



Smithsonian Institution

Smithsonian Institution Archives

Board of Regents - Newsletters to the Regents, July 1994

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SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
Newsletter to the Regents

July 1994

Regents' Matters

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Regents on Monday, September 19, will be followed immediately by the installation of Mr. Heyman as the tenth Secretary of the Smithsonian. Planned to take place on the Mall in front of the Castle, the ceremony is likely to draw a sizeable attendance from Regents, specially invited guests, Smithsonian staff, and members of the public.

The Regents' Executive Committee met with Secretary Adams on June 28 and will meet again with the Secretary and other senior staff on September 8 to set the agenda for the next meeting of the Board. The Audit and Review Committee met with representatives of senior management and KPMG Peat Marwick to discuss the independent audit plan for fiscal year 1994 transactions, financial reporting models, and tax developments of interest to the Smithsonian. The Committee's complete report will be incorporated into the Regents' agenda for September 19. Similarly, the Investment Policy Committee is scheduled to meet on July 14 in New York City and will report to the Regents in September.

Transition Activities

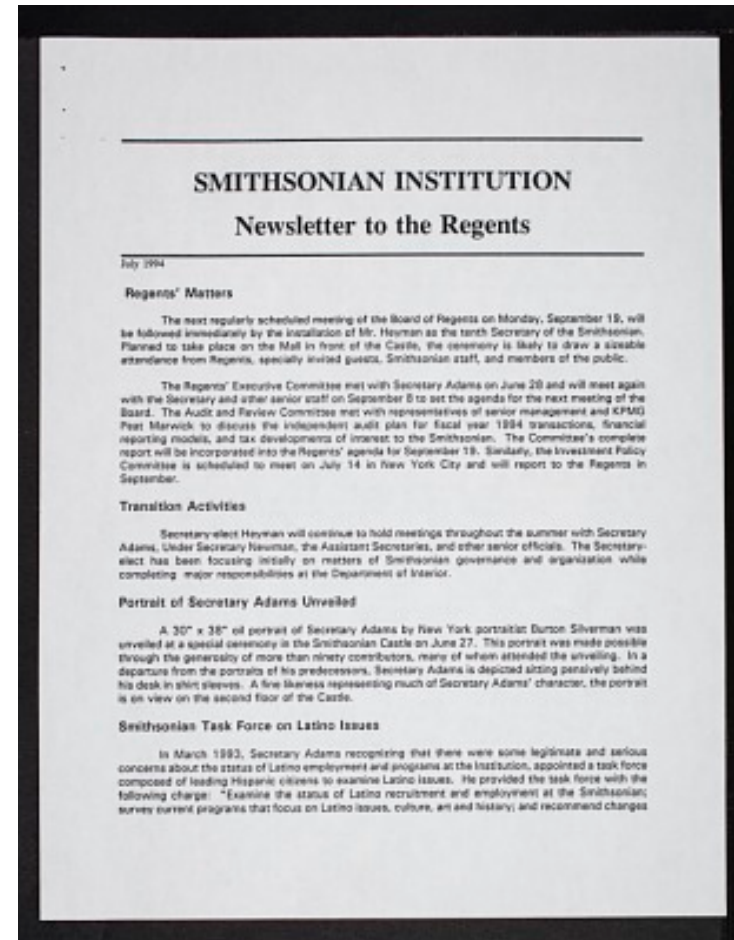
Secretary-elect Heyman will continue to hold meetings throughout the summer with Secretary Adams, Under Secretary Newman, the Assistant Secretaries, and other senior officials. The Secretary-elect has been focusing initially on matters of Smithsonian governance and organization while completing major responsibilities at the Department of Interior.

Portrait of Secretary Adams Unveiled

A 30" x 38" oil portrait of Secretary Adams by New York portraitist Burton Silverman was unveiled at a special ceremony in the Smithsonian Castle on June 27. This portrait was made possible through the generosity of more than ninety contributors, many of whom attended the unveiling. In a departure from the portraits of his predecessors, Secretary Adams is depicted sitting pensively behind his desk in shirt sleeves. A fine likeness representing much of Secretary Adams' character, the portrait is on view on the second floor of the Castle.

Smithsonian Task Force on Latino Issues

In March 1993, Secretary Adams recognizing that there were some legitimate and serious concerns about the status of Latino employment and programs at the Institution, appointed a task force composed of leading Hispanic citizens to examine Latino issues. He provided the task force with the following charge: "Examine the status of Latino recruitment and employment at the Smithsonian; survey current programs that focus on Latino issues, culture, art and history; and recommend changes



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in policy and procedures that will be taken to increase employment of Hispanics at all levels of the Smithsonian reflect the nation's cultural diversity."

The task force presented its findings to the Secretary in a joint press conference on May 10, 1994. A candid assessment of the state of the relationship between the Institution and the Latino community, the report is thorough and thought-provoking and contains many substantive recommendations. The report was distributed to all assistant secretaries and bureau and office directors for comment and suggestion to assist in implementing the recommendations

Dr. Miguel Bretos, a member of the task force, has agreed to assist the Secretary over the next several months in assessing the Task Force recommendations and in developing an implementation plan. Working with Smithsonian staff, Dr. Bretos intends to submit that plan at the end of September.

Commission on the Future of the Smithsonian Institution

The Commission held its second meeting June 1-4 in Washington. Highlights of the agenda included presentations on demographics, technology, and financing. The next meeting of the Commission has been scheduled for September 14-17.

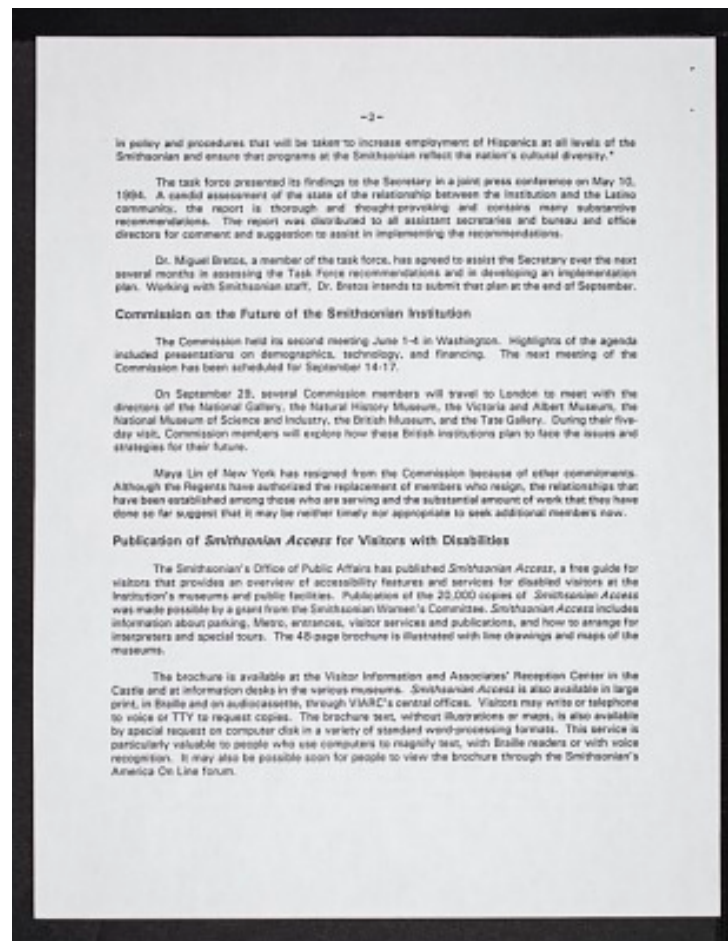
On September 29, several Commission members will travel to London to meet with the directors of the National Gallery, the Natural History Museum, the Victoria and Albert Museum, the National Museum of Science and Industry, the British Museum, and the Tate Gallery. During their five-day visit, commission members will explore how these British institutions plan to face the issues and strategies for their future.

Maya Lin of New York has resigned from the Commission because of other commitments. Although the Regents have authorized the replacement of members who resign, the relationships that have been established among those who are serving and the substantial amount of work that they have done so far suggest that it may be neither timely nor appropriate to seek additional members now.

Publication of Smithsonian Access for visitors with Disabilities

The Smithsonian's Office of Public Affairs has published Smithsonian Access, a free guide for visitors that provides an overview of accessibility features and services for disabled visitors at the Institution's museums and public facilities. Publication of the 20,000 copies of Smithsonian Access was made possible by a grant from the Smithsonian Women's Committee. Smithsonian Access includes information about parking, Metro, entrances, visitor services and publications, and how to arrange for interpreters and special tours. The 48-page brochure is illustrated with line drawings and maps of the museums.

The brochure is available at the Visitor Information and Associates' Reception Center in the Castle and at the information desks in the



various museums. Smithsonian Access is also available in large print, in braille and on audiocassette, through VIARC's central offices. Visitors may write or telephone to voice or TTY to request copies. The brochure text, without illustrations or maps, is also available by special request on computer disk in a variety of standard word-processing formats. This service is particularly valuable to people who use computers to magnify text, with Braille readers or with voice recognition. It may also be possible soon for people to view the brochure through the Smithsonian's America On Line Forum.

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Collective Bargaining with AFGE Local 2463

After successful administration of the collective bargaining agreement reached in July 1982, the Smithsonian Institution and AFGE Local 2463 have agreed to open collective bargaining on a new agreement. This agreement covers all Smithsonian non-professional, non-supervisory employees. Both sides have agreed to pursue their new agreement through interest-based bargaining, which is often referred to as WIN/WIN bargaining. Special training in this new style of bargaining has already begun under the auspices of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service. Training is to be completed by the end of July, and bargaining is tentatively scheduled to begin in early September.

House Mark-up of Fiscal Year 1995 Appropriation Request

Both House and Senate Appropriation Committees on the Department of Interior and Related Agencies marked up the fiscal year 1995 appropriation bill (H.R. 4602) in June. The House recommended a total of \$373.5 million for all appropriation accounts. The Senate recommended a total of \$369.1 million for all appropriation accounts, as indicated in the following table.

(\$000s)

[[5 column table]]

|| | FY 1995 |

| Account | FY 1994 Approp. | Request | House Full Committee Mark | Senate Full Committee Mark |

| Salaries and Expenses | 302,349 | 318,579 | 314,454 | 312,755 |

| Repair and Restoration | 24,000 | 25,300 | 24,000 | 24,000 |

| Zoo Construction | 5,400 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 3,050 |

Construction

| --Air and Space Museum Extension | 0 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 |

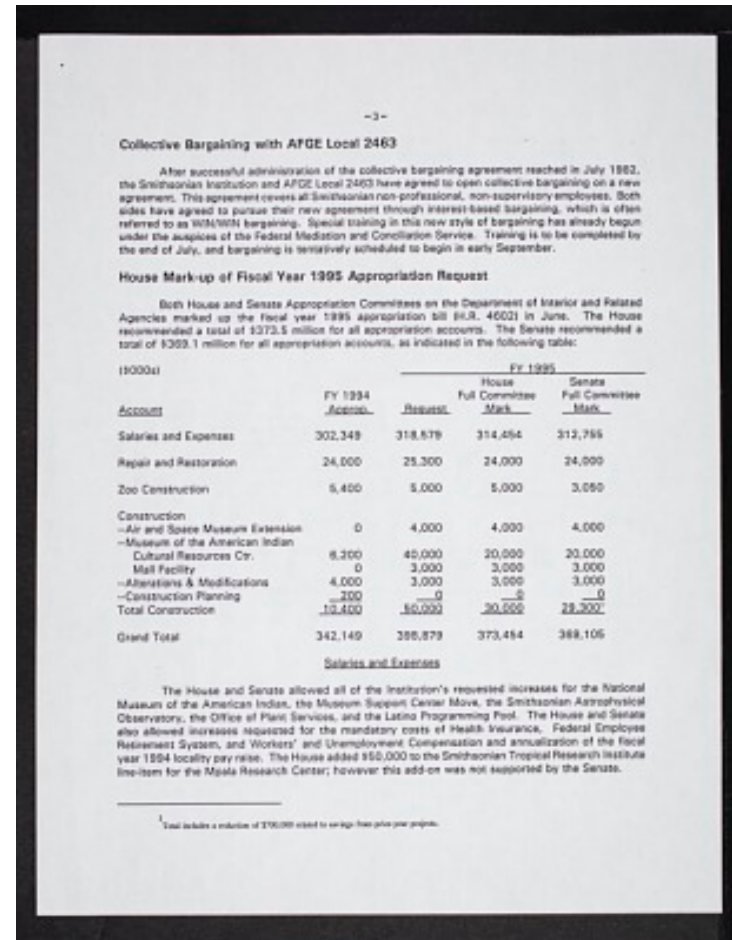
| --Museum of the American Indian

| Cultural Resources Ctr. | 6,200 | 40,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 |

| Mall Facility | 0 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |

| --Alterations & Modifications | 4,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |

| --Construction Planning | 200 | 0 | 0 | 0 |



| Total Construction | 10,400 | 50,000 | 30,000 | 29,300 [[footnote 1]]

| Grand Total | 342,149 | 398,879 | 373,454 | 369,105 |

Salaries and Expenses

[[underline]]

The House and Senate allowed all of the Institution's requested increases for the National Museum of the American Indian, the Museum Support Center Move, the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, the Office of Plant Services, and the Latino Programming Pool. The House and Senate also allowed increases requested for the mandatory costs of Health Insurance, Federal Employee Retirement System, and Workers' and Unemployment Compensation and annualization of the fiscal year 1994 locality pay raise. The House added \$50,000 to the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute line-item for the MPala Research Center; however this add-on was not supported by the Senate.

[[Footnote 1]] Total includes a reduction of \$700,000 related to savings from prior-year projects.

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The House and Senate were in agreement on several specific reductions to the Salaries and Expenses account: funds to cover the January 1995 locality pay increase, a portion of the funds for the anticipated COLA for January 1995, and a reduction in the requested increase for utilities. The Senate took an additional decrease which would require the Smithsonian to absorb one-half of the cost of the January 1995 pay raise.

Repair and Restoration

The House and Senate recommended funding of \$24 million, the same levels of funding as appropriated in fiscal year 1994.

Zoo Construction

The request of \$5 million for the Zoo Construction account included design of a maintenance facility at Front Royal, renovation and repairs at Rock Creek and Front Royal and construction of the Grasslands exhibit at Rock Creek. The House allowed the entire amount requested, but the Senate deferred construction of the Grasslands exhibit for one year, which reduced funding by \$1.9 million.

Construction

Included in the funding for Construction is \$20 million to begin construction of the National Museum of the American Indian Cultural Resources Center, \$20 million below the total request of \$40 million. Both the House and Senate have proposed bill language to allow the Smithsonian to enter into a contract for full construction of the Cultural Resources Center subject to availability of funds. Also provided was \$4 million for design of the Air and Space extension, \$3 million for design of the Mall Museum building of the National Museum of the American Indian, and \$3 million for minor construction, alterations and modifications. The Senate added a reduction of \$700,000 related to savings from prior-year projects.

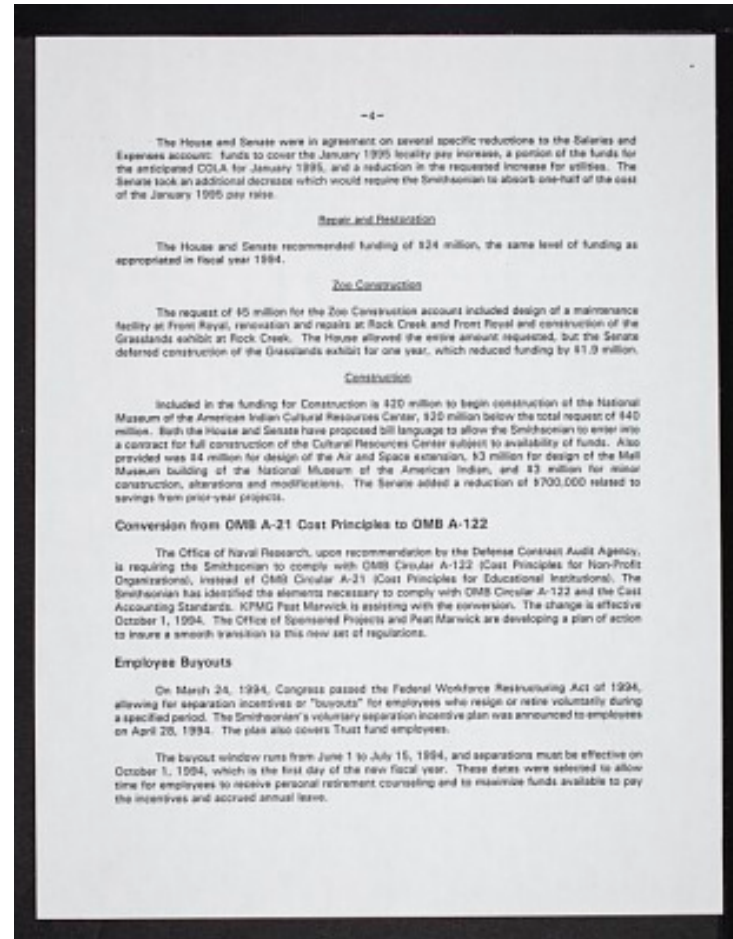
Conversion from OMB A-21 Cost Principles to OMB A-122

The Office of Naval Research, upon recommendation by the Defense Contract Audit Agency, is requiring the Smithsonian to comply with OMB Circular A-122 (Cost Principles for Non-Profit Organizations), instead of OMB Circular A-21 (Cost Principles for Educational Institutions). The Smithsonian has identified the elements necessary to comply with OMB Circular A-122 and the Cost Accounting Standards. KPMG Peat Marwick is assisting with the conversion. The change is effective October 1, 1994. The Office of Sponsored Projects and Peat Marwick are developing a plan of action to insure a smooth transition to this new set of regulations.

Employee Buyouts

On March 24, 1994, Congress passed the Federal Workforce Restructuring Act of 1994, allowing for separate incentives or "buyouts" for employees who resign or retire voluntarily during a specified period. The Smithsonian's voluntary separation incentive plan was announced to employees on April 28, 1994. The plan also covers Trust fund employees.

The buyout window runs from June 1 to July 15, 1994, and separations must be effective on October 1, 1994, which is the first day of the new fiscal year. These dates were selected to allow time for employees to



receive personal retirement counseling and to maximize funds available to pay the incentives and accrued annual leave.

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A total of 225 employees (21 Trust Fund and 204 Federal) have applied for the separation incentives. These employees represent salary dollars of \$8,914,000. Buyout costs which include both annual leave payouts and the buyout dollars total \$6,423,000. Benefits savings total \$1,285,000. This represents a baseline expense reduction of \$3,776,000 in fiscal year 1995.

The Economic Impact Study

On June 21, 1994, the Smithsonian hosted a breakfast and press conference to announce the findings of a recently completed study of the economic impact of the Institution on the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. The study, conducted by Dr. Stephen S. Fuller of The George Washington University in conjunction with the Greater Washington Research Center, revealed an economic impact of \$6.7 billion or five percent of the metropolitan area's Gross Regional Product.

During the press conference, Secretary Adams spoke about how this study underscores one more aspect of the importance of the Institution to the community. He also encouraged other cultural institutions to use such studies to demonstrate their impact to various constituencies. "I am not at all surprised by the result of this study," Secretary Adams said. "Cultural organizations play a more important, even vital, role in the economic health of our communities than has been generally recognized. This comprehensive study and others like it that have been conducted around the country, provide us with one more reason why Americans must strive to support cultural institutions." Watch for Secretary Adams' Horizons column in the August issue of Smithsonian Magazine, in which he reflects further on the findings of the economic impact study.

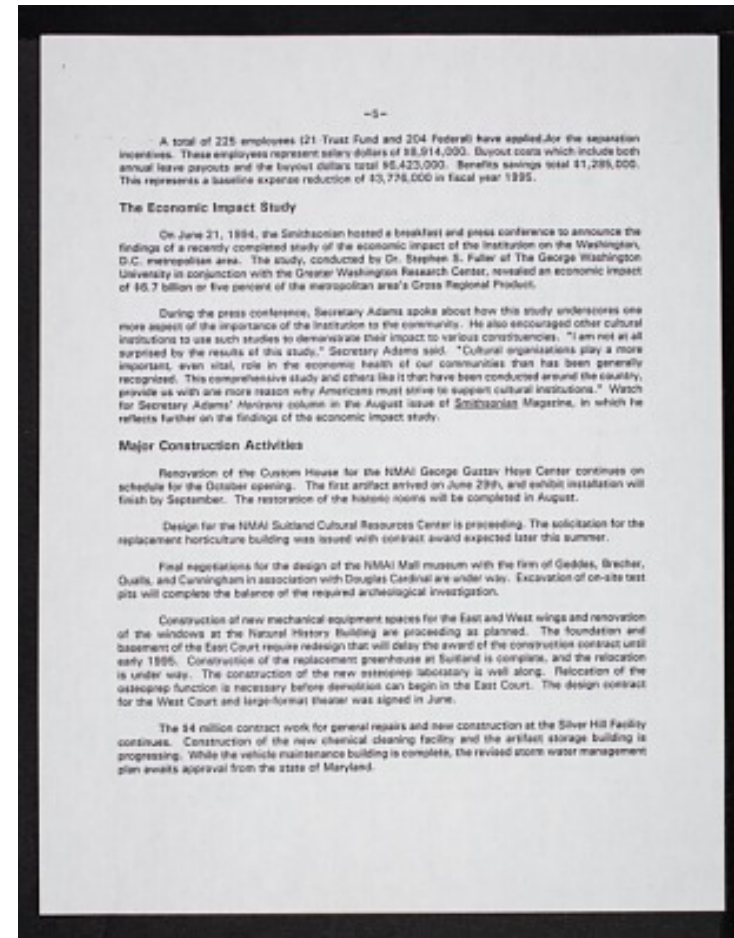
Major Construction Activities

Renovation of the Custom House for the NMAI George Gustav Heye Center continues on schedule for the October opening. The first artifact arrived on June 29th, and exhibit installation will finish by September. The restoration of the historic rooms will be completed in August.

Design for the NMAI Suitland Cultural Resources Center is proceeding. The solicitation for the replacement horticulture building was issued with contract award expected later this summer.

Final negotiations for the design of the NMAI Mall museum with the firm of Geddes, Brecher, Qualls, and Cunningham in association with Douglas Cardinal are under way. Excavation of on-site test pits will complete the balance of the required archeological investigation.

Construction of new mechanical equipment spaces for the East and West wings and renovation of the windows at the Natural History Building are proceeding as planned. The foundation and basement of the East Court require redesign that will delay the award of the construction contract until early 1995. Construction of the replacement greenhouse at Suitland is complete, and the relocation is under way. The construction of the new osteoprep laboratory is well along. Relocation of the osteoprep function is necessary before demolition can



begin in the East Court. The design contract for the West Court and large-format theater was signed in June.

The \$4 million contract work for general repairs and new construction at the Silver Hill Facility continues. Construction of the new chemical cleaning facility and the artifact storage building is progressing. While the vehicle maintenance building is complete, the revised storm water management plan awaits approval from the state of Maryland.

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Master planning for the NASM extension continues with wetlands documentation begun in July as well as historical and archaeological research. The analysis of structural systems and their associated costs to determine the best approach to construct the facilities is also proceeding.

Staff Changes

Following an extensive search, Dr. Ethel "Edie" Hedlin has been appointed as the new Director of the Office of Smithsonian Archives, effective November 1. Dr. Hedlin is a recognized leader in the field of archives administration, having served with distinction in a variety of public and private archives throughout the United States. She served as Director of Congressional Affairs for the National Archives and Records Administration. Most recently, she has been a private archives consultant in Europe, serving varied clients from the World Bank to the International Red Cross. Currently, she serves as the President of the Society of American Archivists.

Mr. McKinley "Mac" Hudson has been appointed to the post of Deputy Director of the National Zoo. In this role, Mr. Hudson will serve as chief operating officer of the Zoo under its Director, Michael Robinson. He received his bachelor's degree in biology in 1963 from Central State University, in education administration, and the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island, in 1986. In June 1993, Mr. Hudson completed 30 years of military service and retired with the rank of colonel. He brings many years of experience in operational management, logistics operations, and personnel management.

Development Initiatives

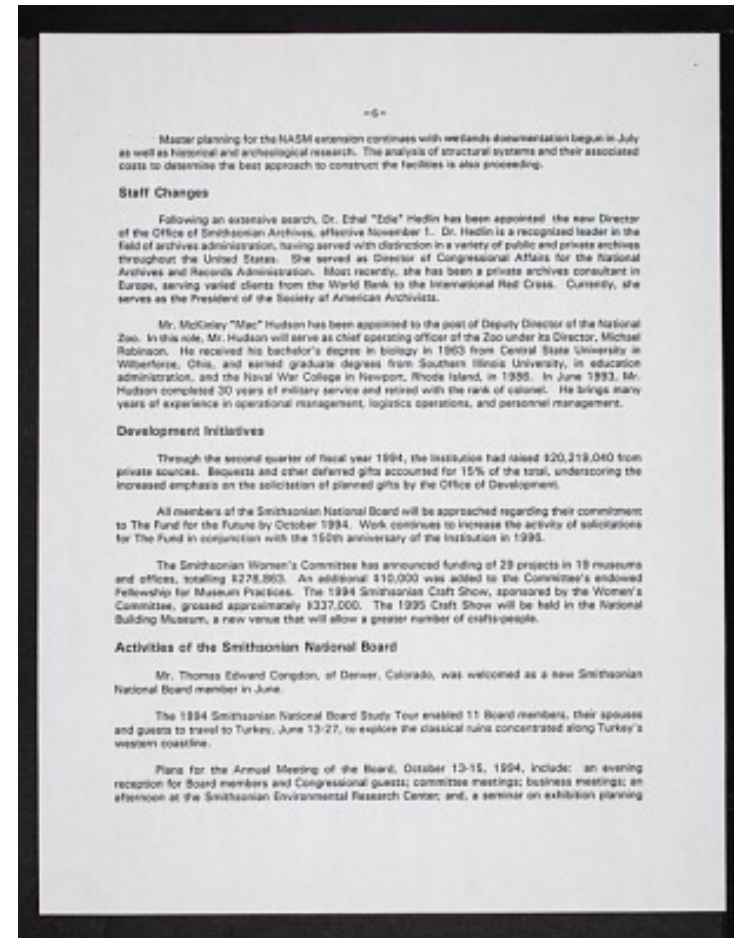
Through the second quarter of fiscal year 1994, the Institution had raised \$20,219,040 from private sources. Bequests and other deferred gifts accounted for 15% of the total, underscoring the increased emphasis on the solicitation of planned gifts by the Office Development.

All members of the Smithsonian National Board will be approached regarding their commitment to The Fund for the Future by October 1994. Work continues to increase the activity of solicitations for The Fund in conjunction with the 150th anniversary of the Institution in 1996.

The Smithsonian Women's Committee has announced funding of 29 projects in 19 museums and offices, totalling \$278,863. An additional \$10,000 was added to the Committee's endowed Fellowship for Museum Practices. The 1994 Smithsonian Craft Show, sponsored by the Women's Committee, grossed approximately \$337,000. The 1995 Craft Show will be held in the National Building Museum, a new venue that will allow a greater number of crafts-people.

Activities of the Smithsonian National Board

Mr. Thomas Edward Congdon, of Denver, Colorado, was welcomed as a new Smithsonian National Board member in June.



The 1994 Smithsonian National Board Study Tour enabled 11 Board members, their spouses and guests to travel to Turkey, June 13-27, to explore the classical ruins concentrated along Turkey's western coastline.

Plans for the Annual Meeting of the Board, October 13-15, 1994, include: an evening reception for Board members and Congressional guests; committee meetings; business meetings; an afternoon at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center; and, a seminar on exhibition planning

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and presentation, using as a case study the National Air and Space Museum's special exhibit to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II.

National Museum of the American Indian National Campaign

The National Museum of the American Indian National Campaign has raised \$17,704,217 through July 1, 1994. Recent major gifts include \$1,000,000 from the George Gund Foundation, and \$500,000 from the Eugene and Clare Thaw Charitable Trust.

The National Campaign has recently welcomed two new members, Ellen Napiura Taubman and William S. Taubman, to its International Founders Council (IFC). Ms. Taubman heads the department of American Indian Art at the international auction house Sotheby's, a position she has held since forming the department in 1976. Mr. Taubman is Senior Vice President for Acquisitions with The Taubman Company, a firm that develops real estate and operates regional shopping centers. The IFC now includes 26 individuals.

The number of current members of the National Museum of the American Indian is 71,939. The program has generated \$4.2 million in funds dedicated to the construction of the Museum.

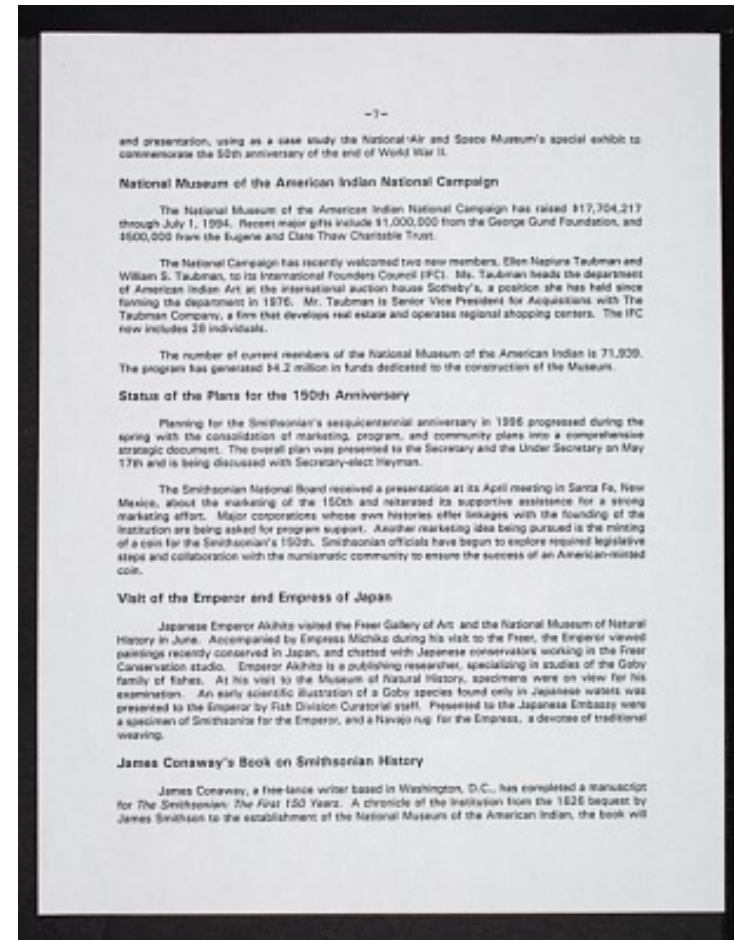
Status of the Plans for the 150th Anniversary

Planning for the Smithsonian's sesquicentennial anniversary in 1996 progressed during the spring with the consolidation of marketing, program, and community plans into a comprehensive strategic document. The overall plan was presented to the Secretary and the Under Secretary on May 17th and is being discussed with Secretary-elect Heyman.

The Smithsonian National Board received a presentation at its April meeting in Santa Fe, New Mexico, about the marketing of the 150th and reiterated its supportive assistance for a strong marketing effort. Major corporations whose own histories offer linkages with the founding of the Institution are being asked for program support. Another marketing idea being pursued is the minting of a coin for the Smithsonian's 150th. Smithsonian officials have begun to explore required legislative steps and collaboration with the numismatic community to ensure the success of an American-minted coin.

Visit of the Emperor and Empress of Japan

Japanese Emperor Akihito visited the Freer Gallery of Art and the National Museum of Natural History in June. Accompanied by Empress Michiko during his visit to the Freer, the Emperor viewed paintings recently conserved in Japan, and chatted with Japanese conservators working in the Freer Conservation studio. Emperor Akihito is a publishing researcher, specializing in studies of the Goby family fishes. At his visit to the Museum of Natural History, specimens were on view for his examination. An early scientific illustration of a Goby species found only in Japanese waters was presented to the Emperor by Fish



Division Curatorial staff. Presented to the Japanese Embassy were a specimen of Smithsonite for the Emperor, and a Navajo rug for the Empress, a devotee of traditional weaving.

James Conaway's Book on Smithsonian History

James Conaway, a free-lance writer based in Washington, D.C., has completed a manuscript for The Smithsonian to the establishment of the National Museum of the American Indian, the book will

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On May 17, 1994, Pleasant Company presented a check for \$78,758 to NAAMP. The donation, which represents 5% of all January and February sales of books, dolls, and accessories from the new Addy collection, was part of Pleasant Company's Black History Month celebration. Addy, a nine-year-old African American girl whose family struggles to be free during the Civil War, is the fifth character in Pleasant Company's American Girls Collection - a line of books, and accessories that teaches youngsters about American history.

Implementation of SIRIS for Smithsonian Libraries

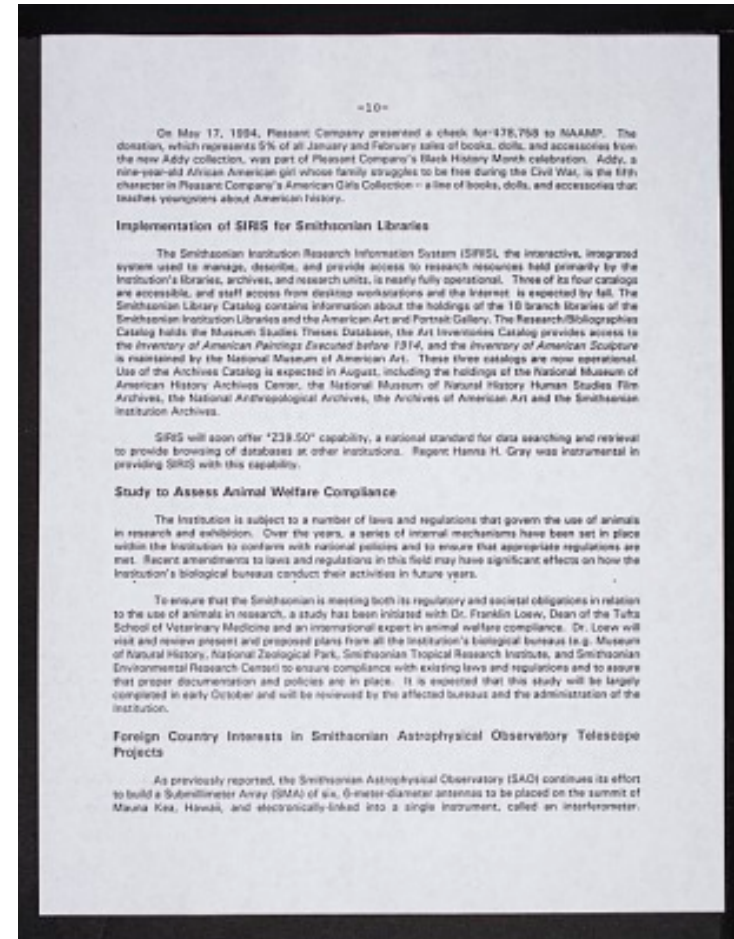
The Smithsonian Institution Research Information System (SIRIS), the interactive, integrated system used to manage, describe, and provide access to research resources held primarily by the Institution's libraries, archives, and research units, is nearly fully operational. Three of its four catalogs are accessible, and staff access from desktop workstations and the Internet is expected by fall. The Smithsonian Library Catalog contains information about the holdings of the 18 branch libraries of the Smithsonian Institution Libraries and the American Art and Portrait Gallery. The Research/Bibliographies Catalog holds the Museum Studies Theses Database, the Art Inventories Catalog provides access to the Inventory of American Paintings Executed before 1914, and the Inventory of American Sculpture is maintained by the National Museum of American Art. These three catalogs are now operational. Use of the Archives Catalog is expected in August, including the holdings of the National Museum of American History Archives Center, the National Museum of Natural History Human Studies Film Archives, the National Anthropological Archives, the Archives of American Art and the Smithsonian Institution Archives.

SIRIS will soon offer "Z39.50" capability, a national standard for data searching and retrieval to provide browsing of databases at other institutions. Regent Hanna H. Gray was instrumental in providing SIRIS with this capability.

Study to Assess Animal Welfare Compliance

The Institution is subject to a number of laws and regulations that govern the use of animals in research and exhibition. Over the years, a series of internal mechanisms have been set in place within the Institution to conform with national policies and to ensure that appropriate regulations are met. Recent amendments to laws and regulations in this field may have significant effects on how the Institution's biological bureaus conduct their activities in future years.

To ensure that the Smithsonian is meeting both its regulatory and societal obligations in relation to the use of animals in research, a study has been initiated with Dr. Franklin Loew, Dean of the Tufts School of Veterinary Medicine and an international expert in animal welfare compliance. Dr. Loew will visit and review present and proposed plans from all the Institution's biological bureaus (e.g. Museum of Natural History, National Zoological Park, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, and Smithsonian Environmental Research Center) to ensure compliance with existing laws and regulations and to assure that proper documentation and policies are in place. It is expected that this study will be largely completed in early October and will be reviewed by the



affected bureaus and the administration of the Institution.

Foreign Country Interests in Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory
Telescope Projects

As previously reported, the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory (SAO) continues its effort to build a Submillimeter Array (SMA) of six, 6-meter-diameter antennas to be placed on the summit of Mauna Kea, Hawaii, and electronically-linked into a single instrument, called an interferometer.

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Interferometers are unusual in that while their efficiency in observing increases nearly as the square of the number of antennas, their cost increases only linearly with this number. For example, if the number of antennas were doubled, the power of the instrument would increase fourfold, but the cost would only double. Thus, interferometers are particularly good candidates for partnerships, since a prospective partner gains more by cooperating through adding antennas to an existing array than by proceeding to build a separate array independently. SAO's technical lead in this area of astronomy and the excellent physical location of the SMA have resulted in several inquiries regarding partnership from other organizations who wish to enter this new field.

At present, active but preliminary discussions regarding collaborations are taking place with possible Asian partners: the National Radio Observatory of Japan (NRO) and the Academia Sinica of the Republic of China (Taiwan). Additions to the number of antennae, if any of these partnerships were to materialize, would occur at the end of this decade.

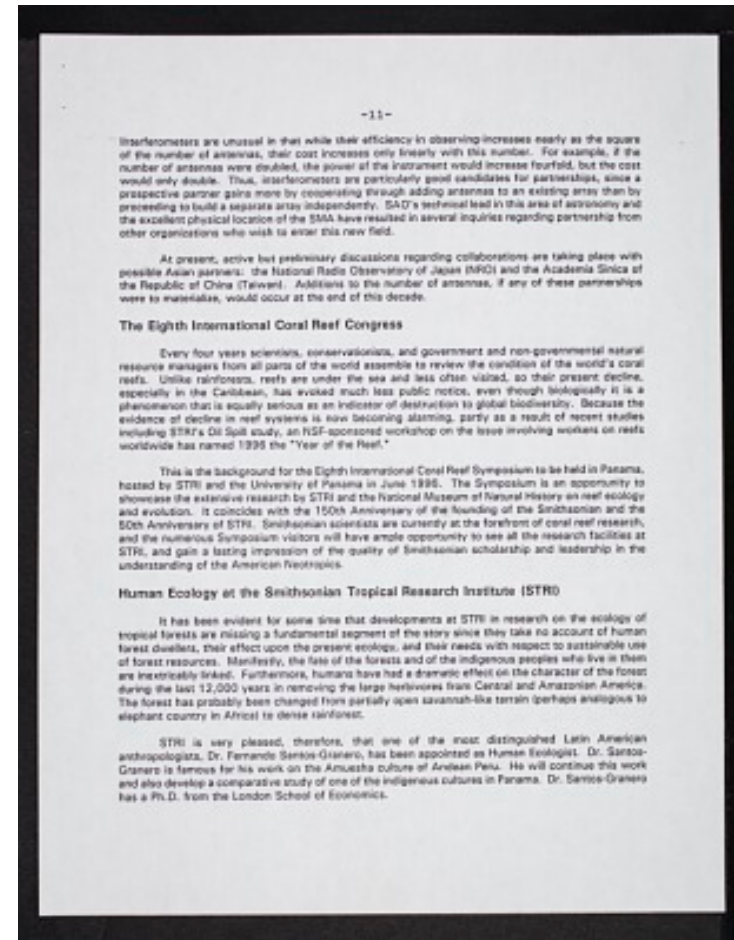
The Eighth International Coral Reef Congress

Every four years scientists, conservationists, and government and non-governmental natural resource managers from all parts of the world assemble to review the condition of the world's coral reefs. Unlike rainforests, reefs are under the sea and less often visited, so their present decline, especially in the Caribbean, has evoked much less public notice, even though biologically it is a phenomenon that is equally serious as an indicator of destruction to global biodiversity. Because the evidence of decline in reef systems is now becoming alarming, partly as a result of recent studies including STRI's Oil Spill Study, an NSF-sponsored workshop on the issue involving workers on reefs worldwide has named 1996 the "Year of the Reef."

This is the background for the Eighth International Coral Reef Symposium to be held in Panama, hosted by STRI and the University of Panama in June 1996. The Symposium is an opportunity to showcase the extensive research by STRI and the National Museum of Natural History on reef ecology and evolution. It coincides with the 150th Anniversary of the founding of the Smithsonian and the 50th Anniversary of STRI. Smithsonian scientists are currently at the forefront of coral reef research, and the numerous Symposium visitors will have ample opportunity to see all the research facilities at STRI, and gain a lasting impression of the quality of Smithsonian scholarship and leadership in the understanding of the American Neotropics.

Human Ecology at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI)

It has been evident for some time that developments at STRI in research on the ecology of tropical forests are missing a fundamental segment of the story since they take no account of human forest dwellers, their effect upon the present ecology, and their needs with respect to sustainable use of forest resources. Manifestly, the fate of the forests and of the indigenous peoples who live in them are inextricably



linked. Furthermore, humans have had a dramatic effect on the character of the forest during the last 12,000 years in removing the large herbivores from Central and Amazonian America. The forest has probably been changed from partially open savannah-like terrain (perhaps analogous to elephant country in Africa) to dense rainforest.

STRI is very pleased, therefore, that one of the most distinguished Latin American anthropologists, Dr. Fernando Santos-Granero, has been appointed as Human Ecologist. Dr. Santos-Granero is famous for his work on the Amuesha culture of Andean Peru. He will continue this work and also develop a comparative study of one of the indigenous cultures in Panama. Dr. Santos-Granero has a Ph.D. from the London School of Economics.

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MPALA Opening

The Smithsonian Institution and fellow trustees of the Mpala Research Centre in the Republic of Kenya have opened a new facility for scientific research and education. A ceremony commemorating the event was held in Nairobi on May 19, 1994. The Centre, which was established in 1992 by the five institutional members of the Mpala Research Trust, is located on Kenya's Laikipia Plateau at the Mpala Ranch, a 48,500-acre working cattle ranch deeded to the Trust by Baltimore businessman George Small. The Centre's mission is to support a variety of research and education projects concerning the ecology of this complex and rapidly changing region of the world, including long-term studies of savannah ecosystems, wildlife, global change and related subjects.

Major contributors to the Mpala Research Center include the Smithsonian Women's Committee, the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, the United Nations Environment Programme, George L. Small, Princeton University, Citibank, British Airways, the Friends of Kenya, and several private donors.

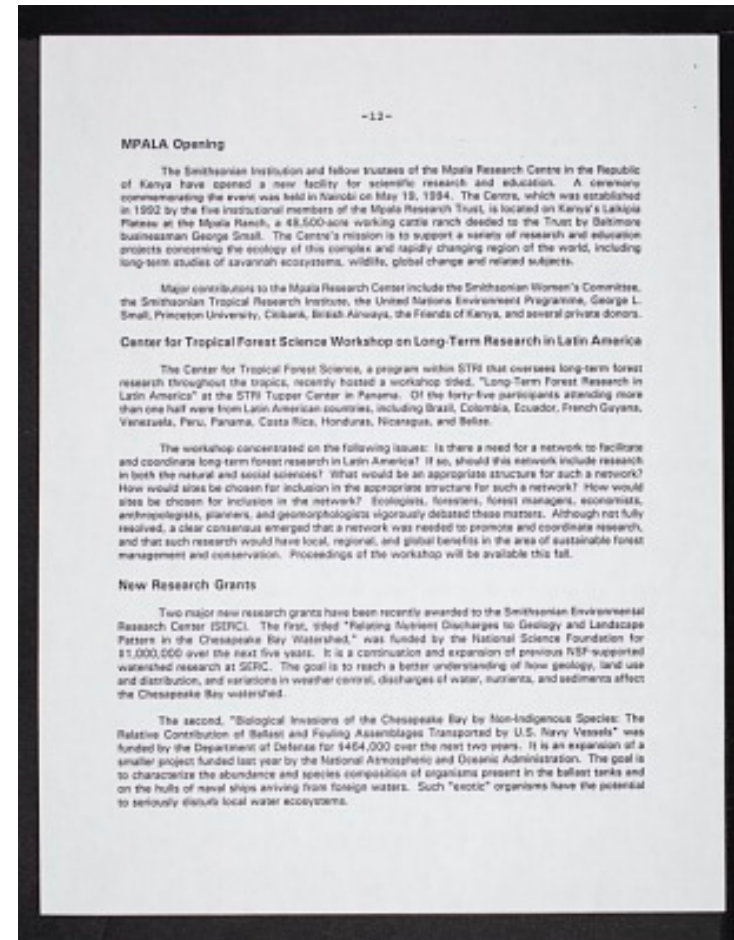
Center for Tropical Forest Science Workshop on Long-Term Research in Latin America

The Center for Tropical Forest Science, a program within STRI that oversees long-term forest research throughout the tropics, recently hosted a workshop titled, "Long-Term Forest Research in Latin America" at the STRI Tupper Center in Panama. Of the forty-five participants attending more than one half were from Latin American countries, including Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, French Guyana, Venezuela, Peru, Panama, Costa Rica, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Belize.

The workshop concentrated on the following issues: Is there a need for a network to facilitate and coordinate long-term forest research in Latin America? If so, should this network include research in both the natural and social sciences? What would be an appropriate structure for such a network? How would sites be chosen for inclusion in the network? Ecologists, foresters, forest managers, economists, anthropologists, planners, and geomorphologists vigorously debated these matters. Although not fully resolved, a clear consensus emerged that a network was needed to promote and coordinate research, and that such research would have local, regional, and global benefits in the area of the sustainable forest management and conservation. Proceedings of the workshop will be available this fall.

New Research Grants

Two major new research grants have been recently awarded to the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC). The first, titled "Relating Nutrient Discharged to Geology and Landscape Pattern in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed," was funded by the National Science Foundation for \$1,000,000 over the next five years. It is a continuation and expansion of previous NSF-supported watershed research at SERC. The goal is to reach a better understanding of how geology, land use and distribution, and variations in weather control, discharges of water, nutrients, and sediments affect the Chesapeake Bay watershed.



The second, "Biological Invasions of the Chesapeake Bay by Non-Indigenous Species: The Relative Contribution of Ballast and Fouling Assemblages Transported by U.S. Navy Vessels" was funded by the Department of Defense for \$464,000 over the next two years. It is an expansion of a smaller project funded last year by the National Atmospheric and Oceanic Administration. The goal is to characterize the abundance and species composition of organisms present in the ballast tanks and on the hulls of naval ships arriving from foreign waters. Such "exotic" organisms have the potential to seriously disturb local water ecosystems.

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((Words in big bold text: Science Restructuring Program at National Museum of Natural History))

A plan for restructuring scientific activities at NMNH was approved on March 8, 1994, after a year of work by the NMNH Executive Group, the Science Committee of the NMNH National Board, and the Museum's scientific staff. This plan re-emphasizes the critical linkages among the Museum's primary activities -- research, collections, and public outreach -- and organizes these into five major initiatives: Collections as World Resources; Biodiversity: Systematics, Ecology, and Evolution; Earth and Planetary Processes, Ecosystem History and Global Change; and Human Cultural and Biological Diversity. The departmental structure of seven scientific divisions within the Museum remains, with the research initiatives focussing on integrative problems that often are interdisciplinary in scope.

Implementation of the new Research Initiative structure began in April with the appointment of Group Leaders and alternates for each of the Research Initiatives. These individuals participate in two new committees, Museum Collections Committee and a Research Evaluation Committee. A call for proposals of Research Initiatives for funds provided by the Smithsonian administration and internal reprogramming resulted in 92 proposals from the scientific staff and 18 awards for innovative and integrative research and collections projects. There will be a second proposal call for Research Initiatives in September.

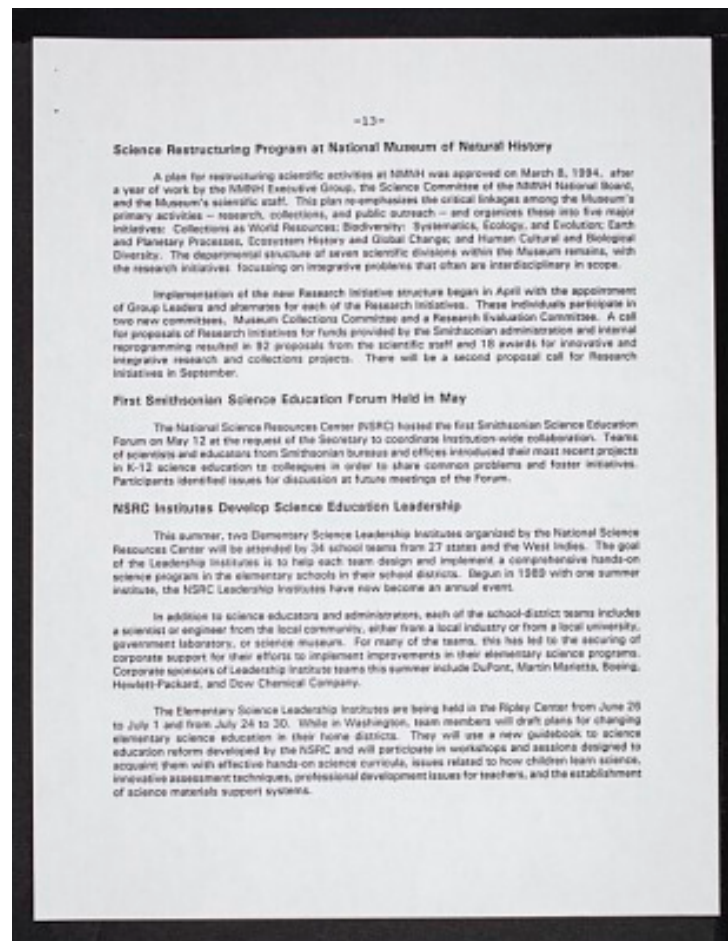
((Words in big bold text: First Smithsonian Science Education Forum Held in May))

The National Science Resources Center (NSRC) hosted the first Smithsonian Science Education Forum on May 12 at the request of the Secretary to coordinate Institution-wide collaboration. Teams of scientists and educators from Smithsonian bureaus and offices introduced their most recent projects in K-12 science education to colleagues in order to share common problems and foster initiatives. Participants identified issues for discussion at future meetings of the Forum.

((Words in big bold text: NSRC Institutes Develop Science Education Leadership))

This summer, two Elementary Science Leadership Institutes organized by the National Science Resources Center will be attended by 34 school teams from 27 states and the West Indies. The goal of the Leadership Institutes is to help each team design and implement a comprehensive hands-on science program in the elementary schools in their school districts. Begun in 1989 with one summer institute, the NSRC Leadership Institutes have now become an annual event.

In addition to science educators and administrators, each of the school-district teams includes a scientist or engineer from the local community, either from a local industry or from a local university, government laboratory, or science museum. For many of the teams, this has led to the securing of corporate support for their efforts to implement improvements in their elementary science programs. Corporate



sponsors of Leadership Institute teams this summer include DuPont, Martin Marietta, Boeing, Hewlett-Packard, and Dow Chemical Company.

The Elementary Science Leadership Institutes are being held in the Ripley Center from June 26 to July 1 and from July 24 to 30. While in Washington, team members will draft plans for changing elementary science education in their home districts. They will use a new guidebook to science education reform developed by the NSRC and will participate in workshops and sessions designed to acquaint them with effective hands-on science curricula, issues related to how children learn science, innovative assessment techniques, professional development issues for teachers, and the establishment of science materials support systems.

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Smithsonian Institution-National Faculty Program

An anonymous donor has contributed funding to support the third year of the Smithsonian's collaborative program with the National Faculty for the Arts, Sciences, and Humanities. Designed to extend the work of the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education's Regional Workshop Program, the initiative works to improve the quality of teaching in public schools of four pilot communities: Washington, D.C.; St. Paul, Minnesota; Atlanta, Georgia; and Seattle, Washington. The project helps schools create productive relationships with local museums and cultural centers. Throughout the year, thirty teachers in each community take part in seminars, tutorials, and projects that focus on material culture and ways to adapt it to the classroom.

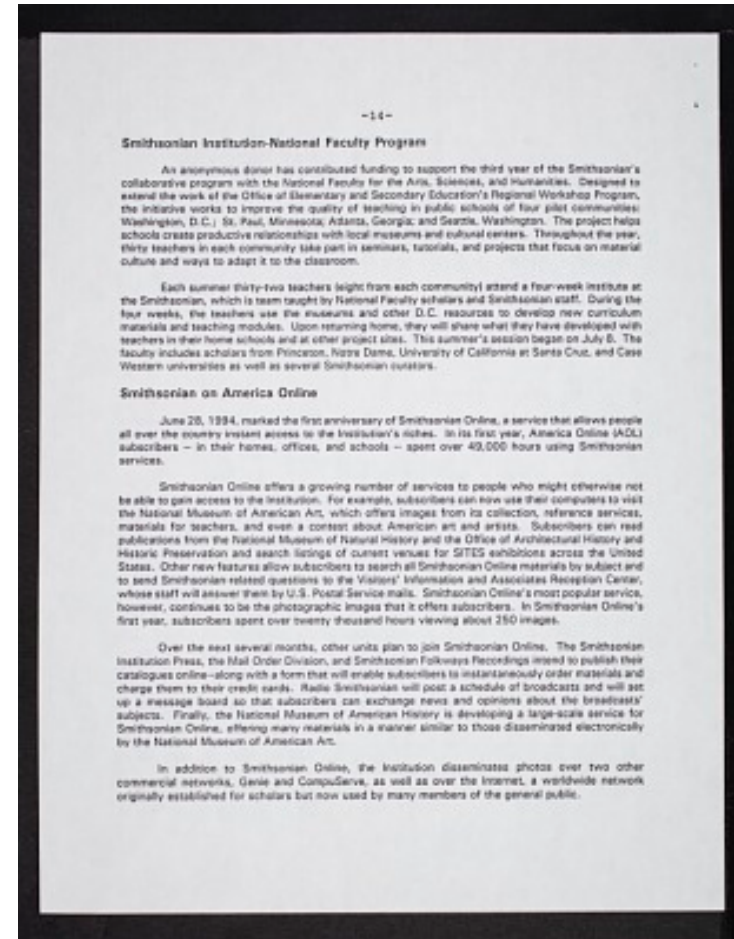
Each summer thirty-two teachers (eight from each community) attend a four-week institute at the Smithsonian, which is team taught by National Faculty scholars and Smithsonian staff. During the materials four weeks, the teachers use the museums and other D.C. resources to develop new curriculum materials and teaching modules. Upon returning home, they will share what they have developed with teachers in their home schools and at other project sites. This summer's session began on July 8. The faculty includes scholars from Princeton, Notre Dame, University of California at Santa Cruz, and Case Western universities as well as several Smithsonian curators.

Smithsonian on America Online

June 28, 1994, marked the first anniversary of Smithsonian Online, a service that allows people all over the country instant access to the Institution's riches. In its first year, America Online (AOL) subscribers - in their homes, offices, and schools - spent over 49,000 hours using Smithsonian services.

Smithsonian Online offers a growing number of services to people who might otherwise not be able to gain access to the Institution. For example, subscribers can now use their computers to visit the National Museum of American Art, which offers images from its collection, reference services, materials for teachers, and even a contest about American art and artists. Subscribers can read publications from the National Museum of Natural History and the Office of Architectural History and Historic Preservation and search listings of current venues for SITES exhibitions across the United States. Other new features allow subscribers to search all Smithsonian Online materials by subject and to send Smithsonian-related questions to the Visitors' Information and Associates Reception Center, whose staff will answer them by U.S. Postal Service mails. Smithsonian Online's most popular service, however, continues to be the photographic images that it offers subscribers. In Smithsonian Online's first year, subscribers spent over twenty thousand hours viewing about 250 images.

Over the next several months, other units plan to join Smithsonian Online. The Smithsonian Institution Press, the Mail Order Division, and Smithsonian Folkways Recordings intend to publish their catalogues online--along with a form that will enable subscribers to instantaneously order materials and charge them to their credit cards. Radio Smithsonian will post a schedule of broadcasts and will set up a

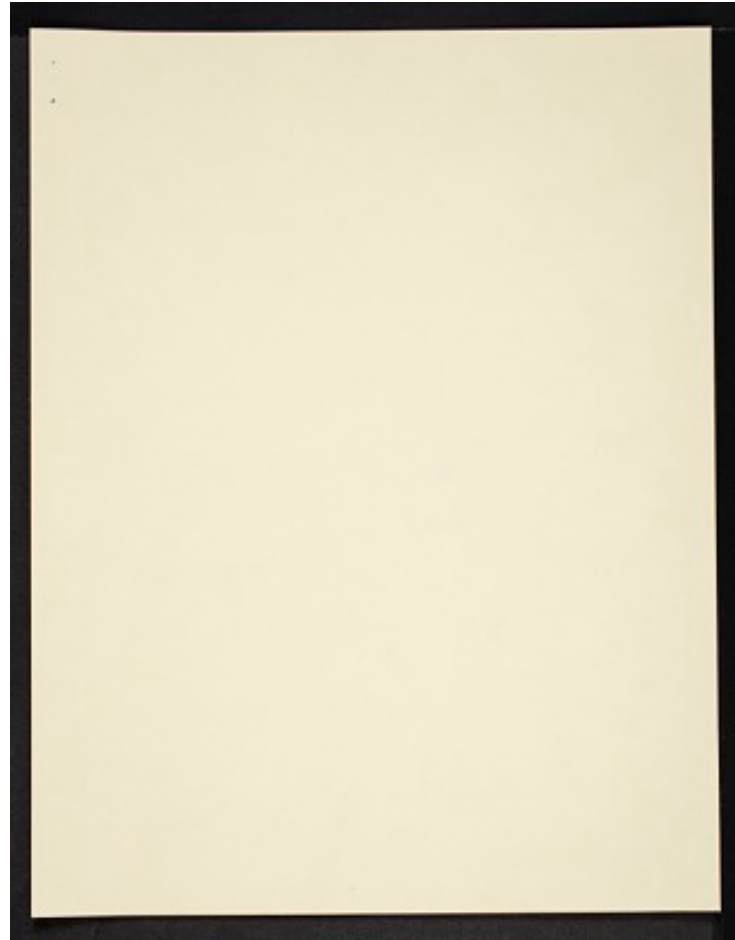


message board so that subscribers can exchange news and opinions about the broadcasts' subjects. Finally, the National Museum of American History is developing a large-scale service for Smithsonian Online, offering many materials in a manner similar to those disseminated electronically by the National Museum of American Art.

In addition to Smithsonian Online, the Institution disseminates photos over two other commercial networks, Genie and CompuServe, as well as over the Internet, a worldwide network originally established for scholars but now used by many members of the general public.

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Smithsonian Institution

Smithsonian Institution Archives

The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

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