

UMore Park NEWS

New Board Infuses University of Minnesota Mission into UMore Park Planning, Development

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Minneapolis / St. Paul (11-3-2008) -- A new advisory board is being launched to engage University of Minnesota faculty, students and staff members in the long-term planning and development of the institution's 5,000-acre UMore Park property in Dakota County.

"The advisory board will help us translate from concept to reality the vision for a University-founded, sustainable community of 20,000 to 30,000 people that would evolve over the next 25 to 30 years," said Charles C. Muscoplat, Vice President for Statewide Strategic Resource Development with responsibility for the UMore Park project. The new community will offer research and learning opportunities for faculty and students while in turn bringing innovation, quality of life and economic benefits to future residents of the community and the broader region, Muscoplat emphasized.

The key objective of the advisory board is to identify and support mechanisms that integrate University research, education and public engagement into the planning and development of the envisioned new community on the UMore Park property.

The UMore Park project activities are based on the December 2006 resolution by the Board of Regents that directed the University to manage the property with attentiveness to the academic mission of the University, develop a concept master plan for the 5,000 acres and make the land ready for development.

Deborah L. Swackhamer is chair of the advisory board. She is Professor of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health, and Co-Director of the Water Resources Center. Swackhamer previously served as co-chair of the UMore Park Academic Mission Task Force on Environment.

Members of the advisory board are: **John Adams**, Professor Emeritus of Geography, College of Liberal Arts, and Co-Director, University Metropolitan Consortium; **Marilyn Bruin**, Associate Professor of Housing Studies and Extension Housing Specialist, College of Design; **Frank Cerra**, Senior Vice President for Health Sciences, Academic Health Center and McKnight Presidential Leadership Chair; **Michael Greco**, graduate student in urban planning, Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs; **Ann Hill Duin**, Associate Vice President and Associate CIO, Office of Information Technology; **Arthur Huang**, graduate student in civil engineering, Institute of Technology; **Kelley Jepsen**, undergraduate student in management, Carlson School of Management; **Mary Jo**

Kreitzer, Director of the Center for Spirituality & Healing and Professor, School of Nursing; **Kristi Kremers**, graduate student in education policy and administration, College of Education and Human Development; **Meredith McQuaid**, Associate Vice President and Dean, Office of International Programs; **Laura Molgaard**, Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs, College of Veterinary Medicine; **Ed Nater**, Head, Department of Soil, Water, and Climate, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences; **Thomas Norman**, Director of Continuing Professional Education, College of Continuing Education; **Richard Strong**, Senior Research Fellow, Center for Sustainable Building Research and Adjunct Professor, College of Design; and **Dan Svedarsky**, Head, Department of Natural Resources, University of Minnesota - Crookston and Research Biologist, Northwest Research and Outreach Center.

Details on the advisory board and the range of UMore Park planning and development activities are at www.umorepark.umn.edu.