



REGENT CANDIDATE ADVISORY COUNCIL

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January 15, 2013

Senator Terri Bonoff
Co-Chair, Joint Legislative Committee

Representative Gene Pelowski
Co-Chair, Joint Legislative Committee

Dear Senator Bonoff & Representative Pelowski:

As you know, for the calendar year 2013 there will be four positions on the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota coming to term, one student at-large position, one fifth congressional district position, and two at-large positions. 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 thirty-three 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 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 nine 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 listed below in alphabetical order and not ranked by preference.

Student At-Large: Drew Coveyou, Abdul Omari, and Christopher Tastad

Fifth District: Dennis Nguyen and Ertugrul Tuzcu

At-Large: Linda Cohen, Dean Johnson, Peggy Lucas, and Kelly Smith

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/13interviews.html>.

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

Respectfully Submitted,



Patrick Duncanson, Chair
Regent Candidate Advisory Council



David Fisher, Vice Chair
Regent Candidate Advisory Council



Harriett Porter, Vice Chair
Regent Candidate Advisory Council

Enclosure