



**MEDIA RELEASE**

*For immediate use*

Contact: Delle Willett, Director of Marketing  
619.255.0244

**SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM  
ANNOUNCES NEW MEMBERS TO ITS BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**San Diego, October 8**—The San Diego Natural History Museum announces new officers and new members of their Board of Trustees.

New members include:

Ben Clay, founding partner of Carpi and Clay, a government relations firm, was previously director of the Intergovernmental Affairs Office for San Diego County, former president of the San Diego Symphony and the San Diego Rotary Club, among other civic activities.

Ambassador Jeffrey Davidow, President of the Institute of the Americas. Upon completion of 34 years in the State Department, he retired as America's highest ranking diplomat, one of only three people to hold the personal rank of Career Ambassador. During his Foreign Service career Ambassador Davidow focused much of his efforts on improving relations with Latin America. His most recent appointment was Ambassador to Mexico from 1998 to 2002.

Steve Gautreaux, Vice President of Network Management for Cox Communications San Diego, where he oversees the design, construction and maintenance of the communications network. A returning member to the Museum board, he is currently a member of the Board of Directors for the Mission Valley YMCA and the County Office of Education's Classroom of the Future Foundation and former Board chair of Harborside School.

Christopher Latham, an attorney with Pillsbury Winthrop LLP specializing in defending companies in complex business litigation. A member of the Museum's Audit Committee for the past three years, Mr. Latham is active in bar organizations and is a volunteer in several local legal pro bono programs.

—OVER—

New officers are:

**President:** James T. Waring, of counsel with the San Diego law firm Ross, Dixon & Bell and a Principal with FI Financial, LLC, a real estate investment firm. Mr. Waring is a graduate student of the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice at the University of San Diego. He received his Juris Doctorate degree from the University of San Diego and his BA in Business from the University of Southern California. He has chaired the Museum's Finance Committee and has been a member of the Executive Committee. Mr. Waring is Past-chair of the Francis Parker School Board of Trustees and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the River Network, a Portland-based river advocacy and conservation organization. He is also a member of the Director's Council at Scripps Institute of Oceanography.

**Vice-President:** Eleanor Navarra is a returning board member serving on the Development and Public Programs Committees and an active community volunteer with Voices for Children, Jr. League, Grant School PTA, Francis Parker School, University of San Diego High School, Bishops School, and the UCSD Medical Center.

Re-elected members are:

Peter Baram, Ph.D., was founder, Chairman, and CEO of the biotech company Xyntronix, Inc. from which he retired in 1995. Since his retirement he has consulted for other startup companies, co-founded Stat-Chem, a diagnostics company, and serves on the Board of Directors of the San Diego Opera and UCSD Health Sciences Executive Committee. He is a returning Board Member of Museum.

Dr. Rudy M. Castruita, San Diego County Superintendent of Schools, is a returning board member serving on the Public Programs and Development Committees. Mr. Castruita serves on the State Superintendent's Plan for Education and the State Reading First Committee. He is a returning Board Member of the Museum.

Other Trustees currently serving on the board include:

Walter J. Davis, Jr., Iris Engstrand, Ph.D., Enrique Hambleton, Steven P. McDonald  
Joan H. Parker, Secretary, Rudolph J. Rehm, Richard J. Roncaglia, Virginia B. Shaw  
Mark H. Thiemens, Ph.D., Jeffery D. Yates, Treasurer, Ellen E. Zinn

The San Diego Society of Natural History is celebrating its 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. Founded in 1874, the San Diego Natural History Museum is the second oldest scientific institution in California and the third oldest west of the Mississippi. The Museum's mission is to interpret the natural world through research, education, and exhibits; to promote understanding of the evolution and diversity of southern California and the peninsula of Baja California; to inspire in all people respect for the environment.

###