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Message from Board of Regents Chair Ken Powell

April 3, 2023 — Sent Systemwide

Dear students, faculty, and staff,

This morning, Joan Gabel shared with all of us that she will be leaving the University of Minnesota to become [the next chancellor of the University of Pittsburgh](#). Her new position begins in July and she has expressed to me her commitment to use the months we have before then to ensure the smoothest possible leadership transition for our University.

Since joining the University of Minnesota in 2019 as our 17th president, Joan has led the University through some of the most challenging years in its history. She expertly navigated a global pandemic and its continued disruptions, through a time of both seismic shifts in higher education and great change here in Minnesota. Despite those challenges, she charted a course for the U of M's future by developing MPact 2025, our comprehensive systemwide strategic plan, to set clear goals and expectations for how we all will further strengthen our mission-driven work. I'm deeply appreciative of everything she has invested and accomplished as our president.

I have great confidence that the University of Minnesota is on the right path thanks to the work and commitment of our faculty, staff, leaders, and students. The core of our teaching, research, and outreach mission that have propelled this institution for more than 170 years will continue unabated. We are a world-class research university thanks to the collective work of everyone involved. Our dedication and innovation has helped us weather past challenges and this moment will be no different.

We will have more information in the coming weeks about how our Board will navigate the critically important search and selection process to hire a new President for the University of Minnesota, as well as a plan for the interim after Joan's departure.

Sincerely,

Ken Powell