

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

**APPOINTMENT OF PRESIDENT OF  
MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MOORHEAD**

**BACKGROUND**

Upon the announcement of Dr. Roland Barden's retirement as president of Minnesota State University Moorhead, a nationwide search was conducted with the assistance of an executive search firm. Dr. Jon Quistgaard, president of Bemidji State University, 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. Edna Mora Szymanski for the presidency of Minnesota State University Moorhead.

Dr. Szymanski is senior vice president for academic affairs and provost at the University of Maine, Orono, a position she has held since 2006. Previously, she was dean and professor in the College of Education at University of Maryland, College Park. Before that, she held several positions at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, including chair of the Department of Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education and associate dean of the College of Education.

Dr. Szymanski holds a doctorate in special education from the University of Texas, Austin; a master's degree in rehabilitation counseling from the University of Scranton in Pennsylvania; and a bachelor's degree in biology from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION**

The Board of Trustees, upon the recommendation of Chancellor McCormick, appoints Dr. Edna Mora Szymanski as President of Minnesota State University Moorhead 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 Policy 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 presented 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