Brittany Lockhart

Lee Harter

Multimedia Reporting

March 3, 2011

**Board of Trustees, Chairman Johnathan Pinson makes news release for Students, Faculty, and Alumni about recent rumors made towards South Carolina State University**

Johnathan Pinson, Chairman of Board of Trustees at South Carolina State released a video that was posted on YouTube addressing rumors made by the local media in Orangeburg, South Carolina about missing funds that were offered to the school for the Clyburn Transportation Center. The video was released this past Monday for students, faculty, and alumni to see.

Pinson began his news release with some of the schools’ accomplishments such as being the only school in South Carolina to have undergraduate program in nuclear engineering, Master’s degree program in science and transportation, and having the school been ranked number one for social mobility for four consecutive years.

He later began discussing the request of the Audit that was requested last year by several Legislators. Pinson said “We welcome the Audit, as an opportunity to find ways to make our institute better”. He mentioned that the school was at fault for lack of accountability, transparency, and answering inquiring question, but promised that the Board of Trustees and the new President are fixing things by reforming processes, getting new leadership, and building the Clyburn Transportation Center.

Rumors that were made from the local media said that SCSU had lost millions of dollars that was supposed to be spent on the CTC. Pinson cleared up the rumors in the release and said that there was no missing money and the school did not received 50 million dollars check from anyone but did receive it from the state and federal government in 1998. He broke the money up and told viewers how the 50 million dollars has been spent. Speaking from Monday when the release was sent out he said that 24 million has been spent on faculty, student scholarships, and research and grants. Approximate 6 million dollars for clear land and architect and construction for permanent housing for the senator which leaves 20 million dollars of unspent money that is left for the institution to spend.

Pinson ending his news release asking students, faculty, and alumni for patients, understanding, and support.