

ida

international
documentary
association

update

summer 2015

THE KILMURRY ERA BEGINS

IT WAS WITH tremendous excitement and pride that I announced earlier this month the appointment of **Simon Kilmurry** as the International Documentary Association's new Executive Director.

Elevating nonfiction media has been Simon's life's work. His new role here follows an illustrious 16-year tenure at PBS doc series *POV*. It's a rare individual indeed who can claim both double-digit Emmy wins and a million dollar MacArthur grant recognizing the strength of his leadership. This uncommon balance of passion for the documentary form and excellence in nonprofit management make him the ideal fit for the IDA. We are very fortunate to have him at our helm, and I am proud to count him as a colleague and friend.

Simon steps into the IDA driver's seat this July. As we hand over the keys, let's give him a full tank of gas with which to implement his vision. I hope you will join me in supplementing your annual membership dues or earlier philanthropic support by contributing to our new **Executive Director's Fund** at the IDA. Please read on for more details; and thank you, as always, for helping us ensure that documentarians everywhere have the resources, protection

and community they need to practice this vital art form.



Marjan Safir

President, IDA Board of Directors



The IDA's Ken Jacobson, Sandra Schulberg of IndieCollect, DOC NYC's Thom Powers, filmmakers D.A. Pennebaker and Barbara Kopple, and Michael Donaldson of Donaldson + Callif at the Documentary Preservation Summit.

Doc U Hits the Road with Funder Support

GENEROUS GRANTS from the **Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences** and the **Samuel Goldwyn Foundation** enabled Doc U to stretch its legs this fall. The generous support we received from these funders helped us present educational programs for the sizable documentary communities in San Francisco and New York City. The four San Francisco sessions took place at the Ninth Street Independent Film Center and covered in-demand doc topics such as creating standout trailers, career sustainability, and the intersection of nonfiction filmmaking and journalism.

These grants also enabled Doc U to partner with DOC NYC on the **Documentary Preservation Summit**, a two-day event at New York City's IFC Center. Drawing the participation of legendary documentarian D.A. Pennebaker, Oscar winners Morgan Neville and Barbara Kopple, Sandra Schulberg of IndieCollect, and The Film Foundation's Margaret Bodde, the Preservation Summit explored various issues relating to this critically underexamined topic in nonfiction filmmaking.

The IDA's New York City and San Francisco Doc U events all drew large crowds and high acclaim. Our thanks go out to the Academy and the Goldwyn Foundation for helping us to serve the needs of documentarians and plant the IDA flag in these important but underserved hubs for nonfiction media

