RESOLUTION RELATED TO UMORE PARK

President Bruininks presented the following Resolution Related to UMore Park:

RESOLUTION RELATED TO PLANNING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF UMORE PARK

WHEREAS, in February 2006 the Board of Regents established the goal of developing property at UMore Park, consisting of approximately 5,000 acres of land in Dakota County, Minnesota (“UMore Park development property”), in a manner that furthers the University’s mission; and

WHEREAS, in furtherance of that goal the University retained the services of Sasaki Associates, Inc. to prepare a strategic plan for the UMore Park development property and to assist the University’s Strategic Planning Steering Committee (“Committee”) in evaluating alternatives for developing the property; and

WHEREAS, the Committee has delivered its report entitled “Creating the Vision: The Future of UMore Park” to the Board of Regents; and

WHEREAS, the report includes the Committee’s recommendation that the University should transform the property into a unique, vibrant, intellectually and culturally rich, sustainable community with attendant amenities and takes steps toward that end; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to the achievement of the University’s goals that any planning and development of the UMore Park development property be done for the property as an intact whole pursuant to a comprehensive master plan; and

WHEREAS, it is beneficial to the University and to the citizens of the state and the metropolitan area that further planning for UMore Park take place on a timeline that is coordinated with the comprehensive planning activities of the units of government in which the property is located; and

WHEREAS, the University administration concurs in the recommendations of the Committee;

Board of Regents
December 8, 2006
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Regents affirms the goal of developing the UMore Park development property in a manner that furthers the University’s mission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents directs the administration to undertake the following steps and periodically report to the Board of Regents on the progress being made in carrying out this Resolution:

1. Continue to maintain the UMore Park development property as an intact whole parcel and use it in a manner that supports the University’s teaching, research and outreach mission while the University plans for the future use of the entire property;

2. Prepare for consideration by the Board of Regents a concept master plan for the entire parcel, and periodically confer with the appropriate local and regional units of government engaged in preparing comprehensive plans regarding the University’s master planning effort;

3. Prepare to make the land ready for development, including the following:

   (a) preparing a plan for the removal of concrete remnants from the former Gopher Ordnance Works buildings;

   (b) preparing a plan for the extraction of sand and gravel from the site; and

   (c) taking appropriate steps to secure a site investigation of the property by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers leading to the development of plans for any necessary environmental remediation related to the Gopher Ordnance Works; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University shall follow its customary purchasing and contracting practices in engaging consultants to assist the University in completing the work described above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University shall continue to work together with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and Dakota County in cooperative oversight of the UMore Park conservation property described in Minnesota Laws 2006, ch. 247.
President Bruininks noted that in November 2006 the Board of Regents received a presentation with conclusions and recommendations that emerged from a study of future opportunities related to UMore Park, a twelve-mile square property located southeast of the Twin Cities campus. The resolution presented for action directs the administration to develop a master plan for Board consideration, maintain the parcel intact, and prepare the land for development.

A motion was made and seconded, and the Board of Regents voted unanimously to recommend approval of the Resolution Related to UMore Park.