

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**VICE CHANCELLOR EARL MACKEY TO LEAVE POSITION AT OHIO BOARD OF REGENTS**

**COLUMBUS, Ohio, June 5, 2001** – Ohio Board of Regents' Chancellor Roderick G. W. Chu announced today that Vice Chancellor Earl S. Mackey will leave the Regents' staff at the end of this month.

Mackey joined the Board of Regents in January 1997. In his position as vice chancellor, Mackey directed the external relations area of the Board of Regents, including government relations, media relations, statewide marketing and community outreach. Under Mackey's leadership, the Board of Regents developed and implemented the "Ohio Success Express" bus outreach program; communicated the goals and concerns of the Board of Regents to the media and especially among editorial boards; expanded its News and Information services; and heightened the visibility and recognition of higher education in general in the state.

"Last fall, Earl Mackey told me of his desire to leave the Ohio Board of Regents to relocate to Venice, Florida. Given the high personal regard with which Earl is held by the members of the General Assembly as well as the Regents, me and his colleagues here at the Board, I asked him to consider staying until the end of the budget process," said Chu. "He graciously and unselfishly agreed to do so.

"With the completion of the budget for 2002-2003, Earl has decided to follow his desires and move to Florida at the end of June," Chu said.

Mackey will be relocating to Venice, Florida, to lead the Venice Group, a consulting firm focusing on higher education and public policy issues.

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Chu expressed his appreciation for Mackey's contribution to building a greater understanding of higher education issues with elected officials, media and the general public.

"Earl's judgment, relationships and hard work have been tremendously effective in helping change the attitudes of Ohio's policy makers about higher education," Chu said. "That these changes have come about in this difficult budget year is disappointing to us all, but Earl's efforts have created a strong foundation on which we will continue to build. We will miss his leadership on public policy issues and his commitment to higher education and the citizens of Ohio."

Prior to his tenure at the Board of Regents, Mackey was founding director of the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) in Washington, D.C. He also served as director of the Foundation for State Legislatures as well as a vice president at Portland State University in Portland, Oregon.

Chu indicated that Mackey's position would be filled through internal reorganizations.

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Media Contacts:

Michael Brown, (614) 752-9480 (office); (614) 370-0075 (cell)

Laura Massie, (614) 466-7439 (office); (614) 306-1302 (cell)