Dr. Pamela Lewis Elected Sonoco Director

July 21, 2004

HARTSVILLE, S.C., July 21 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Dr. Pamela S. Lewis, president of Queens University of Charlotte, Charlotte, N.C., has been elected to the Sonoco (NYSE: SON) Board of Directors, it was announced today by Charles W. Coker, chairman.

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"Sonoco is particularly pleased that Dr. Lewis has agreed to join our board of directors. She brings outstanding business acumen to our board, having served as Dean of the McColl School of Business at Queens University of Charlotte prior to being named president in 2002 and previously having served as Professor of Management and Dean of the LeBow College of Business at Drexel University. Dr. Lewis' professional specialization is in the field of strategic planning, with particular emphasis on competitive and marketing strategy," said Coker.

"As Dean of the McColl School of Business, Dr. Lewis developed and implemented the Executives in Residence program and the Leadership Spectrum, which illustrate leadership as the demonstration of competence, character and a commitment to community. She also led the movement to have the McColl School accepted as a candidate for accreditation through AACSB International, the most prestigious accrediting agency for business schools," added Coker.

Dr. Lewis received her bachelor's degree from the University of Florida, her master's degree from Southwest Missouri State University and her Ph.D. in strategic planning and international business from the University of Tennessee. She has written numerous articles in the areas of strategic planning, international strategy and entrepreneurship/new venture strategy. She is the lead author of the book Management: Challenges for Tomorrow's Leaders, which is in its fourth edition and has been adopted at over 200 universities across the United States. Dr. Lewis has served as a strategic planning consultant for numerous organizations across several industries.

Dr. Lewis currently serves on the boards of directors of C&D Technologies, Inc., a leading manufacturing firm, and Charming Shoppes, a retail apparel firm. She also serves on the boards for several non-profit organizations, including Central Carolinas United Way, the Charlotte Museum of History, the YMCA of Greater Charlotte and Presbyterian Hospital.

Sonoco, founded in 1899, is a $2.8 billion global manufacturer of industrial and consumer products and provider of packaging services, with more than 300 operations in 36 countries serving customers in some 85 nations. Additional information about the Company is available on its Web site at www.sonoco.com .

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