

June 16, 2022

Chair Cowles, Chancellor Malhotra, and Trustees. Good afternoon and thank you for the opportunity today to provide in-person remarks on the FY23 Annual Operating Budget. Obviously, the fact that the Legislature didn't finish their work during the session is disappointing at best. The inability to work together and come up with an agreement on a \$9 million dollar surplus makes me angry. My livelihood as an employee of the State of Minnesota gets called into question when our colleges and universities are struggling to get their budgets out of the red. Over the last decade, we have lost \$91 million in revenue. I've always known it was a lot, but to hear that number is staggering. Couple that with nationwide declining

With the great resignation 2022 in full swing, one in five likely to switch jobs, workers are more careful about their work/life balance. We are not seeing the talented applicant pools we once did. Having a state job is no longer the pinnacle career it once was. The benefits are great! The pay, not so much anymore. We have lost great employees because they didn't have the option to telework. To be a great employer, we have to offer great things to our employees..and right now, we're missing the mark.

In the meantime, Administration, who make six-figure incomes, creates new leadership and Dean positions, promotes Directors to Vice Presidents, and promotes Vice Presidents to