

# Homecoming Awards Honor Outstanding Alums

## Each fall, the College of Business honors its most distinguished alumni at the ISU Alumni Association's Honors

and Awards Ceremony at Homecoming. This year, two alumni will receive the college's Citation of Achievement Award, which was established in 1985 to honor distinguished alumni who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in life beyond the campus. One alumnus will receive the John D. DeVries Service Award, established in 1985 to recognize an individual who has demonstrated outstanding service to the college. The awards ceremony will take place on Friday, October 19.



### CITATION OF ACHIEVEMENT HONOREES

**Laura Beller** ('76 Industrial Administration) is a co-founder and venture capitalist with Meritage Private Equity Funds in Denver,

Colorado. She has more than 20 years of experience in private equity investing. She oversees all operational aspects of the firm including investor reporting, internal controls, administrative staffing, distributions and cash flow. Her efforts earned her the 2003 Outstanding Woman in Business Award from the *Denver Business Journal*. She also has an MBA from Rutgers, and lives in Parker, Colorado.



**Walter Smith** ('69 Industrial Administration) is chairman and chief executive officer of Thombert, Inc., and ITWC Polyurethane. He was the Iowa Small Business Person of the Year in 1995, leading his companies

from \$600,000 in annual sales to nearly \$50 million today. Smith, who also earned an MBA from Drake University, currently serves on the board of directors for three other companies. He is a member of the College of Business Dean's Advisory Council. He lives in Newton and has four children and two stepchildren with his wife Sibyl.

### JOHN D. DEVRIES SERVICE AWARD HONOREE



**Craig Petermeier** ('78 Industrial Administration) is the president and chief executive officer of Jacobson Companies, a nationally ranked third-party logistics and warehousing firm based in Des Moines. He has

helped to oversee the explosive growth of what is now the fifth-largest third-party logistics provider in the United States, with over 6,000 employees in 140 locations and \$550 million in annual revenue.

Petermeier is the chair of the College of Business Dean's Advisory Council, The ISU Foundation's Order of the Knoll, and the ISU Coaches' Circle. He and his wife Virginia live in Mingo, Iowa, and have two children: Lindsay, a senior at Iowa State, and Jonathon, a senior at Baxter High School. He received the Citation of Achievement Award in 1999. ■

### BUSINESS ALUM EARNS VOLUNTEER AWARD



**Dan and Theresa Etler** are the recipients of the 2007 James A. Hopson Alumni Volunteer Award. Dan is a 1995 College of

Business graduate with a degree in finance, and Theresa is a 1998 speech communication graduate. They live in Shawnee, Kansas. Dan, a native of Emmetsburg, Iowa, is a program leader with Hallmark Cards in Kansas

City, Missouri. The award recognizes Iowa State graduates age 40 and under who demonstrate early volunteer leadership in alumni activities and who are ISU Alumni Association members. ■