



For Immediate Release

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Mobius Science Center Forges Ahead with Site Selection, Executive Appointments, and Private and State Funding. Center to lease space in Spokane's downtown core on Main Avenue

Spokane, WA (August 18, 2010) – Mobius Science Center has announced the decision to lease a downtown building as their new location as well as the appointment of Chief Executive Officer Christopher Cable and members of his leadership team.

After a comprehensive review of 20 properties in and around the downtown core, the Mobius Board selected the 25,000-square foot ground floor of 809 West Main as the location that met the greatest number of spatial, structural and visitor-access criteria. ALSC Architects has been chosen as the firm that will transform the interior of the structure into exhibition, program, laboratory and classroom spaces.

To date, \$8.1M in cash and pledges from private sources has been committed to build the science center. Additionally, \$3.4M in state capital funds were confirmed in the legislature's most recent supplemental budget, bringing the total dollars raised to date to \$11.5M. These funds and additional private investments will be used to retrofit the building and develop the exhibits and programs. Tenant improvements are scheduled to be complete in June 2011; another 6-12 months will be required to complete the development, prototyping, fabrication and installation of hands-on exhibits and exciting, educational programs.

"I commend the Mobius Science Center's leaders and community supporters for their commitment to bringing the latest scientific and technological information to the Inland Northwest," said Gov. Chris Gregoire. "The Center's dynamic exhibitions and educational programs will help to secure bright futures for our students as tomorrow's software engineers, doctors and engineers by encouraging them to learn through their senses as well as their minds—and by having fun in the process."

Mobius Spokane Board President, Dr. Neil Worrall, commented: "We're delighted that Governor Gregoire and the legislature have recognized the value of our project with this important funding. The State's support, in addition to our local private contributions, signals a broad community commitment to our plans. While our fundraising efforts continue, we're well on our way to opening the doors, bringing an exciting new destination to the downtown core for our region's families. Under CEO Chris Cable's leadership, we have every confidence that this will be a first class institution."

Cable has a proven track record of innovation and of building sustainable programs from the ground up. Most recently, he was the Director of the Imaginarium Discovery Center within the Anchorage Museum in Anchorage, Alaska. This appointment followed his successful negotiation to merge The Imaginarium Science Discovery Center, a hands-on science center he directed for 15 years, with the Anchorage Museum and its \$122M expansion project.

Cable's expertise in creating outreach programs to educate Alaska's five geo-cultural regions, particularly to rural, indigenous communities, positions him to successfully partner with schools and communities across the Inland Northwest. Cable holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Idaho State University.

Chris Cable said, "We look forward to sparking curiosities and igniting imaginations across the Inland Northwest by creating a hands-on, state-of-the-art destination—one where experiencing the wonder of science and technology first hand will encourage further exploration in classrooms and at home, help pipeline students into college pursuing degrees in science, technology, engineering and math, and lead to a stronger and more capable workforce."

Toward that end, Cable has recruited two key members of his leadership team. Eric Miller joined the Center as the Director of Exhibitions in June 2010. Miller has served as the Director of Exhibitions for The Imaginarium in Anchorage, Alaska, and is a seasoned exhibitions planner and exhibit builder who recently oversaw the design, fabrication and installation of the new science wing at the Anchorage Museum. A respected painter whose works are represented by Anchorage galleries, Miller holds a Bachelor of Arts in Fine & Applied Arts from the University of Oregon.

Anna Marlis Burgard joined the team as the Director of Advancement in June 2010. Formerly the Director of Industry Partnerships at the Savannah College of Art and Design, where she negotiated collaborative projects with clients including Barnes & Noble, Random House and Showtime Networks, Burgard has extensive experience in fund development, marketing and design. A published author, she holds a Bachelor of Arts in History from the College of Notre Dame of Maryland.

About Mobius Science Center

Mobius Science Center will be home to a state-of-the-art destination designed to provide youth and adults in the Inland Northwest with a unique blend of dynamic experiences, education and entertainment. The Science Center is part of Mobius Spokane, which also includes Mobius Kids, a children's museum located in River Park Square. Mobius Science Center will feature interactive exhibits and facilitated programs reflecting the region's scientific and technological resources showcasing the best of science from the Inland Northwest and around the world. Through hands-on, interactive exhibits and engaging programs, visitors will have the opportunity to see and experience the wonder of science and technology – and understand its relevance to their daily lives.

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