ISTC ORGANIZATION UPDATE

Over the past four years, ISTC has thrived under the leadership and strategic vision of President and CEO, Colleen D. Egan. Colleen strongly believed in the power of partnerships as she led ISTC in its continued mission as the connector, convener and champion for the Illinois Innovation ecosystem. Her powerful statewide advocacy for economic growth, development of entrepreneurial and educational programming, and passion for equity, have significantly contributed to ISTC's mission of increasing access to opportunities for all communities in Illinois. Following a particularly challenging personal year, Colleen has made the decision to take a well-deserved period of rest, reflection, and readiness for her next journey. Colleen will continue as Strategic Advisor for the organization.

Starting July 1st, the Illinois Science and Technology Coalition will be led by Interim CEO Kate Calabra, while ISTC Education will be under the guidance of Executive Director Becky Goldberg.

Kate, previously ISTC's Director of Strategic Partnerships, has a proven track record in leadership and a deep commitment to the organization's goals. Kate has over a decade of experience serving cross-sector missions with specific goals of advancing economic development through collaboration. Her dedication to fostering innovation and inclusivity within Illinois' science and technology sectors positions Kate perfectly to guide ISTC through this transition while continuing to grow the Coalition’s programs and network across the state.

Becky, formerly ISTC's Director of Education, has dedicated the last five years to nurturing and developing the Institute into a catalyst for progress. She has expanded the organization from two flagship programs to a thriving portfolio of five, which landed her a spot in the 2023 Crain's Chicago Business Notable Women in STEM. She is a connective force between Illinois' thriving STEM industries and education system. With each new partnership and program, she brings the state a step closer to a STEM talent pipeline strengthened and defined by accessibility, inclusivity, and innovation.

We are excited to embark on this new chapter and thank you for your ongoing support. Let us continue to connect, evolve, and make an impact across the state together.