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**ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT REFLECTS
HIGH-PERFORMING YEAR FOR OHIO HIGHER EDUCATION**

COLUMBUS, Ohio – Ohio’s colleges and universities are doing their part to advance Ohio’s economy by enrolling and graduating more Ohioans than ever before and setting a research funding record.

These are just a few of the achievements included in Ohio’s *Performance Report for Colleges and Universities, 2005* released today at the meeting of the Ohio Board of Regents at Capital University.

“More than 600,000 students attended a public or private campus in the fall of 2004, and more than 100,000 students were awarded a degree during the year,” said Regents Chairman Edmund Adams. “Besides having well over a billion dollars in sponsored research, many key performance indicators are headed in the right direction including enrollments, degree production and research. In many respects higher education is reporting the best performance ever along a number of key dimensions.”

“While we still have concerns about remediation rates and sticker tuition price, we find real progress in the ability of campuses in general to reduce overall costs per student,” said Chancellor Roderick G. W. Chu. “In addition, I am pleased that Ohio is retaining a high percentage of its graduates – 78 percent – and they are finding employment in all subject fields at decent wages.”

Compiled at the request of Gov. Bob Taft, the report cites numerous performance indicators for Ohio’s public colleges and universities. This year, for the first time, the report includes trend data, comparing results from annual reports dating back to 2000.

Trends in degree production were especially noteworthy. The number of associate, bachelor’s and master’s degrees have increased since Fiscal Year 2000. In addition, the production of doctoral degrees over that same time period shifted to fields in science and engineering, which have been identified as state needs and critical to the future success of Ohio.

“The Regents’ doctoral program review of the later 1990s and subsequent funding revisions have enabled campuses to focus on quality rather than quantity,” Chu added.

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