

### **WORK EXPERIENCE**

# *Fernbank Museum of Natural History* President Emeritus (1997-Present) President & Chief Executive Officer (1997-2017)

Susan Neugent is President Emeritus of Fernbank Museum of Natural History following a twentyyear term as President and Chief Executive Officer from 1997 through 2017. During her tenure as President and CEO, Fernbank achieved significant goals and garnered international recognition on many fronts including the restoration of the old-growth Fernbank Forest, the expansion of the museum outdoors into *WildWoods*, the installation of the award-winning *NatureQuest* exhibition and the new *Dinosaur Plaza*, the establishment of the *Center for Environmental Studies* and a major archaeological research and education program all funded by two major capital and twenty annual fundraising campaigns cumulatively raising over \$90 million for these and other projects.

Additionally, under her leadership Fernbank became the first museum in the world to display the Argentinosaurus, the largest dinosaur ever discovered, and developed two signature programs in fulfillment of Fernbank's environmental legacy—*City Scientists*, an after-school program for underserved middle school students and *UrbanWatch*, an outdoor, hands-on ecology program. She also led the Museum to accreditation by the American Association of Museums, a distinction achieved by less than 5% of all museums nationally, and acquired the world-renowned archaeological collection from St. Catherines Island, a collection of over one million artifacts representing the vast sweep of 5,000 years of human history in the New World.

In addition to programmatic development, she established a strong financial structure for museum growth on which the Museum's budget was more than doubled, household memberships increased seven-fold, and investment in educational programming was tripled.

## *Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce* Senior Vice-President for Public Policy (1986-1997)

Serving as Senior Vice President for Public Policy at the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, Ms. Neugent led the staff and volunteers in policy development and advocacy related to transportation, environment, education, cultural and governmental affairs. In this capacity, she represented the City and State in prosecuting international air routes through the US Department of State. She led the work of the political action committee EduPAC, a business-civic-communitybased partnership which was successful in electing all nine candidates it supported for the Atlanta Board of Education. Throughout her tenure at the Atlanta Chamber, she worked extensively on the availability of adequate and clean water; the expansion of Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport and MARTA; and the completion of GA 400 and the Freedom Parkway. Susan E. Neugent Page 2

### WORK EXPERIENCE, continued.

## *Gwinnett County, Department of Planning* (1985-1986) *Fulton County, Department of Planning* (1984-1985) *State of Georgia, Department of Transportation* (1978-1984)

Held positions in state and local government from 1978 through 1986, working on statewide, regional and local transportation planning of roads, transit and airports; land use planning and zoning; and water supply and quality.

### **CIVIC SERVICE**

### **Current Service**

Georgia Budget and Policy Institute, Director DeKalb Animal Services Advisory Board, Member

#### Former Service

SunTrust Atlanta Board, Director Research Atlanta, Chairman and Director Atlanta Rotary Club, Officer and Member Leadership Atlanta, Director Leadership DeKalb, Director DeKalb County Animal Services Task Force, Chairman and Member DeKalb County Board of Ethics, Member Girl Scouts Council of NW Georgia, Director Georgia Wilderness Institute, Director Piedmont Park Conservancy, Director Atlanta Business League, Director Atlanta Convention and Visitors Bureau, Director BOND Community Credit Union, Director

### **EDUCATION**

Emory University, M.A. in Urban Policy

University of Georgia, B.A. in Political Science