Policy Discussion: The Alignment of State Investments in Higher Education

Speaker: Dennis Jones, president, National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS)

There is a general understanding that the workplace is requiring a substantial portion of employees to have some education beyond high school. Yet virtually all the research on which this conventional wisdom is based utilizes national, not state, data. The National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS), in collaboration with the Educational Testing Service (ETS), has been examining the educational needs of the economy and comparing these needs with the states’ recent history in producing individuals who have the levels and types of education required by the workplace. Dennis Jones will be sharing the preliminary results of this work and discussing with the commission the policy implications of the findings.

Biographical information on speaker

Dennis Jones is president of the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS), a research and development center founded to improve the management effectiveness of colleges and universities. A member of the staff since 1969, Jones is widely recognized for his work in such areas as: state and institutional approaches to budgeting and resource allocation; strategic planning; educational needs assessment; faculty workload and productivity; and information for strategic decision making and the development of educational indicators. Jones has written many monographs and articles on these topics, has presented his work at many regional, national, and international conferences, and has consulted with hundreds of institutions and state higher education agencies on management issues of all kinds.

Prior to joining NCHEMS, Jones served as an administrator (in business and in institutional planning) at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He received his graduate and undergraduate degrees from that institution in the field of engineering management.