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For Immediate Release

ISA Announces Upcoming Retirement of Executive Director Jim Skiera

CHAMPAIGN, Ill (Oct. 25, 2016) – After more than 22 years of service, James Skiera has announced his retirement as executive director of the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) effective by the end of 2017.

Skiera began his career at ISA as associate executive director in 1994. His primary responsibilities were public relations and product and program development. He became executive director of the organization in 2004. Under Skiera's leadership, ISA has grown to become the leading voice for arboriculture and professional tree care worldwide, serving more than 37,000 members and credential holders.

Skiera states, "It has been an honor to serve ISA for much of my professional life. To be part of its growth has truly been an enriching experience. It was a difficult decision to leave, but the timing is right. I have been working on a succession plan with ISA staff and the Board of Directors for several years. The Society is stronger today than it has ever been, and there is a foundation of talent in both staff and volunteer leadership, so I will leave with confidence that the organization will continue to thrive into the future. The future is bright and I am certain ISA will continue to make the world a better place one tree at a time."

"Jim's contributions to the success of ISA have been invaluable", said ISA Board President Michelle Mitchell. "His passion and dedication to the profession of arboriculture is widely recognized and appreciated. The ISA Board of Directors expects to find a new executive director who will build upon Jim's work within the organization."

As per the established Succession Plan Policy, the ISA Board of Directors has appointed an Executive Director Transition Committee to manage the search process. This committee will be conducting a search to identify the next executive director. Details of the search process will be posted at a later date on the ISA website. Inquiries about the position can be sent to execsearch@isa-arbor.com.

About ISA

The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), headquartered in Champaign, Ill., U.S., is a nonprofit organization supporting tree care research and education around the world. To promote the importance of arboriculture, ISA manages the consumer education web site, www.treesaregood.org, which fulfills the association's mission to help educate the public about the importance and value of proper tree care. Also, as part of ISA's dedication to the care and preservation of shade and ornamental trees, it offers the only internationally-recognized certification program in the industry. For more information on ISA and Certified Arborists, visit www.isa-arbor.com.