

For Immediate Release

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SmithBucklin Names David Van Slyke Research Director Of The William E. Smith Institute for Association Research

CHICAGO – Dec. 22, 2008 – SmithBucklin, the world’s largest association management company, announced today that it has named Dr. David Van Slyke the new Research Director of The William E. Smith Institute for Association Research.

Effective Jan. 1, 2009, Van Slyke will assume this new role, succeeding Dr. Arthur Brooks, who had been the Institute’s research director since its founding in 2006. Brooks stepped down to focus on his new position as president of the American Enterprise Institute. He remains a member of the Smith Institute Leadership Council.

As research director, Van Slyke will oversee all Institute projects and ensure the integrity of the underlying research processes. He also will continue in his current positions as associate professor of public administration and senior research associate at Syracuse University’s Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs.

“I am excited to begin working with the Smith Institute and its Leadership Council to generate insightful research that creates value for associations that want to continue to grow their organizations and further increase their relevance to members,” Van Slyke said. “I am honored to have been selected and look forward to the release of our next study and to future projects.”

Henry S. Givray, chairman and CEO of SmithBucklin and a member of the Smith Institute Leadership Council, said, “We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Van Slyke to the William E. Smith Institute as its research director. His extensive research experience and published papers in the nonprofit management field make him an ideal leader of our team. We look forward to his contributions in helping the Smith Institute continue to provide the association community with valuable, practice-based research free-of-charge.”

Van Slyke, a public and nonprofit management specialist, received his doctorate in public administration and policy from the Rockefeller College of Public Affairs & Policy of the University at Albany, State University of New York. His research has focused on public and nonprofit management topics including privatization and public-private partnerships, contracting and contract management, policy implementation, strategic management and philanthropy. He has published articles on public and

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nonprofit management in numerous journals, including the *Public Administration Review*, *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*, *Nonprofit Management and Leadership* and the *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*.

Van Slyke is the recipient of the 2002 Best Article Award and the 1999 Best Conference Paper Award from the Academy of Management's Public-Nonprofit Division for the co-authored article “*Understanding Interorganizational Cooperation: Public-Private Cooperation in Regulating Financial Market Innovation*” that appeared in *Organization Science*.

Prior to his work at Syracuse University, Van Slyke was on the faculty of the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University, where he taught in the public administration program and directed the nonprofit studies program. Before becoming an academic, he spent 12 years working in project management in the private, public and nonprofit sectors.

The Smith Institute released its third research project, *Where the Winners Meet: Why Happier, More Successful People Gravitate Toward Associations*, in January 2008. This study, as well as the Institute’s other research reports, *Investigation of Association Mergers* and *Generations and the Future of Association Participation*, are available free-of-charge via the SmithBucklin Web site at www.smithbucklin.com/smithinstitute. Together, more than 9,000 copies of the reports have been distributed to date within the association community as printed reports and Web site downloads.

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About The William E. Smith Institute for Association Research

The William E. Smith Institute for Association Research was established by SmithBucklin to fund new practice-based research that is delivered to the association community free of charge. The mission of the Institute is to provide the latest, most useful information and insights to volunteer and staff leaders on topics, issues and trends that help advance the growth of associations and enhance the value delivered to the constituencies they serve. As evidence of its commitment to the association management field, SmithBucklin provides both human and financial resources to manage the work of the Institute. The Institute reflects SmithBucklin’s philosophy of giving back to the association community, and provides a meaningful way to honor its founder, Bill Smith. For more information, please visit www.smithbucklin.com/smithinstitute.

About SmithBucklin

SmithBucklin is the world’s largest association management and professional services company providing flexible, tailored full-service management and function/project-specific services to more than 235 trade associations, professional societies, technology user groups, government institutes/agencies and corporations. SmithBucklin’s mission is to drive growth and build sustained competitiveness for client organizations. Founded in 1949, the company employs 750 professionals specializing in all phases of association activity including executive management; member and chapter administration, convention and trade show management, marketing and branding, Web services, education and programs, government relations and financial management. SmithBucklin manages more than \$275 million in annual client budgets from offices in Chicago, Washington, DC, St. Louis and Durham, NC. SmithBucklin is 100% employee owned. For more information, please visit www.smithbucklin.com or call 1.800.539.9740.

