



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum Board of Trustees Welcomes Five New Members**

**CHICAGO** (July 1, 2009) – The Chicago Academy of Sciences and its Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum’s Board of Trustees appointed five new trustees to its board – John Challenger, Rich Hanson, James A. Montgomery, James Murray and Joyce M. St Clair.

The Board of Trustees is the governing organization of the Chicago Academy of Sciences and its Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum. The now 45-member Board supports the Museum’s mission of nature and science education in Chicago

“We are delighted to welcome such a diverse group of accomplished leaders to serve on the Board,” said Stephen R. Ferrara, the newly appointed Chairman of the Board. “They bring a collective strength to the table, a deep familiarity with our institution and a passion for our mission of inspiring people to learn about and care for nature and the environment.”

- **John Challenger** is the chief executive officer of Challenger, Gray & Christmas, Inc. He brings to the Board a wealth of knowledge on corporate practice, workplace and economic issues.
- **Rich Hanson** is the principal founder of Mesa Development LLC, with more than 30 years of real estate and accounting experience.
- **Dr. James A. Montgomery** is an associate professor with tenure and director of the Environmental Science Program at DePaul University. He has been working closely with the Museum to develop a Master of Science degree in Environmental Science Teaching. The program is scheduled to begin at DePaul in the fall quarter.
- **James Murray** is a managing director of the Investment Banking Division at Morgan Stanley. Murray comes to the Board with many years of experience in the financial services sector.

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- **Joyce M. St. Clair** is an executive vice president of the Corporate Risk Management division of The Northern Trust Company. Northern Trust has been a longtime supporter of the Nature Museum through the Butterfly Ball, Corporate Partners Breakfast and exhibition sponsorship.

All of the above Trustees will serve a three-year term beginning July 1, 2009.

### **About the Chicago Academy of Sciences and its Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum**

*The Chicago Academy of Sciences and its Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum inspire people to learn about and care for nature and the environment. The Academy, founded in 1857, improves the quality of life in Chicago and the region by delivering superior environmental and science education programs to students and teachers, by offering Museum exhibitions and conducting public programs, that foster green living, and by restoring local ecosystems and advancing scientific knowledge through collections and research.*

*During the past 10 years, the Chicago Academy of Sciences has welcomed more than 1.8 million visitors to its Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum. The Museum provides hands-on exhibitions and programs to 70,000 students annually and trains and provides resources for more than 1,700 Chicago teachers in over 430 schools. The Museum engages visitors, especially urban dwellers, in new ways to connect with and preserve the natural world through a unique indoor/outdoor experience. It is one of the city's best examples of eco-friendly building technology with lush outdoor nature trails and habitat, green roof, rain barrels and solar panels.*

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