

Daneshia Akins
300 College Street NE
Orangeburg, SC 29115

February 18, 2015

Governor Nikki Haley
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Nikki Haley:

My name is Daneshia Akins. I am currently a sophomore at South Carolina State University. I am studying in the field of Education. I am writing this letter to discover the knowledge of what is going on with South Carolina State University. As a student, I feel like the school should remain open because if the University closes, the county of Orangeburg and the students at SCSU will be affected. The local county businesses will be affected because most companies in the area support and sell South Carolina State University products. The students will be affected because they will feel like they came to college to get their dreams put on hold because of financial problems. The seniors of May 2015 will not be able to use their degree because our credentials will be taken away. What will the government do for the students who do not have a 2.5 GPA? In my opinion, I do not think firing President Elzey is the right route to take because he did not bring the financial problems here. He deserves a chance just like the rest of the past Presidents had. It is not fair to us as students to suffer because we have a point to prove.

The position that I am currently in is a sophomore student. The reason for my positioning as a student is to further my education in order to gain knowledge to understand the world better. I want to receive a Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education to make a difference in children's lives. The right place to receive a degree in Education is South Carolina State University because they prepare their students to put their best foot forward. My reason for having personal needs is so I can graduate and pursue my career in Education. I want to be able to change the world and change lives so the world will be a better place. My concerns with the University closing is will we get a new president or will Thomas Elzey still remain our president? As a student, I think that we should keep Thomas Elzey as president because he is an example of a perfect role model. He keeps the students on track and he always told us to remain focus and be the best we can be. President Elzey did not bring the financial problems to South Carolina State University. This university had financial problems before he got there. I think he deserves a chance to prove that he can take South Carolina State University to the next level. Another concern I have is why does the state feel like they can only pay for the students who have a GPA over a 2.5? What about the students who are one point away from a 2.5? In my opinion, I think the government should pay for all of the students at South Carolina State University to go to any college in the state of South Carolina. Everyone deserves a chance to go to college to become a successful human being.

I do not think the University should close because it will leave a lot of people at risk for not having a job and students at risk of not attending a great school. The University should remain open because it is a school that has been in South Carolina for over 100 years. Many people have graduated from this great school and have gone on to do great things with their career. If our credentials get taken away, everyone's life will be miserable because our degrees will not be any good. If you want people to be better than they were before, then you have to give them a chance to show you what they can do. Getting our financial problems right will take time. We have to give President Elzey and the Board of Trustees a chance to show the world that they can get this university back on track.

Thank you Governor Nikki Haley in advance for reading my letter and allowing my voice to be heard. I hope this situation goes smoothly. Have a nice day.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daneshia Akins". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Daneshia" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Akins".

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