

Dr. Gary Booth, Business, Doctor of Science

On December 17, 2005, Eastern Kentucky University awarded Dr. Gary Booth the honorary Doctor of Science degree. This degree recognizes Dr. Booth's thirty-plus years of excellence in the field of research and development within Procter & Gamble and throughout the world.

Prior to receiving the honorary degree, Dr. Booth was a resident of Campton, Kentucky. After high school graduation, he attended Eastern Kentucky University. In 1962, he earned a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry. Afterward, he attended Ohio State University to work on his master's degree. He subsequently received a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry, then later traveled overseas to St. Petersburg University in Russia, whose officials later awarded him with their own honorary award: a Doctor and Professorship in Chemistry.

Dr. Booth was once the Vice President of Research and Development at Procter & Gamble. As vice president, he was responsible for research and development in much of Europe, Africa, and portions of Asia while supervising roughly 1,000 scientists and research assistants in the process. Today, he often describes the job as one of technology development, consumer awareness, product invention, and manufacturing, all of which demanded cooperation from legal authorities and advertising firms. In the end, the time he spent at Procter & Gamble led to Dr. Booth's involvement in the development of a number of well-known products, such as Bounty paper towels, Charmin toilet tissues, Folgers coffee, Pringles potato chips, Jif peanut butter, Vicks cough and cold products, Crest toothpaste, and Pantene shampoo.

Since receiving the honorary degree at Eastern Kentucky University, Dr. Booth has become an advocate for converting science into commercially valuable products. He was also an invited speaker on October 27, 2012 for the opening of the New Science Building at Eastern Kentucky University.