

WASHINGTON, DC - Congressman Mike Pence submitted the following remarks to honor Dr. France A. Córdoba on her nomination by the Smithsonian Institution's Board of Regents to serve as one of the Smithsonian's nine citizen regents:

Madam Speaker,

I rise to congratulate Dr. France A. Córdoba on her nomination by the Smithsonian Institution's Board of Regents and appointment by joint resolution of Congress to serve as one of the Smithsonian's nine citizen regents. Her outstanding scientific contributions in the areas of observational and experimental astrophysics, multi-spectral research on x-ray and gamma ray sources, and space-borne instrumentation make her an ideal candidate for this prestigious position.

Born in France, Dr. Córdoba attended high school in California and went on to graduate cum laude from Stanford University in less than four years. She then earned a PhD in Physics from the California Institute of Technology, and in 1997, she was awarded an honorary doctorate by Loyola Marymount University. In 2007, Dr. Córdoba moved to the Hoosier State and was appointed the eleventh president of Purdue University, as well as professor of physics and astronomy for the University.

Again, I commend the excellent work of Dr. Córdoba and her many scientific contributions. Hoosiers are blessed to have the talent and expertise of Dr. Córdoba at Purdue University, and her appointment to the Smithsonian's Board of Regents is a true honor for Indiana. I am confident that she will prove a valuable asset in her new position at the Smithsonian Institution.