

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 11, 2013, MORNING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Executive Committee (“the Committee”) of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution met on June 11, 2013, at the Supreme Court of the United States in Washington, D.C. Participating were Chancellor John G. Roberts, Jr.; Executive Committee and Board Chair France A. Córdoba; Vice Chair John McCarter Jr.; and Committee member Shirley Ann Jackson.

Also present by invitation of the Committee were Secretary G. Wayne Clough; Counselor to the Chief Justice Jeffrey Minear; Chief of Staff to the Secretary Patricia Bartlett; Chief of Staff to the Regents John K. Lapiana; and General Counsel Judith Leonard.

Dr. Córdoba called the meeting to order at 11:35 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting began with an executive session to discuss personnel matters.

AGENDA REVIEW

Dr. Córdoba thanked the Chancellor for hosting the meeting and outlined the agenda for the morning, which consisted primarily of a review of the proposed topics for the June 24, 2013, Regents’ meeting agenda.

Regents’ Dinner. Before turning to the business meeting agenda, Dr. Córdoba noted that Regents emeriti are invited to attend the Regents’ pre-meeting dinner on June 23, 2013.

Morning Executive Session. The first item on the Monday business morning agenda will be an executive session, said Dr. Córdoba. During this session, the Regents will provide feedback on pending personnel issues. Dr. Clough will also brief the Board on the disposition of the Hirshhorn Bubble project.

Report of the Board and Executive Committee Chair. Dr. Córdoba said that her Report of the Chair of the Board and the Executive Committee will focus on the June 12, 2013, annual advisory board chair retreat that she and Dr. Clough will host.

She said that she will also inform the Board of two actions taken by the Executive Committee on behalf of the Board since the April 2013 Regents’ meeting: an appointment to the National Postal Museum’s Council of Philatelists and the approval of a \$12 million gift from Oprah Winfrey to the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

Report of the Secretary. Dr. Córdoba said that the Secretary would provide an overview of his report during the informal working lunch following the meeting.

Financial Dashboard and Outlook. Al Horvath, the Under Secretary for Finance and

Administration and Chief Financial Officer, will next present the financial dashboard as of May 31, 2013, and update the Board on planning for the potential impact of Federal sequestration into fiscal year 2014.

Investment Committee Report. Investment Committee Chair David Silfen is expected to present a report of the committee's May 28, 2013, meeting and also note that the Endowment stood at \$1.16 billion as of May 31, 2013.

Advancement Committee Report. Regent Emeritus and Advancement Committee Chair Alan Spoon is expected to present an update on planning for the launch of the national campaign and two major gifts for approval: one to benefit the public observatory at the National Air and Space Museum and the other to support the business enterprise initiative at the National Museum of American History. Dr. Córdova noted that the Advancement Committee will meet on June 18, 2013, to consider recommending these gift actions to the full Board.

Compensation and Human Resources Committee Report. Committee Chair Patty Stonesifer will next report on the deliberations of the May 8, 2013, Compensation and Human Resources Committee meeting. Ms. Stonesifer is expected to note that the committee will deeply consider the issue of diversity at the Smithsonian at its fall 2013 meeting, after which it will present its findings to the full Board.

Governance and Nominating Committee Report. Governance and Nominating Committee Chair Roger Sant will present nominees for appointment to four Smithsonian advisory boards, as well as ask for the approval of proposed revisions to the bylaws of the Smithsonian National Board.

Dr. Córdova noted that Mr. Sant will also report on the committee's final disposition of the Inspector General's recommendations on senior executive travel. In his February 2013 audit report, the Inspector General recommended that the Regents document the oversight process for the Secretary's travel and the eligibility of senior executives for compensatory time for travel. Mr. Sant is expected to advise the Regents that the committee reviewed the current oversight process and found it sufficient. In addition, the committee concurred with the staff recommendation to eliminate compensatory time for leave for senior Trust direct reports to the Secretary, and replace it with a more flexible leave and timekeeping system.

Strategic Planning and Programs Committee Report. Committee Chair Dr. Jackson will provide the Strategic Planning and Programs Committee report. Dr. Córdova noted that the June 24 afternoon agenda reflects significant guidance and input from the committee's May 15, 2013, meeting.

Report of the Office of Government Relations and Research Highlights. Dr. Córdova noted that the regular presentations by the Office of Government Relations and Under Secretary for Science Eva Pell and Under Secretary for History, Art, and Culture Richard Kurin will conclude the morning business session.

Working Lunch. At lunch, Director of the National Museum of Natural History Kirk Johnson will provide an overview of the challenges and opportunities facing that museum.

Seriously Amazing. Dr. Córdova noted that time is set aside at each Regents' meeting to present a "Seriously Amazing" Smithsonian programmatic or research initiative. At this Regents' meeting, she said, Matt Holman, a Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory astrophysicist, will directly address one of the strategic plan's Grand Challenges—"Unlocking the Mysteries of the Universe." Dr. Holman will discuss innovative ways of determining the mass of extra solar planets using data from the Kepler telescope.

Disseminating Smithsonian Research. Dr. Córdova noted that at the Board's January 2013 meeting, Dr. Pell and Dr. Kurin discussed how the Smithsonian measures the quality of its research. She said that discussion will continue at the June meeting with a presentation by Director of Communications and External Affairs Evelyn Lieberman on how Smithsonian research is shared with the public and other stakeholders.

Digitization. Dr. Clough will then discuss both continuing and new efforts to create a Digital Smithsonian. Dr. Córdova noted that the Committee would discuss the presentation in more detail over its informal working lunch.

Education and Broadening Access. Assistant Secretary for Education and Broadening Access Claudine Brown will next update the Board on initiatives first presented to the Board in June 2012—the "MySI" platform and the two collaborative multidisciplinary initiatives: "Our American Journeys," which considers the American experience of immigration and migration, and "Waterways," which explores the role rivers and streams play in urban life.

Executive Session. During the afternoon executive session, Dr. Córdova said that Governance and Nominating Committee Chair Roger Sant will discuss the committee's efforts to identify candidates to succeed Mr. Sant and Ms. Stonesifer when they retire from the Board in November and December 2013, respectively. The meeting will then conclude with a regular executive session for the "gatekeepers" (Under Secretary for Finance and Administration, General Counsel, and Inspector General) to raise issues that they consider appropriate for Regent discussion or information.

With no other business to consider, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:15 p.m., with the Chancellor, Committee members, and the Secretary convening for an informal lunch discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

France A. Córdova
Chair