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MEDIA ADVISORY – March 13, 2007

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REGENTS PLAN TO APPOINT NEW CHANCELLOR AT SPECIAL MEETING

COLUMBUS, Ohio – The Ohio Board of Regents will hold a special meeting at 10 a.m., Wednesday, March 14 at the board’s offices, 30 E. Broad Street, 36th Floor, Columbus, Ohio, and by video conference from the Eastern Campus of Cuyahoga Community College in Highland Hills, Ohio.

The purpose of the meeting is to consider naming a chancellor. Regent James F. Patterson will be participating from the Highland Hills videoconference location.

The board expects to name Eric D. Fingerhut, a former Congressman and state Senator who currently serves as Director of Economic Development Education and Entrepreneurship at Baldwin-Wallace College, where he also has served as a member of the faculty.

“The officers of the Board of Regents have met with Eric and have been very impressed with his intellect, his energy, his passion for higher education and his ability to build strong relationships,” said Donna M. Alvarado, Granville businesswoman and chair of the Board. “Bringing Eric on board at this time will engage him fully in the budget process and enable us to begin in earnest the discussions that need to take place for meaningful change in Ohio higher education.”

Once on staff, Chancellor Fingerhut is expected to work closely with the Governor and his Cabinet – as previous chancellors have.

“I am deeply honored by the confidence that has been shown in me by the members of the Board of Regents, Governor Strickland and the leaders of the Ohio General Assembly,” said Fingerhut, who lives in Shaker Heights. “The future of our great state depends on the talent and innovative ideas that come out of our institutions of higher education. I am committed to providing the aggressive leadership necessary to help make Ohio a global leader in the field of higher education.”

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The Ohio Board of Regents is a geographically representative 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.

Editor’s Note: The video conference also will be available at the Cuyahoga Community College District Office in downtown Cleveland. See email for details.