



REGENT CANDIDATE ADVISORY COUNCIL

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January 15, 2011

Senator Michelle Fischbach
Co-Chair, Joint Legislative Committee

Representative Bud Nornes
Co-Chair, Joint Legislative Committee

Dear Senator Fischbach & Representative Nornes:

As you know, for the calendar year 2011 there will be four positions on the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota coming to term, one in each of the second, third and eighth congressional districts and one at-large position. 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.

We are pleased to inform you that the Council received a total of forty-six 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 sixteen 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 minutes featuring an extensive question and answer period. From the finalists, the Council is referring twelve 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):

Second Congressional District:

Laura Brod, New Prague; Thomas Devine, Chanhassen; and Steven Sviggum, Kenyon

Third Congressional District:

David Larson, Wayzata; Norman Rickeman, Woodland; and Roby Thompson, Jr., Long Lake

Eighth Congressional District:

William Burns, Duluth; Robert Kennedy, Baxter; David McMillan, Duluth; and Robert Ostlund, Walker

At-Large:

Allen Anderson, West Concord; Steven Hunter, Woodbury; and Robert Kennedy, Baxter

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 staff of the Legislative Coordinating Commission, Sally Olson 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, we are 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/11interviews.html>.

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

Respectfully Submitted,



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Enclosure