Education Commission of the States Statement to News Media

In July 2007, the Education Commission of the States released an academic review of South Carolina State University (SCSU). This report was contracted by SCSU board of trustees and dealt with a set of data regarding the preparation of SCSU students, their retention rates, and the productivity of academic programs and the alignment of academic programs with South Carolina’s workforce demand.

None of the recommendations commented on the leadership and effectiveness of the SCSU administration. The report also did not make any comment on the leadership specifically of President Andrew Hugine.

Earlier this week, the SCSU board of trustees took action not to renew Hugine’s contract. In a news release, the board cited the academic review as a factor in the action. The Education Commission of the States had not made any recommendation related to the ouster of Hugine. No member of leadership at the Education Commission of the States was aware of any pending action by the SCSU board of trustees. ECS does not conduct individual performance reviews outside of the organization.


The Education Commission of the States (www.ecs.org) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit interstate compact created by the states and the U.S. Congress that helps governors, legislators, state education officials, business leaders and others identify, develop and implement public policies to improve student learning at all levels. ECS is the only nationwide interstate compact devoted to education. It was formed in 1965 and is located in Denver, Colorado.

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