

Dale T. Mortensen

Willamette '61

Oxford Cup Roll No. 076

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Dale T. Mortensen, *Willamette '61*, was born February 2, 1939, in Enterprise, Oregon. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics from Willamette University, where he was initiated into the Gamma Sigma Chapter on March 2, 1958, as Roll Number 325. Mortensen later received his Ph.D. in economics from Carnegie Mellon University.

Mortensen, a Northwestern University faculty member since 1965, is also a Board of Trustees professor. He served as the Ida C. Cook professor of economics from 1985-2011, and is currently a professor of managerial economics and decision sciences at Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management. Mortensen was granted an honorary Doctor of Science from his alma mater, Willamette University, in 2011. After completing his 2006-10 tenure as the Niels Bohr visiting professor of economics at Aarhus University in Denmark, the building which houses all Aarhus University international and Ph.D. activities was named after him.

Mortensen is a prolific author with more than 50 scientific articles and two recently published books. He jointly authored *Job Matching, Wage Dispersion and Unemployment* in 2011, and in 2003, published *Wage Dispersion: Why Are Similar Workers Paid Differently?* Mortensen's work has appeared in such publications as the American Economic Review, the American Journal of Sociology and the Journal of Labor Economics.

In 2010, Mortensen was awarded the Sveriges Riksbank (Nobel) Prize in economic sciences in honor of Alfred Nobel for his analysis of markets with search frictions. Mortensen pioneered the theory of job search and search unemployment, and his insight has become the leading technique for analysis of labor markets and the effects of labor market policy.

In 2008, he was elected an American Economic Association distinguished fellow. Mortensen is also the recipient of the Society of Labor Economics Mincer Prize in 2007, and the IZA Labor Economics Prize in 2005.

Throughout his career, Mortensen has been awarded numerous grants, including eight National Science Foundation grants and three U.S Department of Labor grants. He is a fellow of the Society of Labor Economics, the European Economic Association, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Econometric Society.

Residing in Evanston, Illinois, he is married to Beverly Patton Mortensen. The couple has two daughters, Lia and Julie, and one son, Karl.