

Expanding the Evidence Base on Workforce Training for Economic Mobility

Speaker Biographies

Jukay Hsu is the chief executive officer and cofounder of Pursuit, a social impact organization that creates economic opportunity and transformation. Pursuit identifies and trains adults with the most need and potential to gain their first technology job, advance in their careers, and join the next generation of technology leaders. Pursuit graduates are hired as software engineers by leading companies like Pinterest, Kickstarter, LinkedIn, Citibank, and JPMorgan Chase. An immigrant who was raised in Queens, Hsu graduated from Stuyvesant High School, where he served as school president and helped lead the student body after the 9/11 attacks. Hsu graduated from Harvard College with a degree in economics and then served as a U.S. Army officer where he commanded a rifle platoon and earned the Bronze Star Medal and the Combat Infantryman's Badge in Iraq. He returned home after military service and founded Pursuit to advance economic opportunity in the innovation economy. Hsu serves as a director of the New York City Water Board, vice chair of the Friends of the Brooklyn Queens Connector, as well as a member of the board of directors of the Partnership for New York City Foundation. He was selected in 2020 as a Young Global Leader of the World Economic Forum and a term member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Maurice A. Jones is the chief executive officer of OneTen, a coalition of leading chief executives and their companies who are coming together to upskill, hire and promote one million Black Americans who do not yet have a four-year degree into family-sustaining jobs with opportunities for advancement over the next 10 years. Prior to joining OneTen, Jones was the president of the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), one of the country's largest organizations supporting projects to revitalize communities and catalyze economic opportunity for residents. During his time at LISC, Maurice led the company's effort to expand its footprint into the South. He doubled the company's annual investment from \$1 billion to \$2 billion. He previously served as Secretary of Commerce and Trade for the Commonwealth of Virginia and deputy secretary for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) from April 2012 through January 2014. Jones has also served as president of Pilot Media, commissioner of the Virginia Department of Social Services, and deputy chief of staff to former Virginia Governor Mark R. Warner. He has also served at the US Treasury Department and directed the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund during the Clinton Administration. Jones received a BA in political science at Hampden-Sydney College and attended Oxford University in England on a Rhodes Scholarship, where he received a MPhil in international relations. He later received a JD the University of Virginia.

Lawrence F. Katz is the co-scientific director of J-PAL North America and the Elisabeth Allison Professor of Economics at Harvard University. He is also a Research Associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research. His research focuses on issues in labor economics and the economics of social problems. He is the author (with Claudia Goldin) of *The Race between Education and Technology* (Harvard University Press, 2008), a history of U.S. economic inequality and the roles of technological change and the pace of educational advances in affecting the wage structure. Katz also has been studying the impacts of neighborhood poverty on low-income families as the principal investigator of the long-term evaluation of the Moving to Opportunity program, a randomized housing mobility experiment. Katz is working with Claudia Goldin on a major project studying the historical evolution of career and family choices and outcomes for U.S. college men and women. His past research has explored a wide range of topics including U.S. and comparative wage inequality trends, educational wage differentials and the labor market returns to education, the impact of globalization and technological change on the labor market, the economics of immigration, unemployment and underemployment insurance, regional labor markets, the evaluation of labor market programs, the problems of low-income neighborhoods, and the social and economic consequences of the birth control pill. Katz has been the editor of the *Quarterly Journal of Economics* since 1991 and served as the Chief Economist of the U.S. Department of Labor for 1993 and 1994. He has been elected a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the Econometric Society, and the Society of Labor Economists. Katz serves on the panel of Economic Advisors of the Congressional Budget Office as well as on the boards of the Russell Sage Foundation and the Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation. He graduated from the University of California at Berkeley in 1981 and earned his PhD in Economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1985.

Kristen Titus is the executive director of the Cognizant Foundation, which supports those working to develop, educate, and train the workforce of today and tomorrow. Previously, she was the state of New York's chief technology and innovation officer and founding executive director of Girls Who Code and the NYC Tech Talent Pipeline. As New York's first chief technology and innovation officer, Titus oversaw the state's historic investments in technology education, workforce, and economic development. She launched the mayor's NYC Tech Talent Pipeline, a \$10 million initiative mobilizing 150 executives in support of first-of-its-kind policy and programming, including a new tech training and education portfolio, investments to realign the city's top colleges, and the launch of Computer Science for All. Her work served as a model for President Obama's TechHire and CSforAll initiatives, now replicated in more than 70 cities. As founding executive director of Girls Who Code, the national nonprofit working to close the gender gap in technology and engineering, Titus received numerous accolades: she was named one of TIME magazine's 30 people under 30 changing the world, one of Business Insider's most influential young people in tech, and one of Forbes' women changing the world. Titus was also named an Aspen Ideas Festival scholar in 2013.