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**OHIO BOARD OF REGENTS TO HOLD MONTHLY MEETING
AT AGENCY'S COLUMBUS OFFICES, Nov. 13**

COLUMBUS, Ohio – The Ohio Board of Regents will hold its November 2003 meeting at 1:30 p.m., Thurs., Nov. 13, at the agency's offices, Rhodes State Office Tower, 30 E. Broad St., 36th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3414.

A highlight of the meeting, the Board will announce an Ohio Eminent Scholars Program award. The program was created by the Ohio General Assembly in 1983 to foster national eminence of selected outstanding academic programs. The receiving Ohio universities must match the award, and the combined endowment is maintained in perpetuity to cover the expenses of the position.

Additionally, officials from Cleveland State University and Ohio University will discuss deferred maintenance issues to highlight a growing statewide problem. Many of Ohio's postsecondary academic buildings were constructed more than 30 years ago and are in need of substantial upgrade and maintenance that annual budgets have not been sufficient to address.

Among items recommended for board action are: an institutional reauthorization, academic program authorizations, joint use agreements, requests to pledge student fees in support of bond issuances, release and distribution of State Share of Instruction and Success Challenge appropriations, release and distribution of Jobs Challenge Higher Skills Incentive grants and controlling board requests.

Media and the public are encouraged to attend the 1:30 p.m. board meeting, as well as the 9 a.m.-noon committee meetings, all being held in the Main Conference Room at the Ohio Board of Regents offices. The committee meetings will follow a format of three 50-minute consecutive sessions: access; resources and system efficiency; and program effectiveness, research and technology.

The Ohio Board of Regents is the coordinating body for higher education in the state. Created in 1963 by the General Assembly, the 11-member public board has a direct, non-governing relationship with all of Ohio's colleges and universities.

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Editor's Note: A board meeting agenda and committee meeting schedule are attached. The next monthly meeting of the Ohio Board of Regents is scheduled to be held at 1:30 p.m., Jan. 22, 2004, at Rio Grande Community College and University of Rio Grande, Rio Grande, Ohio 45674. There will be no December meeting.