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**THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE RE-ELECTS
MARSHA PERELMAN AS BOARD CHAIR FOR ANOTHER TERM
APPOINTS FIVE NEW MEMBERS TO ITS BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

February 22, 2011, Philadelphia, PA – The Franklin Institute, one of the nation’s oldest and most respected science museums, has announced the re-election of **Marsha R. Perelman** as Chair of the Board of Trustees, as well as the election of five members to its Board in late 2010: **Peter K. Classen, Christopher Gali, Joseph W. Rogers, James G. Stewart, and Dennis Zeleny.**

Ms. Perelman was originally elected as Chair of the Board of Trustees in 2005 and is the first woman to fill this role in the Institute's history. She has spent her career in the energy industry, primarily in domestic natural gas production and transportation, and is a director of two NYSE-listed energy companies. Ms. Perelman also chairs the Board of Directors of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. She received a B.A. from Northwestern University and a Master's in City Planning from the University of Pennsylvania.

“Marsha Perelman brings a wealth of experience and an uncommon commitment to The Franklin Institute. We are grateful for her continued dedication of time and expertise as we carry out our ambitious plans.” stated The Franklin Institute’s President and CEO, Dr. Dennis Wint. *“It is equally a pleasure to welcome these five individuals to our board. Their combined experience and wealth of knowledge will surely be an asset during this time of continued growth at The Franklin Institute.”*

Mr. Classen is the Executive Vice President for Regional Presidents at PNC Bank, where he also serves as a Trustee of the PNC Foundation. PNC Bank has been a longtime supporter of The Franklin Institute, and is currently one of the Institute’s top Corporate Members. Now in its second year, PNC’s *Grow Up Great with Science* program at the Institute engages preschoolers, their teachers, and parents from 25 Head Start centers in the Greater Philadelphia region in science learning. Mr. Classen holds a Bachelor of Science from Lafayette University.

Christopher Gali is Chief Information Officer of eMortal, Inc. Mr. Gali co-founded Admin Server, which was one of the fastest-growing technology companies in the Philadelphia area before being acquired by Oracle Corporation, where he held the title of Chief Architect. He has developed administration systems and software applications and provided design and consulting services to many large companies, including AIG, Provident Mutual and Delaware Valley Financial Services. Mr. Gali is also the co-owner of The Franklin Mortgage and Investment Company, which was recognized in October 2010 as “One of the 25 Best Cocktail Bars in America” by *GQ* magazine. He holds a B.Sc. and M.Sc., in Computer Science from St. Joseph’s College in India, and an M.S. in Computer Science from Temple University.

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Mr. Rogers is a real estate investor. A longtime member of the Institute's Benefactor Society, he recently joined that body's governing board. Mr. Rogers is a director of the 25th Century Foundation, serves on the Board of Trustees for both Historic Rittenhouse Town and Mission Relief Services, and is a committee member at several organizations, including the Riverbend Environmental Education Center, The Philadelphia Orchestra, and the Haverford School. He has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Connecticut and an M.B.A. from University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business.

Mr. Stewart is the retired Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the CIGNA Corporation. He has previously served five terms on The Franklin Institute's Board of Trustees, with the most recent term ending in 2003. Mr. Stewart is a member of the Institute's Benefactor Society and Investment Committee. He also serves on the Board of Trustees of DePauw University. He holds a B.A. from DePauw University, and an M.S. from the University of Michigan.

Mr. Zeleny is the Senior Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer for Sunoco, Inc. Sunoco has been a dedicated and generous supporter of The Franklin Institute for decades; including a Cornerstone gift to the *Inspire Science!* campaign for the new *Changing Earth* exhibition. Sunoco is also a consistent sponsor of the Institute's Awards program and *Traveling Science Show*. Mr. Zeleny currently serves on the Advisory Board for The Center for Effective Organizations for the Marshall School of Business at the University of Southern California, the Board of Directors for HR Policy Advisors, and the Board of Trustees at Tower Hill School in Wilmington. Zeleny is a regular contributor to Forbes.com and holds a B.A. from Cornell University and a master's degree from Columbia University. He previously served on the President's Commission on White House Fellowships under President George W. Bush.

The Franklin Institute – Founded in honor of America's first scientist, Benjamin Franklin, The Franklin Institute is one of America's oldest and premier centers of science education and development in the country. Today, the Institute continues its dedication to public education and creating a passion for science by offering new and exciting access to science and technology in ways that would dazzle and delight its namesake. For more information please visit www.fi.edu.

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