Halfway through 2023 is a good time to assess where we have been and where we are headed as we round out the year and, yes, prepare for 2024.

The Council’s Board, Executive Committee and National Commissioners met earlier this month at Gallup Headquarters to hear my “State of the Council” report and to help the team prioritize efforts for the coming year. A significant focus will be launching our next set of National Commission working groups to define a new “call to action” for political candidates in 2024; one that focuses on the innovation, sustainability, resiliency and inclusivity opportunities in front of the nation. Our goal is to share a first look at that evolving agenda at the National Competitiveness Forum December 14-15, 2023.

We’ll also pilot this Fall and launch in 2024 a new engagement platform: an ambitious series of “competitiveness conversations around the country” that will work more deeply and urgently on the issues of place-based innovation and to activate more regions and more Americans in our innovation-driven future. More to come soon!

And a final note: I want to take this opportunity to thank Janet Foutty for her incredible service as the Council’s Business Vice Chair over the past couple of years. She’s helped to transform our governance and accountability during the challenging COVID-19 period, and she’s inspired new focus around technology, diversity and inclusion. I also want to welcome to the Board our new Business Vice Chair Dan Helfrich, the Chair and CEO of Deloitte Consulting LLP, and signal our excitement to work with him as we continue to push forward our competitiveness agenda and grow the Council.
Participate in the Council’s 2023 National Competitiveness Forum (NCF). The Council will host both the Gala Dinner on December 14 and the NCF on December 15 at the Salamander Hotel in Washington, D.C.

Stay tuned for a formal e-invitation and more details on this premier event including sponsorship opportunities. To learn more, contact Council EVP Chad Evans: cevans@compete.org

News

Council on Competitiveness Adds Dan Helfrich, Chair and CEO of Deloitte Consulting LLP, to its Board as Business Vice Chair

On July 12th, The Council announced at its Summer 2023 Meeting of the Board, Executive Committee and National Commissioners that Dan Helfrich would be succeeding Janet Foutty.

The Council’s Chair, Brian Moynihan, Chair and CEO, Bank of America, noted, “Dan is well positioned to be Vice Chair of the Council given his deep leadership experience in building a large-scale organization that is exploring many of the issues at the heart of U.S. competitiveness. Dan’s work across the public and private sectors connects to the Council’s priority to advance the next generation of partnerships to solve national challenges.”

As Chair and CEO of Deloitte Consulting LLP, Mr. Helfrich leads a growing team of more than 85,000 professionals who help clients innovatively faces today’s complex issues. And echoing Mr. Moynihan, Helfrich notes, “I’ve long believed, and seen firsthand, the greatness that comes from the private and public sectors working together which is why I am honored to serve the Council and support their work to advance our country’s economic growth.”

Read more here.
The Council hosted its Summer 2023 Meeting, bringing together its Board, Executive Committee and National Commissioners at Gallup Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

The meeting kicked off with the release of the report from the March 2023 innovation summit at the University of California Davis. This report, in turn, prepared the Summer Meeting participants to engage in a series of organized conversations to advance the critical issues and questions the “National Commission on Innovation and Competitiveness Frontiers” must deliberate prior to December’s National Competitiveness Forum.
The meeting also welcomed three special guests:

- Senator Martin Heinrich (D-NM) shared his ideas and priorities on how to position the United States as the global leader in artificial intelligence.

- Dr. Dietra Trent, Executive Director, The White House Initiative on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity through Historically Black Colleges and Universities, laid out the Administration’s strategy to amplify the impact of the nation's HBCUs and support those efforts.

- Dr. Charles Tahan, Assistant Director, Quantum Information Science, and Director, National Quantum Coordination Office, Executive Office of the President, Office of Science and Technology Policy, The White House, made the case for greater U.S. emphasis on shaping the global regulatory and standards ecosystem to support quantum computing and science.
The Council Enters into a New Collaboration with the White House to Advance HBCUs

Witnessed by the Council’s Board, Council President and CEO Deborah Wince-Smith and Dietra Trent, the Executive Director of the White House Initiative on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence and Economic Opportunity through Historically Black Colleges and Universities, co-signed a Memorandum of Understanding outlining potential steps to build the capacities and capabilities of HBCUs.

Joan Gabel, the Council’s Academic Vice Chair, Becomes the New Chancellor at the University of Pittsburgh

“What’s happening at the University of Pittsburgh is something special - there’s a momentum that you can sense in all areas of the University’s mission, from our thriving research and scholarship which elevates society through innovation, cures, and treatments, to our positioning at the forefront healthcare, biotechnology and beyond. I’m honored to be part of this important next chapter and to lead
our students, faculty, and staff by cultivating new energy and fresh ideas to accelerate our progress.” Joan Gabel, Chancellor, University of Pittsburgh

Joan Gabel
Chancellor
University of Pittsburgh

Council and Deloitte Build on Decade+ of Joint Research to Advance Innovation and Partnerships

Launched in July, "Revisiting the Government's Role in Catalyzing Modern Innovation: A Toolkit for Public Sector Organizations to Energize Ecosystems and Spur Innovation" is the latest in a series of thought pieces co-created by Deloitte and the Council. This cutting-edge report, co-authored by Deloitte’s William D. Eggers and Joe Mariani and the Council’s Deborah Wince-Smith and Chad Evans, aims to arm public sector policymakers with new thinking and tools to build next generation partnerships. The report also features insights from many Council members and special guests from our 2022 National Competitiveness Forum.

Read the report and learn more here.

Council Insights

As reported in Semafar, based on data from the International Monetary Fund and The Wall Street Journal, a massive disparity continues to emerge between two of the world’s largest economic zones: the United States and the European Union. Since the 2008 financial crisis, the U.S. economy, in current dollars, has nearly doubled while the EU economy has grown by a much more anemic 6 percent. Most provocatively, as paraphrased by Semafar, The Wall Street Journal notes should this trend continue “the difference between the two in output per capita could be as wide in 2035 as it is between Japan and Ecuador today.”
New to the Community

Dr. Theresa Mayer
Vice President for Research
University of Michigan

International

Take Part in the 2023 GFCC Global Innovation Summit in Doha, Qatar

Join the Global Federation of Competitiveness Council, a delegation from the Council on Competitiveness, and leaders from 40+ nations in Doha on November 11-14, 2023 to focus on how to “Shape Tomorrow: Innovate the Sustainable Future.” Stay tuned for more updates and contact Council EVP Chad Evans to learn more: cevans@compete.org
SAVE THE DATE

Global Federation of Competitiveness Councils (GFCC) Annual Global Innovation Summit

November 11-14, 2023 | Doha, Qatar

To learn more, contact Chad Evans

The Council On Competitiveness | 900 17th St. NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20006

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