



MEDIA RELEASE
For immediate use

Contact: Delle Willett, Director of Marketing
dwillett@sdnhm.org; 619.255.0244

**SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM REORGANIZES
INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT DEPARTMENT, HIRES NEW STAFF**

July 23, 2009; *San Diego*—The San Diego Natural History Museum announces a reorganization of its Instructional Advancement (IA) Department with the hires of Ann Laddon as Vice President of Institutional Advancement and Donna Raub as Director of Major and Planned Gifts. In addition, Eowyn Bates, who was the Director of Annual Fund and Membership, has been promoted to Director of Development and Membership, and Jessica Holmes Chatigny, formerly a grant writer for the Museum, has been named Corporate Relations Coordinator.

“Together with the other excellent staff of the IA Department, we have a new team that I am very confident will take this Museum to a higher level. I am very excited by this and consider myself to be a part of that team,” commented President and CEO Dr. Michael Hager, “A professional fundraising team is a critical part of the Museum’s strategic plan to enhance both annual and long-term funding of education and research activities.”

Ann Laddon has 16 years experience in fundraising and non-profit organizations. For the past six years she has consulted for numerous local non-profits including Girl Scouts, Cygnet Theatre, La Jolla Playhouse and Alliance Healthcare Foundation. Ann served as Development Officer and Capital Campaign Director for the Museum of Photographic Arts, Executive Director of the Foundation for Sierra Nevada College, and Director of Development for UCSD Medical Center. Ann is returning “home” to the Museum, where she served on staff from 1996–2002, first as Director of Major Gifts and Planned Giving for two years, and completing her first tenure as Deputy Director of Institutional Advancement which included management of the fundraising campaign for the new building.

Donna Raub has 25 years of experience in fundraising and development. She was most recently a Major Gifts Officer for Santa Clara University, working in San Diego and Orange County. She has been a Director of Development for the University of Pennsylvania, as well as for UC Berkeley, Stanford University, Mills College, and Planned Parenthood. Donna has an MS in Communications and Journalism from San Diego State University, and is relocating back to San Diego from the Bay Area.

Eowyn Bates has been at the Museum since 2005, serving as Director of Annual Fund and Membership Programs. She has 14 years experience in membership and development. Prior to the Museum, Bates was at the Salk Institute as a Development Officer and Donor Stewardship Coordinator. She was also Senior Development Officer at Project Concern International.

Jessica Holmes Chatigny's professional background is in public relations and marketing. She has worked as a writer and consultant for Community Coaching Center, Trenholm Writing & Consulting, and Vultaggio Communications. Chatigny joined the Museum's development team as a grant writer and has recently transitioned into a new position as Corporate Relations Coordinator. In this position, Holmes Chatigny will help provide visibility for the Museum to the corporate community and manage the Museum's Corporate Relations functions, encompassing corporate philanthropy, sponsorship, and membership programs.

The San Diego Natural History Museum is the second oldest scientific institution in California and the third oldest west of the Mississippi. Founded in 1874 by a small group of citizen scientists, 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, Mexico; and to inspire in all people respect for the environment. Website: www.sdnhm.org.

###