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**Maryland University of Integrative Health Celebrates Commencement, Awards First Honorary Degree**

*LAUREL, Md.* – Alan Wilson, chairman, president and CEO of McCormick and Company, will receive the first ever honorary degree granted by Maryland University of Integrative Health (MUIH) at its commencement ceremony on Monday, June 3, 2013 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Wilson will also deliver the keynote commencement address to more than 300 graduating students and guests at the ceremony to be held at the Jim Rouse Theater at Wilde Lake High School in Columbia, MD.

“Alan’s message will strongly resonate with our students, faculty, and staff,” said Frank Vitale, president and CEO of MUIH. “His own personal experience with acupuncture and his work in creating health and wellness as an important pillar for McCormick & Company demonstrate his connection to what MUIH is about. We appreciate his brilliance as a business leader, as well as his humility as a human being.”

McCormick’s affiliation with MUIH is a longstanding one. Most recently, faculty at MUIH have collaborated with scientists at McCormick on research to determine the effects of herbs and spices on various aspects of wellness.

“It’s a privilege to be the recipient of MUIH’s first honorary degree,” said Alan Wilson. “I have been profoundly impressed with the work of the University and how this class of graduates has the passion to make a difference in people’s lives. And I am very proud to represent McCormick at the graduation as we see substantial parallels with the University in our focus on helping people lead lives of good health and wellness.”

Alan Wilson has served as Chairman, President and CEO of McCormick since 2008. Since joining McCormick in 1993, he has led different organizations – from supply chain to business units – and has held many executive management roles including President of Tubed Products, President of McCormick Canada, President of US Consumer Foods, President of McCormick North America and President and COO of McCormick. He is a graduate of the University of Tennessee and attended on an ROTC scholarship and subsequently served as a U.S. Army Captain, with tours in the US, United Kingdom, and Germany. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Grocery Manufacturer’s Association, MeadWestvaco Corporation and the Greater Baltimore Committee. He also serves on the Business Roundtable for Education. Mr. Wilson serves on the Board of Visitors of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County and is past president of the University of Tennessee Knoxville Alumni Board. He received the University of Tennessee’s Accomplished Alumni Award in 2010. He and his wife, Wendy, have two sons.

McCormick & Company, Incorporated is a global leader in flavor. With \$4 billion in annual sales, the company manufactures, markets and distributes spices, seasoning mixes, condiments and other flavorful products to the entire food industry – retail outlets, food manufacturers and foodservice businesses.

**About Maryland University of Integrative Health (formerly Tai Sophia Institute)**

Maryland University of Integrative Health (MUIH) educates and prepares practitioners and leaders in health and wellness through transformative and relationship-centered programs that integrate ancient wisdom and contemporary science. MUIH offers graduate degrees and certificates in a wide range of wellness fields, as well as programs for professional and personal development. The on-campus Natural Care Center offers compassionate and affordable healthcare from student interns and professional practitioners who deliver more than 35,000 clinical treatments a year.

For more information, please visit [www.muuh.edu](http://www.muuh.edu).

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