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For Immediate Release:
May 30, 2008

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Tulane University Names New Newcomb Art Gallery Director

Charles M. Lovell has been named the new director of the Newcomb Art Gallery at Tulane University. Lovell, who comes to Tulane from the Harwood Museum of Art at the University of New Mexico, Taos, has a strong background in fundraising, art writing, grant writing and extensive experience with arts councils, national arts entities, family and corporate foundations and private donors.

During Lovell's seven-year tenure at the Harwood Museum of Art, he increased the institution's endowment to \$2.5 million and doubled both admission and membership revenues. He also grew building funding from the university by more than \$100,000 annually and founded the museum's national artist and scholar in residence program. In 2007, he organized and was a co-curator for the most successful exhibition in the museum's 85-year history, *Diebenkorn in New Mexico*, a \$246,000 multi-year project that is traveling to the San Jose Museum of Art, the Grey Art Gallery at New York University, and the Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C.

Prior to his arrival at Harwood, Lovell was director of the University Art Gallery at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces (1995-2001) where he doubled the operating budget, organized and was co-curator for the international traveling exhibition, *El Favor de los Santos: Retablo*

Collection of New Mexico State University, and received funding from the state of New Mexico to build a conservation lab to preserve the university's art collections. He has also been curator of exhibitions at the Weatherspoon Art Gallery at the University of North Carolina, director of the Wellington B. Gray Gallery at East Carolina University in Greenville, N.C., director of the Yuma Art Center in Yuma, Ariz., and acting director/curator/registrar for the Tacoma Art Museum in Tacoma, Wash.

Lovell holds a bachelor's degree from East Texas State University and a Master of Fine Arts degree from Central Washington University. His publications include *Richard Diebenkorn in New Mexico*; *Art and Faith in Mexico: The Nineteenth Century Retablo Tradition*; *Minnie Evans: Artist*, an exhibition catalog that won second place in the American Association of Museum's Annual Publication Competition, and *Paul Horiuchi, Master of Collage*, which was given the American Federation of Arts Museum's Design Competition Award of Excellence).

Lovell succeeds past director Erik Neil (1999-2006) and interim director Thomas Strider (2006-2008), who will return to his full-time position as registrar for University Art Collections.

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