Macalester Elects New Board Member

St. Paul, Minn. – The Macalester College Board of Trustees has elected a new trustee: M. A. "Mort" Mortenson, Jr., past chairman of M. A. Mortenson Company, a Minneapolis construction company. He was elected to three-year term that began in January.

In the company that bears his family’s name, M. A. "Mort" Mortenson, Jr.’s beliefs reflected his more than 50 years at the company his father founded in 1954.

Mortenson joined the company in 1960 at the conclusion of two years of service in the U.S. Navy as an officer aboard the USS Lansing DER-388. In 1969, he succeeded his father as president. He earned his BS in Civil Engineering from the University of Colorado – Boulder.

Under his leadership, the company built the University of Iowa’s School of Music, the 300-megawatt Blackspring Ridge Wind project in Carmangay, Alberta, the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles and the new Vikings stadium.

The company employs over 3,800 people with revenue of $2.5 billion. Mortenson has 11 offices in the United States and one in Toronto. The new Vikings stadium stands to be the largest project in the company’s history.

In 2007, Mortenson was one of five named to the Twin Cities Business Hall of Fame, and in 2014, the same magazine named him as one of 100 People to Know in 2015.

Mortenson has given support to youth, hospitals, student scholarship programs, and the Greater Twin Cities United Way and its agencies. He is an elder in the Presbyterian Church, and serves on the Board of Trustees of Westminster Presbyterian Church.

In 1994 Mortenson created its Center for Construction Innovation (CCI). The Center’s interaction with academia, customers, and research organizations worldwide has had a profound influence on Mortenson’s strategic directions, creating the foundation for progressive development of new services for its customers, and application and use of technologies that have transformed the design and building process.

Mortenson recently announced that his son David will become the new chairman.

Macalester College, founded in 1874, is a national liberal arts college with a full-time enrollment of 2,045 students. Macalester is nationally recognized for its long-standing commitment to academic excellence,
internationalism, multiculturalism, and civic engagement. Learn more at macalester.edu (http://www.macalester.edu/)

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