Future of Work at the Human-Technology Frontier:

Identifying Ethical Questions and the Implications for Policy

September 3, 2020 | 1:30 pm EDT

Speaker Bios

Katherine Ash

Economic Opportunity Consultant

National Governors Association Center for Best Practices

Ms. Ash is an economic opportunity consultant who specializes in helping leaders collaborate across sectors to maximize their social impact. For the past year, she has consulted for the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices, where she has helped lead the Center's growing portfolio on the future of work. She recently led a multi-organizational team to publish "Reimagining Workforce Policy in the Age of Disruption: A State Guide for Preparing the Future Workforce Now," featuring a comprehensive state framework for adapting to technological disruption.

Ms. Ash previously served as an advisor to U.S. Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT) in her home state of Vermont, where she led outreach on federal workforce, education, housing and human services policy. In 2012, she had the privilege of being appointed Deputy Irene Recovery Officer by former Governor Shumlin to lead statewide recovery efforts for individuals and households affected by Tropical Storm Irene, Vermont's most destructive disaster since 1927.

Kate holds an MA in Domestic Policy from the Princeton University School of Public and International Affairs and a BA from the University of Vermont. She brings a deep passion for philanthropy and social entrepreneurship and currently serves on the board of the University of Vermont Foundation and Uproot Homes, a startup that aims to build housing equity for America's servicemembers.

Angela Glover Blackwell, JD
Founder-in-Residence
PolicyLink

Ms. Blackwell is Founder-in-Residence at PolicyLink, the organization she started in 1999 to advance racial and economic equity for all. Under her leadership, PolicyLink gained national prominence in the movement to use public policy to improve access and opportunity for all low-income people and communities of color, particularly in the areas of health, housing, transportation, and infrastructure. Her *Radical Imagination* podcast debuted in September 2019, introducing listeners to a world of creative, progressive thinkers whose vision is challenging the status quo to create the change we need.

Prior to founding PolicyLink, Ms. Blackwell served as Senior Vice President at The Rockefeller Foundation. A lawyer by training, she gained national recognition as founder of the Urban Strategies Council. She is the co-author of *Uncommon Common Ground: Race and America's Future*, and she authored *The Curb Cut Effect*, published in the *Stanford Social Innovation Review* in 2017.

As a leading voice in the movement for equity in America, Ms. Blackwell serves on numerous boards. She advised the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve as one of 15 members of its inaugural Community Advisory Council and in 2020 was appointed by California Governor Gavin Newsom to the state Task Force on Business and Jobs Recovery. She is the 2018 recipient of the John W. Gardner Leadership Award, presented by the Independent Sector, and in 2017 she received the Peter E. Haas Public Service Award from the University of California, Berkeley.

Menna Demessie, PhD
Vice President, Research & Policy Analysis
Congressional Black Caucus Foundation

Dr. Demessie is the Vice President of Policy Analysis and Research at the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc. (CBCF). She leads the Foundation's research and policy initiatives that affect African Americans and the global black community in education, criminal justice, economic opportunity, voting, and environmental sustainability, among many others. In this role, Dr. Demessie has spearheaded several partnerships with the White House, Congress, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, and other nonprofit stakeholders to advance strategic efforts to influence and inform public policy. Prior to joining

the CBCF, Dr. Demessie was one of five scholars in the United States to receive the prestigious American Political Science Congressional Fellowship. For the fellowship, she joined Congresswoman Barbara Lee's team to work on federal unemployment legislation, antipoverty initiatives, and foreign affairs in the 112th Congress.

Dr. Demessie received her joint PhD in political science and public policy from the University of Michigan where she conducted the first and only empirical and qualitative study of African congressional caucuses in the U.S. House of Representatives, and the significance of the Congressional Black Caucus' influence on U.S.-Africa foreign policy. She earned an MA in political science and a certificate in African American, African, and Black Transnational Studies from the University of Michigan. She earned a BA in Economics and Law and Society with honors from Oberlin College.

Thomas Kochan, PhD
George Maverick Bunker Professor of Management
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Dr. Kochan is the *George Maverick Bunker Professor of Management,* a Professor of Work and Employment Research, and the CoDirector of the MIT Sloan Institute for Work and Employment Research at the MIT Sloan School of Management.

Dr. Kochan focuses on the need to update America's work and employment policies, institutions, and practices to catch up with a changing workforce and economy. His recent work calls attention to the challenges facing working families in meeting their responsibilities at work, at home, and in their communities. Through empirical research, he demonstrates that fundamental changes in the quality of employee and labor-management relations are needed to address America's critical problems in industries ranging from healthcare to airlines to manufacturing. His most recent book is *Shaping the Future of Work* (Business Experts Press, 2016).

Dr. Kochan holds a BBA in Personnel Management as well as an MS and a PhD in Industrial Relations from the University of Wisconsin.

Arthur Lupia, PhD
Assistant Director, Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences
National Science Foundation

Dr. Lupia is Assistant Director of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and serves as head of the NSF Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (SBE). He is the Gerald R. Ford University Professor at the University of Michigan and co-chair of the National Science and Technology Council's Subcommittee on Open Science.

Dr. Lupia's research and related public work examines processes, principles, and factors that guide decision-making and learning. His efforts clarify how people make decisions and choose what to believe when they face adverse circumstances. Dr. Lupia draws from many scientific disciplines to advance these topics.

Dr. Lupia has been a John Simon Guggenheim Fellow, an Andrew Carnegie Fellow, and is a recipient of the National Academy of Sciences Award for Initiatives in Research. He earned a BS degree in Economics from the University of Rochester and a social science PhD from the California Institute of Technology.

Marc Sebrechts, PhD
Director, Division of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences
Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences
National Science Foundation

Dr. Sebrechts is Division Director for Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences in the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate at the National Science Foundation (NSF). The Division supports research that develops and advances scientific knowledge about the brain, human cognition, language, social behavior, human development, and culture including research on the interactions between human societies and their environments. In addition to his divisional leadership role, he is co-chair of the steering committee for the Future of Work at the Human-Technology Frontier, a member of the steering committee of Harnessing the Data Revolution, and a member of the Cyber Infrastructure strategic committee.

Dr. Sebrechts' research emphasizes human cognition and human factors, exploring how technology (artificial intelligence, virtual reality, and eye tracking) can be used to better understand, and potentially support, human perception and cognition. Recent projects include assessing perceptual judgments on a lunar-like surface using a virtual reality simulation (lunar psychophysics), use of a virtual environment to

determine how encoding information in terms of survival relevance ("survival encoding") impacts location retention, and the use of eye tracking to examine how reading and retention are influenced by interruptions. His current research focuses on how information presentation impacts learning, transfer, and retention.

Dr. Sebrechts received a BS in Psychology and Philosophy from Georgetown University and a PhD in Cognitive Psychology from Yale University.