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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Karen Hulting** Receives the Minnesota Federation of Engineering, Science, and Technology Societies Richard Alberg Distinguished Science and Technology Professional Award



Saint Paul, Minn., 5/10/2021 – Minnesota Federation of Engineering, Science, and Technology Societies (MFESTS) and the American Society for Quality (ASQ) - Minnesota Section have named Karen Hulting as the 2021 recipient of the Richard Alberg Distinguished Science and Technology Professional Award.

The Minnesota Federation of Engineering, Science and Technology Societies (MFESTS) presents this award annually to a nominated individual submitted by MFESTS member societies which includes the American Society for Quality (ASQ), Minnesota Section. The award will be presented at the 2021

MFESTS Board Meeting held on June 22, 2021.

The Richard Alberg Distinguished Science and Technology Professional award recognizes outstanding lifetime achievements in the recipient's practice of science and technology, contributions to their profession, and actions enhancing the image of science and technology in the society. Dick Alberg was a board member of MFESTS and of the Minnesota Section of ASQ at the time of his passing in 2005. He thoroughly enjoyed working in the field of quality engineering and traveled around the world providing his expertise to various manufacturing facilities.

Plymouth, MN resident Karen Hulting holds a bachelor's degree in mathematics from St. Olaf College, and earned Master's and PhD degrees in Statistics from Iowa State University. She is a 'Design for Six Sigma' Coach and Statistician at Medtronic, with over 25 years of experience providing expertise in a wide range of statistical methods for process and product development, quality improvement, quality systems, compliance, and risk assessment. She is active developing and presenting training in statistical methods for the medical device industry. Karen is responsible for high-stakes quality investigations involving components, devices, and capital equipment. She authors and then implements statistical analysis procedures for quality-system tasks.

"The MFESTS award nomination process realizes many career benefits such as reflection for our members to take stock of unique contributions and motivates our members to seek feedback to achieve further stretch goals" said Cathy Krier, MFESTS 2020-2021 President. "Based on the nomination channels, the MFESTS recognition process ultimately boosts the immediate and long-term visibility of the member's science/engineering contributions across the widest range of engineering disciplines collectively represented by the member societies, reaching the broader Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics community in Minnesota."

Karen Hulting was nominated in recognition of outstanding contributions and leadership in statistical methods and quality technologies in the medical device industry; for developing novel solutions that balance efficiency, simplicity and accuracy; for excellence in mentoring and education in quality and reliability engineering; for increasing the rigor and understanding of statistics in the medical device industry; for implementing improvement methodologies Lean Sigma and Design for Six Sigma; for serving the profession through certification, conference and technical community activities.

The Minnesota Federation of Engineering, Science, and Technology Societies (MFESTS) is an umbrella organization comprised of engineering-related member societies within the State of Minnesota. There currently are nineteen societies/chapters, representing approximately 6,000 individuals, that are members of MFESTS.

MFESTS three primary mission foci are:

- 1) To provide service to the Societies that are members of the Federation.
- 2) To provide a service to the community at large and especially to young people in hopes of helping them learn more about potential careers in the fields of engineering, science, and technology.
- 3) To provide professional development services to professionals in engineering-related careers.

The American Society for Quality (ASQ) - Minnesota Section is one of the member societies of MFESTS. Founded in 1948, ASQ Minnesota Section has grown to be one of the largest sections within ASQ. With over 1400 members, approximately 80% of its members live or work within the Greater Twin Cities area. ASQ Minnesota Section's mission is to foster personal and professional relationships, connections, and a sense of belonging, and to equip its community with the skills, competencies and knowledge that create Excellence Through Quality.

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