

Trustee



Michael “Mick” Farrell

According to Michael “Mick” Farrell, the best gift his parents gave him was instilling the importance of giving back to others. And in particular, promoting opportunities for young people to pursue their educational dreams: equality of opportunity for all.

Mick joined the UC San Diego Foundation Board of Trustees as a means to make a difference. “It’s about giving back,” he says, “And what better place than UC San Diego, a local and international leader?”

This is not the first time Mick and his family have made an impact at UC San Diego. ResMed (NYSE: RMD), where Mick is CEO, has sponsored business competitions at the Rady School of Management, as well as mentored up-and-coming entrepreneurs and engineers. In addition, ResMed established the Peter C. Farrell Sleep Center of Excellence and Center for Pulmonary Medicine at UC San Diego, in honor of Mick’s father. The Farrell Family Foundation has invested in many campus initiatives, including The Preuss School UCSD, a charter middle and high school for low-income students who strive to become the first in their families to graduate from college.

Mick was born in Seattle, Wash., and grew up in Australia, where his parents originated. He earned a Bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering from the University of New South Wales in Sydney. Mick returned to the U.S. for his graduate studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he earned an MBA as well as a master’s degree in chemical engineering.

ResMed is a global manufacturer of cloud-connected medical devices to manage sleep apnea and COPD. The role combines all of his passions. As an engineer, Mick learned to apply science to practical problems. With business acumen, he is able to translate these new innovations to the world, working with an amazing team covering 120 countries. And applying these principles to the health care industry, he is able to change lives. In fact, the ResMed company mission is to change lives with every breath, with a goal of impacting 20 million individuals by the year 2020.

Before he joined ResMed, Mick worked in biotechnology, chemicals, and metals manufacturing industries at Arthur D. Little, Genzyme Corporation, Dow Chemical, and BHP Billiton. He has served on the board of the La Jolla Playhouse for four years. Farrell is also an active member of Rady Children’s Hospital, a UC San Diego partner, helping to ensure every child has access to great health care.

Because he spends a large amount of time traveling for his work, Mick prioritizes the time he has with his family. His most important job is husband and father. No matter where in the world he is, Mick travels over continents and oceans to be home by Friday night to spend the weekend with his wife, daughter, and son. He enjoys a good game of tennis with friends and body surfing at the beach with his family.