



**Robert C. Byrd Center**  
for CONGRESSIONAL HISTORY AND EDUCATION

For Immediate Release  
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**Byrd Center Director Dr. Jay Wyatt to take position at National Archives and Records Administration. Dr. Ray Smock, Byrd Center Director Emeritus, to return as Interim Director.**

The Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education announced today that Dr. Jay Wyatt will resign as Director effective February 1, 2021. Wyatt will join the staff of the National Archives and Records Administration's Center for Legislative Archives in Washington, D.C.

Wyatt joined the Byrd Center staff as Director of Programs and Research in 2013 and led the development of numerous popular public program series, exhibits, and educational initiatives. In 2018, he was named Director following the retirement of the Byrd Center's Inaugural Director, Dr. Ray Smock.

Joe Stewart the Chairman of the Byrd Center's governing board said "while we are sorry to lose the outstanding service of Jay Wyatt at the Byrd Center, the Board is thrilled with the national recognition of his unique talents. We extend our heartiest congratulations to Jay."

The Byrd Center's board of directors unanimously passed a resolution of distinguished service at its meeting on January 27, citing Dr. Wyatt's many contributions to civic education and public outreach through the Center's programs and research. The board earlier promoted Mr. Jody Brumage, the Center's Archivist and Office Manager to the position of Director of Education and Outreach in recognition of his leadership role in the Center's educational programs.

Dr. Ray Smock, the Byrd Center's Director Emeritus, will return as Interim Director. Smock served as the Center's director from 2002 until his retirement in 2018. Smock was the Historian of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1983-95. Chairman Stewart extended special appreciation to Smock for "generously agreeing to resume the directorship of the Byrd Center."

The Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education is a private, nonpartisan, and nonprofit educational organization located on the campus of Shepherd University. Its mission is to advance representative democracy by promoting a better understanding of the United States Congress and the Constitution through programs and research that engage citizens.

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*A photograph accompanies this press release which may be captioned: "Dr. Ray Smock (left) presents a resolution of the Congressional Education Foundation to Dr. Jay Wyatt (right) in recognition of his leadership of the Byrd Center."*