New Board Member David Macnair Brings Global Perspective and a History of Innovation

PHILADELPHIA (December 19, 2017) – The Monell Center is pleased to announce the election of David Macnair, PhD, to the Center's Board of Directors. A long-time Monell supporter and advisor, Macnair’s many years representing companies in the food industry as part of Monell's Corporate Sponsorship Program gives him great insight into the nutrition-related potential of the Center’s research.

Macnair served for more than 15 years as a member of Monell’s International Advisory Council, a panel of respected advisors drawn from academia, government, business, and philanthropy. Now, he brings his wealth of knowledge and global perspective to the Board.

“I am deeply honored to serve on the Board – this is a tremendous opportunity to help Monell grow and deliver on its critical mission,” said Macnair. “We live in a world of accelerating change, and science plays a key role in helping us better understand both ourselves and the world around us. Our responsibility as a Board is to continue to enable and nurture an environment where great science can be carried out by great people.”

An accomplished leader, Macnair has a long history of global research development and innovation in the food industry. In addition to 13 years at Campbell Soup, including positions as Vice President and General Manager of Campbell’s Center for Nutrition and Wellness and as Senior Vice President of Global Research and Development and Chief Technical Officer, Macnair’s résumé also includes senior leadership positions at Cadbury (Chief Science and Technology Officer) and Mars (Vice President of Global Research and Development for Petcare), from which he retired in 2015.

“There is growing recognition of the complex interrelationship between nutrition, taste, and smell and its impact on health,” said Macnair. “New disciplines and interdependencies are rapidly evolving and Monell is well positioned to play a leading
role in exploiting these opportunities to advance our understanding of taste and smell’s broad impact on our lives.”

Macnair has expressed enthusiasm for the recently announced proposed merger between Monell and Jefferson.

“I hope that my knowledge and insight from many years in the corporate world will benefit the Board as we support Monell through this time of exciting change. In particular, my considerable experience in navigating change may be useful as we envision a vibrant new future for Monell by building on our many strengths,” he said.

“David will be a valuable asset to our Board over the coming years,” said Monell Center Board Chair, Dwight Riskey, PhD. “He combines a strong belief in the importance of scientific research with extensive insight and perspective based on his many years of leadership in the food industry.”

A dual U.S./UK citizen, Macnair received his PhD in biochemistry from the University of Leeds in England. He is an avid traveler and scuba diver, a self-proclaimed fitness nut, and a photographer with “too many interests to fit into the time available.”

The Monell Chemical Senses Center is an independent nonprofit basic research institute based in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Poised to celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2018, Monell advances scientific understanding of the mechanisms and functions of taste and smell to benefit human health and well-being. Using an interdisciplinary approach, scientists collaborate in the programmatic areas of sensation and perception; neuroscience and molecular biology; environmental and occupational health; nutrition and appetite; health and well-being; development, aging and regeneration; and chemical ecology and communication. For more information about Monell, visit www.monell.org.

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