



REGENT CANDIDATE ADVISORY COUNCIL

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January 15, 2009

Senator Sandra Pappas
Co-Chair, Joint Legislative Committee

Representative Tom Rukavina
Co-Chair, Joint Legislative Committee

Dear Senator Pappas & Representative Rukavina:

As you know, for the calendar year 2009 there will be four (4) positions on the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota coming to term, one in each of the first, fourth, sixth and seventh congressional districts. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. §137.0245, et al., the Regent Candidate Advisory Council (RCAC) is established for the purpose of screening candidates for positions on the Board of Regents, and making recommendations to the Minnesota State Legislature and the Joint Legislative Committee.

As Chair of the RCAC, I am pleased to inform you that the Council received a total of thirty-one (31) applications this year from candidates wishing to fill one of the four Regent positions coming to term. After reviewing all of the applications, the Council interviewed fourteen (14) finalists. In the case of each of these candidates, the Council reviewed candidate essays and references from at least three individuals, and conducted an interview lasting approximately forty-five (45) minutes featuring an extensive question and answer period. From the finalists, the Council is referring eight (8) candidates for consideration by the Joint Legislative Committee. The breadth of experience and expertise of the applicants made the process of elimination extremely difficult. The Council is confident that it has selected an exemplary group of candidates for your consideration.

The finalists recommended by the RCAC are (in alphabetical order):

First Congressional District: Patricia Simmons, Rochester, and Randy Simonson, Worthington

Fourth Congressional District: Richard Beeson, St. Paul, and Anita Pampusch, Lilydale

Sixth Congressional District: Kjell Bergh, Stillwater, and Kathryn Roberts, Stillwater

Seventh Congressional District: Clyde Allen Jr., Moorhead, and Anne Rasmusson, Crookston

Members of the Joint Legislative Committee:
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The RCAC is indebted to a vast network of people whose cooperation and assistance made possible the recruitment of highly qualified applicants. Special thanks must be extended to the University of Minnesota Alumni Association staff, as well as the staff of the Office of the Board of Regents, and to the fine staff of the Legislative Coordinating Commission, Sally Kidd and Diane Henry Wangenstein.

The members of the RCAC consider it a privilege to participate in the recruitment and screening of candidates. With every round of activity, the RCAC seeks to build upon past experience in order to continually improve the way it conducts its operations and deliberations. The number of excellent candidates who submitted applications speaks to the integrity of the system and the commitment of the citizens of Minnesota to the University of Minnesota.

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. §137.0245, the RCAC's Selection Criteria Report is attached. The criteria listed in this Report were used by the RCAC for the selection of candidates, and are divided into two categories, Personal and Professional/Experiential.

For your reference, the applications of the candidates being recommended are enclosed. If you wish, I am available to meet with you to further discuss the regent selection process and/or candidates the RCAC has recommended. Additionally, the actual interviews were recorded and are available at: <http://www.commissions.leg.state.mn.us/rcac/09interviews.htm>.

Please let me know if we can provide any additional assistance.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Regent Candidate Advisory Council
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Enclosure