



## **Strand Hospitality President John Pharr Inducted into the Michigan State University 2015 Hall of Fame Class of Innovators**

**(Myrtle Beach S.C.) November 16, 2015-** Strand Hospitality President John Pharr was inducted into the Michigan State University's School of Hospitality Business 2015 Hall of Fame Class of Innovators during the school's Celebration of Leadership ceremony in New York City on November 7.

The ceremony, which took place at the historic Waldorf Astoria hotel, recognized Michigan State University Alumni that have exhibited the "Spartan" work ethic by displaying creativeness in business, willingness to take risks and develop effective teams throughout their careers. Each honoree also gives back to their alma mater supporting both the School of Hospitality Business, which is ranked as the number one hospitality business school at a public university and students in numerous ways.

Mr. Pharr began his career with Strand in 1971 opening a 312-room ocean front Holiday Inn in Myrtle Beach. Under his leadership, the company has earned recognition as one of the premier hospitality management companies in the southeast. Strand Hospitality now has over 40 hotels in its management portfolio and continues to grow and develop each year.

"It is a great honor to be inducted into the Hall of Fame Class of Innovators for MSU's School of Hospitality Business," said John Pharr, President of Strand Development LLC. "The school continuously does wonderful work molding future hospitality leaders and I am proud to be a part of the work they are doing."

As an alumnus of Michigan State University, Mr. Pharr serves as a member of the Appointed Board of Directors of the Alumni Association and participates as a member of the Real Estate Investment Management Advisory Board.

**About Strand Hospitality:** With headquarters shared between Charlotte and Myrtle Beach. Strand also has operations in Atlanta. Founded more than 45 years ago, the company began as a developer/owner of full-service Holiday Inns, gradually moving into third-party management. Today with nearly 40 hotels in its management portfolio, the company continues to grow through development, joint ventures and third-party management. It specializes in two to four-star hotel segments and is approved to operate hotels under all the leading hotel brand families including; Marriott, Hilton, Starwood, Wyndham, Choice and IHG. <http://www.strandhospitality.com>