



Board of Regents

Ted Strickland, Governor
Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor

University System of Ohio

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**College and University Reps Meet to Discuss
Preventative Security Methods at 2008 Ohio Campus
Safety Summit**
***Conference Brings Together Campus Personnel and Safety, Security and
Risk Management Experts***

COLUMBUS – Ohio Board of Regents Chancellor Eric D. Fingerhut’s message to the audience at the *2008 Ohio Campus Safety Summit* today centered on campus safety being a continual, on-going part of ensuring that students have the safest possible education experience that they expect and deserve.

“Crisis management is important, but safety management is constant,” Chancellor Fingerhut said to the more than 200 attendees. “Too often, security concerns level off after a crisis, but it’s important that Ohio colleges and universities remain focused on safety every day on every campus. We’re bringing together resources today that will help them in this effort.”

The Summit, held in Wooster at The Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute (Shisler Conference Center), included special focus on responding to and preventing potential safety issues related to people with mental health challenges. The Board of Regents recently held joint symposiums with mental health partners around the state and partnered with the National Association of Mental Illness in putting together Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) for college campus law enforcement officers.

Chancellor Fingerhut commented on the importance of these efforts in preventing violence before it happens: “Having emergency notification systems like sirens and PAs is important and necessary. But foreseeing emergency situations and minimizing or preventing them is, of course, even better.”

The Summit was sponsored by the Ohio Board of Regents and moderated by Rick Amweg, the agency’s director of Campus Safety and Security. Welcome remarks were provided by Bill Harper, assistant director of the Ohio Department of Mental Health, David Winn, project manager at the Ohio Division of Homeland Security, Ohio Department of Public Safety, and Chancellor Fingerhut.

Brett Sokolow, president of the National Center of Higher Education Risk Management (Malvern, Penn.) delivered keynote remarks on *Best Practices for Campus Behavioral Intervention and Threat Assessment*. Presentations were also provided by Randall W. Spivey, executive director of the Center for Personal Protection and Safety (Spokane, Wash.) and Harold Huffman, campus safety and security program manager at the University of Findlay. A panel discussion moderated by Holly Hinton, director of the Governor's Office for Women's Initiative and Outreach, rounded out the program.

The *2008 Ohio Campus Safety Summit* is the second statewide summit of its kind in Ohio. The first took place one year ago, following recommendations of the *Task Force on Ohio College Campus Safety and Security*, which Governor Strickland asked Chancellor Fingerhut to form following the tragedy at Virginia Tech in 2007.

For more information, visit http://regents.ohio.gov/security_task_force.php.

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