Today the Office of the Chancellor confirmed the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system will continue to operate on July 1. The layoff notices dated June 10 received by MnSCU employees will be rescinded immediately. Letters are being sent today to WSU employees who received the original layoff notices.

Until the state budget is resolved, the MnSCU system will operate using its own non-appropriated funds (reserve, tuition, student fees). Payroll and other services will continue to be provided by Minnesota Management and Budget in the event of a state shutdown. Without state appropriation WSU must continue to conserve its resources. Potential strategies may include temporary selective hiring or deferred purchasing of non-essential items. We appreciate your continued flexibility as we navigate this difficult state budget situation. I know you will continue to provide the best possible educational environment for our students, and I thank you for everything that you do.

The official memorandum from the Office of the Chancellor follows.

Judith A. Ramaley
President

June 21, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Employees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities

FROM: Jim McCormick

RE: Operations to Continue After July 1, 2011

By now I hope you all have heard that the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
system will continue operating on July 1. MMB has informed us that the needed payroll and other services will be provided, and we have determined that we will be able to continue system operations through the summer and fall terms. As such, campuses will begin the process of rescinding layoff notices issued on June 10 to our classified employees.

Please be aware that it is still possible that other state or local government units may be affected by a shutdown if no state budget resolution is reached. Because of program partnerships with some of those government agencies, there may be a remote possibility that isolated layoffs may occur on our campuses or in the Office of the Chancellor. However, we have no information at this time suggesting that will be necessary. You also may see other temporary cutbacks, deferred institutional purchases or other cost saving measures pending a final higher education appropriation bill. Each college and university will determine how best to address these issues.

We remain attentive to the fact that other parts of state operations may be curtailed or shut down until a budget resolution is reached; as we have information to share about decisions that might affect our colleges and universities directly, we will let you know. Meanwhile, we also want to be respectful of the issues other governmental entities are addressing and the impact on other state or local government employees.

I am grateful for your contribution to provide excellent instruction and services to our students, and I am pleased that we will be able to continue to serve our students without interruption. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time of uncertainty.