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**REUBEN H. FLEET SCIENCE CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
SELECTED TO LEAD INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE ON GLOBAL WARMING**

SAN DIEGO, Calif., July 24, 2006 – The Association of Science-Technology Centers (ASTC) has appointed Dr. Jeffrey W. Kirsch, executive director of the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, as chair of the Education Committee for ASTC's ambitious new climate change initiative.

The new initiative, "International action on GLObal warming" (IGLO), is designed to raise worldwide public awareness about the impacts of climate change and global warming on the environment, in coordination with the International Polar Year (2007-2008). As chair of the Education Committee for IGLO, Dr. Kirsch will spearhead the development of the "IGLO Toolkit," a collection of state-of-the-art interactive exhibits, educational programs and other outreach materials related to polar research and climate change.

Representing more than 422 science centers and museums in 42 countries worldwide, ASTC is an organization dedicated to furthering public understanding of science among increasingly diverse audiences.

"Science centers such as the Fleet are uniquely suited to share the latest scientific knowledge on climate change with the public and illustrate how it will affect their lives," said Dr. Kirsch. "The environmental challenges now facing our planet will only be solved by informing and engaging people all over the world, and the work we're doing will give science centers and educational institutions the tools they need to play an effective role in this initiative."

In an effort to lead by example, the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center has already made tremendous strides forward in reducing its impact on the environment, including projects

that have dramatically reduced energy and water consumption. In fact, thanks to new technologies and energy-saving strategies, the Fleet now consumes less electricity today than it did prior to its 1998 expansion, which doubled the size of the facility. The Fleet is currently in the process of obtaining LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification from the U.S. Green Building Council.

In addition to heading up the IGLO Education Committee, Dr. Kirsch will also serve as co-chair of the ASTC International Advisory Board, which is responsible for ensuring ASTC maintains its global perspective.

### **About the Fleet**

With exhibits to touch, IMAX films to watch and virtual reality to experience, The **Reuben H. Fleet Science Center** (“the Fleet”) offers an educational, entertaining experience for visitors of all ages. Located at 1875 El Prado, two blocks south of the San Diego Zoo on Park Blvd, the Fleet is a non-profit organization dedicated to furthering the public’s understanding and enjoyment of science and technology. For information regarding current admission prices, please call (619) 238-1233 or visit our Web site at [www.rhfleet.org](http://www.rhfleet.org).

### **About ASTC**

The Association of Science-Technology Centers is an organization of more than 422 science centers and museums in 42 countries dedicated to furthering the public understanding of science among increasingly diverse audiences. ASTC encourages excellence and innovation in informal science learning by serving and linking its members worldwide and advancing their common goals. ASTC provides professional development for the science center field, promotes best practices, supports effective communication, strengthens the position of science centers within the community at large and fosters the creation of successful partnerships and collaborations. Visit [www.astc.org](http://www.astc.org) to learn more about ASTC and to find a science center near you.

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