



NAME: Rick Haldenby
@ UW ENG SINCE: 1976

Some people might say that Rick Haldenby is following in the footsteps of his paternal grandfather and father – both were prominent Toronto architects. But people who know Rick would be more likely to say that the School of Architecture’s Director is charting a new path, one that is having an exceptional impact on current and future architecture students. Rick’s career has taken him down many roads – teacher, project manager, fundraiser, service to the profession, government and community relations, and most recently the champion for the new School in Cambridge.

How did you get hired at the University?

After graduating from UW’s Architecture program in 1975, I was invited to teach a third year design course when a regular faculty member fell ill. That term, I saved my money and, in the first week in January, I flew to Longon, bought a bike, and took the train to Greece. Just before leaving Athens, the Director of the School of Architecture sent me a telegram inviting me to apply for one of three faculty positions. Putting together a CV was a challenge – Latin letters did not exist on Greek typewriters – but I sent it off anyway and then continued on my journey through Italy and France. Six months later, I arrived in Cannes and picked up a telegram that had been sitting at the American Express Office for four months – it was a job offer to join the School of Architecture.

What do you personally value about UW?

UW’s willingness to take a chance and the faith it has in people who have ideas and are willing to make things happen.

To what project(s) have you designated your gift?

For years, I contributed toward scholarships. But after a group of Cambridge business people and friends of the School formed the Cambridge Consortium in 2000 to raise the necessary \$27 million for the new School, I shifted my donation to support the new building and endowment project.