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## **PHILLIPS FOUNDATION HIRES CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER**

**GREENSBORO, N.C.** (May 27, 2015) – Phillips Foundation today announced the hire of Catherine H. Burnett to serve as its chief operating officer. Burnett will be responsible for implementing the family foundation’s strategy and leading internal operations.

Prior to joining Phillips Foundation, Burnett increased operational efficiencies and built capacity in numerous organizations, including private foundations and international non-profit entities. Most recently, she co-designed and implemented a strategy to transition the William R. Kenan, Jr. Charitable Trust in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, into a private foundation that grants \$24 million annually. Before that, Burnett consulted to the SC Johnson Company and Cornell University on a joint community and business development initiative in Kenya, East Africa.

“Catherine brings a proven track record of leading and executing strategy for private foundations and non-profits, along with her global business experience,” said Elizabeth Phillips, executive director of Phillips Foundation. “Her mission-alignment and skillset will be instrumental as we seek to measure and maximize our impact. We are very pleased to have her as an asset to the team.”

Burnett holds a Master of Business Administration with honors from UNC-Chapel Hill’s Kenan-Flagler Business School and a Bachelor of Arts in English with distinction from Princeton University. She currently serves on the Environmental Defense Fund N.C. Board and co-chairs its development committee.

### **About Phillips Foundation**

In 2005, local business leader Kermit Phillips created the Kermit G. Phillips II Charitable Trust to provide funding to non-profit causes as elected by the Phillips family. The trust’s endowment recently gained the majority of its funding and now operates as the Phillips Foundation. The current board is regionally focused on the Greensboro community with five target areas: housing and homelessness; economic development; arts and culture; child and family services; and education and learning enrichment. For more information, visit [PhillipsFoundationNC.org](http://PhillipsFoundationNC.org). *Phillips Foundation currently does not accept unsolicited grant applications.*

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