

**Update on College of Design Dean Search | July 7, 2016**

Dear College of Design Faculty, Staff, and Students,

I'm pleased to be back in touch with an update on the renewed search for a new dean of the College of Design. As you know, we have moved ahead with a national search, with the expectation of bringing additional candidates to campus for public interviews during the 2016 fall semester. With input from the CDes community, I convened a reconstituted search committee chaired by Jean Quam, dean of the College of Education and Human Development. The 12-member search committee has met twice since early June to discuss the position and the search process. At the most recent meeting, part of which I attended, the committee reviewed input from the series of college listening sessions convened by Interim Dean Becky Yust.

I extend my thanks to all of you who attended these sessions or who shared perspectives on the dean search with members of the search committee. Your thoughts and comments have been invaluable in shaping a strong and compelling position profile, including a visual overview, that captures the vitality and breadth of the college, its exceptional opportunities, and the collective sense of excitement about the college and its future.

The position profile and other information about the search may be found on the [search webpage](#). With assistance from search consultants Sheryl Ash and Ben Tobin of Isaacson Miller, we will undertake an aggressive sourcing and recruiting strategy into the early fall, and we ask for your assistance in bringing this opportunity to the attention of colleagues here and at universities and organizations across the country.

You may submit confidential nominations and applications directly to the search consultants at www.imsearch.com/5743. The search committee plans to meet in mid-summer to review and discuss the candidate pool. Your active involvement during the recruiting period is critical to our success in building the pool of qualified candidates from which your next dean will be chosen.

The dean of CDes will be asked to build on the College's strong foundation and the momentum of ambitious campus and college strategic planning to move the College toward greater innovation, excellence, and sustained vitality. The dean will collaborate with faculty, staff, students, and a highly engaged alumni and professional community to enhance synergy among the College's diverse design disciplines; advance faculty excellence, diversity, and expanded local and global engagement; and co-design a strong integrative vision for the future.

The ideal candidate will be visionary, inclusive, and entrepreneurial, with a deep respect for the transformative value of design and the ability to be a catalyst for creativity, innovation, problem-solving, and progress. Candidates should have a proven record of scholarly achievement commensurate with an appointment as a tenured professor at the University of Minnesota and be able to play a major administrative and strategic leadership role in a large, complex, public research university.

I will continue to keep you informed as the search progresses. Please consult the CDes dean search page for the latest updates. If you have questions or would like to share your thoughts on the search, I invite you to email [Dean Quam](#) directly or contact the search committee using the link on the search webpage. Questions about the search process may also be directed to [Kate Tyler](#) in my office. I thank Becky Yust for continuing to provide experienced and wonderfully effective leadership for the college as interim dean, and I thank all of you for your continued engagement in planning for the future.

Sincerely,

Karen Hanson
Executive Vice President and Provost