



REGENT CANDIDATE ADVISORY COUNCIL

72 State Office Building (651) 296-9002
St. Paul, MN 55155 (651) 297-3697 (fax) Web site: www.rcac.leg.mn

For Immediate Release

Contact: David Fisher **RCAC Chair** (612) 749-2389
 Sally Kidd **RCAC Staff** (651) 296-9002

Saint Paul, MN - January 9, 2009 The Regent Candidate Advisory Council (RCAC) voted yesterday to recommend 8 candidates to a Joint Legislative Committee for final consideration of election to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota. The Joint Committee selects one candidate for each open position, and submits this slate of candidates for consideration by the full Legislature sitting in Joint Convention.

The four open regent seats to be filled include; one in the first congressional district, one in the fourth congressional district, one in the sixth congressional district and one in the seventh congressional district. All appointments will be for full six-year terms.

The RCAC received a total of 31 applications for the four positions. It interviewed 14 applicants. Finalists recommended to the joint committee 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

The council was created by the Legislature in 1988 and is responsible to recruit, screen, and recommend regent candidates to the State Legislature. State law requires that a minimum of two and a maximum of four names be forwarded for each open position. The council's 24 members are appointed by the Legislature.

The University of Minnesota Board of Regents is the governing body of the University of Minnesota. Its 12 members are elected and serve without pay. Eight members represent the state's congressional districts, and four members are elected at large, as is a student representative. The student member must be enrolled in a degree program at the University of Minnesota at the time of election. The six-year terms are staggered so that four regent positions come up for appointment every two years.

“The 31 citizens who submitted applications all had impressive credentials, and each are to be commended for their willingness to volunteer their time and talents in this critically important governance role. While the breadth of experience and expertise of applicants made the process of elimination extremely difficult, the Council is confident that it selected an exemplary group of candidates for the Joint Legislative Committee's consideration. If elected by the Legislature, they will serve both our University and our State with distinction. We thank each of them for dedication and commitment.”
– David Fisher, RCAC Chair