November 5, 2002

Dear Alum:

Did you feel left out during the latest mid-term elections? Do you want to be involved in an electoral process besides just showing up at the polls? This letter offers you that opportunity in a safe, relatively indictment-free environment. As the Chair of the Nominating Committee of the Ford School Alumni/ae Board, I write to ask you to consider nominating yourself for a three-year term on the Board. If you wish to become a candidate, complete the enclosed nomination form and return it to Catherine Shaw at the School by **December 1, 2002**. Nominations are accepted by snail mail (address above), by facsimile transmission (734-615-0216), or via email to: cashaw@umich.edu.

The Ford School is moving forward in many ways. Architects are working on plans for a new building – one that will provide a home to the school and will also serve as the southern gateway to central campus. The faculty is growing in number and in diversity – this year new faculty members include people trained in psychology, health care economics, and medicine. Student activities now include an annual student-organized trip to a developing country (Venezuela in 2002, Morocco in 2003) and a speaker series on issues of interest to students. Former Ford School faculty such as Paul Courant, currently Provost of the University of Michigan, have also progressed which speaks well for the school as well. Membership on the Board offers opportunity to stay involved with the school's activities.

The Board focuses its work in the following areas: student recruitment, student career advising, and alumni engagement/networking. Each Board member works in the area of greatest interests to him/her. The Board meets twice a year in formal sessions (well, formal by Ford School standards) to set goals, discuss work in these areas, and plan future activities. Between formal meetings, committees meet via conference call and email to continue their work. In addition to the formal meetings, Board members spend between 10 and 20 hours between meetings on Board business.

Board membership has many benefits. These include: getting to know other alums (IPA/IPPS/SPP/Ford folks turn out to be a pretty interesting and enjoyable group!), working with staff and students on planning and carrying out new programs, learning about faculty research, and helping plan activities that increase the school's national visibility. For those of you in the Washington D.C. area there are a few events such as a "meet and greet" with Ford School interns at the beginning of the summer.

The Alumni Board includes eighteen elected and three *ex officio* members(one representing alums living outside the US, one representing the most recent graduating class, and one representing the Ford School at the UM Alumni Association). With this letter I am inviting nominations for six slots on the Board. All six openings are for 3 year terms, which will run from January 2003-December 2006.

Board members are expected to attend meetings twice a year in Ann Arbor (usually March and October), serve a full three-year term, and cover their own costs for transportation, meals, and lodging at the meetings. Board meetings typically last a whole day and are usually held on Saturdays. Attendance at the meetings is very important.

Enclosed is a copy of the Board's charter to give you a little more of an idea of what we are about. It is fun and stimulating and, while meaningful, Board membership requires no heavy policy lifting. I'm happy to answer any questions you might have about serving on the Board. Please contact me at 301 617 0399 or by email at andrew.h.moxam@census.gov. Catherine Shaw, who provides staff support to the Board, is also glad to answer questions. (734-764-8593 or cashaw@umich.edu) We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Andrew H. Moxam
Class of 1978