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CONTACT:
Tyla Landry
847.508.6076
tyla@istcoalition.org

ISTC/I Welcomes two new Board Members

January 7, 2021 – (CHICAGO, IL) – The Illinois Science & Technology Coalition and Institute (ISTC/I) today announced the addition of two new members to its Board of Directors, **Bill Payne, PhD**, Executive Director of Science and Technology at the Polsky Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation at the University of Chicago and **Robert Patino, J.D.**, Director of Technology Transfer at the Southern Illinois University System.

“I am excited to welcome Bill Payne and Robert Patino as new Board members,” said Colleen Egan, CEO & President. “These individuals bring a wealth of experience and expertise in their respective fields and will be tremendous assets to ISTC/I as we push forward into the new year and broaden our impact throughout the state.”

Bill Payne is a seasoned business and technology executive from the telecommunications industry. He is the Executive Director of Science and Technology at the Polsky Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation at the University of Chicago, where he leads the technology commercialization, Polsky Science Ventures, and industry relations teams working to bring groundbreaking faculty research to the market. In addition, Bill Payne is also a startup veteran, having founded and built a company that developed a mobile advertising and sponsorship service.

Robert Patino, as the Director of Technology Transfer at the Southern Illinois University (SIU) System, serves to effect the evaluation of technologies and discoveries for patentable subject matter and commercial potential by faculty, staff and students within the SIU System. He is a registered patent attorney and has extensive experience in prosecuting intellectual property rights and managing complex licensing agreements. In addition, Mr. Patino is an adjunct professor in the College of Law at SIUC and holds a cross-appointment in the Medical Humanities Department at the School of Medicine.

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