

**Horace D. Taft Alumni Medal
and Citation of Merit
2015 Recipient**



Drummond C. Bell III '63

Weighing in at sixty-nine pounds and standing four feet nine inches tall, you may have been the smallest lower mid in Taft history. An enthusiast for life you were, a scholar you were not yet. However, by senior year you were an accomplished scholar-athlete, earning the Coach's Prize in Hockey and leading the cross country and track teams. Your advisor and coach John Small wrote, "Drum has given us an example of courage that will never fade, an example that will bring out the best in many, less endowed with the quality than he." One of the first Taft graduates to attend the University of North Carolina, you continued your career in track and cross country and were a member of Saint Anthony Hall, where you led the way for the admission of the first African American brothers. A courageous student had emerged as a deeply principled leader. Work at U.S. Steel followed as one of the youngest company officers, leading to your election as a division president. After twenty years, your entrepreneurial spirit took you in new directions—President of Mosbacher Jacobs, Managing Director of Freuhauf Trailer International, Partner of McFarland Dewey, Venture Partner of Private Equity Investors, and Director of nearly a dozen companies. Most inspirational has been your service to not-for-profit organizations: a long-time relationship with Sponsors For Educational Opportunity, helping underserved youth; and as board member of National Urban Squash and Education Association; Readworks; Family House; Workshop in Business Opportunities, in support of entrepreneurs and small business owners; and Decatur Clearpool, a New York inner city school. Each of these endeavors reflects your passionate commitment to education for inner city youth. Throughout your many commitments you have also devoted yourself to Taft. A Trustee for thirty years, you have been our greatest cheerleader, recruiting innumerable wonderful students, including your own, to Taft. You have served on nearly every board committee, helping to lead the School's transformation. Your life of service to youth from every quarter and to your alma mater exemplifies the spirit of Horace Taft's ideal: *Non ut sibi ministretur sed ut ministret*. With admiration and deep gratitude we confer upon you Taft's highest honor, The Horace D. Taft Alumni Medal.