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Geoff Hargadon to Chair MIT List Visual Arts Center Advisory Committee

**New members Karen Arenson, Brit d'Arbeloff, Carolyn Fine Friedman
and Ellan Spero**

June, 2013 (Cambridge, MA)—The MIT List Visual Arts Center is pleased to announce that Geoff Hargadon, Senior Vice President at UBS Private Wealth, will chair the List Visual Arts Center Advisory Committee, effective July 1, 2013. Brit d'Arbeloff, Karen Arenson, Carolyn Fine Friedman and Ellan Spero will join the Committee as new members.

The Advisory Committee is composed of members representing MIT, as well as local and national peer communities representing the museum and contemporary art. Advisory Committee members support the List in carrying out its mission, by reviewing and offering advice, guidance, and support to collection, conservation, exhibition, education, public programs and development policies of the List.

List Director Paul C. Ha commented, "We are delighted to welcome our new chair and four new members to our Advisory Committee. The Committee plays a vital role in helping the List to reach an even higher level of success."

Geoff Hargadon

Hargadon has served on the List's Advisory Committee since 2005 and is a Senior Vice President at UBS Private Wealth. A graduate of Harvard University in economics, Hargadon has extensive ties to local and national art communities. He is an Overseer at The DeCordova Sculpture Park and Museum and a board member of the Fund for the Arts and the New England Foundation for the Arts. He is a member of The Working Group, Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy and the MIT Friends of Boston Art. A collector with a strong interest in street art, Hargadon is a co-founder and ad hoc curator for The Wall at Central Square in Cambridge, MA. As a photographer and conceptual artist, Hargadon received national acclaim for his work [The Somerville Gates](#) created in ironic homage to Christo and Jeanne-Claude's major public art installation in New York's Central Park in 2005, "The Gates." Hargadon has exhibited at Gallery Kayafas, Montserrat College of Art, Pulse Miami, and Moniker London, and his work is included in the collections of the Andy Warhol Museum, Cornell Fine Arts Museum at Rollins College, and Fidelity Investments.

Susan Leff

Hargadon will succeed Susan Leff, whose term as committee chair began in 2009. Ha recognized Leff for her "incredible insightfulness, vision, sense of humor and leadership of the Committee."

An independent management consultant with over 30 years experience in real estate finance, Leff originally trained as an art and architectural historian and taught at Princeton University and Wellesley College. She is co-author of the inaugural volume of *This Old House*, the companion book to the award-winning PBS TV series. Leff is the immediate past chair of the Board of Mass Humanities and serves on the boards of Tufts Medical Center and Habitat for Humanity Greater Boston. She is former board chair of the Boston Children's Museum. She is a founder of New England Women in Real Estate and a former President of the Real Estate Finance Association. Leff graduated from The University of Chicago and Princeton University and has an MBA in non-profit management from Boston University. The List is pleased that Leff will continue to serve as a member of the Advisory Committee.

New Advisory Committee Members

Brit d'Arbeloff

Brit d'Arbeloff is Life Member Emerita of the MIT Corporation and received a Masters in Mechanical Engineering from MIT. She is a member of the Council for the Arts at MIT, and served as Chair for two terms. She is the widow of Alex d'Arbeloff, former Chairman of the MIT Corporation, founder of Teradyne and an MIT alumnus. She has been a stalwart supporter of the List Center, particularly its art conservation efforts, and of the arts at MIT. She has served on the boards of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, the Whitehead Institute, and the Museum of Science.

Karen Arenson

Karen Arenson (MIT '70) was a writer and editor for 30 years at *The New York Times*, where she focused on economics, finance and higher education, and occasionally wrote articles on the arts. She has served as president of the MIT Alumni Association and a member of the MIT Corporation and its executive committee. She serves as communications chair and on the executive committee of the Council for the Arts at MIT. She joined the Advisory Committee in late 2012 and leads the effort to acquire new works for the List's Student Loan Art Collection.

Carolyn Fine Friedman

Carolyn Fine Friedman collects contemporary art and is a member of the Contemporary Visiting Committee of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Friedman has also been active in many environmental organizations including Coming Clean, the Northeast Wilderness Trust, the Institute for Health and the Global Environment and is a past board member of the New England Grassroots Environment Fund. She earned an Ed M from the Harvard Graduate School of Education and lives in Newton, MA.

Ellan Spero

Ellan Spero is a PhD candidate in MIT's program in History, Anthropology, Science, Technology and Society. She received the 2013 Karl Taylor Compton prize for outstanding service to MIT. She has served as the Vice-President of the Graduate Student Council and has been involved in the selection of Percent-for-Art works in the newly renovated Maseeh Hall dormitory. She earned a BS/MS in Fiber Science at Cornell and an MA in Museum Studies and Textile & Fashion History at the Fashion Institute of Technology and has worked as a textile conservator.

About the MIT List Visual Arts Center

In 1950 MIT established the Hayden Gallery that was located in the Charles Hayden Memorial Library. The gallery served as a venue for a program of changing exhibitions. In 1985 the Hayden Gallery was renamed the List Visual Arts Center in recognition of a gift from Vera and Albert List that relocated the gallery to its current location on the ground floor of the Wiesner Building, which was designed by MIT alumnus I.M. Pei (BS Architecture, 1940) and Partners Architects.

Over the years the MIT List Visual Arts Center has become highly respected as one of the most significant university art galleries in the country for its innovative, provocative, and scholarly exhibitions and publications. Just as MIT pushes at the frontiers of scientific inquiry, it is the mission of the List Visual Arts Center to explore challenging, intellectually inquisitive, contemporary art making in all media. In addition to presenting 4-8 exhibitions annually, the List presents a broad range of education programs in conjunction with its exhibition programming. The Center maintains and adds to MIT's permanent collection of over 3,500 artworks that includes dozens of publicly sited sculptures and hundreds of paintings, prints, photographs, drawings, and sculptures located throughout MIT's campus. The List is also responsible for commissioning new works for the MIT Public Art Collection through the MIT Percent-for-Art program and administering the Student Loan Art Program, which lends over 500 works of art annually to MIT undergraduate and graduate students.