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University Relations

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**Alumna accepted into Teach for America**

*Summary:*

(May 26, 2005)-University of Minnesota, Morris graduate Angela Pawlak '04 has been accepted into Teach For America, the national corps of outstanding recent college graduates of all academic majors who commit two years to teach in urban and rural public schools.

More than 17,000 graduating seniors and alumni applied to the corps from all across the country this year - a 29 percent increase over the previous year, at a time when jobless claims are the lowest in over four years.

"The application numbers we're seeing reflect college students' belief that educational disparities must be our generation's civil rights issue. College students are saying, 'I want to do something about this for kids growing up today. I want to be a part of the network of civic leaders who are working together throughout their lives to address this issue in a fundamental way,'" said Elissa Clapp, Teach For America's vice president of recruitment and selection. "We are looking for accomplished individuals who possess the qualities necessary to not only have an impact on students during their two-year teaching commitment, but to effect long-term educational and social reform in careers across all sectors, including education, law, public policy, healthcare and business.

Teach For America is highly selective, with approximately 16 percent of total applicants gaining admission in 2004. Ninety-three percent of those accepted held leadership positions on their campuses or in their communities. On average, they earned GPAs of 3.5.

Teach For America actively recruits on more than 500 college campuses, where it seeks applicants from all academic majors, career interests, and backgrounds who demonstrate a record of outstanding achievement in past endeavors, persistence in the face of challenges, and a strong sense of personal responsibility for outcomes.

For more information on Teach For America, visit: [www.teachforamerica.org](http://www.teachforamerica.org).

Through personal and academic discovery, the University of Minnesota, Morris provides opportunities for students to grow intellectually, engage in community, experience environmental stewardship and celebrate diversity. A renewable and sustainable educational experience, Morris prepares graduates for careers, for advanced degrees, for lifelong learning, for work world flexibility in the future, and for global citizenship. Learn more about Morris at [morris.umn.edu](http://morris.umn.edu) or call 888-866-3382.