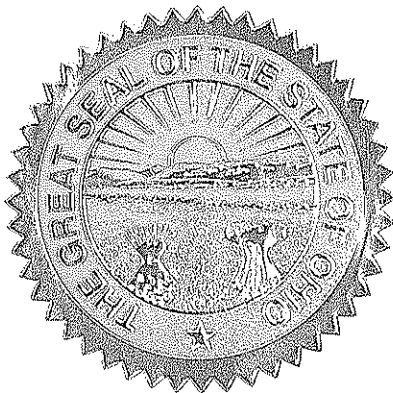


## IMPACT '08: BUILDING A BETTER, SAFER WORLD

Welcome to the campus of The Ohio State University and to today's *Impact '08 in Ohio: Building a Better, Safer World* campaign, forum. I want to thank the Center for U.S. Global Engagement in Washington, D.C., the John Glenn School for Public Affairs and the Columbus Council on World Affairs in Columbus, Ohio for bringing this important event to the Buckeye State.

I believe that the extraordinary global challenges and opportunities of the 21st century call for a new vision of America's engagement with the world. In science and technology, arts and media, business and social work, immigrants from around the globe and generations of their descendents have contributed immeasurably to the development of our state. However, Ohio, like so many others, now finds itself in the cross currents of a new wave of globalization. Our increasingly interconnected world requires strong U.S. leadership to strengthen democratic governance, harness economic potential, alleviate global poverty and improve human conditions.

The next Administration will need to revitalize America's moral and pragmatic leadership by making greater investments in our diplomatic and development programs, modernizing our foreign assistance institutions, and improving the accountability and effectiveness of our foreign assistance programs. The next U.S. President must be prepared to tackle these challenging issues with bold new ideas that encourage global cooperation in the pursuit of freedom, security and opportunity. We must all join together to call on 2008 Presidential candidates to elevate and strengthen our non-military tools of global engagement to build a better, safer, more prosperous Ohio, America and world.



ON THIS TWENTY THIRD DAY OF  
JUNE, TWO THOUSAND EIGHT

*Ted Strickland*

Ted Strickland  
Governor