Bossard 1956 and Nichols 1944 Scholarship for Merit in Electrical Engineering

History:

This scholarship was established by Bernard B. Bossard, VMI Class of 1956, in honor and memory of Colonel Lee L. Nichols, Jr. VMI Class of 1944. While a cadet at VMI, Mr. Bossard held his electrical engineering professor, Colonel Nichols, in the highest regard and today credits him for laying the foundation for Mr. Bossard's career as an engineer and an inventor.

Mr. Bossard matriculated at VMI from Danielsville, Pennsylvania. He is co-founder of six microwave and telecommunication companies. He is a world-renowned scientist with eleven patents and over 50 publications. He is recognized as the inventor of broadband wireless (LMDS), is internationally recognized and is the recipient of *Popular Science* magazine's "Best of What's New Award", *Popular Mechanics*' Design and Engineering award and Israel's 50th Anniversary Tribute Award. Additionally, he developed the critical Patriot Radar module and has made significant contributions to most emerging microwave technologies.

Colonel Nichols graduated from VMI in 1944 with a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering and later earned his master's degree at Ohio State University and his doctorate at Virginia Polytechnic Institute. He taught electrical engineering at VMI for 44 years, and was chairman of the department and director of engineering for 19 years. He was also a colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves. During his teaching career, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Award from VMI in 1984 and the Distinguished Teaching Award in 1986. For five years, he held the Hardaway Distinguished Professorial Chair.

Purpose:

The purpose of the Bossard 1956 and Nichols 1944 Scholarship is to recognize the accomplishments of the honoree and to provide merit-based scholarship awards to cadets majoring in electrical engineering at the Institute.

Eligibility:

Recipients will major in electrical and computer engineering. The scholarship will be administered through the Institute Scholars Program at VMI and will incorporate all the requirements, screening procedures and prerequisites of that program.

Award:

The scholarship will cover the costs of four years of cadetship at VMI, pending the recipient's maintenance of academic performance and participation in the life of the Corps of Cadets in accordance with the standards of the Institute Scholars Program.

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