

**SUMMARY OF PERSONNEL ACTIONS
SUPPLEMENTAL - REGENTS AGENDA
July 2017**

ANN ARBOR – Recommendations for approval

- 1. Other personnel transactions for regular instructional staff and selected academic and administrative staff.**
 - (1) Olsen, Christina, director, University of Michigan Museum of Art, effective October 30, 2017 through October 31, 2022.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

1

Recommendations for approval of other personnel transactions
for regular instructional staff and selected
academic and administrative staff

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST: Approval of an Administrative Appointment

NAME: Christina Olsen

TITLE: Director, University of Michigan Museum of Art

EFFECTIVE DATES: October 30, 2017 through October 31, 2022

I am pleased to recommend for Regental approval the appointment of Dr. Christina Olsen as director, University of Michigan Museum of Art, for a five-year renewable term, effective October 30, 2017 through October 31, 2022. This recommendation follows a national search conducted by a search advisory committee.

Dr. Olsen received a Bachelors in history of art, with honors, from the University of Chicago, a M.A., and a Ph.D. in art history from the University of Pennsylvania. Since Dr. Olsen joined the Williams College Museum of Art in 2012 as the Class of 1956 Director, she has built the museum's national reputation around critically acclaimed exhibitions and publications, and new creative forms of faculty and student engagement. Under her leadership, the museum's budget and staff have significantly expanded, and key enhancements to the facility have been approved. Olsen led the museum's first campus-wide strategic planning process, which led to the endorsement of a plan by the college president and faculty, *Spark, Think, Make*.

Prior to joining the Williams College Museum of Art, Dr. Olsen worked at a broad range of institutions, beginning at the Museum of Modern Art in San Francisco. In 1997 she joined the J. Paul Getty Museum where she began as the editor for one of the first digital museum collection systems, Art Access, and was then promoted to manager shortly thereafter. In 2005, she joined the Getty Foundation as a program officer where she managed and directed the foundation's \$4 million in global grants for institutional research and education. Dr. Olsen developed and launched the Online Scholarly Cataloguing Initiative, an influential global initiative centered on developing prototypes for online scholarly catalogs for museums. In 2008, she joined the Portland Art Museum in Oregon as the director of education and public programs where she developed the museum's first education committee and secured \$600,000 in funding, including individual gifts and grants.

Dr. Christina Olsen is a member of the American Alliance Museums and Associate of Art Museum Directors and was an advisor to the Getty Foundation. She taught at University of Pennsylvania and Williams College. Among many invited talks and presentations, Dr. Olsen was the featured speaker at "The future of the college/university art museum" at Harvard University. Olsen has curated and produced a range of exhibitions and programs, including *Shine a Light*, a highly acclaimed annual museum-wide exhibition and event in Portland, Oregon; *Object Stories*, an installation, audience and participation and outreach initiative, and more recently *Accession Number*, an exhibition at the Williams College Museum of Art.

Christina Olsen brings deep knowledge of art and museums to the directorship of UMMA. Her commitment to collaboration and inclusion shape her work with students, faculty, the public, and other cultural institutions. I have great confidence in her ability to build on UMMA's excellence, enhancing the contributions it makes to education, research, and civic life. We look forward to Dr. Olsen joining us and to exciting times at the Museum. I recommend her appointment, effective October 30, 2017 through October 31, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Paul N. Courant", written in dark ink. The signature is positioned above a horizontal line.

Paul N. Courant
Interim Provost and Executive Vice President
for Academic Affairs

July 2017