

Mark Moyer, Class of 1984 and his brother Eric Moyer, Class of 1985, have each impacted the lives of millions of people around the world in their own unique ways: one by bringing life-saving medicines from research to market, and the other by developing compounds that enable us to see the world more clearly, and connecting with the world around us. Both owe their success to a combination of their scientific knowledge and expertise, as well as their ability to unify, inspire, and motivate diverse teams of individuals to accomplish outlandish goals.

Mark was the first to attend Houghton, graduating with a major in Biology and a minor in Chemistry. In '86 he earned his M.S. Degree through the Roswell Park Cancer Institute, and SUNY Medical School Department of Diagnostic Immunology and Biochemistry. His thesis focused on tumor immunology, and this set the stage for a rapidly advancing career in the pharmaceutical industry.

Over the course of his career, he has served in roles such as Worldwide Head of Oncology and Drug Regulatory affairs, Vice President for Global Regulatory Sciences, and Global Director of Research and Development at organizations like Sanofi-Aventis Pharmaceuticals and Bristol-Myers Squibb. He currently serves as Senior Vice President - Regulatory Affairs, Quality Assurance, Pharmacovigilance, Project Management and the Project Lead for tebentafusp at Immunocore Pharmaceuticals. In these positions, he has led teams of physicians, researchers, and regulatory experts to complete research and testing and to gain approval from regulatory groups in countries around the world. This kind of leadership requires the ability to inspire his team to work quickly, accurately, and efficiently in a highly competitive global environment. His work has led to the approval of more than a dozen drugs, most of which are designed to treat various types of cancer.

Among Mark's career highlights so far is his leadership role with Bristol-Myers Squibb in developing and bringing to market Opdivo and Yervoy, both drugs that help direct the human immune system to fight cancer. For his work on these drugs, Mark has been honored by The Galleon Foundation, an organization that rewards "...the development and discovery of products that improve the human condition." These awards are "considered the industry's equivalent of the Nobel Prize." Mark was presented with their Best Biotechnology of the Year award for both Opdivo and Yervoy; and his work on Yervoy also earned him their Discovery of the Decade in Biotechnology award in 2016. His current project at Immunocore, tebentafusp, has entered pivotal clinical studies as a treatment for patients with metastatic uveal melanoma.

One would think that leading teams through the complicated and competitive process of regulatory approval for new drugs would be plenty to keep him busy, but Mark has also coached a travel soccer team for more than 19 years, served as a church elder, and he and his wife Elizabeth have raised two daughters, Erin and Kirsten. They have also spent weekends training with their golden retriever Nola so that they can bring her to hospitals as a therapy dog to brighten the lives of patients.

When asked about his brother Mark, Eric Moyer talks about his charisma as a leader and his outgoing nature. "Mark is the kind of person who inspires confidence in people, and that has allowed him to lead teams so effectively over the course of his career. We worked at Burger King together as teenagers, and while I kept my head down and showed up for my shifts, Mark was a standout employee being groomed for 'Whopper College'."

Eric Moyer may have never made it to “Whopper College”, but he has distinguished himself as a leader and scientist as well. He entered Houghton in 1981, just a year after his brother, and was also drawn to the sciences. It was a regular practice for Dr. Larry Christenson, Professor of Organic Chemistry, to allow his students to select a topic for one of their labs, and Eric decided to delve into Polymer Chemistry, a decision that led to further education and a career that has impacted most of our lives (more on that in a moment).

Virginia Tech was Eric’s next stop after earning his degree in Chemistry from Houghton in 1985. In 1989, he earned his PhD in Polymer Chemistry with a dissertation entitled “Photocrosslinkable Polyimide and Poly (imide siloxane) Homo and Copolymers Synthesis and Characterization.”

His work at Virginia Tech helped launch his 15-year stint at Dow Chemical. Starting as a Senior Research Chemist in 1989, he advanced quickly, taking on roles that increasingly required him to lead research teams, motivating others toward a common goal. One of Eric’s greatest career accomplishments was a substance he invented in 1993. Called Benzocyclobutene which enabled the microelectronics industry to miniaturize integrated circuit packaging. By 2017, this technology was present in 1/3 of all hand-held devices worldwide. This led The American Chemical Society to honor Eric with its National Team Innovation Award 24 years later.

While working for Dow Chemical, Eric, his wife Denise (DeGeorge) Moyer, Class of 1985, and their three boys all moved to Japan for what would be another career milestone for Eric. While in Tokyo, Eric led an international team of regional managers and senior technologists to develop a heat resistant coating that could be applied over an LED light source causing it to emit light across the full spectrum. This technology effectively expanded the use of energy efficient LED lighting to homes and businesses around the world and took his division from nothing to more than \$150 million dollars in annual revenue in just three years.

These two accomplishments are impressive on their own, but add to them a dozen awards, 40 published articles, 18 professional presentations, and 38 US Patents and one can begin to have an idea of the amazing accomplishments so far in Eric’s career as he successfully leads teams to solve problems and discover breakthroughs in the field of Polymer Chemistry.

Eric’s brother Mark acknowledges his sibling’s outstanding success in the field of polymer chemistry, but also admires him for his commitment to his faith and his family. “... he is a godly man of character, and integrity. Always balancing and prioritizing his relationship with his wife, Denise, and their three sons. It is a thrill to see him receive this recognition from Houghton. “

Both Mark and Eric have demonstrated exceptional achievement in their respective fields while being known for their integrity and their enduring faith. We are honored to present them with the Houghton College Distinguished Achievement Award.