

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES  
BOARD ACTION**

**APPOINTMENT OF PRESIDENT OF THE  
NORTHEAST HIGHER EDUCATION DISTRICT**

**BACKGROUND**

Upon the announcement of Dr. Joseph Sertich's retirement as president of the Northeast Higher Education District, a nationwide search was conducted with the assistance of an executive search firm. Dr. Kevin Kopischke, president of Alexandria Technical College, 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. Mary S. Collins for the presidency of the Northeast Higher Education District.

Dr. Collins has been serving as vice president of the Northeast Higher Education District since 2006. Previously, she was provost for Vermilion Community College in Ely; dean of students and administration, director of student development, coordinator of student services, a faculty member and athletic director at Rainy River Community College in International Falls; instructor and supervisor of student teachers and a coach at North Dakota State University Fargo.

Dr. Collins holds a doctorate in educational policy and administration from the University of Minnesota, a master's degree in education from the Southern Illinois University Carbondale, a bachelor's degree in education from Western Illinois University and an associate degree from Danville Area Community College in Illinois.

**RECOMMENDED COMMITTEE ACTION**

The Human Resources Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees adopts the following motion.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION**

The Board of Trustees, upon the recommendation of Chancellor McCormick, appoints Dr. Mary S. Collins as president of the Northeast Higher Education District 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.

<i>Date of Presentation to the Board:</i>	<i>March 19, 2008</i>
<i>Date of Board Action:</i>	<i>March 19, 2008</i>
<i>Date of Approval:</i>	<i>March 19, 2008</i>
<i>Date of Implementation:</i>	<i>July 1, 2008</i>