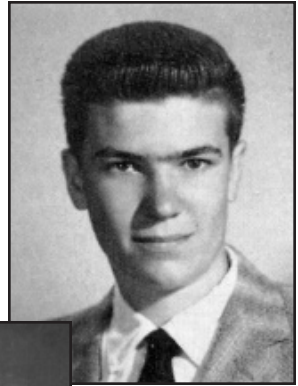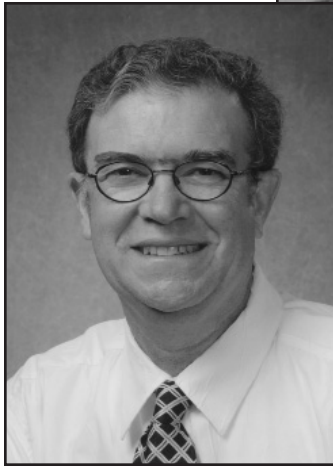# 2002 Hall of Fame Inductee

Donald Beil

Class of 1959

Donald Beil, a professor at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf at the Rochester Institute of Technology, is recognized by his students and peers as an educator with "superior teaching methods and techniques" that improve "the quality of life for all deaf people."

Beil has earned RIT's highest awards, including the Eisenhart Award for Outstanding Teaching (1997) and the Award of Excellence (1996) for his "dedication, persistence, and commitment" to educating deaf people in the field of technology. He has served as chairman of NTID's Applied Computer Technology program, received several awards for technical writing, and published 11 college textbooks and trade books. He began his career by serving as a Peace Corps Volunteer teaching in the Somali Republic in East Africa and then working for the Peace Corps in Washington, D.C.

Donald Beil
Class of 1959

In addition to his extensive background in computer science and economics, Beil has mastered sign language so he can teach and fully interact with deaf students as well as deaf faculty and staff members. His passion to provide deaf people with limitless opportunities played a major role in Beil being instrumental in securing a grant from the National Science Foundation for NTID to provide retraining workshops to deaf and hard-of-hearing adults already in the national workforce or preparing for employment in the information technology field.

Beil's passion took him from the RIT campus to Hungary, where he volunteered with a team to establish computer laboratories in eight schools for the deaf. He paid frequent visits to several Hungary cities to provide technical training and support.