To the Minnesota Congressional Delegation,  
the Governor and the People of Minnesota

Educational services and applied research by the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system help meet critical needs throughout the state. The system’s 32 two-year and four-year institutions serve more students than any other higher education provider in Minnesota, with 240,000 students in credit-based courses each year and another 130,000 in noncredit courses. A growing number of online programs – more than 100 programs and 4,700 course sections now are offered entirely or predominately online – has contributed to the system’s enrollment growth and has expanded access to education throughout the state and beyond. The system produced about 32,000 graduates in fiscal year 2005, and more than 80 percent of our graduates stay in Minnesota to work or continue their education.

We are pleased to present the system’s special appropriation requests for the federal budget year 2007. This request is in line with the system’s strategic plan for 2006-2010, which builds upon the previous three-year plan.

The strategic plan for 2006-2010 outlines four strategic directions:

- Increase access and opportunity
- Promote and measure high-quality learning programs and services
- Provide programs and services integral to state and regional economic needs
- Innovate to meet current and future educational needs efficiently

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities appropriation requests reflect Minnesota’s capacity and potential for contributing to solutions for challenges within Minnesota and across the nation, ranging from environmental and rural economic issues to sustaining and growing our business and manufacturing sectors.

Higher education and the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, in particular, are a crucial component in the state’s success. We are proud to contribute to Minnesota’s economic vitality and quality of life. We look forward to the opportunity to discuss this request with you and your staff in more detail.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Hoffman
Chair, Board of Trustees

James H. McCormick
Chancellor

Robert H. Hoffman
Chair, Board of Trustees

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Chancellor
Number of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities ................................................................. 32
Number of campuses ...................................................................................................................... 53
Number of communities in which campuses are located .......................................................... 46
Number of students served per semester in credit-based courses, measured by fall 2005 headcount enrollment .......................................................... 170,549
Number of students served per year, based on full-year-equivalent enrollment, 2004-2005 .......................................................... 135,494
Number of students served per year in credit-based courses, measured by annual headcount enrollment, 2004-2005 .......................................................... 239,417
Number of additional students served per year in non-credit courses only, measured by annual headcount enrollment, 2004-2005 .......................................................... 129,673
Total students served per year, measured by unduplicated headcount enrollment, 2004-2005 .......................................................... 369,090
Average age of students, 2005 .................................................................................................. 26.3
Percent of students who are undergraduates, fall 2004 ............................................................ 96.6%
Number of graduates, 2005 ....................................................................................................... 32,459
Percent of graduates who stay in Minnesota to work or continue their education .................. 81.0%
Number of certificate, diploma and degree programs offered by Minnesota State Colleges and Universities .......................................................... 3,500
Percent of Minnesota resident undergraduates served by Minnesota State Colleges and Universities .......................................................... 62%