

To: Members of the Original “Dream Team” for the Media Union

From: Jim Duderstadt  
University Professor of Science and Engineering

Subject: A Reunion for the Media Union!

With the support of the Provost, I have taken on the assignment of organizing a one-day symposium/brainstorming session this fall that would bring together the members of the original teams that designed, built, and brought on-line the Media Union. The intent is to seek your help in reviewing the original vision for the Media Union, to assess current progress toward this vision, and to seek your advice on where the University needs to head in the years ahead with this important resource.

Although this will be designed as an exercise for the “founders group”, we will be joined by the current Media Union staff, the Media Union executive committee (the current deans of Engineering, Music, Art, and Architecture and Director of the University Libraries), and representatives from the Office of the Provost.

My staff will be contacting you this summer to see if you would be willing to participate and to identify possible dates of availability for this fall. I would also appreciate any suggestions as to others who should be invited.

The Media Union was launched as a “high-risk” project with considerable excitement and potential. There is a sense that we have drifted somewhat away from the original vision that you and your colleagues proposed. This symposium will be important to providing the University with a renewed sense of direction for this unusual resource.

Proposed Invitation List:

Randy Frank, Fidelity  
Bob Beckley, Dean Emeritus, Architecture  
Paul Boylan, Dean Emeritus, Music  
Allen Samuels, Dean Emeritus, Art  
Peter Banks, Dean Emeritus, Engineering  
Dan Atkins, Dean Emeritus, SOI  
Doug Van Houweling, Internet2  
Barbara O’Keefe, Dean, School of Communication, Northwestern  
Judy Olson, Professor, Business School  
Maurita Holland, Professor, SOI