Allen Levine to lead UMore Park Academic Mission Advisory Board; new members appointed

Allen Levine, Dean of the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, will assume the position of Chair of the UMore Park Academic Mission Advisory Board July 1, 2011. In addition, 11 individuals were appointed as new members during the Advisory Board’s March 7, 2011, meeting.

The UMore Park Academic Mission Advisory Board provides recommendations and advice to the Office for UMore Park Academic Initiatives. The Advisory Board’s overarching responsibility is to help ensure that the institution’s publically engaged research, education and outreach strengths are integrated into the planning and development of the University’s envisioned sustainable community on its 5,000-acre UMore Park property in Dakota County. The community of 20,000 to 30,000 people will develop over the next 30 years, and be distinguished by the University’s academic contributions.

The Advisory Board has fostered faculty research projects and a number of student learning opportunities including internships, capstone projects, class projects and special research opportunities. In November 2009, the Advisory Board issued the report Integrating Academic Mission into Planning and Development of the UMore Park Property: Opportunities for Faculty, Students and Staff Members. Additional details on academic initiatives and names of currently serving Advisory Board members are at www.umorepark.umn.edu/research/.

The Advisory Board was established in November 2008, with Deborah Swackhamer as its founding chair. Swackhamer is the Charles M. Denny, Jr., Chair for Science, Technology and Public Policy at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs; Co-Director of the Water Resources Center; and Professor of Environmental Health Sciences in the School of Public Health.

New appointees to the Advisory Board include:

Noro Andriamanalina, Director of Academic and Professional Development, Office for Equity and Diversity and the Graduate School

Rebecca Brown, Graduate student, Urban and Regional Planning, Humphrey School of Public Affairs

Christina Frazier, Assistant Director, Office of Planning and Analysis

Patricia Frazier, Distinguished McKnight University Professor of Psychology

Carolyn Garcia, Assistant Professor, School of Nursing

Alexandra Klass, Professor of Law, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, and Solly Robins Distinguished Research Fellow, Law School
Kristen Mastel, Outreach and Instructional Librarian, University Libraries

Scott Morton, Undergraduate student, Mechanical Engineering, College of Science and Engineering

Bob Sterner, Professor, Department of Ecology, Evolution and Behavior

William Toscano, Professor and Division Head, Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health

Elizabeth Turner, Graduate student, Architecture and Sustainable Design, College of Design

The 11 new Advisory Board members were identified following a University-wide nominations process, and begin their terms on July 1, 2011. They join nine current Advisory Board members, whose terms continue. Carla Carlson is the Executive Director of the Office for UMore Park Academic Initiatives.

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