

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## ISTC Welcomes Holly Copeland and Dr. Azurii Collier as New Board Members

June 9, 2022 – (CHICAGO, IL) – <u>The Illinois Science & Technology Coalition</u> (ISTC) today announced the addition of two new members to its Board of Directors, Holly Copeland, Senior Director of Corporate Social Responsibility, Sustainability & Impact at <u>Horizon Theraputics</u> and Dr. Azurii Collier, Director, Enterprise Innovation at <u>AbbVie</u>.

"I am thrilled to have these powerhouse industry leaders join the our Board of Directors," said Colleen D. Egan, CEO & President of ISTC. "Their respective experience in driving organizational transformation and delivering meaningful impact is inspiring and will serve as a tremendous asset to ISTC's mission. I look forward to working with both of them on developing creative and tangible solutions to the real challenges facing our state's innovation economy."



Copeland is responsible for creating, building and implementing Horizon Therapeutics' award winning global corporate social responsibility portfolio. Prior to joining Horizon, Copeland led the Office of Entrepreneurship, Innovation & Technology for the state of Illinois, which involved the management of a \$144 million portfolio that provided technical assistance and financial support for Illinois' small business and innovation ecosystems. Under her leadership, special attention was paid to ensuring investments focused on fostering the inclusion of communities of color and women.

"I'm delighted to be joining the board of the ISTC. I look forward to applying my passion for supporting Illinois' small businesses and innovation ecosystems to support the great work that ISTC continues to do in this space," said Copeland.

Collier is a vision maker with over 15 years of research, consulting, and business strategy experience exclusively in the life sciences industry. She has a strong track record of adding value and driving innovation with startups to Fortune 500 companies. She bolstered start up growth in numerous major U.S. cities while delivering market assessments, competitive analyses, and proof-of-concept plans. As a consultant, she helped clients and led large scale transformation programs aimed at getting medicines to patients faster. She currently designs innovative business strategies to launch the most critical therapeutic and aesthetics assets within a robust pipeline and to expand R&D capabilities.



"I am thrilled with my recent appointment to ISTC's Board of Directors. I am so proud of the momentum that our state has right now and I look forward to contributing to the impact and influence that technology and innovation have on the future of our economy with ISTC," said Collier.

## About Illinois Science and Technology Coalition:

The Illinois Science & Technology Coalition (ISTC) is a member-driven non-profit, nonpartisan organization that cultivates technology-based economic development throughout Illinois. Our mission is to measure, connect, and enrich the Illinois innovation economy. Authorized by state statute in 1989 as Illinois' technology adviser, we serve as a convener, catalyst, and champion for Illinois' research, science, and technology communities. By providing our members and partners with a shared voice, the ISTC delivers measurable economic impact and positions Illinois as a national innovation leader. ISTC members represent leaders in the state's innovation ecosystem and include major Illinois research universities, federal labs, Fortune 1000 corporations, and civic organizations.

The Illinois Science & Technology Institute (ISTI), our 501c3-affiliate, focuses on Science, Technology, Education and Mathematics (STEM) education, connecting companies with classrooms to better prepare the next generation of problem solvers.

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