



American Society for Cybernetics

The Wiener Gold Medal of the American Society for Cybernetics
is awarded to

William J. Reckmeyer

for outstanding contributions to the nurturing of cybernetics in the theory and practice of management of organizations and for outstanding contributions to the Society.

For several decades, through teaching, research and professional practice, Bill has promoted cybernetic thinking and techniques in the practice of management and leadership. Through his focus on the use of collaborative entrepreneurial approaches to address hyper-complex global and institutional issues in more integrated ways, Bill has developed tools, insights, and heuristics which help managers see past individual biases and work to a greater good. In doing this, Bill has laid the foundation for the recognition that cybernetic thinking has an integral role to play when managers are asked to be leaders and when the changes needed to be addressed fall in the realm of “wicked problems.”

William J. Reckmeyer served the American Society for Cybernetics as its president from 1983 to 1984. Along with numerous other contributions, Bill played an active role in forging links between the cybernetics and systems science communities. Many of the Society’s active practitioner members owe their interest and dedication to cybernetic thought to Bill’s influence. Bill’s career is a living reminder to the members of the Society that not only is cybernetic practice possible but that it can thrive.

We make this award in recognition of William J. Reckmeyer’s above achievements and his instrumental role in proving that cybernetics is not just a way of thought but also a way of practice.

Michael Lissack
President of the American Society for Cybernetics
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