

December 7, 2010

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT: WEST METRO PLANNING

I know there is a great deal of anticipation and interest in the potential of a free-standing West Metro campus for Metropolitan State University. Curiosity and rumors about what decisions may or may not have been made to date are part of the process. We know that our current and future space needs cannot be accommodated in our current locations at Midway and on the MCTC campus. We are committed to seeking a new location somewhere west of the Mississippi River. At this point, no specific site or locale has been selected nor eliminated.

Planning and strategizing for the new West Metro campus will require significant effort and input from the University community. To lead this effort, I am forming a Task Force for West Metro Planning, which will include representatives from administration and from each of our collective bargaining units. I have attached a copy of the Task Force charge. Once all the representatives have been identified, the Task Force membership will be announced. We will need all parts of the University to participate in this planning effort as needed. The Task Force, however, will lead the effort in defining the framework, principles, and methods for the integrated planning.

I would encourage members of the University community who have a particular interest in or concerns about the development of a West Metro campus to take the time to peruse the charge of the Task Force for West Metro Planning. It should answer many of your questions. We will keep the University community informed as we progress toward a West Metro Campus. We look forward to input and feedback from all segments of the University throughout the process.

Thank you for your interest and for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Sue K. Hammersmith