



REGENT CANDIDATE ADVISORY COUNCIL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fourteen candidates recommended for University of Minnesota Board of Regents

(St. Paul, MN, January 13, 2025) The Regent Candidate Advisory Council (RCAC) voted on Friday, January 10, 2025 to recommend 14 candidates to the Regent Nomination Joint Legislative Committee for final consideration of election to the University of Minnesota Board of Regents. 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 from Minnesota's fifth congressional district, one student statewide at-large seat, and two statewide at-large seats. The RCAC received a total of 40 applications for the four regent seats and interviewed 22 candidates.

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

Student At-Large:

Kowsar Mohamed (Minneapolis)
Madeline Rowe (Minneapolis)
Flora Yang (Minneapolis)
Dylan Young (St. Paul)

Fifth District:

Robert Albright (Edina)
Benjamin Kaplan (St. Louis Park)
Ellen Luger (Minneapolis)

Statewide At-Large:

Jamal Adam (Maple Grove)
Jeffrey Ettinger (Austin)
John Gibbs (Bloomington)
Josh Lease (Monticello)
Scott Nagel (Maple Grove)
Ann Sheldon (Lino Lakes)
Dan Wolter (Lakeville)

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 compensation. Eight members represent the state's congressional districts, and four members are elected to at-large seats, as is a student representative. The Regents' 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 University of Minnesota Regent positions. This was a diverse candidate pool that was exceptional in accomplishment and vision. The willingness of each 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."