



Minneapolis College is an equal opportunity educator and employer. This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling Accessibility Resource Center at 612-659-6730 or by emailing accessibility@minneapolis.edu.

March 23, 2021

Dear Senator (insert name),

I am writing to share with you some of our campus highlights from last year and to thank you for your continued service to our community.

You will see in the attached Legislative Update that our campus is fully engaged in addressing equity gaps through educational opportunities and finding creative ways to help our students persist in what will, certainly, become known as one of the most difficult times in history to achieve an academic credential. We continue to provide affordable, high quality and transformative educational experiences in a diverse environment, preparing our graduates to take their place in rebuilding our business community and meeting the state's equity and social justice goals.

As you may know, Minnesota State is requesting support for its proposed 2022-2023 biennial budget on behalf of our campus along with 29 other colleges and seven universities across the state. The request includes \$75 million for campus responsiveness and stabilization so our institutions can maintain a core level of programs and services. It also includes \$45 million to help ensure equity and affordability and provide direct support for our students' critical basic needs. In addition, Minnesota State is requesting \$17.207 million in capital funding. If approved, these funds will advance our Management Education Center (MEC) Baccalaureate Initiative which will provide renovated space on our campus to serve online and on-campus students attending Minneapolis College's School of Business and Metropolitan State University's College of Management. Together, our campuses will produce a diverse pool of business school graduates who are ready to meet Minnesota's workforce demands in the coming years.

Please let me know if you would like additional information about these funding requests or about our campus or students. I would be pleased to meet with you over Zoom during your Spring recess. And feel free to check out our new [virtual campus tour](#) which was recently created to engage prospective students while limiting physical traffic on campus due to COVID-19.

Thank you for your work during the first part of session and for all you do to support our mission and students. I hope you have an enjoyable Spring recess!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon J. Pierce".

Sharon J. Pierce, Ed.D.
President