

RESOLUTION

Council of Graduate Students – University of Minnesota

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Author: Jennifer M. Corcoran

Topic: UMORE Park Committee Student Representation

In February 2006 the University of Minnesota Board of Regents established the goal of developing a 5,000 acre portion of UMore Park with a sustainable community that will house 20,000-30,000 residents, in a manner that furthers the University's mission¹. Additionally, in May 2006 the Governor of Minnesota signed legislation for the state DNR to be able to acquire the 2,840 acre piece of property to the south of UMore Park called Vermillion Highlands, at approximately \$10.25 million each year over 25 years, in conjunction with state support for the University's construction of a new Gopher football stadium. The University will retain permanent rights to further its educational, scientific and agricultural research, and outreach mission on the Vermillion Highlands property^{2,3}.

Whereas the academic objectives, goals, and mission of the UMore Park sustainable community development plan are to develop creative approaches that will ensure quality education, health, energy, environment, transportation, technology, arts and culture, and civic life. This plan sets out to anchor the future sustainable community in the University's land grant mission. These goals and objectives, among others, are incorporated into the core identity of the new UMore Park sustainable community to benefit the University, its faculty, staff and students, and citizens of the new community and the broader region, over time⁴;

Whereas graduate students play a vital role in accomplishing the University of Minnesota's overarching mission to share dedication to the advancement of learning through education and the application of this knowledge for the greater benefit; graduate students will continue to contribute enormously to the University's mission of the advancement of its research, education and outreach mission over time;

Whereas the UMore Park Strategic Planning Steering Committee has recommended that a development team work with University leadership and faculty to determine the optimum structure for managing the UMore Park sustainable community development plan throughout its estimated 25 to 30 year life-cycle¹. This recommendation recognizes the importance of University leadership and faculty, but does not specifically include students;

Whereas the UMore Park sustainable community development plan encompasses a breadth of research opportunities for the University and its faculty and students, for both the duration of the plan development and the life-long learning opportunities within the community after it is developed;

Be it Resolved COGS respectfully requests student representation on the UMore Park Strategic Planning Steering Committee or Academic Advisory Board for the duration of the estimated 25 to 30 year development process and beyond.

¹ University of Minnesota Board of Regents, *Resolution related to planning for the development of Umore Park*, December 8, 2006 <<http://www.umorepark.umn.edu/sites/c9e0e563-70e4-43e4-8a5e-b620e3ae848e/uploads/RegentsRESOLUTION12-8-06-1.pdf>>

² UMore Park Strategic Planning Steering Committee, *Creating the Vision: The Future of UMore Park*, November 2006 <<http://www.umorepark.umn.edu/sites/c9e0e563-70e4-43e4-8a5e-b620e3ae848e/uploads/UMoreVisionReportFINAL10-26-06-4.pdf>>

³ Minnesota Department of Natural Resources in cooperation with the University of Minnesota, *Creating Common Ground: a report to the Minnesota Legislature on joint management opportunities related to UMore Park*, January 2007 <http://www.umorepark.umn.edu/sites/c9e0e563-70e4-43e4-8a5e-b620e3ae848e/uploads/Creating_Common_Ground_Web_Version.pdf>

⁴ UMore Park Strategic Planning Steering Committee, *Academic Mission Brief*, July 7, 2007 <http://www.umorepark.umn.edu/sites/c9e0e563-70e4-43e4-8a5e-b620e3ae848e/uploads/academic_mission_brief.pdf>