



William R. “Bill” Donley, class of 1974, earned a B.S. in Forest Science at Penn State in 1978 and an MBA at the University of Pittsburgh’s Katz School of Business. He is currently Chairman of the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Advisory Board for Penn State’s College of Agriculture.

He is a retired 31-year senior management veteran with extensive experience in global materials and services businesses. From October 2005 until retiring in 2010, Bill was president and CEO of Tangent Rail Corporation. He led management in a buyout of Tangent Rail from the former owner, RailWorks. Prior to the sale, he was president of RailWorks’ Products and Services Group, a provider of railroad construction products and track maintenance services.

Prior to joining RailWorks, Bill worked for nearly 20 years with Koppers Company and its spin-off, Koppers Industries, where he gained across-the-board management experience in sales, procurement, operations, strategic planning, and division management. He was elected corporate vice President in 1995 and was vice president and general manager of Koppers’ Utility and Heavy Construction Division from 1995 to 1998.

Bill has held leadership positions in several industry associations, including chairman of the American Wood Preservers Institute and the Railway Tie Association.

An active supporter of the game of lacrosse, Bill coached middle school and high school athletes at East End Athletic Association and Pittsburgh Central Catholic High School.

Bill has a close association with Pennsylvania State University. He was the 2011 Outstanding Alumni award winner for the School of Forest Resources. Currently Bill is a member of the Development Advisory Board, and is the Chairman of the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Advisory Board.

Bill lives in Pittsburgh with his wife Maggie. He loves boating, the outdoors, and anything with two wheels.