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**CONTACT:**

Jody Arlington, SILVERDOCS  
301.495.6759, [jarlington@AFI.com](mailto:jarlington@AFI.com)

Tammy Shea, Discovery Communications  
240.662.6506, [Tammy\\_Shea@Discovery.com](mailto:Tammy_Shea@Discovery.com)

**SILVERDOCS: AFI/Discovery Channel Documentary Festival Announces D.C. Premiere  
of Haskell Wexler's "Who Needs Sleep?" to Kick Off 2006 Sidebar  
"DOCS Rx: A World of Documentaries on Global Health"**

NBC's Robert Bazell, Rear Admiral Susan J. Blumenthal, M.D., DOCS Rx Medical Director,  
Global Health Council's Nils Daulaire, Friends of the Global Fight's Jack Valenti and UNICEF's Pascal  
Villeneuve Among Notables on DOCS Rx Advisory Committee

**Silver Spring, Maryland, March 15, 2006**—SILVERDOCS: AFI/Discovery Channel Documentary Festival today announced that the D.C. Premiere of Haskell Wexler's and Lisa Leeman's Sundance hit WHO NEEDS SLEEP? will screen at 7:00 p.m. on March 28, 2006 at the AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center. Disturbed by the preventable death of a coworker, Wexler and Leeman use behind-the-scenes footage of Hollywood icons on major film shoots to show that sleep deprivation and long work hours are a deadly combination. Wexler (Oscar-winning cinematographer on WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF, ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST) will participate in a post-screening Q&A with DOCS Rx Medical Director Rear Admiral Susan Blumenthal, M.D., who served as Assistant Surgeon General of the United States.

This pre-festival screening will kick off the "DOCS Rx: A World of Documentaries on Global Health" program slated for SILVERDOCS, June 13-18 in the Washington, DC area. Now in its fourth year, SILVERDOCS is a six-day international documentary festival called the "Pre-eminent US Documentary Fest" by Screen International, the "premiere showcase for documentary films" by Hollywood Reporter, and "Non-Fiction Nirvana" by Variety.

"SILVERDOCS' DOCS Rx program will highlight films that engage audiences in the scientific, political and economic issues across the health spectrum," said Patricia Finneran, Festival Director. "This film, spotlighting the effects of sleep deprivation—which affects untold global populations—is a perfect film to set the stage for our series on Global Health during the Festival this June."

"We have assembled a stellar group to serve on our DOCS Rx Advisory Committee—leaders in healthcare, education, politics, media and filmmaking lending their expertise to guide our programming, conference content and special events. DOCS Rx will be a standout in melding the world of film with the world-wide concerns in public health," said DOCS Rx Director of Programming Nina Gilden Seavey.

SILVERDOCS 2006 DOCS Rx Advisory Committee includes:

- Rear Admiral Susan J. Blumenthal, MD, MPA, Medical Director, DOCS Rx; Former *U.S. Assistant Surgeon General*; Clinical Professor, Georgetown and Tufts Schools of Medicine
- Neal Baer, MD, *Executive Producer*, "Law and Order SVU," and former *Executive Producer*, "ER"
- Pamela W. Barnes, COO, The Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation
- Robert Bazell, *Chief Science and Health Correspondent*, "NBC Nightly News," "Today" and "Dateline NBC"
- Nils Daulaire, MD, MPH, *President and CEO*, Global Health Council
- Don Edkins, *Executive Producer*, "Steps for the Future," South Africa
- Marie Freire, MD, Ph.D., *President and CEO*, TB Alliance

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- Julie Louise Gerberding, MD, MPH, Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Administrator of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)
- Donald Hopkins, MD, MPH, *Associate Executive Director, Health Programs*, The Carter Center
- Sharon Hrynkow, Ph.D., *Acting Director*, National Institutes of Health, Fogarty International Center
- Gail Ifshin, Ph.D., *Executive Director*, Discovery Channel Global Education Partnership
- Larry Klein, *Executive Producer*, PBS's "RX for Survival" Series
- Arlene Donnelly Nelson, *Filmmaker and SILVERDOCS 2005 Sterling Award Winner, Short Film, POSITIVELY NAKED*
- Mirta Roses Periago, MD, MPH, MID, *Director*, Pan American Health Organization
- Richard Seifman, JD, MBA, *Senior Advisor*, World Bank AIDS Campaign Team for Africa
- Jack Valenti, *President*, Friends of the Global Fight and Former Chairman of the Motion Picture Association of America
- Pascal Villeneuve, MD, MPH, *Chief of Health, UNICEF*
- Richard Walden, *President and CEO*, Operation USA

The full Festival line up will be announced in May. The Feature and Shorts jury will be announced in the coming weeks. For updates and more information go to [www.silverdocs.com](http://www.silverdocs.com). If you would like to cover this event or arrange an interview with the filmmaker, contact Jody Arlington at [jarlington@afi.com](mailto:jarlington@afi.com).

### **About SILVERDOCS**

SILVERDOCS: AFI/Discovery Channel Documentary Festival brings the best new documentaries to Washington, DC, audiences, with six days of programming showcasing nearly 100 films, plus special screenings. Now in its fourth year, SILVERDOCS is the most talked about documentary festival in the United States. The Festival—which will take place June 13 – 18, 2006, at the AFI Silver Theatre just outside Washington, DC—serves as a launch pad for independent documentaries, and affords international filmmakers access to US audiences. SILVERDOCS provides business and creative connections between filmmakers, broadcasters, distributors, and funders from both established and emerging media markets at the concurrent International Documentary Conference, June 15-17. For more information, go to [www.SILVERDOCS.com](http://www.SILVERDOCS.com).

### **About AFI**

AFI is a national institute providing leadership in screen education and the recognition and celebration of excellence in the art of film, television and digital media. AFI trains the next generation of filmmakers at its world-renowned Conservatory, maintains America's film heritage through the *AFI Catalog of Feature Films* and explores new digital technologies in entertainment and education through the AFI Digital Content Lab and K-12 Screen Education Center. As the largest nonprofit exhibitor in the US, AFI ON SCREEN encompasses the annual AFI FEST presented by Audi: AFI Los Angeles International Film Festival—as well as year-round programming at ArLight Hollywood and the AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center in Silver Spring, Maryland, including SILVERDOCS: AFI/Discovery Channel Documentary Festival. AFI AWARDS, the annual almanac for the 21st century, honors the most outstanding motion pictures and television programs of the year, while **AFI's 100 Years . . .** series has ignited extraordinary public interest in classic American movies. And, during the past 33 years, AFI's Life Achievement Award has become the highest honor for a career in film. Additional information about AFI is available at [www.AFI.com](http://www.AFI.com).

### **About Discovery Communications, Inc.**

Discovery Communications is the leading global real-world media company. Discovery has grown from its core property, the Discovery Channel, first launched in the United States in 1985, to current global operations in 170 countries and territories with nearly 1.4 billion cumulative subscribers. DCI's over 100 networks of distinctive programming represent 27 network entertainment brands including TLC, Animal Planet, Travel Channel, Discovery Health Channel, Discovery Kids, Discovery Times Channel, The Science Channel, Military Channel, Discovery Home Channel, Discovery en Español, Discovery Kids en Español, Discovery HD Theater, FitTV, Discovery Travel and Living (Viajar y Vivir), Discovery Home & Health and Discovery Real Time. DCI's other properties consist of Discovery Education and Discovery Commerce, which operates more than 100 Discovery Channel Stores in the U.S. DCI also distributes BBC America in the United States. DCI's ownership consists of four shareholders: Discovery Holding Company (NASDAQ: DISCA, DISCB), Cox Communications, Inc., Advance/Newhouse Communications and John S. Hendricks, the Company's Founder and Chairman.