

UMAA Role and Statement on the Board of Regents Recruitment and Selection Process
Approved by the UMAA Board of Directors on October 22, 2016

The University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA) has a vested interest in ensuring that the University's governing body, the Board of Regents, is comprised of highly qualified, mission-driven leaders who are committed to the long-term success of the University as a world-class research institution. The UMAA is uniquely positioned to support the regent candidate search and application process and help develop a diverse and qualified candidate pool.

The Regent Candidate Advisory Committee (RCAC) was created by the legislature in 1988 to advise in the election of regents of the University of Minnesota. Its duties are to develop a description of the regent duties, outline criteria to be applied in recommending candidates, and recruit, screen and recommend at least two, and not more than four, qualified candidates to the Joint Legislative Committee for each opening on the University of Minnesota Board of Regents.

The UMAA believes that an open, transparent process where qualifications are developed and vetted is critical to finding the best leaders from across the state. Therefore, the UMAA is collaborating with the RCAC to assist with communications to alumni regarding open regent positions, regent qualifications, and the application process. While alumni leaders and volunteers may individually recruit other alumni to apply, the UMAA does not "lobby" for or endorse individual candidates. The UMAA promotes the availability of position openings regardless of whether there is an incumbent regent eligible for reappointment in that role.

If requested by the RCAC, the UMAA will host a Regents Candidates Forum for legislators and interested parties to meet all the candidates in one place at one time. Because the UMAA is coordinating this on behalf of RCAC, this Forum is for the regent candidates recommended by the RCAC.

The regent selection process, according to the statutes, calls for a Joint Legislative Committee to consider regent nominees by February 28th. The Committee may nominate and consider a candidate who is not recommended by the RCAC. For each vacancy on the Board of Regents, the Committee may recommend no more than one candidate to the joint convention of the Senate and the House. Members of the legislature may submit additional nominations at the joint convention. The candidate for a regent vacancy who receives a majority of the votes cast is declared the winner.