

**UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL
May 5, 2005**

Committee Members Participating

Givens, Archie
Hjelm, Andrea
LaSalle, Tom
Noyce, Jerry
Stein, Robert

UMAA Staff Participating

Carlson, Margaret
Diekman, Sue
Jones, Cheryl

University Participants

Thrane, Linda

Committee Members Unable to Participate

Bartz, Mary
Mooty, Bruce
Schulstad, Denny

University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA) national president Andrea Hjelm convened the conference call meeting at 1:45 p.m.

Linda Thrane, vice president for University Relations, provided a confidential update on the strategic positioning recommendations that University President Bob Bruininks will release at noon tomorrow. Thrane explained that just three areas of the recommendations will require approval by the Board of Regents; the other submitted recommendations are “information only.”

In general, the recommendations that require regents’ approval involve colleges that will no longer be separate collegiate units:

- 1.) The College of Human Ecology, whose programs will be integrated into the College of Education and Human Development and the proposed new College of Design;
- 2.) The College of Natural Resources, which will be integrated into the College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences; and
- 3.) General College, whose programs will be integrated into the College of Education and Human Development.

Thrane said that the rest of the recommendations primarily address enriching the student experience and enhancing student support, achieving administrative efficiency, international initiatives, and enhancing the Academic Health Center and the College of Liberal Arts.

Thrane emphasized that the recommendations, if approved by the Board of Regents, will be developed and implemented with wide input from affected administrators, faculty, staff, students, and the community. “I see lots of task forces in our future,” Thrane said.

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The committee members discussed the recommendations, especially the issues surrounding General College. In response to questions, Thrane stated that ensuring diversity and access to the University are included in the full report and that the University does not plan to pull back on undergraduate admissions. The University will have a much bigger partnership with K-12, she said. She also noted that the University has begun to implement the Founder's Opportunity scholarship program, and that the institution does not believe that excellence and affordability should be competing values.

The executive committee members agreed that the recommendations as updated by Thrane do not conflict with the UMAA position statement of support that they endorsed at the Executive Committee meeting on April 25, 2005. They again voted to endorse the following statement to present to the UMAA national board for approval on May 7, 2004:

“The University of Minnesota Alumni Association strongly endorses the University’s vision to be one of the top three public research institutions in the world. To achieve this transformation, the University must think creatively, act boldly and look beyond traditional academic and administrative structures. We have confidence in President Bruininks’ wisdom, leadership and courage, and we urge the Board of Regents to support his recommendations.

As the strategic positioning process moves into implementation, we urge University leaders to continue to engage a wide array of people within the University and wider community. And as representatives of the University’s alumni, we pledge our support and assistance. We share the University’s goal to continue to embrace change and to build a campus culture centered on excellence, diversity and access to success.’

Hjelm adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Submitted by,

Cheryl Jones
UMAA Deputy Administrator

for

Tom LaSalle
Secretary-Treasurer

**UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

April 25, 2005

7:30 to 9:00 a.m.

500 McNamara Alumni Center

Committee Members Attending

Bartz, Mary
Givens, Archie
Hjelm, Andrea
LaSalle, Tom
Mooty, Bruce
Schulstad, Denny
Stein, Robert

UMAA Staff Attending

Carlson, Margaret
Diekman, Sue
Eastman, Sue
Fisher, Diane
Gelbmann, Jen
Jones, Cheryl
Rader, Bruce

Committee Members Unable to Attend

Noyce, Jerry

Volunteer Guest Attending

McLeod, Mary

University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA) national president Andrea Hjelm called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

National President's Report

Hjelm reported that 950 graduating students attended Senior Sendoff earlier this month—a record number. More than 300 people are expected to attend today's Distinguished Teaching Awards program. The good news continues, as 122 tables have been sold to date for the May 10, 2005, Annual Celebration.

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda included the February 28, 2005, executive committee minutes; the March 23, 2005, executive committee minutes; the financial statements as of March 31, 2005; the membership report (52,445 members as of March 5, 2005); and the recommendation to approve the Minnesota Daily Alumni Association as a UMAA affiliate group. The consent agenda was approved as mailed.

University Strategic Positioning

Tom LaSalle, secretary-treasurer, reported that he chaired the UMAA Advocacy Committee meeting on April 20, 2005, as Bruce Mooty, committee chair, was not able to attend. The primary agenda item was to discuss the University's strategic positioning and vision to be one of the top three public research institutions in the world.