



College of Design Dean Search Update/Search Committee Nominations | March 31, 2016

Dear Colleagues,

I thank all of you who shared your perspectives with me at last month's faculty and staff assemblies or sent helpful notes in preparation for a renewed dean search for the College of Design. Your thoughts and feedback have made clear that the college is well-positioned to move ahead with college leadership planning; there continues to be a collective sense of excitement about the college and its future.

As you know, in December we placed the national search on hold, planning to bring additional candidates to campus for public interviews during the 2016 fall semester. Becky Yust will continue to provide experienced and effective leadership for the college, with full authority, as interim dean for the next year. We all have reason to be grateful for the excellent work she is doing.

As we renew the national search, I invite your applications and nominations of faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends to serve as members of the search committee, under the continuing leadership of Jean Quam, dean of the College of Education and Human Development. We seek committee members who can bring a broad, college-wide and University-wide perspective on the college's important mission and multidisciplinary strengths. Please send nominations for search committee membership to me at provost@umn.edu by Friday, April 15. A brief word or two in support of the nomination would be helpful.

Consultants from the national search firm Isaacson, Miller will continue to partner with me and the renewed search committee to develop a robust and diverse pool of candidates. I anticipate that the search committee will convene once during this spring semester and then reconvene near the start of the fall semester. The search firm will work over the summer and early fall on recruitment, networking, and sourcing of prospective candidates for the committee's consideration.

As the search process moves forward, please check the [search website](#) for ongoing updates--including one in the coming weeks announcing the search committee formed from your nominations and applications. I also want to note that Dean Becky Yust will be in touch about opportunities to engage in internal conversations to help position the College of Design even more strongly for the future; and, again, I'd like to express my gratitude to her.

Sincerely,

Karen Hanson
Executive Vice President and Provost