

UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

Two Join Board of Trustees

Rochester entrepreneur, business consultant selected for board.

By Sharon Dickman

LAURENCE KESSLER, A ROCHESTER ENTREPRENEUR and owner of restaurant development companies, and Kathleen McMorran Murray '74, the owner and founder of a consulting firm that specializes in business improvement initiatives, have been elected to the University's Board of Trustees.

Ed Hajim '58, chairman of the board, says the two will bring valuable perspectives as trustees. "They bring their considerable personal and professional strengths to an already outstanding board that is fully committed to taking the University to the next level."

The founder and co-owner of The Kessler Group Inc. & Kessler Family LLC, Kessler and his brother, Dennis, who is the Edward J. and Agnes V. Ackley Executive Professor of Business Administration at the Simon School, are longtime supporters of the University.

They have established the Kessler Family



BOARD MEMBERS: Murray (left) and Kessler have been elected to five-year terms.

Burn/Trauma ICU at the Medical Center. Kessler earned his bachelor's degree at Adelphi University.

Murray founded McMorran Strategists LLC in 2008 after holding leadership positions at PricewaterhouseCoopers as managing director of operations, Aetna Inc. as senior vice president of Aetna Retirement Services, and chief operating officer

of Aetna Business Resources, among other roles. She has established the Kathleen McMorran Murray Endowed Scholarship Fund to support students. In addition to her degree from the University, Murray graduated from the Advanced Management Program at the Harvard Business School. [R](#)

Sharon Dickman is University spokesperson.

THREE QUESTIONS

Vivian Lewis Leads Diversity Efforts

For Vivian Lewis, creating change is about getting everyone involved.

As the new deputy to the president and vice provost for faculty development and diversity, Lewis will assist deans and department chairs in identifying, recruiting, and retaining faculty to increase diversity within the University's schools and departments.

She'll also oversee initiatives designed to enhance diversity at the University, such as faculty mentoring programs. In the spring, Lewis organized the first University-wide diversity conference.

A professor of obstetrics and gynecology and, until her new appointment, the associate dean for faculty development for women and diversity at the School of Medicine and Dentistry, Lewis took the job on an interim basis last October, succeeding Lynne Davidson.

What's the greatest challenge in diversifying the faculty?

It's getting the whole University engaged in the work of creating a more diverse and inclusive community. Our senior leadership has committed to the goal of a more diverse campus, but that is really just the beginning.

What's the best way to address that?

We need more champions for diversity throughout the University who are willing to contribute their creativity, ideas, and sustained commitment to changing the culture.

Why did you decide to take on this position?

It affords me the opportunity to be part of a transformative change for the entire University. What could be more exciting?

—Kathleen McGarvey



LEWIS: The former medical school associate dean oversees University diversity efforts.