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**Statement from Sunstone’s Board of Directors**

SALT LAKE CITY — September 11, 2014

The Sunstone Education Foundation’s board of directors has issued the following statement:

Today we are announcing that former Executive Director and current Director of Symposia and Outreach, **Mary Ellen Robertson**, will be leaving Sunstone to pursue other opportunities, effective 12 September 2014.

The Sunstone board wishes to express their deep gratitude to Mary Ellen for her significant contributions and outstanding service during her 22-year affiliation with Sunstone, first as a symposium presenter and attendee, as a member of the Sunstone board for eight years, and most recently as Sunstone’s Director of Symposia and Outreach.

During her tenure, Mary Ellen has been one of Sunstone’s staunchest advocates. For the past six years, she has organized symposia and events across the country that have furthered the mission of Sunstone and touched the lives of thousands. These events have been welcoming, intellectually rigorous, affirming, and community building.

While many have seen the public face of Mary Ellen's work on symposiums, few have been in a position to appreciate her full commitment behind the scenes in serving the Sunstone community. Her tireless efforts at Sunstone have been born of passion and deep commitment, both professionally and at a very personal level.

Mary Ellen has been indispensable in promoting and expanding the important role Sunstone plays in the extended Mormon community. The Sunstone board wishes to thank Mary Ellen for her years of service as a brilliant, dedicated, and integral part of the Sunstone Education Foundation, and for her efforts to further develop the sort of open communication that touches all participants in the Mormon conversation. She will continue to be a vital member of the Sunstone family.

**ABOUT SUNSTONE**

*For 40 years, the mission of the Sunstone Education Foundation has been to sponsor open forums on Mormon thought and experience by bringing together people across the spectrum of Mormon belief and interest. Under the motto, “Faith Seeking Understanding,” we foster an atmosphere that respects both faith and doubt, intellectual and spiritual inquiry, and experiential integrity. Sunstone strives to examine and express the rich spiritual, intellectual, social, and artistic qualities of Mormon history and contemporary life in all its diversity. We encourage humanitarian service, honest inquiry, and the vigorous interchange of ideas that is respectful of all people and what they hold sacred. Learn more at* [*Sunstone.org*](file:///C:\Users\Jim\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Content.Outlook\T93R7D6G\Sunstone.org).

*The Sunstone Education Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit organization with no official ties to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.*

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For further information about Mary Ellen’s role as Director of Symposia and Outreach, please see this article from the June 2014 40th Anniversary edition of the Sunstone magazine:  
  
<https://www.sunstonemagazine.com/who-turned-the-lights-out-behind-the-scenes-at-the-symposium/>