

## **MINUTES OF THE JULY 20, 2015, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TELECONFERENCE MEETING**

The Executive Committee (“Committee”) of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution (“Smithsonian”) held a teleconference meeting on July 20, 2015. Participating were Executive Committee and Board Chair John W. McCarter, Jr.; Vice Chair Shirley Ann Jackson; and Committee member David Rubenstein.

Also present by invitation of the Committee were Secretary David Skorton; Counselor to the Chief Justice Jeffrey P. Minear; Acting Chief of Staff to the Secretary Greg Bettwy; General Counsel Judith Leonard; Deputy Chief of Staff to the Regents Rachel Parker; Chief of Staff to the Regents Porter Wilkinson; and Office of the Regents Senior Researcher & Writer Jennifer Ehlinger (recorder).

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. McCarter called the meeting to order at 2:45 p.m.

### **INTRODUCTIONS**

Mr. McCarter welcomed Secretary Skorton to the Smithsonian and to his first Executive Committee meeting. Jennifer Ehlinger was also introduced as the new Senior Researcher and Writer for the Office of the Regents.

### **MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee approved the draft minutes of the June 3, 2015, meetings without modification.

### **REPORT OF THE SECRETARY**

Secretary David Skorton delivered an update regarding his transition into the role of Secretary of the Smithsonian. Secretary Skorton provided an overview of his activities during the first month of his tenure, which included attending numerous meetings around the Smithsonian and on Capitol Hill; touring the Smithsonian museums and walking around the National Mall to observe day-to-day operations; and speaking with visitors to hear their candid thoughts about the Smithsonian. He explained that he will use the first 100 days of his tenure to gather and evaluate his observations. Secretary Skorton plans to present this material at the next meeting of the Board of Regents, which is scheduled for October 19, 2015.

## **OVERVIEW OF THE FALL 2015 REGENTS' EVENTS**

Chief of Staff to the Regents Porter Wilkinson presented an overview of several of the Regents' upcoming events, including a reception, which will officially introduce and welcome Secretary Skorton and his wife Dr. Robin Davisson, to the Washington community, the October meeting of the Board of Regents, and the Installation Ceremony and Reception for Secretary Skorton.

Lastly, Ms. Wilkinson noted that the annual Public Forum will likely be held in December 2015. The Public Forum will include a question and answer session between Secretary Skorton and Executive Committee Member and Regent David Rubenstein.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Committee then went into an executive session to discuss personnel and litigation matters.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John W. McCarter, Jr.  
Chair