

## **Tony Eisenhut Receives 2008 Cutting Award**

7/6/08

Tony R. Eisenhut, co-founder and President of KensaGroup LLC, has been named the 2008 recipient of the R. Davis Cutting Award. The award, presented by the Finger Lakes Entrepreneurs Forum, recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to assisting entrepreneurs in the Central New York Region.

At KensaGroup, Mr. Eisenhut has focused his entrepreneurial skills on new company creation, utilizing KensaGroup's A2I™ Process to bridge the gap between university-developed intellectual property and the innovation needs of Fortune 1,000 companies. Mr. Eisenhut has co-founded eight technology-based startups, serving on the Board of Directors of four of them.

Prior to KensaGroup, Mr. Eisenhut developed his extensive business and leadership skills at Aldi Inc. where he led the growth strategy for the company's East Coast expansion, assembling and managing a team that grew the business from inception to \$300 million annually in less than five years.

Mr. Eisenhut graduated from Cornell in 1988 with a Bachelor of Science degree in animal science. He led a strategic and operational team that moved two manufacturing companies out of bankruptcy to profitability. He currently serves as a board member to Cornell's Center for Life Sciences Enterprises, and is an advisor to NextGen – New York States Task Force on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies.

The Cutting Award honors R. Davis Cutting, who devoted much of his career to building and strengthening Cornell and Ithaca. Working together with senior Cornell administrators, he conceived and developed the Cornell Research Park. Cutting also led the campaign to bring the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research to campus, and is a founder of the Cayuga Venture Fund. Mr. Cutting has served on the University and Real Estate Councils at Cornell and is a sponsor of the Cornell Plantations. An avid athletics supporter, he chaired the organizing committee for the 1989 New York State Empire Games hosted by Cornell, Ithaca College and the Ithaca community.