BACKGROUND
Dr. William Lowe has served as interim president of Metropolitan State University since November, 2007. A nationwide presidential search began thereafter with the assistance of an executive search firm. Dr. Richard Davenport, president of Minnesota State University, Mankato, chaired the search committee. Chancellor McCormick, along with members of the Board of Trustees and Cabinet from the Office of the Chancellor, interviewed three finalists. As a result of this process, Chancellor McCormick is recommending Dr. Sue Hammersmith for the presidency of Metropolitan State University.

Dr. Hammersmith currently serves as provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, a post she has held since 2002. Also, she is a professor of social change and development and sociology at the university. Previously, she was dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Ferris State University, with several campuses in west central Michigan; dean of University College at Ball State University at Muncie, Indiana; and assistant dean of the School of Liberal Arts at Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis.

Dr. Hammersmith holds a doctorate and a master’s degree, both in sociology, and a bachelor’s degree in anthropology, all from Indiana University.

RECOMMENDED MOTION
The Board of Trustees, upon the recommendation of Chancellor McCormick, appoints Dr. Sue Hammersmith as president of Metropolitan State University effective July 1, 2008, subject to the completion of an employment agreement. The Board authorizes the Chancellor, in consultation with the Chair of the Board and Chair of the Human Resources Committee, to negotiate and execute an employment agreement in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Personnel Plan for Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Administrators.

Date of Presentation to the Board: April 16, 2008
Date of Board Action: April 16, 2008
Date of Approval: April 16, 2008
Date of Implementation: July 1, 2008