

## Tom Gibbs Is Diamond Award Honoree

Retiree Tom Gibbs received a 2009 Diamond Award for Distinguished Achievement from the University of Washington College of Engineering on May 8th presented by Dean Matt O'Donnell at the Don James Center in Husky Stadium. The award recognizes the outstanding achievements, ingenuity and entrepreneurship of all engineers. The following is taken from the University of Washington announcement. Congratulations Tom!

Using his skills in engineering, management and team building, Tom Gibbs created innovative and lasting environmental legacies. His work for a sustainable environment nationally and in two major cities was of historic importance to the clean water movement. He led construction of Metro's acclaimed clean-up of Lake Washington and Puget Sound, earning commendation from the White House in 1971. Mr. Gibbs was program manager for Milwaukee's ambitious and very successful Water Pollution Abatement Program. While in Milwaukee, he sparked the transformation of the downtown riverfront from a polluted eyesore to a dynamic urban destination. He oversaw the integration of four declining transit systems in the Seattle area into the award-winning Metro Transit program. In 1969, Mr. Gibbs created the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, which is still a highly respected contributor to national environmental issues. He played a significant role in the development of the original Clean Water Act in 1972. He earned national awards from ASCE and American Public Works Association (APWA) for the development of innovative approaches to environmental challenges while at Metro. Mr. Gibbs continued his career at CH2M HILL as executive vice president and director of water practice with responsibility for all of the firm's domestic water engineering projects.

As a community service advocate, during his career and following retirement in 1997, Mr. Gibbs' leadership has touched many organizations, including the Seattle-King County Economic Development Council, the Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce, the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, and the Board of Coastal Environmental Systems. He served on the initial board of the Washington State Major League Baseball Stadium Public Facilities District and was instrumental in the design and construction of a complex engineering challenge – SAFECO Field. He has been recognized as Engineer of the Year by both the Washington Society of Professional Engineers and the Consulting Engineers Council of Washington.