



**Smithsonian Institution**

*Smithsonian Institution Archives*

## **Proceedings of the Board of Regents Meeting held on September 16, 1985**

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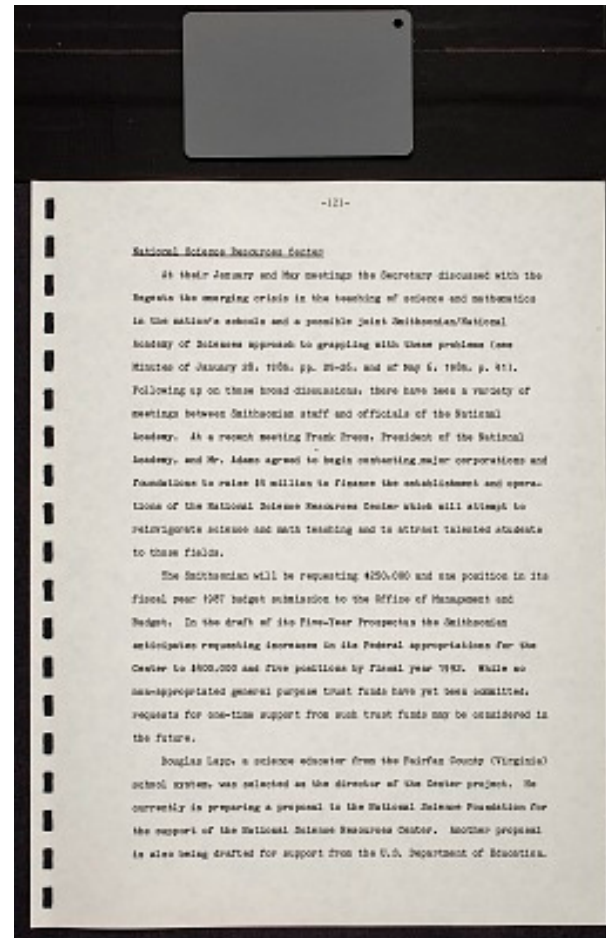
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National Science Resources Center

At their January and May meetings the Secretary discussed with the regents the emerging crisis in the teaching of science and mathematics in the nation's schools and a possible joint Smithsonian/National Academy of Sciences approach to grappling with these problems (see Minutes of January 28, 1985, pp. 25-56, and of May 6, 1985, p. 41). Following up on those broad discussions, there have been a variety of meetings between Smithsonian staff and officials of the National Academy. At a recent meeting Frank Press, President of the National Academy, and Mr. Adams agreed to begin contacting major corporations and foundations to raise \$4 million to finance the establishment and operations of the National Science Resources Centre which will attempt to reinvigorate science and math teaching and to attract talented students to those fields.

The Smithsonian will be requesting \$250,000 and one position in its fiscal year 1987 budget submission to the Office of Management and Budget. In the draft of its Five-Year Prospectus the Smithsonian anticipates requesting increases in its Federal appropriations for the Center to \$400,000 and five positions by fiscal year 1992. While no non-appropriated general purpose trust funds have yet been committed, requests for one-time support from such trust funds may be considered in the future.

Douglass Lapp, a science educator from the Fairfax County (Virginia) school system, was selected as the director of the Center project. He currently is preparing a proposal to the National Science Foundation for the support of the National Science Resources Center. Another proposal is also being drafted for support from the U.S. Department of Education.



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