



MASSACHUSETTS
HIGH TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL
Dedicated to Growth... Committed to Action

June 30, 2020

Crisis, Opportunity, and Justice

For most of 2020, Council leaders have focused on responding to the urgent demands of the COVID-19 pandemic, while working to revive a damaged Massachusetts economy and sustain a meaningful recovery of lost jobs and revenue growth. During this time of crisis, the Council's leadership, programs and initiatives have informed technology leaders with key data and actionable insights; helped identify best practices to support an effective public health response; and supported technology employers' efforts to prepare for a safe and secure return to the workplace.

Council leaders are as committed to focusing on another crisis that threatens our society: Systemic racism and the absence of opportunity across too many communities in our Commonwealth. To paraphrase Council President Chris Anderson's June 1 [public statement](#), compassion, opportunity and hope are what we need in these trying times. For too many of our fellow citizens, systemic racism denies them all three.

Building on the Council's track record of impact and our ongoing efforts to boost diversity and inclusion through our Women in Leadership Initiative, Council leaders are committed to identifying, supporting and developing initiatives to help address the persistent injustices that threaten our social fabric and collective ability to realize the promise of our Commonwealth and our nation.

Contact [Mark Gallagher](#) to learn more about how you can get involved.

July 9 Council Annual Meeting to Honor Front-Line Health Care Heroes, Ray Stata Award Recipients

Join technology, business, and civic leaders virtually for the Council's 2020 Annual Meeting on July 9 at 10:30 AM.

The Council will recognize the extraordinary leadership and contributions of this year's [Ray Stata Innovation and Leadership Award](#) honorees Steve Pagliuca of Bain Capital and Megan Greenfield of McKinsey & Co. Megan and Steve have played key leadership roles developing the Council's COVID-19 Recovery and Return to the Workplace data, frameworks and insights which have been widely-utilized and cited by business leaders and policymakers in Massachusetts and beyond, including in this June 18 [New England Journal of Medicine article](#).

We will also acknowledge and honor the inspiring work of a team of Front-Line Health Care Heroes from

Brigham and Women's Hospital; Mass. General Hospital; Baystate Health; South Shore Hospital; Southwood at Norwell Nursing Center; and The Falls at Cordingly Dam. These front-line heroes represent the thousands of health care workers whose sacrifices and dedication are on full display in numerous settings around the Commonwealth as they and their colleagues deliver care and compassion to those among us infected by COVID-19.

Join our special guest Governor Charlie Baker and show your support by participating in the first virtual Annual Meeting in the Council's 43-year history. Click [HERE](#) for more details and to register.

A special Council thank you to our 2020 Annual Meeting sponsors:

- MilliporeSigma: Presenting Sponsor
- Oasis Systems: Ray Stata Innovation and Leadership Award Sponsor
- EY: Front-Line Health Care Heroes Sponsor
- Brooks
- Care.com
- Chelsea Clock
- Creation Technologies
- Kronos
- McKinsey & Co.
- The MITRE Corporation
- MKS Instruments



Recovery and Return to the Workplace Virtual Roundtable Series Continues

On June 4, the Council hosted a Recovery and Return to the Workplace Roundtable featuring three of the Commonwealth's most respected higher education leaders. Council Board member Laurie Leshin, President of WPI was joined by Bob Brown, President of Boston University and Paula Johnson, President of Wellesley College for a discussion of ["Safe on Campus: A](#)

Framework for Reopening Colleges and Universities."

On June 11, 19 and 26, the Council hosted a mini-series of roundtables focused on effective employer strategies that support a safe and successful return to the workplace and featuring innovative leaders from EY, PTC, MilliporeSigma, Boston Scientific, Accenture, Onto Innovation, MKS Instruments, Audax Group and KPMG.

Since March, more than 1,000 senior leaders have attended and participated in our Recovery and Return the Workplace Virtual Roundtables. Video recordings of all roundtables can be accessed via the [Council's website](#).

On July 28, we will host Jeff Riley, Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Dr. Riley is a long-time Council friend and collaborator with a history of catalyzing change and innovation in public education in the face of challenging circumstances. We hope you will join us and engage Dr. Riley with your perspectives on the efforts he is leading for the Governor to reopen the Commonwealth's K-12 schools in the fall.

Watch your inbox and the [Council's website](#) for invitations and information on how to register for this event and for information on series of upcoming roundtables focused on understanding the implications of the new work from home reality for employers, employees and policymakers.

Women in Leadership Initiative: Opportunities for Understanding and Impact

The Council's Women in Leadership Initiative event series returns with a virtual roundtable on July 27 from 11:30 AM to 1 PM. Hosted by MilliporeSigma, this expanded-format roundtable is a signature 2020 event for the WIL Initiative and will focus on Managing Dual Careers & Balancing a Family, with an interactive expert

panel and breakout group discussions.

On June 1, more than 165 participants from 25 Council member organizations began participating in “Unlocking the Potential of Women”, a six-week virtual learning experience to empower leaders to recognize and deliver the full potential of women in the workplace. The Council’s Women in Leadership Initiative, together with knowledge partner, McKinsey & Co., have come together to provide this special free offer exclusively to Council members.

Please join us in thanking McKinsey & Co., MilliporeSigma and our 2020 Women in Leadership Initiative sponsor PTC and contact [Bernie Prusaczyk](#) to learn more about how you and your organization can participate

Council Response to President Trump’s H-1B Visa Program Order

On June 24, Council President Chris Anderson [appeared on WBUR’s Morning Edition](#) to comment on President Trump’s Executive Order suspending the H-1B visa program for highly skilled workers.

The President’s order to suspend the H-1B visa program is a unfortunate example of the type of policy misstep that government needs to avoid if we are to have a sustained recovery from the economic damage caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Massachusetts innovation ecosystem and tech-centric economy thrive on employers’ ability to attract, engage, and retain talented individuals and teams from the US and around the world, including significant contributions made by H-1B visa holders. Impeding Massachusetts tech firms’ capacity to do so will damage their ability to compete and grow in the US, reducing opportunities for all.

The Council supports efforts to expand the H-1B program, as well as modify it to prevent potential misuse. Shutting the program down completely is a step backwards, not a solution, and will have the opposite effect of the Presidents’ stated objective.

Read the Council’s full statement [HERE](#).

New Member Spotlight: Rafi Nova

The Council welcomes [Rafi Nova](#) as a new member of our team. Needham-based Rafi Nova is a woman-owned business led by husband and wife team Marissa and Adam Goldstein. Earlier this year, Rafi Nova shifted much of its attention from the production of eco-friendly backpacks and travel accessories to face masks.

Rafi Nova’s innovative products include its “Smile Mask,” which features a clear cutout to reveal wearers’ expressions and the company has donated more than 40,000 masks to organizations and individuals in need. Please join us in welcoming them.

OUR MISSION

The Massachusetts High Technology Council, Inc. is an organization of CEOs and senior executives representing technology companies, professional services firms, and research institutions who are dedicated to creating and sustaining conditions that support investment, job growth and improved quality of life in Massachusetts. Our members are growth-oriented, knowledge-intensive employers and institutions that develop, deliver and depend on technology products, services and innovations to advance their organizational objectives—a definition which covers just about all business enterprises in Massachusetts today.

Our mission is to help make Massachusetts the world’s most attractive place in which to live and work, and in which to create, operate, and grow high technology businesses.

For more information [visit our website.](#)

