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Chancellor Releases Second of Four Draft Goals for the University System of Ohio

INCREASING QUALITY OF OHIO'S PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION A KEY TARGET

COLUMBUS --- Chancellor Eric Fingerhut today released a second draft goal for the 10-year plan for higher education that will be delivered to Governor Ted Strickland and the General Assembly on March 31, 2008. The goal addressed increasing the quality of Ohio's public higher education, and was posted for public input on the University System of Ohio's Master Plan Forum at <http://www.universitysystem.ohio.gov/master-plan>.

"My hope is that Ohioans will think about how the higher education system can have a positive impact on their lives in the future," Chancellor Fingerhut said. **"This will be a plan for all of us."**

The section released today stresses the importance of raising the quality at Ohio's public institutions:

The University System of Ohio will be a flexible and efficient higher education provider known for the excellence of the teaching and learning of its faculty and students and acknowledged by Ohio's taxpayers, business leaders, and national and international experts as a successful model for multi-institution systems.

Proposed metrics for assessing the achievement of the goal include measuring:

1. Graduation Rate Compared to Expected Graduation Rate
2. Number of Students and Faculty Receiving Major National Awards
3. Number of Students in the Top 20% of Their Class or Top 20% ACT/SAT
4. Percent of Facilities Coded as Satisfactory or Needing Minor Rehabilitation

"Ohio must be known for the quality of our workforce and the innovative thinking that only a world-class system of higher education can produce. This is our chance to build on the strengths of our institutions to make our state an economic leader," Fingerhut said.

Draft goals 3 and 4 of the master plan are expected to be released later this month.

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