Devinder Malhotra Assumes Top Post at Metropolitan State University

Two-year appointment as Interim President begins July 1 to oversee growing institution with tradition of innovation in providing an extraordinary education that is affordable and accessible

ST. PAUL, MINN. (July 1, 2014) – On an otherwise quiet summer day on campus, Dr. Devinder Malhotra assumed official duties Tuesday as Interim President of Metropolitan State University.

“Dr. Malhotra brings a global pedigree of leadership and a proven ability to work collaboratively with diverse stakeholders at colleges and universities, most recently at St. Cloud State University,” said Steven Rosenstone, chancellor of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU). “Dr. Malhotra has the practical experience in the broad range of university operations needed to guide Metro State through its current period of growth and expansion.”

Dr. Malhotra was named to the two-year post in January by the MnSCU Board of Trustees. Dr. Malhotra has served as provost and vice president for academic affairs at St. Cloud State University since 2009. Previously, he served as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Southern Maine from 2005 to 2009. He also served on the faculties of the University of Southern Maine and Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Akron (OH). He holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees in economics from the University of Delhi, India, a doctorate in economics from Kansas State University, and has completed the Management Development Program at Harvard University’s Graduate Institutes of Higher Education.

“I am humbled and honored to lead Metropolitan State University. As a public urban institution, it offers its students an exciting, dynamic, creative and inclusive landscape for learning. I will work closely with faculty and staff to strengthen the distinctive characteristics of Metropolitan State that promote the academic success of our students and prepare them to participate effectively in today's knowledge-based economy,” said Dr. Malhotra.

Dr. Malhotra joins the university at a time of significant success and growth, with enrollment up more than 27 percent over the past six years, ethnic and cultural diversity rising even faster, new undergraduate and graduate programs starting this fall, and several new facilities opening or under construction.

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Malhotra succeeds Sue Hammersmith, who retired Monday after six years as president of Metropolitan State University. A national search for a permanent president will be initiated in 2015.

**About Metropolitan State University**

Metropolitan State University, a member of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system, will be the premier urban, public, comprehensive system university in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area and will focus on providing high-quality, affordable educational programs and services in a student-centered environment. The faculty, staff and students of Metropolitan State will reflect the area’s rich diversity, build an anti-racist learning community and will demonstrate an unwavering commitment to civic engagement. Visit [www.metrostate.edu](http://www.metrostate.edu).

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