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MATT GIANNESCHI NAMED VICE PRESIDENT OF POLICY AND PROGRAMS AT EDUCATION COMMISSION OF THE STATES

Denver – Education Commission of the States (ECS) President Jeremy Anderson announced that Dr. Matt Gianneschi has been selected to serve as Vice President of Policy and Programs.

"A strong educational system is the foundation to a strong economy. ECS helps policymakers at all levels make the right decisions about education—from pre-kindergarten through college," said Anderson. "Matt Gianneschi brings a tremendous record of collaboration and innovation in the education arena and he is the perfect person to fill this newly created position at ECS."

Nationally known for his expertise and leadership in higher education, Gianneschi will bring over 16 years of experience to help ECS Commissioners work on major initiatives such as transitions from high school to college, high school feedback systems, remedial education, financial aid, and postsecondary governance. Gianneschi most recently served as Deputy Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Higher Education. He previously served as Vice President of Student Services at the Community College of Aurora and as Director of Colorado’s P-20 Council under Governor Bill Ritter.

"Colorado’s loss is the nation’s gain. Matt is an innovative thought-leader and driver for education policy reforms in Colorado that have spanned three administrations. His expertise and creativity have played a tremendous role in establishing Colorado as a national leader in public education," said Gov. John Hickenlooper, current chair of ECS. "We will miss him and wish him the best of luck in his new position at the Education Commission of the States."

Gianneschi will begin the position on June 3 and will be focusing heavily on leading the ECS Postsecondary Education and Workforce Development Institute. In collaboration with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Lumina Foundation, the Institute is providing guidance to state legislators and higher education leaders across the country on best practices for college readiness, college completion, and improving the structure and format of postsecondary remediation.

"Matt Gianneschi has been a visionary for higher education reforms in Colorado. His leadership and collaboration with colleges and universities produced an outstanding Master Plan and financial aid redesign for Colorado’s
higher education system," said Lt. Gov. Joe Garcia. "He will have a
tremendous national impact on higher education in this new role and most
importantly, create more positive outcomes for college students everywhere."

Gianneschi was chosen as the new Vice President of Programs and Policy
after ECS conducted a comprehensive, nationwide search. “We are extremely
excited to have someone with Dr. Gianneschi’s expertise and political acumen
lead our team as we serve education leaders across the country,” said
Anderson.

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ECS is the only nationwide, nonpartisan organization that works directly with governors,
legislators, chief state school officers, higher education officials, and other leaders across all
areas of education from pre-K to college and the workforce. Since 1965, we have tracked
policy, translated research, provided unbiased advice, and created opportunities for state
policymakers to learn from one another. ECS is located in Denver and maintains the nation’s
most extensive clearinghouse on education policy.

**Equipping Education Leaders, Advancing Ideas**