



MOUNT AUBURN CEMETERY

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NEWS:

## For Immediate Release

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## MOUNT AUBURN CEMETERY APPOINTS NEW PRESIDENT

**Watertown/Cambridge—September 16, 2008**—Mount Auburn Cemetery is pleased to announce the appointment of David P. Barnett, Ph.D., as the new President and CEO of Mount Auburn Cemetery.

Dr. Barnett's appointment ends a year-long national search to find Mount Auburn's new president. The Mount Auburn Trustee Presidential Search Committee concluded that the best person for the position was already at the Cemetery and deeply committed to the institution. Dr. Barnett has been at Mount Auburn for over 15 years, serving the institution in many critical capacities. He came to Mount Auburn in 1993 as the Director of Horticulture. In 1999 he became the Cemetery's first Vice President of Operations & Horticulture and in January 2008 he was appointed Mount Auburn's first Executive Vice President. He became Acting President July 1, 2008, on the retirement of former President William C. Clendaniel.

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Dr. Barnett is nationally known throughout the horticultural community. He is currently Past President (2007-09) of the American Public Gardens Association (APGA), having previously been President (2005-07), Vice President (2003-05), Chair of the Host Committee for the 2003 Annual Conference held in Boston, and chair of other standing committees since 1992. He has also been on the Board of Directors of the International Society of Arboriculture, New England Chapter, and is currently Second Vice President of the Horticultural Club of Boston. He has been active as a speaker on horticulture and ecological issues.

Dr. Barnett received his B.S. in Environmental Horticulture, *summa cum laude*, from the University of Connecticut; and an M.S. in Environmental Horticulture and a Ph.D. in Ecology from the University of California at Davis. Prior to coming to Mount Auburn, he served as Assistant Director at Planting Fields Arboretum in Oyster Bay, NY.

Dr. Barnett lives with his family in Boxborough, MA.

“I am honored and excited,” said Dr. Barnett, “to lead Mount Auburn at this critical juncture in its history. This vibrant institution is a national leader in preservation, horticulture, and cemetery services, creatively building on a tradition of innovation and excellence. I look forward to working with our talented staff, dedicated Trustees and other volunteers, and the wider community as Mount Auburn, founded more than 175 years ago, redefines what it means to be a cultural resource and active cemetery for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.”

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## About Mount Auburn Cemetery

Mount Auburn Cemetery covers 175 landscaped acres of meadows, hills, ponds, gardens and woods across the Charles River from Boston. It is a National Historic Landmark and a Massachusetts Audubon Society Important Bird Area. It is also an active cemetery—with space still available—and a place where people come to express their deepest and most personal emotions. Founded in 1831, it made landscape design history and inspired America’s rural cemetery movement, and, eventually, the creation of the nation’s public parks, including the Mall in Washington, D.C., and New York’s Central Park.

The entrance to the Cemetery is located on the Watertown-Cambridge border on Mt. Auburn Street, about six miles from downtown Boston and one mile west of Harvard Square. The grounds are open every day of the year from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with extended hours during the spring, summer and fall. A wide variety of public tours and lectures take place throughout the year. More information is available by visiting [www.mountauburn.org](http://www.mountauburn.org) or calling 617-547-7105.

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David P. Barnett, Ph.D., President and CEO, Mount Auburn Cemetery.

*Photo courtesy Mount Auburn Cemetery.*

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