ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY
INTERIM PRESIDENT
SEARCH PROFILE
THE OPPORTUNITY

St. Cloud State University is seeking nominations and applications for a two-year interim president.

The interim president reports directly to the Minnesota State chancellor. The expected term is July 1, 2024-June 30, 2026.

The successful interim president will:

- Be a proven leader with an understanding and appreciation for the role of a regional comprehensive university to educate students and drive economic vitality in its region and state.
- Have a strong commitment to shared governance and a proven track record of creating systems that support collaborative and open work environments, as well as leading and participating in difficult conversations.
- Have familiarity with shared governance in a collective bargaining environment is desirable.
- Strongly advocate for the university’s mission, vision, and focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion – not only for St. Cloud State students, faculty, and staff but for the greater St. Cloud community.
- Serve as a vital member of the community and region — partnering with business and industry to advance social and economic prosperity.
- Demonstrate expertise in short- and long-range budgeting and planning.

OUR HUSKY COMPACT

Our Husky Compact is the essential and cross-cutting attributes of a St. Cloud State University education that we value as a community. It is a commitment we make to our students and students make to their education that will set them apart and prepare them to be global citizens of the 21st century.

- Communicate effectively
- Engage as a member of a diverse and multicultural world
- Think creatively and critically
- Seek and apply knowledge
- Integrate existing and evolving technologies
- Act with personal integrity and civic responsibility
about St. cloud State University

Overview

St. Cloud State University has a rich history of serving the people of Minnesota. The University began in 1869 as the Third State Normal School, created for the sole purpose of educating primary school teachers to teach in Minnesota’s schools. Since the founding, the mission has evolved as the needs of the state and region changed, from offering a junior college curriculum in 1898, to a Teacher’s College in 1921, to a university in 1975. The University began operating its Alnwick, England location in 1986 and Twin Cities location in 2007, the same year applied doctorate degrees were first offered. The main campus sits on 100 acres between downtown St. Cloud and the banks of the Mississippi River, and St. Cloud is 20th on Forbes magazine’s “Best Small Places for Businesses and Careers.”

SCSU is part of the Minnesota State system, which is the largest single provider of higher education in the state with 33 institutions, including seven state universities and 26 community and technical colleges. The University is proud of the partnerships and close relationships with the city of St. Cloud, educational entities and business, health and science industries in Central Minnesota and the Twin Cities. Minnesota is ranked as the No. 2 state for economic opportunity.

Serving more than 10,000 students, SCSU is one of the largest and diverse public universities in Minnesota. Students come from all across the United States and over 90 different countries, and SCSU has a network of 131,000 alumni around the globe. The University focuses on education that goes beyond the classroom, and this theory is emphasized in “Our Husky Compact,” a promise the University makes to its students that they will be prepared as global citizens of the 21st Century as they participate in applied learning opportunities and real-world experiences in their field of study.

Mission

We prepare our students for life, work and citizenship in the twenty-first century.

Vision

Through active discovery, applied knowledge and creative interaction, we positively transform our students and the communities where they live and work.

Our vision defined:

St. Cloud State University makes a positive, long-term impact on the lives of our students. We provide rigorous and relevant academic experiences with engaged, active learning opportunities in an intellectually vibrant, inclusive and diverse campus community. Our graduates are well-prepared to act as responsible global citizens and professionals who remain actively connected with our University.
The *It’s Time* strategic framework is our bold strategic vision for building on our strengths and elevating the academic distinction of SCSU. We are investing in our faculty who are world-class educators and scholars. We are extending our reach through innovative degree offerings for Minnesotans in the region. We are ever focused on the success of our students as we tailor services and programs to build toward their future. Our campus is, and will continue to be, a welcoming environment for students and community members with diverse perspectives to meet their educational goals and pursue their dreams.

**ACADEMIC DISTINCTION**
Growing our nationally recognized programs and strengthening our foundation in the liberal arts.

Four distinct areas of focus:
- Holistic Health and Wellness
- Leadership Education
- and Engineering & Applied Science

**PRIORITYZE DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION**
Prioritizing diversity, equity and inclusion through intentional actions to address systemic inequities throughout the University.

**INSPIRING TEACHER-SCHOLARS**
Supporting our faculty as they invite students into the research process and prepare them for success in work and in life.

**INDIVIDUALIZED STUDENT SUCCESS**
Our Husky Experience is tailored to meet students where they are in the learning process and to help guide a clear pathway for their future.

**EXTENDED UNIVERSITY REACH**
Providing access to Minnesotans and our students from around the globe with affordable and high-quality degree programs and certifications.

Learn more at stcloudstate.edu/its-time
ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION

The St. Cloud State University Foundation was established in 1958 as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization to provide a means for alumni, friends, foundations and corporations to make tax-deductible contributions in support of the University. The Foundation exists to support and enhance St. Cloud State University’s ability to ignite students’ learning and discovery of their gifts, their passions, and their potential contributions to society. It serves as a leading source of external support for the University.

The Foundation is governed by a board made up of professionals who share a commitment to St. Cloud State University and a willingness to invest their time, talent and treasure for the betterment of the University through fundraising and advocacy.

In Fiscal Year 2023, the SCSU Foundation funded 1,490 scholarships for a total of almost $1.4M. In addition, the Foundation provided crucial funds to the University to enhance strategic initiatives such as removing barriers to education, providing robust individualized student support, facilitating academic success and innovation, creating dynamic living and learning spaces and fostering a vibrant campus life and athletics experience.

The SCSU Foundation currently manages an endowment portfolio of $49m and assets totaling nearly $54m.
10,000+ Students served

90 Countries represented

47 States represented

38% First generation undergraduate students

19% Pell Grant eligible undergraduate students

45+ Study abroad experiences offered
Graduates employed within their field within one year of graduation.

Graduates employed within their field within one year of graduation.

St. Cloud State University is a vibrant community of more than 10,000 Huskies strong with a network of over 131,000 alumni worldwide.

We meet workforce demands with over 200 undergraduate, 60 graduate and 3 doctoral programs.

We meet the demands of learners with accelerated, online graduate degrees in business and education.

We create, invent, and solve in over 100,000 square feet of state-of-the-art lab and discovery space.

SCSU Athletics manages more than 350 student-athletes across 15 Division II teams and two Division I athletic teams.

We are recognized by Colleges of Distinction for Business, Nursing, Education, Engineering, Career Development and Military Support.

SCSU holds a Carnegie Community Engagement Classification for community engagement.

We are ranked Top 10 Military Friendly School and ranked “Best for Vets” by Military Times.

We are designated for being a transfer-friendly institution by Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Roll for four consecutive years.

We inspire and prepare for the future with faculty, student, and industry connections that result in 93% of Huskies starting their careers after graduation.

SCSU has a $686.5 million annual economic impact.
OVERVIEW

At Minnesota State we provide the opportunity for all Minnesotans to create a better future for themselves, for their families, and for their communities. With 26 community and technical colleges and seven state universities on 54 campuses, Minnesota State serves nearly two-thirds of the entire state’s undergraduate student population, and we serve more Black, Indigenous, and students of color than all higher education providers in the state, combined.

We are committed to equitable outcomes for all our students, and in 2019 committed to eliminating educational equity gaps at every Minnesota State college and university by the year 2030. Achieving this goal, called Equity 2030, is a moral imperative, and an economic imperative for our state as our population continues to grow more diverse, and will ensure Minnesota has the workforce it needs for generations to come. We are working toward meeting our Equity 2030 goal through hard work, robust data analysis, targeted programs to improve outcomes, and partnerships with community organizations, employers, and the state legislature.

Minnesota State employs more than 14,500 people, most of whom are represented by one of several bargaining units and personnel plans. The bargaining units include:

- Inter Faculty Organization
- Minnesota State College Faculty
- Minnesota State University Association of Administrative and Service Faculty
- American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees
- Minnesota Association of Professional Employees
- Minnesota Government Engineers Council
- Middle Management Association
- Minnesota Nurses Association

GOVERNANCE

The 15-member Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities is appointed by the Governor and has policy responsibility for system planning, academic programs, fiscal management, personnel, admissions requirements, tuition and fees, and rules and regulations. Learn more on the Board of Trustees page at MinnState.edu/board.

CHANCELLOR

Under the direction of the Board of Trustees, the chancellor is the executive officer of Minnesota State and is responsible for providing educational leadership to the 33 colleges and universities of Minnesota State, ensuring effective and efficient management and operation so that Minnesota State can meet the current and long-term educational and workforce development needs of all Minnesotans. Learn more on the Chancellor’s Office page at MinnState.edu/system/chancellor.
Minnesota State is the third largest system of state colleges and universities in the United States and the largest in the state with 26 colleges, 7 universities, and 54 campuses.

We serve 300,000 students each year, with more Black and Indigenous students, as well as students of color, attending our colleges and universities than all other higher education providers in Minnesota combined.

We offer the lowest tuition in Minnesota, with 64% of our college students and 69% of our university students who receive financial aid.

We employ more than 14,400 dedicated faculty and staff focused on student success.

We provide 4,023 academic programs, including 893 fully online programs.

We have more than 9,950 customized and specialized training, occupational, and professional classes.

We award more than 36,000+ degrees, certificates, and diplomas annually.

63% of Minnesota resident students who are pursuing an undergraduate credential are doing so at a Minnesota State college or university.

84% of Minnesota State students secure jobs in a related field of study.

We have 7,000+ employer partnerships across Minnesota State colleges and universities.

Minnesota State contributes over $8.0 billion to the state’s economy.
ST. CLOUD STATE STATS AND FACTS

7,912
SCSU students are Minnesota residents

20%
Students of color
HOW TO APPLY

Applications and nominations are now being accepted. This call is open to internal candidates (current or former employees of Minnesota State and its colleges and universities) and external candidates. The Board of Trustees is the appointing authority for this position. The position is covered by the Personnel Plan for Minnesota State Administrators.

Nominations should be directed to:
Jaime Simonsen, Chief of Staff
Jaime.Simonsen@MinnState.edu

Interested candidates should provide a cover letter, CV, and list of three references by March 8, 2024.

Submission of application materials as PDF attachments is strongly encouraged. The search will be conducted with a commitment of confidentiality for candidates until finalists are selected. Screening of applications will begin immediately. It is expected that the Chancellor will make his recommendation to the Board of Trustees at their April 17 meeting.

Submit application materials to:
Deb Gehrke, Chief Human Resources Officer/Executive Search Manager
ExecSearch@MinnState.edu

QUALIFICATIONS

The successful candidate will demonstrate most, if not all, of these qualifications:

• Strong leadership skills necessary to sustain the vision of St. Cloud State University
• Progressively responsible experience in higher education administration
• Experience and leadership with shared governance, demonstrating a collegial and collaborative management style, including understanding and appreciation for a collective bargaining environment
• Experience in program and curriculum development, fundraising, governmental relations, accreditation process, as well as budget and fiscal management
• Expertise in short- and long-range budgeting and planning
• A record of actions reflecting concern for the success and well-being of students
• A record of building public/private partnerships between education and business and industry, community leaders, and organizations
• Demonstrated ability to lead in an innovative, data-driven environment and encourage out-of-the-box thinking
• Ability to lead the campus in an authentic, collaborative, and transparent manner, with integrity and respect and a proven track record of being a visible, engaged, and accessible presence with students, alumni, community leaders, and friends
• Demonstrated experience advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion
• Willingness to work with K-12 systems and other Minnesota State colleges and universities
• Exceptional oral and written communication skills effective with a broad range of audiences
• An earned doctorate is preferred but not required