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Governor M. Jodi Rell
Office of the Governor
State Capitol
210 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Governor Rell:

We write to inform you that members of the university communities at Southern Connecticut State University and Central Connecticut State University have lost confidence in the leadership of Chancellor David Carter and Board of Trustees Chairman Karl Krapek. Over the past seven months, they've exhibited recklessness in their financial decision-making and poor judgment in their policy-making. We've repeatedly questioned this pattern of behavior—to no avail. They've insisted on remaining accountable to no one but themselves.

The first instance of financial irresponsibility was the BOT Executive Committee's offering the Chancellor—during an unprecedented state budget crisis—a retention bonus of \$82,500 (an amount that exceeds the maximum annual salary allowed to an assistant professor in the CSU system). While the Chancellor declined to accept it after the amount became public, the fact is that the Board's leadership under Mr. Krapek had no hesitation in offering it. The second instance is related to SCSU president Dr. Cheryl Norton, who will be leaving her position on June 1, 2010. After noncontinuing President Norton for unspecified reasons, Chancellor Carter and Chairman Krapek chose to provide her a full salary for the 2010-11 academic year. In April, Chancellor Carter appointed Dr. Stanley Battle, his former colleague at Eastern Connecticut State University, interim SCSU president effective June 1. The net result of this series of actions is clear: the CSU system and the citizens of Connecticut must simultaneously support two presidents, one acting and one non-acting, at an additional cost of over \$280,000 (the equivalent of 34 one-year, full tuition-and-fees scholarships for underprivileged Connecticut students seeking a college education in the CSU system).

In addition to making poor financial decisions, the Board under Mr. Krapek's leadership and with Dr. Carter's support and consent have instituted a policy change that not only dramatically increases the Chancellor's role in firing, but puts a premium on secrecy at the expense of transparency. This change in noncontinuation policy was granted to the Chancellor by the BOT's Executive Committee at its October 1, 2009 meeting. The Chancellor now has the authority to terminate the employment of all CSU presidents without cause and in consultation with only the BOT Chairman. Prior to this policy change, a presidential termination required a full Board vote. A few weeks after this policy change, on November 17, 2009, SCSU President Cheryl Norton was notified that her appointment would be non-continued. Not only did this action directly impact SCSU, but it will certainly diminish CSU's ability to attract and retain independent-minded

presidents when they can be terminated without reason or justification and with only three months notice.

Lastly, the SCSU Faculty Senate, the CCSU Faculty Senate, the ECSU Faculty Senate, and the CSU-AAUP have been actively seeking an opportunity to open discussion with the Chancellor and BOT since these issues arose in the early winter. Letters sent to the Chancellor and to Mr. Krapek have been met with one- or two-sentence assertions that they are acting within their authority and following their policies. This is authority they have granted each other, and policies they themselves have instituted, with virtually no oversight from within the CSU system or from any external office.

An example of this leadership philosophy was clearly evident for all attending the April 8, 2010 BOT meeting at SCSU. During that meeting both the Chancellor and the BOT Chairman exhibited behavior unbecoming to public officials by summarily dismissing concerns of students, faculty, and staff and refusing to answer questions.

As you must know, in recent weeks the Connecticut legislature and state and national media have focused increasing attention on the actions of Chancellor Carter and Chairman Krapek. Their actions both harm and embarrass the CSU system and the State of Connecticut, and stand in stark contrast to your ethics-driven leadership. At this critical time, when public higher education must play a key role in any effort to revitalize the state's economy and quality of life, nothing less than honorable, open, and judicious leadership should be tolerated and expected. We have asked for such leadership, we have waited and waited for such leadership, and we are now convinced that the individuals currently in office cannot provide that leadership. Therefore, we are now asking you to request the immediate resignations of CSUS Chancellor David Carter and BOT Chairman Karl Krapek.

Sincerely,

SCSU Faculty Senate

CCSU Faculty Senate

Other possible signatories:

SCSU-AAUP Executive Committee

CCSU-AAUP Executive Committee

CSU Executive Committee

CCSU Representative Bodies

SCSU SUOAF-AFSCME

SCSU Student Government Association

SCSU Administrative Faculty Senate