

For immediate release: December 21, 2004

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WEXNER CENTER NAMES NEW DEPUTY DIRECTOR

The Wexner Center announced today the appointment of **Jack Jackson** as **Deputy Director**, a newly created position, effective January 24, 2005. Jackson is currently vice president of the strategic communications firm Cochran Group Inc. and formerly chief of staff to the superintendent of public instruction at the Ohio Department of Education. Jackson will assist Director Sherri Geldin in guiding the Center's strategic planning, administrative operations, fundraising, and public affairs initiatives. He will provide direct leadership of the Center's marketing, development, and administrative departments.

"I am thrilled to announce this superb addition to the Wexner Center team," Geldin said. "With his deep roots in the Columbus community and his vast experience in public policy, finance and operations, and strategic communications, Jack will be an enormous asset and a vital partner in all our endeavors. As we move toward the reopening of our galleries and the opportunity to 're-introduce' the Center to the community, we will benefit tremendously from Jackson's expertise and proven leadership." As Deputy Director, Jackson will effectively assume the portfolio of the former Director of Administration along with that of the former Public Affairs Director.

During his six years at the Cochran Group, Jackson provided strategic counsel for a diverse mix of non-profit, private, and public sector clients. From 1992 to 1998, as chief of staff at the Ohio Department of Education, he developed and executed strategic plans, operating budgets, and policy positions. He also led department-wide transformation and organizational development initiatives, played a lead role in establishing and directing Ohio's BEST (an education improvement coalition), managed stakeholder relations, and served as a liaison to the governor's office. Prior to his work at the Department of Education, he served for six years as senior budget and management analyst at the Ohio Office of Budget and Management.

C. Robert Kidder, president of the Wexner Center Foundation board of trustees, says, "Jackson's diverse range of skills and level of respect in the community are

impressive. I have no doubt that, together with Sherri Geldin, he will help to build the Wexner Center into one of the preeminent contemporary arts institutions in the world.”

Jackson has a B.A. in political science from Ohio Dominican University and a Master of Public Administration from The Ohio State University.

WEXNER CENTER FOR THE ARTS

The Wexner Center for the Arts is The Ohio State University’s multidisciplinary, international laboratory for the exploration and advancement of contemporary art. Through exhibitions, screenings, performances, artist residencies, and educational programs, the Wexner Center acts as a forum where established and emerging artists can test ideas and where diverse audiences can participate in cultural experiences that enhance understanding of the art of our time. In its programs, the Wexner Center balances a commitment to experimentation with a commitment to traditions of innovation and affirms the university’s mission of education, research, and community service.

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