SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM ANNOUNCES NEW MEMBERS OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

San Diego; August 11, 2010—The San Diego Society of Natural History and the San Diego Natural History Museum have elected Bryce W. Rhodes and Jerome V. Navarra to its Board of Directors. Museum Board members are expected to serve two three-year terms for which they must be elected.

Bryce W. Rhodes earned undergraduate degrees in geology and biology from University of California, Santa Cruz, and a business degree from Stanford. A fourth-generation Californian, his business career has primarily involved management and investing in the oil-and-gas industry and he served as president and CEO of Nasdaq-listed Whittier Energy Corp. from 2003 until its sale in 2007. He currently provides some oil-and-gas investment-management services for the Whittier Trust Company and serves on the board of a small, public Canadian oil-and-gas company.

Rhodes chairs the Board of Directors of the Helen Woodward Animal Center and is a member of the Advisory Board of the Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute and the Director’s Cabinet of the Scripps Institute of Oceanography. Rhodes and his wife, Sue, have lived in North County for 25 years and currently reside in Del Mar. They have two college-age children, are active water-sports enthusiasts, and “Sue tolerates a modest collection of old surfboards, fossils, meteorites, and dinosaur eggs.”

Jerome V. Navarra is a second-generation San Diegan, married to Eleanor Scott. They have three adult children. He earned a B.S. in business from the University of Southern California (USC) and completed approximately 45 graduate business units at USC and San Diego State University. In 1970, he joined the family business, Jerome’s Furniture. He became the president in 1974. Subsequently, the company has grown from revenues of $1 million to over $100 million. Jerome’s has the largest furniture-market share in the San Diego metro area, and ranks about 50th in all firms retailing furniture in the U.S. In 2008, he relinquished operational duties, but retains the title of Chairman. After working in downtown San Diego for 35 years, Navarra is actively involved in planning the redevelopment of the Upper East Village neighborhood.

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Navarra’s community contributions include the San Diego County Public Works Advisory Board; President of the San Diego Rowing Club; President of Saint Augustine High School Board of Trustees; Board of Directors San Diego Better Business Bureau; Board of Directors East Village Association; and Board of Directors Hubbs-Sea World Research Institute. He and Eleanor have underwritten the conservation, documentation, and exhibition of the Albert Valentien collection at the San Diego Natural History Museum.

Other members of the Board of Directors: Robert W. Armstrong (Treasurer), Jeff Block, Stephen J. Cohen (Chair), Virginia Crockett (Vice Chair), Darlene Davies, Walt Davis, John Downing, Susan Evanco, Ronne Froman, Allison Henderson, Dr. Matt Hom, Allen M. Jones, Dr. Steve Kay, Jeffrey Kent, Peter Kovacs, Steven P. McDonald, Terry Moore, Dennis Morgan, Robert Proulx, Jon Schmid (Secretary), Yolanda Walther-Meade, Carol B. Wilson, Jeff Witt, and Ellen Zinn, as well as Emeritus Directors Pamela M. Bruder and Mary H. Clark, and Honorary Members Philip M. Klauber and Donna Knox Sefton.

Celebrating its 135th year, the San Diego Natural History Museum is the second oldest scientific institution in California; third west of the Mississippi. Its 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 and to inspire in all a respect for nature and the environment. Located in Balboa Park at the intersection of Village Place and Park Blvd., the Museum is open daily from 10 AM to 5 PM except for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Phone: 619.232.3821. Website: www.sdnhm.org.

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