

## MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 12, 2017, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee (“Committee”) of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution (“Smithsonian”) met on October 12, 2017, at the Supreme Court of the United States (“Court”) in Washington, D.C. Participating were Chancellor John G. Roberts, Jr.; Board and Executive Committee Chair David Rubenstein; and Committee Member Dr. Risa Lavizzo-Mourey.

Also present by invitation of the Committee were Secretary Skorton, Counselor to the Chief Justice Jeffrey P. Minear, Chief of Staff to the Secretary Greg Bettwy, Deputy Chief of Staff to the Regents Kate Forester, General Counsel Judith Leonard, and Chief of Staff to the Regents Porter Wilkinson.

### CALL TO ORDER

Board and Executive Committee Chair David Rubenstein called the meeting to order at approximately 11:30 a.m.

Mr. Rubenstein thanked the Chancellor for hosting the meeting and outlined the agenda for the morning, which consisted primarily of an overview of the October 23, 2017, meeting of the Board of Regents (“Board”).

### OVERVIEW OF THE OCTOBER 23, 2017, MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

#### **Regents’ Dinner**

The Regents’ dinner on Sunday, October 22, will be at the Kogod Courtyard from 7-9pm to honor Shirley Ann Jackson and Robert P. Kogod for their distinguished service as Regents. The program will feature Mr. Rubenstein interviewing Dr. Jackson and Mr. Kogod about their experiences as students in the D.C public schools and as Regents of the Smithsonian Institution. He will also announce that summer internships are being established for two students from the D.C. Public Schools: one in the sciences in honor of Dr. Jackson and one in the arts in honor of Mr. Kogod. The internship program will last four years to coincide with the term of the current strategic plan.

#### **Regents’ June Meeting**

On Monday, October 23, the Board will convene in the SC Johnson Center at the National Museum of American History (“NMAH”) for its October business meeting. Prior to the start of the business meeting, all Regents and staff are invited to participate in a tour of 2 West—the newly renovated wing at the museum. Director John Gray will give the welcoming remarks and curators will lead a tour of the new exhibit, “The Nation We Build Together.”

***Executive Session:*** The meeting will begin with an executive session for the 2018 Board leadership elections. The current Executive Committee has been recommended for re-appointment by the Governance and Nominating Committee for reelection.

**Report of the Chair:** Mr. Rubenstein will deliver the report of the Chair and Executive Committee. During his report, Mr. Rubenstein will introduce and interview the new Provost John Davis.

**Consent Agenda:** Next, Mr. Rubenstein will move to the approval of the Consent Agenda. The action items listed on the Consent Agenda for the October 23 meeting will include approval of the minutes from the June Board and August teleconference meetings, the appointment and reappointment of candidates to six Smithsonian advisory boards, amendments to the Governance and Nominating Committee charter, and amendments to the bylaws of the National Museum of African American History and Culture Advisory Council.

**Questions on Written Committee Reports Not Requiring Action or Discussion:** In an effort to maximize time for substantive discussions, staff and Regent committee chairs have been asked to submit their reports in writing in lieu of an oral report, unless a topic requires action or substantial discussion. The Regents will have an opportunity to ask questions regarding any of the written reports. The following committees and groups are providing written reports: Audit and Review; Compensation and Human Resources; Finance; Governance and Nominating; Strategy, Innovation, and Technology; Advancement; Facilities; Investment; Smithsonian National Board; and Office of Government Relations.

**Post-Campaign Strategy:** As the fundraising campaign draws to a close, the Secretary and his team have been analyzing the Smithsonian's advancement operations, including how to fund advancement activities going forward. Secretary Skorton will provide the Regents with an update on the report from the outside consultant Grenzebach Glier and Associates.

**Secretary's Report:** Secretary Skorton will then deliver his report on the state of the Smithsonian and provide the Board with an update on pending legislation on new museums, his trip to Saudi Arabia, and the decision to close the IMAX at the National Museum of Natural History, among other things.

**Luncheon Program – Discussions with Smithsonian Art Directors:** At the June 12 meeting, the Board instituted a luncheon program at their quarterly meetings, during which one group of programmatic directors will be invited to join the Regents for lunch and conversation on a topic of mutual interest. At the October meeting, the Regents will host a conversation with the Smithsonian's art directors.

**Executive Session:** The Board will begin the afternoon session with an executive session to discuss an upcoming exhibition opportunity.

**London:** The Board will then hear an update on the Smithsonian's proposed collaboration with the Victoria and Albert Museum ("V&A") in East London from Under Secretary for Finance & Administration/Chief Financial Officer Albert Horvath.

**Strategic Plan Implementation:** Next, Mr. Horvath will update the Board on the progress of the implementation of the strategic plan. Porter Wilkinson will provide an update on the event for the external announcement of the strategic plan.

**Executive Session:** The Board will conclude the meeting with an executive session, during which the Smithsonian’s “gatekeepers,” including the General Counsel, Chief Financial Officer, Inspector General, and Secretary will have an opportunity to raise issues they consider appropriate for Regent discussion or information.

## ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at approximately 12:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Rubenstein, Chair