



BALTIMORE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

The Poly Parrot



A PUBLICATION OF THE BALTIMORE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE FOUNDATION, INC.

SPRING 2018

The Poly Parrot is a publication of the Baltimore Polytechnic Institute Foundation, Inc. for alumni and friends of Poly.

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ROBERT L. WALLACE (BOB) IS AN ACCOMPLISHED ENGINEER, AUTHOR, BUSINESS CONSULTANT, EXECUTIVE COACH, PHILANTHROPIST, AND AN INTERNATIONALLY-KNOWN ENTREPRENEUR AND KEYNOTE SPEAKER.

Robert was raised in the South Baltimore housing project in Cherry Hill. His mother worked as a janitor in the Baltimore City Public School System, later attending Coppin State University to become a school teacher. Realizing the value of education, his father, a Bethlehem Steel worker, encouraged Robert to attend the Baltimore Polytechnic Institute and hoped that a good education would give his son a chance at overcoming social and economic obstacles and help catapult him from poverty into a better life.

Attending Poly was a defining moment for Robert. Poly was the first integrated school he ever attended. He was outside of his comfort zone, but he quickly began to form relationships with kids who did not look like him or were not from the same social status. Robert excelled in both sports and academics at Poly, joining the football and wrestling teams. He was, in fact, an avid reader. Wallace graduated from Poly in 1974 and he still displays his Poly Pride in the form of his high school diploma mounted on the wall of his spacious office. He boldly proclaims to all Baltimore City College students or Alumni he encounters, "Orange and Blue all the way baby!"

After Poly, Robert pursued a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mechanics at the University of Pennsylvania and his Master of Business Administration from the Amos Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College. Bob did overcome social and economic obstacles that his father hoped he would, and now has his own rags-to-riches story of becoming a serial entrepreneur. After being groomed by innovative industry leaders like IBM, DuPont and Procter & Gamble, Bob leveraged his experience to establish and lead three companies: BITHGROUP Technologies Inc., an IT service provider; Bithenergy Inc., an energy services company; and RobertWallace.com, EntreTeach Learning Systems LLC, which offers web-based training for women and minority business owners.

Pulling from his real-life experiences and extensive research, Bob has published five books on wealth creation, strategic partnerships, emerging markets and entrepreneurship – and he's busy writing several more. Visit his bookstore at (www.RobertWallace.com). Lastly, Robert shows his commitment to Poly by sponsoring and hosting a summer intern from Poly through the **Pay It Forward** program housed by the BPI Foundation.

When he's not researching, mentoring or presenting to other business leaders, Bob enjoys spending time with his wife of 40 years and their five children. Robert also shared in the same realization as his father, thus encouraging his eldest son to also graduate from Poly. He frequently takes his family on mission trips to Africa where he has started orphanages and schools. Avid about education, especially STEM programs, he regularly mentors students in high school and college.