Connecticut Science Center Selects Chair; New Trustees for 2016
Thomas Barnes Named Chair, Robert Leduc and Thomas Perlitz Elected to Board

Hartford, CT, February 4, 2016 – The Connecticut Science Center Board of Trustees has elected business leader Thomas Barnes of Bristol as Chairman and elected two prominent executives to join the board.

Barnes, Chairman of Barnes Group, has served on the Science Center Board since its planning phase in 2004, serving most recently as Vice Chairman of the Science Center Board. He succeeds Charles Shivery, the retired Chairman and CEO of Eversource, who chaired the Science Center Board for two terms beginning in 2013. “It is truly an honor to serve this important institution with a distinguished group of leaders,” said Barnes. “We are all enormously grateful to Chuck for his superb leadership for the past few years, and I look forward to continuing to help the Science Center advance its powerful role as an educational resource serving families and schools across Connecticut.” Shivery will continue serving actively on the Board as Immediate Past Chair.

The Board has also elected two prominent business executives to its distinguished Board. Robert Leduc, President, Pratt & Whitney, and Thomas Perlitz, President and CEO at Ensign-Bickford Industries Inc., joined the Science Center’s Board of Trustees following a unanimous vote.

“Bob and Tom are highly accomplished business leaders representing some of the most important science and technology companies in our state,” said Barnes. “They bring tremendous value to the Science Center, both as executives and as passionate advocates for our community and its future.”

The Connecticut Science Center is the state’s premier science and technology earning destination for families and K-12 schools, serving more than 2-million people since opening in 2009.

“As they did in its creation, the volunteer leaders on the Board of Trustees continue to carry the Science Center forward with truly remarkable commitment,” said Matt Fleury, Connecticut Science Center President and CEO. “One of the great privileges we have as the opportunity to convert the vision, talent, and resources that our Trustees being to bear into the exciting, inspiring and educational experiences and opportunities the Science Center provides to our community.”

About Thomas Barnes

Thomas Barnes is Chairman of the Board of Directors and serves on the Executive Committee of Barnes Group, Inc. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Company for more than 30 years and has served as chairman, trustee or director for many non-profit organizations, including, since 2004, the Connecticut Science Center.
Robert Leduc was recently named President of Pratt & Whitney after his retirement as President of Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation in November 2015. In his 36 year career with United Technologies Corporation, he also served as Pratt & Whitney’s Chief Operating Officer and Commercial Engines President from 2001-2005 and later was President of Boeing 787 Program for UTC Aerospace Systems. Leduc holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Southeastern Massachusetts University and an honorary doctorate degree in Business from the University of Massachusetts. Robert and his wife, Jeanne, live in Avon. They are loyal supporters of the Connecticut Science Center, where Jeanne is a member of the committee leading the annual fundraising gala event.

Thomas Perlitz has been the President & CEO of Ensign-Bickford Industries, Inc. since December 2014. Tom has had a breadth of experience encompassing senior global general management roles, corporate and portfolio strategy, sales and marketing, and operations.

Tom has over 20 years’ experience working for the blue-chip companies Crane Co. (a manufacturer of highly engineered products in aerospace, controls, electronics, fluid handling, vending systems and payment solutions) and Danaher Corporation (a global science and technology company).

During his tenure as a Corporate Officer at Crane Co. for almost 9 years, Tom was President of both the Crane Aerospace Group and the Crane Controls Group. Prior to joining Crane, Tom was employed by Danaher Corporation for 10 years. While at Danaher, Tom held senior global general management, marketing, and operational roles at Danaher Dental, Fluke Corporation and Danaher Instruments & Controls. He also served at Jacobs Vehicle Systems and in the Danaher Business Systems Office. A graduate of Colgate University, Tom also received an MBA from the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration.

For a complete list of 2016 Trustees and information about the Connecticut Science Center, please visit www.CTScienceCenter.org/about-us/board-of-trustees.aspx.

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The LEED-Gold certified Connecticut Science Center, located in downtown Hartford, sparks creative imagination and an appreciation for science by immersing visitors in fun and educational hands-on, minds-on interactive experiences while maintaining an environmentally conscious presence. Serving more than 2 million people since opening in 2009, the Science Center features more than 165 exhibits in ten galleries and a range of topics, including space and earth sciences, physical sciences, biology, the Connecticut River watershed, alternative energy sources, Connecticut inventors and innovations, a children’s gallery, and much more. Other features include four educational labs, a 200-seat 3D digital theater, function room, gift store, and ongoing events for all ages. The Science Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing science education throughout the state of Connecticut and New England, providing learning opportunities for students and adults of all ages, and engaging the community in scientific exploration. The Connecticut Science Center is also the home to the Joyce D. and Andrew J. Mandell Academy for Teachers, offering powerful Professional Development for educators. More information: www.CTScienceCenter.org or 860.SCIENCE.