THOMAS J. DAY, JR. ’88

Biographical Sketch

Tom Day is the CEO of West Point Products, a U.S. based manufacturer and distributor of consumable supplies for the printing and imaging industry. He led a small group of investors to acquire the company in December 1998, and has been running the business for the past 13 years. Under his leadership the company has grown over tenfold in size and currently employs 550 people. Tom earned his B.S. in Accounting in 1988. He began his professional career in public accounting with Coopers & Lybrand working in the financial audit department specializing in manufacturing clients. He joined Washington Steel Corporation in December of 1991 and held various management positions in finance, budgeting & planning, operations analysis, and production control. He joined North American Refractories Company in July of 1997 where he served as financial Controller. In 2000, Tom was elected to the Board of Directors of the Ohio Valley Industrial and Business Development Corporation, a non-profit organization, where he served for 3 years. In 2006 he was elected to the Board of Directors of the International Imaging Technology Council, a non-profit trade association for the imaging supplies industry, and in 2010 he was elected to serve on its’ Executive Committee, a position he holds today.

Tom and his wife Michelle ’89 reside in Washington, PA, and are Lifetime members of the Alumni Association, becoming Sustaining Life Members in 2011. Their daughter Nicole is a freshman at Penn State, and their son Tommy will follow in the fall of 2012.

Position Statement

Our board has failed in its primary duty to provide independent governance, due to systemic abdication of its responsibilities, rampant cronyism, and a self-preserving, insular culture. This has enabled an inefficient administration to operate unbridled with runaway spending. The result has been devaluation of the Penn State degree, our University’s core mission, and ever increasing tuition costs.

I’m an advocate for: 1) repealing Standing Order IX, which centralizes all power with the President, 2) reducing term limits for Trustees from 15 to 6 years, 3) downsizing the administration to eliminate waste and redundancies, 4) formalizing a process for information flow to the Board directly from various levels of the administration, faculty, and students, 5) prohibiting Trustees from accepting favors from the administration including preferential treatment at sporting events and travel on University aircraft.

We must strive for excellence in everything we do. Academically, we must improve all our rankings and create the best value of a degree from Penn State, derived from a combination of quality, affordability, and the reputation of the institution. In athletics, we must continue to emphasize our motto of Success with Honor. In fund raising, we must double the size of our endowment over the next 3 years. Our endowment currently ranks 39th nationally, and 7th in our conference.

I’m humbled to be on this ballot. It would be an honor to represent your interests in serving Penn State, and I would devote my full energies with the utmost integrity. Thank you for your consideration.