



ETA KAPPA NU ASSOCIATION
Electrical and Computer Engineering Honor Society

James Hagerty

Director of Clinical Engineering
Crozer-Keystone Health System



Career Synopsis

Graduated from Newark College of Engineering with a BSEE in 1969. Attended graduate school at the University of Pennsylvania until 1976 receiving an MSE and Ph.D. in Bioengineering. Hired by Hospital Central Services in 1975 as corporate manager to develop HCSC-Biomedical Services, one of the country's first clinical engineering shared services. In 1977 became service manager and software applications manager for the NJ Hospital Association's clinical engineering shared service, Biomedical Equipment Shared Technology. Hired by Crozer-Chester Medical Center

in 1981 as department director for clinical engineering. Position expanded to system director of clinical engineering for Crozer-Keystone Health System in 1996.

Career Highlights

Clearly, developing a company from scratch as in the case of HCSC-Biomedical Services was a great challenge. Formal engineering education did not focus on management skills, financial skills, or human resource skills needed to accomplish this task. However, engineering education provided a solid foundation of technical and logic skills. These with mentoring by senior management staff made the project a success and gave me the tools to be successful in future engineering management positions.

Education and Career

Engineering education is all about problem-solving. Mathematics and engineering courses are exercises in logical thinking. The content is not as important as the process in achieving an answer. Engineering education taught me the problem-solving skills that have been invaluable in dealing with technological, human, and management issues in a health care environment.

Advice to Engineering Graduates

Don't chase the money; chase the dream. Get involved in work that you are excited and passionate about even if the compensation is not great. The money will come later. Don't let the excitement and passion fade.