

## REGENT CANDIDATE ADVISORY COUNCIL

### MEETING MINUTES

Friday, January 7, 2005

Basement Hearing Room, State Office Building

#### Present:

Paul Dovre, Chair  
Joe Aitken  
Ken Albrecht  
Jane Belau  
Carol Batsell Benner  
Anthony Bianco  
Ardell Brede  
Humphrey Doermann  
Patrick Duncanson  
Corey Elmer  
David Fisher  
Frances Gardeski  
John Hyduke  
Sylvia Chessen Kaplan  
Sara Kloek  
Elizabeth Morrison  
Dave Naumann  
Jo-Anne Stately  
Paul Rexford Thatcher  
Gary Willhite  
Billie Young

#### Absent:

Richard Ista  
Rohini Khanna  
Bob Vanasek

The Regent Candidate Advisory (RCAC) was called to order by Paul Dovre, RCAC Chair, at 1:05 p.m. in the Basement Hearing Room of the State Office Building.

#### Minutes

Ardell Brede moved approval of the September 17, 2004, meeting minutes. Seconded and **APPROVED**.

#### Announcements

Mr. Dovre discussed possible interview dates. Paul Thatcher moved to conduct interviews on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup>. Seconded and **APPROVED**. Sandy Keene, RCAC staff, took count of how many parking permits would be needed. Parking permits would be handed out at the end of the meeting.

#### Committee Reports

Jo-Anne Stately, co-chair with Garry Willhite of the Interview Process and Questions committee, presented a revised version of the "Possible Questions for Candidates" document. Discussion ensued. Billie Young moved approval of the report, including the changes to the long list of questions and proposing that interviewees receive the short list of four questions. Seconded and **APPROVED**.

Ken Albrecht, co-chair with Fran Gardeski of the Orientation committee, reviewed the agenda for the candidate orientation, which will be 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 1, in 300 North of the State Office Building. Guest speakers include; Roger Moe, Tom Swain, David Metzen, and Margaret Carlson. The candidate reception will be from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the Great Hall at the Capitol with the candidate Forum to follow in Room 15 at the Capitol. Mr. Albrecht moved to have staff send a letter of thanks to the University of Minnesota Alumni Association for their cooperation and coordination of these events. Seconded and **APPROVED**.

Humphrey Doermann, co-chair with Bob Vanasek of the Recruitment committee, passed out information and reviewed his handouts. (Copies of the handouts are attached to these minutes). Chad Thuet, RCAC staff, informed the council that in the recruitment process staff mailed 764 friends letters, faxed 263 press releases statewide and sent 50 e-mails. Mr. Doermann thanked Mr. Vanasek for his help as co-chair and gathering the information for the report. Ms. Stately suggested possibly soliciting the Alumni Association for contact lists we could use in the recruitment process.

Carol Batsell Benner, co-chair with Billie Young of the Document Review committee, had no additions to submit to the council and referred members to the report submitted at the September 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Dave Naumann, co-chair with Elizabeth Morrison of the References committee, deferred submitting his report until later in the meeting.

### **Review Procedures for Selection of Interviewees**

Mr. Thuet reviewed the voting procedures. Mr. Dovre reminded members of the Data Privacy Act and reiterated the importance of confidentiality and referring to candidates only by number and not by name. After consultation with Senate Counsel, Peter Wattson, Mr. Dovre informed members that information regarding candidates selected for an interview becomes public at the adjournment of the meeting. Mr. Wattson's interpretation of the law is that once candidates have been selected by the council, they are deemed a "finalist," at which point their names become public information. Candidates do not have to accept an interview to be a finalist.

The Criteria for Members of the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota and the Diversity Statement were given to members to keep in mind when voting for candidates.

Mr. Thatcher moved to not consider applications from residents living outside Minnesota. Ms. Young thought the issue should be further discussed, if necessary, during voting for the at-large candidates. Motion **WITHDRAWN**.

Discussion ensued regarding candidates who live in a congressional district with an open seat, but only checked the application to apply for the at-large seat. It was decided that candidates would be considered for the seat for which they applied.

### **Selection of Interviewees**

Voting commenced with 21 members present and voting.

#### **District #2**

First Ballot: Two candidates received a majority vote and were automatically selected for interviews.

Second Ballot: One candidate received a majority vote. Mr. Thatcher moved that candidates receiving fewer than five votes be eliminated. Seconded and **APPROVED**. Discussion ensued. Mr. Thatcher moved to close the voting for District #2 with three candidates selected for interviews. Seconded and **APPROVED**.

#### **District #3**

First Ballot: Four candidates received a majority vote and were automatically selected for interviews. Five candidates were eliminated with no votes. Mr. Thatcher moved to close the voting for District #3. Motion **NOT APPROVED**. Mr. Thatcher moved to eliminate candidates who received less than seven votes. Discussion ensued. Motion **WITHDRAWN**.

Second Ballot: Two candidates received a majority vote and were automatically selected for interviews. Mr. Albrecht moved to close the voting for District #3 with six candidates selected for interviews. Seconded and **APPROVED**.

District #8

First Ballot: Mr. Thatcher moved to dispense the ballot and interview all four candidates. Motion **NOT APPROVED**. Two candidates received a majority vote and were automatically selected for interviews. Mr. Thatcher moved to close the voting for District #8. Seconded and **APPROVED**.

At-Large

First Ballot: No candidates received a majority vote. Mr. Naumann moved to eliminate candidates who received zero or one vote. Seconded and **APPROVED**.

While staff were counting ballots, Mr. Naumann presented his committee report and reviewed reference check information. He provided a handout with suggested questions and information for members to use when making their reference check calls.

Second Ballot: Two candidates received a majority vote and were automatically selected for interviews.

Corey Elmer moved to proceed with a third ballot for the At-Large candidates. Seconded and **APPROVED**.

Third Ballot: One candidate received a majority vote and was automatically selected for an interview. Mr. Albrecht moved to eliminate candidates receiving less than four votes. Seconded and **APPROVED**.

Fourth Ballot: One candidate received a majority vote and was automatically selected for an interview.

Sylvia Kaplan moved to close the voting for the At-Large and include the next two candidates who received the most votes for interviews. Seconded and **APPROVED**. Six candidates would be interviewed.

**Reference Checks: Procedures and Assignments**

Sandy Keene took volunteers to make the initial calls congratulating candidates who were selected for interviews and to conduct reference checks.

Mr. Dovre reminded members that they would need to refrain from voting on districts with candidates whose interviews they miss, unless they listen to the audio of missed interviews before voting on Wednesday.

Parking permits for January 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup>, were handed out to members.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

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Paul Dovre, Chair