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National World War I Museum Names Non-profit Leader as President and CEO

Naylor brings more than 20 years of global experience to museum at a key point

Kansas City, MO May 13, 2013/—As the centennial of the Great War approaches, the National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial takes a significant step toward its future with the naming today of Matthew C. Naylor, PhD, as President and CEO.

Naylor, a native of Australia, brings more than 20 years of leadership in the non-profit arena, most recently as Director of Advancement for the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City, Mo. He begins his new role on June 17, 2013.

“We are very fortunate to have found an executive with extensive experience, one who is part of the Kansas City community yet has global connections,” said Mary D. Cohen, chair of the museum’s Board of Directors and who is serving as interim CEO. “Matt is the ideal leader to take this organization through the World War I centennial events, to create and articulate our ongoing vision, and to showcase the museum globally.”

Naylor had been with the Nelson-Atkins Museum since 2011, where he was part of the institution’s executive leadership team and had responsibility for development, marketing and donor services, among other duties. Prior to that, he spent more than nine years as president of Outreach International, an international humanitarian organization based in Independence, Mo. He also held leadership roles at Community of Christ, where he spent 16 years and was president of the Australia region for more than six years.

“I’m privileged to become part of the National World War I Museum at this significant juncture in its history,” said Naylor. “The museum is a very important community asset, one that has no





comparable institution anywhere in the world, and I look forward to charting its path into the coming years, locally, nationally and internationally.”

A search committee formed among members of the museum’s Board of Directors managed the candidate identification process, lead by Thomas W. Butch, executive vice president of Waddell & Reed Financial, Inc., who also serves as Development Chair for the museum. EFL Associates assisted in the search, which was broad based and attracted candidates globally.

Naylor has a PhD in Health Sciences from Curtin University, Perth, WA, Australia. He holds a Master of Theology from the University of Sydney, and a Bachelor of Arts from Monash University, Clayton, Vic, Australia.

About the National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial

The National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial is the only American museum solely dedicated to preserving the objects, history and personal experiences of a war whose impact still echoes today. Designated by Congress as the United States’ official World War I Museum and located in downtown Kansas City, Missouri, the museum inspires thought, dialogue and learning to make the experiences of the Great War era meaningful and relevant for present and future generations. By combining interactive technology with one of the greatest collections of World War I artifacts anywhere in the world, the museum tells the story of the Great War through the eyes of those who lived it. Visit www.theworldwar.org for details.

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