

REGENT CANDIDATE ADVISORY COUNCIL

72 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

(651) 296-9002
(651) 297-3697 (fax)
Web site: www.rcac.leg.mn

January 15, 2015

Senator Terri Bonoff
Co-Chair, Joint Legislative Committee

Representative Bud Nornes
Co-Chair, Joint Legislative Committee

Dear Senator Bonoff & Representative Nornes:

As you know, for the calendar year 2015, there will be four six-year term positions on the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota coming to term, one position for the following congressional districts: First, Fourth, Sixth, and Seventh. With the passing of Regent David Larson in the fall of 2014, a partial two-year term for a fifth position became open for the Third congressional district.

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. §137.0245, et al., the Regent Candidate Advisory Council (RCAC) is tasked with recruiting, screening and recommending at least two, and no more than four, qualified candidates to the Joint Legislative Committee for each opening on the [University of Minnesota Board of Regents](#). The following is the report of the RCAC concerning the recently completed candidate selection process ("Report").

We are pleased to inform you that the RCAC received a total of thirty-four applications this year from candidates wishing to fill one of the five Regent positions that will be elected in 2015. After reviewing all of the applications, the RCAC interviewed nineteen finalists. In the case of each of these candidates, the RCAC reviewed candidate application packets (which included essay responses), 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 RCAC is referring ten 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 RCAC 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.

First District: Claire Bender and Randy Simonson

Third District: Michael Belzer and Paula Prah

Fourth District: Richard Beeson and Tom Sorel

Sixth District: Michael Hsu and Steve Laraway

Seventh District: Thomas Anderson and Michael Yost

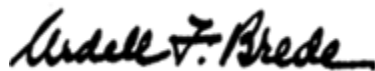
The RCAC is indebted to a vast network of people whose cooperation and assistance made possible the recruitment of highly qualified applicants. The members of the RCAC consider it a privilege to participate in the recruitment and screening of candidates. With every round of activity, the RCAC seeks to 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. Additionally, 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/15interviews.html>.

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

Respectfully Submitted,



Ardell Brede, Chair
Regent Candidate Advisory Council
Telephone: 507-328-2700
E-mail: abrede@rochestermn.gov



Harriett Porter, Vice Chair
Regent Candidate Advisory Council
Telephone: 651-402-0164
E-mail: harriettporter@gmail.com



Jerry Rogers, Vice Chair
Regent Candidate Advisory Council
Telephone: 218-329-6456
E-mail: jrogers31347@gmail.com

Enclosures as stated above.

- cc. Senator Greg Clausen, Vice Chair, Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee
- Senator Jeremy Miller, Ranking Minority Member, Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee
- Representative Marion O'Neill, Vice Chair, Higher Education Policy and Finance Committee
- Representative Gene Pelowski, DFL Lead, Higher Education Policy and Finance Committee