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## **Regents unanimously approve MUO/UT combination**

*by Matt Lockwood*

The Medical University of Ohio and The University of Toledo are another step closer to becoming one entity following unanimous approval of such a combination on Friday, Dec. 16, by the Ohio Board of Regents during a special meeting held at the Ohio Aerospace Institute (OAI) in Cleveland, Ohio.

"I think this is a significant step toward establishing greatness in education in northwest Ohio," said **Dr. Lloyd A. Jacobs**, president of MUO.

Jeanette G. Brown, a regent, said, "I am one of the longest serving regents and ever since I've been on the board I have been a proponent of collaboration of academic programs and administrative services. This is a milestone example of that, and I'm excited about it."

It is now expected that a bill will be introduced in the Ohio legislature in January with a vote on the combination coming a month or two later.

The memo of understanding approved by the regents states that Dr. Lloyd A. Jacobs, MUO president, would lead the combined institution, which would be named The University of Toledo. MUO would be called the Medical University of Ohio: The Health Campus of the University of Toledo.

Both the MUO and UT board of trustees on Dec. 6 approved resolutions endorsing a combination of the two institutions.

The resolution approved by MUO trustees states the two schools "by virtue of their proximity and by the increase in shared and collaborative research and academic programs, believe they each will benefit by combining into a larger entity..."

The Ohio Board of Regents is the 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.