Governor Strickland’s Message

- Integration of adult career centers into Ohio’s system of public higher education increases access to courses and programs
- Desire to ensure students have access to all the opportunities available to them in Ohio’s system of higher education
- Trustees as good stewards and fiduciaries of the school they serve and Ohio’s system of higher education.
- Revolutionizing higher education
  - A chancellor appointed by the Governor
  - $50 million investment in groundbreaking, job-creating research
  - $100 million investment in scholarships for the best students in STEM
  - Two more classes added to the newly enhanced direct grant program
- A system of higher education
  - The best systems are more than just a collection of institutions
  - Institutions must work together in a rational, coherent way unifying resources
  - Each institution must do what it excels at to rise above mediocrity
  - We need to build such a system in Ohio
  - A system of higher education is essential to making sure we have the most educated workforce and building a 21st century economy
- Governor’s Executive Directive
  - Establishes the University System of Ohio
  - Includes and retains the missions of the Ohio Board of Regents
  - Includes and retains the governance structure of Ohio’s institutions of higher education
  - Acts as the central state entity that will provide incentives and expert guidance to help each institution reach its individual point of excellence
  - Ensures that the system as a whole offers a high quality, flexible, and affordable education to all Ohioans
• 10-year Master Plan
  o Chancellor Fingerhut to develop working with higher education and legislative leaders
  o Will set clear benchmarks for affordability and quality
  o Will outline the precise ways in which Ohio’s system of higher education can accelerate the growth of the state’s economy and increase the well-being of all Ohioans
  o Will address affordability by taking the total sum of the state’s investment in student access, including direct support to institutions, financial aid and scholarships, and ensuring that the state spends that money in a way to ensure the lowest possible cost for Ohio students and their families
  o Will address quality by encouraging institutions to pursue excellence in their fields of specialty while making those world-class programs widely available to students across the state

• Governor’s Challenge
  o We are at a turning point in Ohio history
  o We are stewards of one of Ohio’s most important assets – its public system of higher education
  o We must set aside old habits and ways of acting
  o We must see that collaboration, not competition, will get us to where we need to go
  o We must see that the mission of each institution is vital to the future of the state and its citizens, no mission is more important than another
  o Together, we will create a new Ohio birthright – access for every Ohioan to an affordable, world-class system of higher education
  o Join with the Governor as good stewards