

School of Business Announcement

April 23, 2008

6:30 President Linda Hanson

Good evening and welcome to this very special gathering of our alumni, faculty, and staff of the graduate and professional schools and a warm welcome to our guests from the business communities in Saint Paul and Minneapolis, and beyond, who have come to share in the good news we are announcing today.

As you may know, Hamline University has developed a bold and achievable strategic plan called "Creating Pathways to Distinction" and today marks the opening of a distinctly Hamline pathway with my announcement that the Board of Trustees has approved the establishment of the School of Business, effective immediately. The School of Business joins the Graduate School of Management with undergraduate programs in the College of Liberal Arts for a completely and fully integrated program of studies. In short, we are creating a pathway that builds on our reputation for graduate and professional education and fully adheres to our commitment to liberal arts education for the twenty-first century.

The Hamline School of Business will educate students who not only learn the theoretical bases of business and management, but also learn its practical application. This step communicates that here at Hamline, we are preparing students to be global citizens; we aim to be seriously competitive in the Twin Cities market; and our vision is to attract students to the most highly integrative, adaptable, and intellectually stimulating program available in Minnesota.

Fueling this vision has been our decision to offer the Hamline MBA and to return to offering bachelor degrees in business administration, with concentrations in finance, general business, management, international business and marketing, as well as a bachelor's degree in economics.

In our research, especially among employers and Hamline alumni, we found that there is still considerable value and currency in the marketplace for having a master of business administration—and Hamline is well positioned and uniquely able to now deliver both undergraduate and graduate programs through a School of Business.

The MBA began in January and has gained kudos for its approach to educating leaders who are able to think critically, adapt to competing and volatile environments, and function at a high level in the practical, real world. In our research, employers told us of their esteem for graduates of business schools who have experienced an integrated master's program where students learn best practice strategies from professors who are traditionally trained faculty, but also appreciate interacting with executives who are currently in many of the top companies and organizations in our cities who teach in the program.

Let me be clear: Hamline has a sustained and pristine reputation in public administration and not-for-profit education—these master's and doctorate programs remain strong and are growing, now firmly rooted side by side with the MBA. Yet now we have a strong platform to reach greater numbers of students, yes, but also to attract the students who flourish at this university: independent-minded students; those who thirst for a transforming experience, not merely a transaction where they earn a credential. We also will have the unique ability to offer joint degree programs including the JD/MBA and MBA/PA.

This is a new era for Hamline University, and today's launch of the Hamline School of Business is a proud and historic day for us.

Our second piece of good news this evening is that the formation of the Hamline School of Business has generated an interest in expanding Hamline's instructional locations into Minneapolis and the greater metropolitan areas west of Saint Paul. A trademark of Hamline's graduate and professional education is

our ability to understand the adult learner and provide a learning environment that suits students' needs for learning as well as the amenities they seek—convenience, comfort and yes, good food and parking close by!

Well, we have found a perfect way to meet these needs and I am pleased to announce today that we have signed a long-term agreement with Duke Realty for Hamline to occupy major space in the building at 1600 Utica, located in the exciting development called the West End, at the intersection of I-394 and Highway 100. This facility—yet to be named since we've just signed our agreement yesterday—will be our Hamline presence in greater Minneapolis area and will be a significant anchor for business and graduate education. You see around the room posters of the anticipated development of shops, theater, grocery, hotel and other attractive destinations that will complement our highly desirable location and convenience—parking will be free and we will have a walk-in student service and bookstore on the first floor of the building.

Whether traveling north on highway 100 or west on 394, Hamline's name will be prominently visible, indicating our serious intent to be a significant presence in graduate and professional education. Extending the Hamline brand of higher education in Minneapolis in this large way is a natural extension of our bold and achievable vision for the university. I want to thank and acknowledge the leadership of the City of St. Louis Park, in which this site is located, for their wonderful cooperation and help in this project, and recognize Mr. Pat Mascia, Senior VP with Duke Realty, who is here tonight—thank you! And Mr. Jeffrey Wirth of the Wirth Companies for his wise and sustained counsel throughout this project. I also wish to recognize the astounding work our senior team, John Pyle, Doug Anderson, Kristen Ludgate, David Stern, and Dan Loritz who have ably steered this initiative to conclusion today. I also want to thank and acknowledge Rev. Bruce Robbins and the Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church, where we have conducted evening classes in recent years, for their partnership—we

will be completing our partnership this year as we transition to our new site this fall.

This is an extraordinary step for Hamline—in Minnesota for 154 years, with close to 16,000 alumni living in the metro area—to expand and grow, we have to be where the students are—and we are grateful to our business leaders who are with us this evening who recognize the importance of this new pathway to distinction.

Some people have said we provide education at Hamline that is built to last and Hamline really does pay attention to that.

We pay attention to the core principles that apply to graduates' lives of purpose and service.

We pay attention to how we equip someone to deal with whatever life throws at them.

It's not only helping them to build their discipline or build their career, but also build a life that really allows them to go out and no matter where they go or decide to settle, no matter what type of role they take on in life, to be able to access the thinking skills, the people skills, the skills of heart and head, the relationship skills that allow them to be proactive citizens of the world.

It's attending to the individual growth of the persons and that hasn't changed. That hasn't changed in all the years we've been in this education business.

And we are extremely proud and thankful that you are here with us on this journey to create pathways to distinction—and one new pathway, is our School of Business and our new site in the greater Minneapolis area.

Thank you for coming!