

## **Keith Farlinger, BMath, FCA**

It is my pleasure this evening to present the second annual School of Accounting and Finance Alumni Achievement Award to Keith Farlinger.

Keith became BDO's Chief Executive Officer in September 2008 after serving as Regional Managing Partner for the Toronto region of the firm. With over 35 years of experience providing auditing, business planning and financial consulting services, he has held leadership positions in the accounting industry and many business associations.

In addition to his work with BDO, Keith is actively involved in various professional associations. He was Chair of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario (ICAO), and was a member of the governing council from 2001 until 2009. He was previously a member of the ICAO Bylaws Review Committee and Bylaws Working Group and the Executive Council of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce, and was Chair of the ICAO Doctoral Studies Committee, Education Program Administration, and Examination Committees.

Keith graduated with his Bachelor of Mathematics Chartered Accountancy in 1977 and has remained connected to the School ever since. He was the founding president of the Waterloo Accounting Alumni Association (Toronto Chapter), and has served as a member of the Capital Campaign Committee of the School of Accounting and Finance.

In an interview we conducted with Keith he said that the key to success is to help each other. Keith exemplifies this approach in his work ethic and with his continuous support of the School. He goes on to say, "I believe all alumni can have a special career by helping others, but a dose of passion and energy also helps!"

Congratulations Keith on receiving this very special honour.

(Nomination information from Cindy Ditner)