

2013-J4493

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Dr. William H. Schlesinger upon the occasion of his retirement as President of the Cary Institute

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge significant milestones in the distinguished lives and careers of esteemed residents of this Empire State; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Dr. William H. Schlesinger upon the occasion of his retirement as President of the Cary Institute; and

WHEREAS, Dr. William Schlesinger is being recognized for his dedicated service to New York State as the second President of the 30-year old environmental research organization, succeeding founding president Dr. Gene E. Likens in 2007; and

WHEREAS, President William Schlesinger will officially retire in June of 2014, leaving a legacy of excellence in education, outstanding growth, and exceptional achievement for the institution; and

WHEREAS, A graduate of Dartmouth College (A.B.) and Cornell University (Ph.D.), President William Schlesinger began his illustrious career at the University of California Santa Barbara; he went on to serve more than 20 years as an esteemed professor at Duke University, serving as Dean of the Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences from 2001 to 2007; and

WHEREAS, His appointment to the Cary Institute brought him to Millbrook and to a place where scientists are leaders in understanding how human activities impact both natural ecosystems and the spread of infectious disease which is globally important work which connects findings with citizens and policy makers; and

WHEREAS, Under his leadership, the Cary Institute has streamlined its facilities, strengthened its outreach efforts, diversified its funding

platform, and performed strategic hires which have deepened the organization's expertise in disease ecology and freshwater science; and WHEREAS, During his tenure, President William Schlesinger established a number of outreach and communication efforts, among them the popular Friday Nights at Cary public lecture series, Science and Management Forums for decision makers, residency opportunities for artists and writers, and various media partnerships such as Earth Wise, and the Cary Institute's daily radio collaboration with WAMC Northeast Public Radio, which has aired more than 450 segments; and

WHEREAS, President William Schlesinger is an elected member of the National Academy of Sciences, a past-president of the Ecological Society of America, a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a board member of the Southern Environmental Law Center, the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), and the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation; and

WHEREAS, President William Schlesinger is also an expert in soil carbon and has authored or coauthored more than 200 scientific papers and the widely-adopted textbook, BIOGEOCHEMISTRY: AN ANALYSIS OF GLOBAL CHANGE; and

WHEREAS, He has testified before the United States House and Senate and his work has informed the Clean Air Act and the California Desert Protection Act; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of the great State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor President William H. Schlesinger upon the occasion of his retirement as President of the Cary Institute; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dr. William H. Schlesinger and to the Cary Institute.