



REGENT CANDIDATE ADVISORY COUNCIL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Twelve candidates recommended for University of Minnesota Board of Regents

(St. Paul, MN, January 17, 2023) The Regent Candidate Advisory Council (RCAC) voted to recommend 12 candidates to the Regent Nomination Joint Legislative Committee for final consideration of election to the University of Minnesota Board of Regents on Friday, January 13, 2023. The Joint Legislative Committee selects one candidate for each open regent seat 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 each from Minnesota's second, third and eighth congressional districts as well as one statewide at-large seat.

Finalists recommended to the Joint Legislative Committee by the RCAC are (in alphabetical order):

Second District

- Joe Atkins, Inver Grove Heights
- Robyn Gulley, West St. Paul

Third District

- William Humphries, Chanhassen
- Bill Luther, Minnetonka
- Mary Turner, Plymouth
- Penny Wheeler, Orono

Eighth District

- Susan Cohen, White Bear Lake
- Tadd Johnson, Duluth

At-Large

- Val Aarsvold, Altura
- Mike Burns, St. Paul
- Rebecca Siekmeier, Grant
- Flora Yang, Eden Prairie

The RCAC was created by the Legislature in 1988 and is responsible for recruiting, screening, and recommending 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 regent seat. The RCAC'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 by the Legislature and serve without pay. Eight members represent the state's congressional districts, and four members are elected to at large seats, as is a student representative. The regent's six-year terms are staggered so that four regent seats come up for appointment every two years.

According to RCAC Chair Senator Greg Clausen, "We appreciate the outstanding applicants who applied for the position of Regent of the University of Minnesota. This was a diverse candidate pool that was exceptional in accomplishment and vision. The willingness of these people to give of their time, talent and energy to serve the University and the State as a Regent speaks well of them as individuals and shows that the Governing Board of the University attracts people who are well credentialed, experienced and with expertise essential to good governance. This long and careful process of selecting individuals for recommendation to the Legislature was difficult, but we are confident the University will be well served by whomever the Legislature selects from this list of well qualified candidates."