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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Randy Beals Appointed Chair of Advanced Casting Research Center at WPI**

*ACRC conducts collaborative research benefiting the global foundry industry.*

**Worcester, Mass.** – Jan. 16, 2019 – Randy Beals, a global engineering specialist for Magna International of Troy, Mich., has been appointed chair of the board at the Advanced Casting Research Center (ACRC) at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI). The position recognizes Beals’ expertise in aluminum and magnesium processing and product development, along with Magna’s long-term relationship with ACRC.

During Beals’ 25-year career he has held leadership positions in the automotive and aerospace foundry sectors. He has been to hundreds of non-ferrous foundries worldwide, including those in China, Mexico, UK, Germany, Poland, France, Italy, and Egypt. For the past seven years, he has worked for Magna International, a leading global automotive supplier dedicated to delivering new mobility solutions and technology. He is part of the global, production development team for Magna Cosma’s two aluminum low-pressure and seven high-pressure vacuum die casting foundries that service multiple, automotive OEM customers.

Beals has been awarded several US patents and is the author of more than 20 published articles in the field of non-ferrous metallurgy. Last year, he was the recipient of the Magna Cosma Inspiring Innovator Award for his research in the area of aluminum casting processing.

According to Diran Apelian, Alcoa-Howmet Professor of Mechanical Engineering at WPI and director of ACRC, “Randy brings many years of experience and keen knowledge of the metal casting industry to the ACRC board. His commitment to students, education, and the advancement of the industry makes him an ideal candidate for this position. We look forward to his leadership.”

Beals’ appointment begins in January 2019 and runs for two years. Previously, Kevin Anderson of Mercury Marine served as chair of the Board from 2013 to 2018 and David Weiss of Eck Industries before him. Weiss has served as director-at-large for the organization since 2013 after John Jorstad retired.

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ACRC members include Aluminum Rheinfelden GmbH, Aluminum Association, American Foundry Society, ATEK Metal Technologies, Can-Eng Furnaces International, Consolidated Metco, Eck Industries, Fiat Chrysler Automotive, Foseco, General Aluminum, General Motors, Harley-Davidson, Hazelett, H.C. Starck, Kunshan Liufeng Machinery Industry, MAGMA Foundry Technologies, Magna International, Montupet S.A., Mercury Marine, NADCA, NEMAK, Nikkei MC Aluminum, Oshkosh Corporation, Palmer Foundry, Pratt & Whitney, QuesTek Innovations, Rio Tinto Aluminum, Sakthi Automotive, Shiloh, Terves, Tesla/SpaceX and VJ Technologies.

Beals is active within TMS, AFS, ASM and NADCA organizations and holds a master's degree in materials science and engineering from Michigan State University. He lives in Troy, Mich., with his wife, Nikki.

### **About Advanced Casting Research Center**

The ACRC, founded in 1985, is an academic-industry partnership headquartered on the campus of Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, Mass. Built on the university's strengths and focused on helping industry solve technical issues, the center provides a collaborative environment in which members, faculty, and students discuss challenges in the metal casting industry, specifically in the areas of light metals, non-ferrous alloys and semi-solid processing.

### **About Worcester Polytechnic Institute**

WPI, a global leader in project-based learning, is a distinctive, top-tier technological university founded in 1865 on the principle that students learn most effectively by applying the theory learned in the classroom to the practice of solving real-world problems. Recognized by the National Academy of Engineering with the 2016 Bernard M. Gordon Prize for Innovation in Engineering and Technology Education, WPI's pioneering project-based curriculum engages undergraduates in solving important scientific, technological, and societal problems throughout their education and at more than 45 project centers around the world. WPI offers more than 50 bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programs across 14 academic departments in science, engineering, technology, business, the social sciences, and the humanities and arts. Its faculty and students pursue groundbreaking research to meet ongoing challenges in health and biotechnology; robotics and the internet of things; advanced materials and manufacturing; cyber, data, and security systems; learning science; and more. [www.wpi.edu](http://www.wpi.edu)

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