

Recognizing excellence

Greatness in business comes with extensive experience, commitment, and perseverance. The W. P. Carey School of Business is proud to recognize the excellence of leaders from the local, national, and international business communities.

Executive of the Year

The W. P. Carey School's Dean's Council honors one business leader annually whose contribution is recognized as significant to the nation and the world, whose inspired leadership has created and sustained superior organizational performance, and whose achievements exemplify a model for future business leaders.

2020 Executive of the Year: Christian Koch



Christian Koch currently serves as president and CEO of the Carlisle Companies Inc., a diversified, global portfolio of niche brands and businesses that manufactures highly engineered products and solutions for their customers. Carlisle's worldwide team of employees generated \$4.5 billion in revenues in 2018.

Koch was named president and CEO in January 2016; he joined Carlisle in 2008 as president of its Asia Pacific operations. He also has held leadership positions at Graco Inc. in Shanghai and Minneapolis, and at TEC Inc. in Illinois.

Accessing industry thought leaders

Economic Club of Phoenix — Lead. Inform. Influence.

The Economic Club of Phoenix (ECP) enhances discussion of economic and business issues among academic, business, labor, and public sectors in the Phoenix area.

2019–20 speakers: **Zion Armstrong**, President, adidas North America; **Michael Spangenberg**, Co-founder, State Forty Eight; **J.K. Symancyk**, CEO, PetSmart, Inc.; **Alex Taylor**, President & CEO, Cox Enterprises

Lawrence R. Klein Award

An annual honor for economic forecasting accuracy, the W. P. Carey School of Business presents the Lawrence R. Klein Award in association with the nationally recognized *Blue Chip Economic Indicators* newsletter.

2019 Klein Award recipient: Sam Kahan



Sam Kahan is chief economist at ACT Research. Kahan is a well-known and respected financial economist, with more than 30 years of experience analyzing and forecasting the global capital markets.

Kahan joined ACT in 2010 from the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, Detroit branch, where he had been senior economist for 11 years. Prior to that, Kahan held executive positions with A.S.K. Financial Research, Ltd.

and Fuji Securities, Inc., among others.

Kahan holds a BA in Economics from Yeshiva University and both an MA and PhM in economics from Columbia University.

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Spirit of Enterprise Award

The Spirit of Enterprise Award is Arizona's premier celebration of entrepreneurship. For more than two decades, the W. P. Carey School has recognized businesses that positively impact our economy while exhibiting ethics, energy, and excellence in entrepreneurship.

2019 Spirit of Enterprise Award winner: State Forty Eight

W. P. Carey Alumni Hall of Fame

Established in 1977, the W. P. Carey Alumni Hall of Fame recognizes alumni who have demonstrated leadership and achievement in their fields and in the community.

2019 Hall of Fame inductees:



Richard Boals (*BS Accountancy '79*) served as CEO at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Arizona, Inc. from April 2003 to July 2017. Boals joined Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona (BCBSAZ) in 1971 and served in a variety of capacities, seeing it through numerous years of growth and success. Before beginning his career at BCBSAZ, Boals served four years in the United States Air Force. He serves on various boards and is a member of Arizona Tech Investors, Arizona State University President's Club, and Arizona State University W. P. Carey School of Business Dean's Council.



Larry Carter (*BS Business Administration/Accountancy '74*) joined Cisco in January 1995 as vice president of finance and administration, chief financial officer and secretary and advanced to become CFO and secretary and later senior vice president in the office of the chairman and CEO. He retired in November 2008. Carter also served on Cisco's board of directors from 2000 to 2014. He is currently a trustee and founder of the Cisco Foundation and a member of the CHP 11-99 Foundation board of directors.



William Van Epps (*BS Marketing '71*) is CEO of New England Authentic Eats LLC. For 45 years, Van Epps has had an extraordinary record driving growth in food service, retail, and franchising, including 31 years in the international arena. His experience ranges across many household names in the restaurant industry, from Papa John's International to Long John Silver's Inc. and Shake Shack. Van Epps currently serves on the board of advisors for New England Authentic Eats LLC, Walhburgers, and Locknet (a lock and security door manufacturer).



Kevin Warren (*MBA '88*) is the commissioner-elect of the Big Ten Conference, officially commencing duties on Jan. 2, 2020. Warren will be the first African-American commissioner of an Autonomous 5 conference. Prior to joining the Big Ten Conference, Warren was chief operating officer of the Minnesota Vikings. Warren and his wife, Greta, are active members of the Minneapolis-St. Paul community where they support several local elementary schools, scholarships for or first-generation college students, and the University of Minnesota Masonic Children's Hospital.

2019 Hall of Fame Young Alumni inductee:



Matt Michalowski (*BS Finance '09*) is the president and founder of PXL, a creative technology agency that works with the world's largest blue-chip media brands, including NBCUniversal, 20th Century Fox, Disney, Paramount, Warner Bros., and Sony. In 2012, on his 25th birthday, Michalowski embarked on his own and founded PXL. PXL has worked on marketing campaigns for some of the biggest theatrical releases, including *Bohemian Rhapsody*, *X-Men: Days of Future Past*, and *The Revenant* — winner of the 2016 Academy Award for Best Picture. In 2019, PXL was acquired by the entertainment marketing agency Studio City.