

## Distinguished Alumni Award

### Dr. Gary Gabel

Since reconnecting with Schoolcraft in 2008 through the Alumni Program, Dr. Gary Gabel has only deepened his involvement with the College. He now serves on the Schoolcraft College Foundation Board of Governors and recently joined the Schoolcraft College Foundation Executive Committee to fill the role of Treasurer. Gabel has also accepted a position as Operational Chair for organizing the Foundation's upcoming Schoolcraft College 50th Anniversary Advancement Campaign.

With his continuing commitment to Schoolcraft and his personal accomplishments as an entrepreneur, self-help author and mentor, Gabel was a logical choice to receive the 2010 Distinguished Alumni Recognition

Award. In addition, he served as guest speaker for the 45th commencement ceremony this past May. The only one surprised that he received this honor was Gabel himself. "I always figure there are plenty of people who have built bigger companies, made more money, invented better products or wrote better books," he said with a wry grin.

Humility aside, Gabel's sage advice regarding personal empowerment and a positive outlook is highly sought by corporations, business professionals and educators through national speaking engagements.

Following an introduction from Schoolcraft College President Dr. Conway Jeffress, Gabel took the stage at the 2010

Commencement Ceremony held at the Compuware Arena in Plymouth, MI and shared a trio of personal stories with the new graduates. The tales—his decision to attend Schoolcraft, his time spent at the College and the lessons he has learned while offering leadership training—all demonstrated how those in attendance had the power to influence their lives through positive thinking. The 15-minute speech was sprinkled with Gabel's trademark humor and personal charisma.

Dr. Gabel's parting gift to each of the graduates was a copy of his book, *Personal Takeover*.

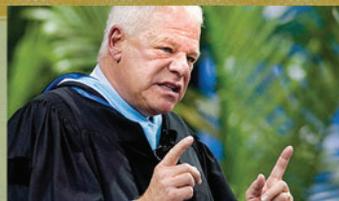
Though he's honored to receive the Distinguished Alumni Recognition Award, being selected to speak at

commencement was an even greater honor for Gabel. "Over the course of my career, I have spoken to thousands of people," he says, "but these individuals represent the same potential I had when I graduated in 1969."

Dr. Gabel plans to continue his work with the College and Foundation for a long time to come. Based on his enthusiastic involvement and the gratitude the Schoolcraft family feels in return, there's no doubt this is a partnership that will continue for years. ●



SC President, Dr. Conway Jeffress & Trustee, Gregory Stempein present Gabel with the award



Gabel addresses new graduates during his commencement speech



Gabel and wife Lisa following Commencement