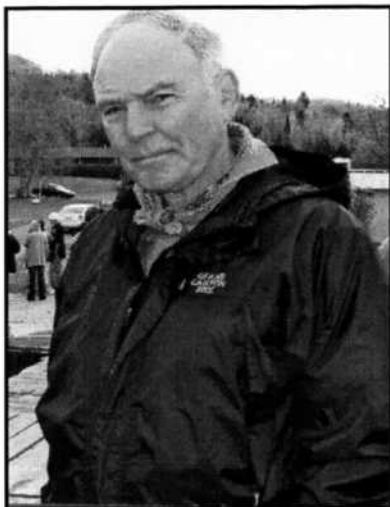


# FRED P. BRAUN '55

*2008 Lafayette Leadership Institute Keynote Speaker*



Fred Braun is President and initiator of The Workman Fund, a not-for-profit public foundation dedicated to the employment and training of prison inmates. The foundation invests in small, struggling manufacturing companies and relocates them inside or adjacent to state prisons. These companies then provide full-time employment to incarcerated individuals, helping them acquire specific job skills and experience, and accumulate cash savings and confidence to obtain good jobs upon discharge.

Born and raised in suburban Philadelphia, Mr. Braun graduated from Lafayette in 1955. While at Lafayette he was a student council officer, fraternity president, business manager of the yearbook and newspaper, and Pepper Prize winner. Fred Braun was also the wrestling team co-captain and Middle Atlantic Champion two years, Most Outstanding Middle Atlantic Champion in 1954, and undefeated in his last 29 straight matches. Fred Braun was inducted into the Lafayette Athletic Hall of Fame in 1994-1995.

Upon completion of his undergraduate education, Mr. Braun served as a 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant of the U.S. military from 1955 to 1957, during which time he captured second place at the 1956 U.S. Olympic Rowing Trials. He followed his time in the military with an MBA from Harvard University, which he received in 1959, funded by a 70% scholarship.

Mr. Braun's humble career beginnings as a salesperson for Standard Pressed Steel, PA were followed by a number of chief executive positions in the construction, real-estate and manufacturing industries before creating The Workman Fund foundation. His track record as an entrepreneur is both extraordinary and extensive as he has been highly successful in bringing massive turnarounds in many formerly unprofitable business ventures.

Outside of his career accomplishments, Mr. Braun has dedicated his life to serving his community as a church school teacher, neighborhood center volunteer, government official and public servant. He served on the Lafayette College Board of Trustees from 1979 to 1985. He and his wife Margie live in Kansas and have four married children and nine grandchildren.