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Journalist Dennis Anderson ’73 to receive 2010 Distinguished Alumni Award

Summary: Anderson is an award winning journalist and conservationist.

(August 23, 2010)-The University of Minnesota, Morris Alumni Association (UMMAA) Board of Directors announces that Dennis Anderson ’73 is a 2010 recipient of the University of Minnesota, Morris Alumni Association Distinguished Alumni Award. The award honors alumni who have made noteworthy contributions in their professional lives, in public service, or in service to the University of Minnesota. Susan Jackson ’74 has also been chosen to receive the 2010 award.

An award winning journalist and conservationist, Anderson is an outdoor columnist and editor for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. In 1982, he served as a principle founder and first national chairperson for Pheasants Forever, a wildlife habitat and conservation organization that now has more than 125,000 members in the United States and Canada. In 2008, he played a major role in the passage of the Minnesota Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Amendment.

Anderson’s nominators state, “Dennis has educated and informed literally thousands of Minnesota and regional citizens about conservation and natural resource management....the impact of his writing transcends sitting at a keyboard and describing fishing, or hunting, or outdoor pursuits. He is a practitioner of conservation biology and natural resource management. He educates the public around the issues of habitats, species that live in those habitats, and the potential for strengthening such habitats.”

After earning a degree in English at Morris, Anderson completed a master of arts in journalism at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. His honors include a Pulitzer Prize finalist for specialized reporting a Scripps Howard Foundation Best Conservation Reporting in a Major Newspaper Award a national Associated Press Sports Editor Award for investigative reporting twice winner of the Frank Premack Award for best public affairs reporting and twice winner of the Twin Cities Best Newspaper Columnist Award.

“We look forward to honoring Dennis during our 2010 Homecoming celebration,” states Carla Riley ’85, director of alumni relations and annual giving. “Dennis and Susan are fitting alumni to represent the many Morris graduates who continue to make outstanding contributions to our communities and our world. They receive their awards at the Distinguished Alumni Award and Cougar Hall of Fame Banquet at 7 p.m. on Saturday, October 9, 2010, in Oyate Hall.”

All alumni and friends are invited to the banquet. RSVP online, e-mail, or call 320-589-6066.

Through personal and academic discovery, the University of Minnesota, Morris provides opportunities for students to grow intellectually, engage in community, experience environmental stewardship and celebrate diversity. A renewable and sustainable educational experience, Morris prepares graduates for careers, for advanced degrees, for lifelong learning, for work world flexibility in the future, and for global citizenship. Learn more about Morris at morris.umn.edu or call 888-866-3382.