

Paul Brest Named Creative Commons Chair

Mountain View, CA, November 29, 2012: Creative Commons, a Silicon Valley nonprofit that provides legal and technological tools for sharing and collaboration, has elected Paul Brest as its new board chair. Brest will begin his duties as chair in December, coinciding with the organization's tenth-anniversary celebrations.

Throughout his career, Brest has bridged the worlds of law, philanthropy, and academia, most recently as president of the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and, before that, dean of Stanford Law School. Brest is widely recognized as an expert on constitutional law, problem solving and decision making, and philanthropic strategy, having written books and taught classes at Stanford on these subjects.

"It's an honor to serve as chair for an organization like Creative Commons," Brest said. "In the ten years since Creative Commons was founded, it's reshaped the way in which the world thinks about sharing and copyright. I see the next five years as a critical time: CC is poised to be at the center of a transformative change in how knowledge is shared and dispersed all over the world."

Brest will replace Joi Ito, the entrepreneur and MIT Media Lab director who has served as chair since 2010. "Paul's the perfect chair for CC," Ito said. "We'll benefit a lot from his authority, both in the foundation and legal spheres."

"I can't think of a better choice," added Creative Commons CEO Catherine Casserly. "He has that rare combination of strong instincts and the knowledge and rigor to back those instincts up. He's the leader we need to carry CC into the next decade." Casserly and Brest previously worked together at the Hewlett Foundation, where Casserly managed the portfolio of grants that launched the global open educational resources movement.

About Creative Commons

Creative Commons (<http://creativecommons.org>) is a globally-focused nonprofit organization dedicated to making it easier for people to share and build upon the work of others, consistent with the rules of copyright. Creative Commons provides free licenses and other legal tools to give everyone from individual creators to large companies and institutions a simple, standardized way to grant copyright permissions and get credit for their creative work while allowing others to copy, distribute and make specific uses of it.

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