

MEMO TO: Members of the U of M, Rochester Strategic Positioning Task Force

FROM: David Carl, Provost

RE: U of M, Rochester Strategic Positioning Task Force Charge

Thank you for agreeing to serve on the UM Rochester Strategic Positioning Task Force. This is an extraordinary period in the life and evolution of UMR. In addition to the University-wide process to examine potential growth/service opportunities and plan future directions for the institution, there are several other significant initiatives underway that will impact the University's presence in this region of the state. Currently the AHC and UMR are developing means to establish a UM Center for Allied Health Programs in Rochester, and several new allied health programs are in the planning process in collaboration with Mayo Clinic. Earlier this year Governor Pawlenty appointed community members to the Rochester Higher Education Development Committee to study the needs of Southeastern Minnesota with the mandate to concentrate on issues relating to community needs, public/private partnerships, high impact academic/research opportunities, facilities, governance, and funding issues. Clearly these items of interest are in alignment with UM strategic planning. I anticipate that the efforts relating to the University's strategic planning and the Governors Committee will move in tandem. In each case the reports are due in December.

The staff at UMR has already completed a good deal of the preparatory work for each of these initiatives and will continue to refine the details. As members of the UMR Strategic Positioning Task Force, you will be asked to evaluate the planning being conducted by UMR staff and provide insights into improving planning and assuring that it is consistent with the overall goal of the University to become one of the top three research institutions in the world. You will be asked to participate in approximately four team meetings and offer input periodically between sessions.

Thank you for assuming this important role in shaping the evolution of the University in Southeastern Minnesota. Your commitment to this work is critical to successful positioning, planning, and implementing the future of UM Rochester.

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