

**MEDIA ADVISORY – Oct. 3, 2002**

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**OHIO'S CHANCELLOR CHU TO CHAMPION HIGHER EDUCATION'S ROLE  
AS ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT FOR STATE BOARD CEOs**

**COLUMBUS, Ohio** – Roderick G.W. Chu, chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents, this week begins a one-year term as president of the State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO).

SHEEO is a professional association of the chief executives of the governing boards or coordinating boards of higher education throughout the United States. The Colorado-based association and its staff study higher education policy issues and serve as liaison between the states and the federal government. Prior to this election as president, Chu served the organization as treasurer and on several committees. Chu begins his term as SHEEO president a year earlier than anticipated, with the announced resignation of Dr. Bruce D. Hamlett, executive director of the New Mexico Commission on Higher Education.

“Certainly I am honored by the confidence my colleagues have shown in me,” Chu said. “This is a pivotal time for higher education throughout America, as well as in Ohio. The SHEEO presidency will provide me an additional platform from which to advocate for the changes that must be made in and for higher education.

“As higher education leaders, SHEEOs have a vital role we must play to demonstrate and increase the impact higher education has on prosperity – impact not just for individual graduates, but for states and nations.”

The most formidable challenges Chu believes face higher education today include the erosion of state and federal funding, elementary and secondary teacher preparation, college and university performance issues and the need for widespread recognition of higher education's impact on society.

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“I am looking forward to working closely with the executive director and staff of SHEEO, as well as with my fellow SHEEOs, in upcoming national conversations on these topics. I want to share with my colleagues some of the innovative programs we have here in Ohio and to learn about the successful programs developed in other states.”

Chu was named chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents on Jan. 1, 1998. His professional experience includes service as the Commissioner of Taxation and Finance for the state of New York and as a Worldwide Managing Partner – Government Practice, for Accenture, the global management consulting and technology services organization.

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