



THE OREGON  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY  
FOUNDED 1898

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Sue Metzler, 503-306-5229

[Sue.Metzler@OHS.org](mailto:Sue.Metzler@OHS.org)

Immediate Release: December 15, 2010

## **Oregon Historical Society Executive Director Announces Retirement Plans**

Dr. George Vogt, Executive Director of the Oregon Historical Society, announced today that he is retiring from his position, effective April 23, 2011, at the time of the Annual Meeting of the Society. Vogt indicated in September his preference to retire sometime in 2011, after conclusion of the Society's campaign for a county levy.

"Dr. Vogt has guided OHS through a key period of its history, culminating in the passage of a successful ballot measure providing stable, public funding for the Society for the next five years," stated Dr. Jerry Hudson, President of the Oregon Historical Society. "His legacy," Hudson said, "will be tied to this important step forward for OHS."

Vogt became Executive Director in November 2006, following a distinguished career with the National Archives and as executive director of the South Carolina Department of Archives and History, the Wisconsin Historical Society, and Hagley Museum and Library in Delaware. He is a graduate of Yale University and received his doctorate in American history from the University of Virginia.

Vogt noted that the Society is about to embark upon strategic planning and a fundraising campaign. "It is appropriate and important," he said, "that the Society have enough time to hire a new executive director and bring him or her fully into the planning processes. This is the perfect time for me to exit."

In his comments to the Board, Vogt noted, "I have appreciated the opportunity to work here with a stunningly good, centered, and mature staff and a committed Board of Trustees. Solving the public funding issue has been the most challenging assignment of my entire career, without any close competition. It is very fulfilling to end my tenure as director with a big victory for OHS that brought together many lovers of Oregon's great heritage."

The OHS Board of Directors will be meeting shortly to discuss new leadership options and approve a leadership transition plan.

### **About the Oregon Historical Society**

The Society has served since 1898 as Oregon's primary research collection and museum about Oregon history. OHS holds an extensive collection of historical items, including 85,000 artifacts and 3 million photographs and films. It safeguards and presents Oregon's history through a museum, research library, traveling exhibits, school programs and website content.

###