The Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth

is pleased to award the 2023 Distinguished Achievement Medal to

Carlos Rodríguez-Pastor T’88

One would be hard-pressed to find an alumnus who embodies Tuck’s mission to “better the world through business” to a higher degree than Carlos Rodríguez-Pastor T’88. During a business career spanning more than three decades, Carlos has devoted himself to improving the lives of middle-class families around the world, most especially in his native country of Perú.

As founder and chairman of Intercorp, he provides strategic direction for a collection of more than 40 businesses—from supermarkets and pharmacies to retail banks and movie theaters—that all cater to Perú’s working-class families and communities. The company’s stated purpose is “to make Perú the best place to raise a family.”

Disheartened by the nation’s lagging public and private education, in 2010 Intercorp partnered with the design firm IDEO to launch Innova Schools, a system of affordable, high-quality K–12 schools around the country. To date, Innova has opened more than 63 schools in Perú, serving more than 50,000 students. The school system has also expanded to México and Colombia, reaching an additional 2,400 students in those countries.

In a 2016 Tuck profile, Carlos reflected on his efforts to improve the lives of Peruvian families by saying, “If we make these families stronger, I think we can have a longer-lasting democracy, where people own something and will thrive in a system that gives opportunity to all.”

Fortune named Intercorp in its 2015 “Change the World” list, a group of companies recognized for doing well by doing good. Carlos was also included in Fortune’s 2017 ranking of the World’s 50 Greatest Leaders. The annual list highlights leaders in “business, government, philanthropy and the arts, and all over the globe, who are transforming the world and inspiring others to do the same.” Other leaders in the 2017 list included Pope Francis, then German Chancellor Angela Merkel, and Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

Carlos’s success as a business leader and as a champion for Peruvian families is deeply personal. Following a military coup d’état when Carlos was nine years old, his family fled Perú and emigrated to California to start a new life together. A credit to his talent and perseverance, Carlos was accepted at the University of California, Berkeley, where he earned a bachelor of arts degree in social sciences, and a few years later, he arrived in Hanover as a member of the Tuck class of 1988. Among the highlights of his MBA experience, Carlos says the school’s emphasis on teamwork has had a lasting impact.

“To do anything big you have to be able to work on teams, and not just lead them,” he says. “Sometimes you’re just the guy taking notes, other times you’re a big contributor, sometimes you’re a leader.”

He was working on Wall Street when his father returned to Perú in 1990 and, with a group of investors, acquired Bank of America’s Peruvian operations. In 1994, Carlos left his investment-banking job and returned home to Perú to help his father grow the bank, which was among the smallest in the country at that time. That same year, they acquired the state-owned Banco Internacional del Perú. After his father passed away one year later, Carlos became head of the bank and changed its name to Interbank. By increasing its marketing to middle-class Peruvians, expanding its network of branches and ATMs, and becoming one of the first banks in Perú to offer digital banking, Interbank—currently led by fellow Tuck alum Luis Felipe Castellanos T’98—is now the fourth-largest bank in Perú.

Alongside his many professional achievements, Carlos is also co-chairman of the Chairman’s International Advisory Council of the Americas Society/Council of the Americas, a member of the Dartmouth College Board of Trustees, an ex officio member of Tuck’s board of advisors, and a member of the board of trustees at the New York Public Library.

In recognition of his accomplishments as a global business leader and his outstanding service to the Tuck and Dartmouth community, the Tuck School of Business is honored to present Carlos Rodríguez-Pastor with the 2023 Distinguished Achievement Medal.

Matthew J. Slaughter
Dean
Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth
June 10, 2023