

## Richard E. Sorensen

Richard E. Sorensen became Dean and Professor of Business Information Technology in the Pamplin College of Business at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) in July 1982. Earlier he served nine years as Dean of the John A. Walker College of Business at Appalachian State University. During his tenure there, the college was accredited by AACSB International.

He was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute (Polytechnic University), and holds M.B.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Management from the New York University Stern Graduate School of Business. He had five years of managerial experience with the New York Telephone Company (Verizon) and served as an airborne-ranger qualified officer with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Vietnam, where he received the Bronze Star and the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross.

A former director of Brad Ragan, Inc. of Charlotte, NC, Dr. Sorensen chaired the company's Corporate Audit Committee. He serves as a director, and chair of the Executive Compensation Committee, of Plastic Packaging, Inc. of Hickory, NC. He has been a consultant to a number of other corporations, including Schuelke Laser Services, IBM, Riegel Textile, Vermont American, and Lucent Technologies. He is managing director of the Virginia Tech Business Technology Center, founding director of the Virginia Tech Center for Leadership Studies and a founding director of the Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center. He chairs the Master of Information Technology advisory committee. He chairs the Virginia Tech Council of College Deans. He serves on the *Virginia Business* Editorial Advisory Board.

Appointed by the Controller General of the United States, he serves on the Government Accounting Office Educator's Advisory Panel. Sorensen was appointed by Congressman Boucher to the Commission on the Future of Southwest Virginia and chaired the Tourism Subcommittee. He was appointed by Governor Wilder to the Blue Ridge Economic Development Advisory Council and by Governor Baliles to the Commission on Prison and Jail Overcrowding. He was appointed by Governors Robb and Baliles to the Southwest Virginia Economic Development Commission where he chaired the Tourism Task Force. He was the founding president of Virginia's Southwest Blue Ridge Highlands, a regional tourism promotion organization. He also founded North Carolina High Country Hosts. Governor Hunt of North Carolina appointed him a charter member of that state's Small Business Advocacy Council.

He recently served as Chair of AACSB International, and previously chaired the Accreditation Coordinating Committee, the Accreditation Quality Committee, the Business Accreditation Committee, the Committee on Issues in Management Education, the Executive Committee, and the Nominating Committee. In addition, he has served on the Blue Ribbon Committee on Accreditation Quality, the Continuing Accreditation Committee, the Initial Accreditation Committee, the Governmental Relations Committee, and the Standards Committee. He currently chairs the Doctoral Faculty Shortage Working Group. He recently served as Chair of the Global Foundation for Management Education (GFME), a joint organization of AACSB and efmd.

His work has been published in *Administrative Science Quarterly*, *Supervision* magazine, *Proceedings* of the Conference on the Implementation of OR/MS Models at the University of Pittsburgh, Katz Graduate School of Business, and *Proceedings* of the Conference on the Implementation of Computer-Based Decision Aids at MIT's Sloan School of Management. He is also a contributing author to *Implementing Operations Research Management Science*, published by American Elsevier Publishing Company.

Dr. Sorensen received the Greater Blacksburg Chamber of Commerce Eugene Jones Memorial Service Award. A past president of the Boone Area Chamber of Commerce and the Boone Rotary Club, Dr. Sorensen has received the Boone Jaycees Distinguished Service Award and the Boone Area Chamber of Commerce Community Recognition award. He is also the recipient of the Appalachian State University Trustee Award for Outstanding Teaching and holds membership in Alpha Iota Delta, Alpha Kappa Psi, Beta Gamma Sigma, Eta Kappa Mu, Omicron Epsilon Delta, Pi Sigma Epsilon, and other honoraries.