as a board member and Chairman of the Board of the U.S. Semiconductor Industry Association, The American Electronics Association, the Pacific Basin Economic Council, and the Chicago Junior Achievement board. He has served on the Business Roundtable, the executive committee of the Council on Competitiveness, and as a director of the National Alliance of Business.

In 1996, he was inducted into the National Academy of Engineering as well as receiving a Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1983, the Engineering Excellence award in 1999, and an honorary doctor of humane letters from ASU in 1996. He is a trustee of ASU and served on the board of directors of ASU's Alumni Association (1992-1994 and 1994-1997) and the ASU Research Park in Tempe.