



National Commission on Innovation & Competitiveness Frontiers
Mountain West Innovation Summit

June 21-22, 2022
University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY

**Past, Present, Future – Re-shaping America’s
Innovation Agenda: Perspectives from National
Commissioners**

Date: June 21st, Day 1

Time: 2:45pm – 3:45pm Mountain

Venue: Marian H. Rochelle Gateway Center

Room: Gateway Salons C/D

Registration: you will need to register at the venue. On-the-ground registration for the Summit will take place in the Gateway Center Foyer.

MODERATOR

Mr. Bill Bates
Senior Advisor
Council on Competitiveness

PANELISTS

Mr. Joshua “Josh” Parker
Chief Executive Officer
Ancora

Mr. Steven “Steve” Stevanovich
Chairman & Chief Executive Officer
SGS Global Holdings

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Press may be in the room or online. As such, please keep in mind your comments as they may be quoted.
- The Summit will be recorded and photographed – we will ask all participants to sign a simple release to use images upon registration.
- Images and audio will be used in the production of a post-Summit summary report.
- Dress code for the Summit – including the reception and dinner on the 21st – is business casual.

PROGRAM FORMAT AND DYNAMICS

The purpose of the sessions is for the moderator and panelists to catalyze a conversation that highlights key insights, observations, conclusions, and opportunities drawn from their experiences.

- Plenary panel participants will be seated in the “main audience” – the emcee (Chad Evans) will call you up to stage when time.
- The emcee or moderator will introduce panelists in alphabetical order by last name.
- The total time allocated to the panel is 45 minutes, including in/out time – please budget the conversation to last approximately 40 minutes.
- The plenaries are being designed as PowerPoint-free sessions.

- The moderator will open the plenary panel discussion with a brief overview of intent (2-3 minutes) and jumpstart the conversation asking pre-arranged questions to the panelists.
- In this initial round of responses, panelists should be prepared with an answer – to a question of their choice based on options outlined below in this document – and will have 3-4 minutes for their remarks. Please note, panelists should focus these intro remarks on the question proposed by the moderator, agreed to in advance.
- The moderator will steer the dialogue for the duration of the panel, posing questions to panelists and making the session a conversation – as opposed to additional “formal remarks.”
- Each panelist is asked to provide very short responses to the questions to allow for plenty of conversation.
- The moderator will be poised to turn to the plenary audience for Q&A in the final 5-10 minutes of the panel’s duration (audience members will have access to roaming microphones – and the moderator will ask audience members to identify themselves when asking a question.
- The moderator will summarize the conversation (2-3 min) and close the panel at the appointed time.
- At the conclusion of the panel, panelists are free to return to their seat in the plenary audience.

MODERATOR ROLE

- The moderator will introduce the session and frame the discussion with his or her insights regarding the session topics (2-3 minutes).
- The moderator will guide conversation, using the general questions in this guide allowing time for response and commentary from panelists.
- The moderator will not provide descriptive biographies for each speaker as speaker biographies will be in the Summit program materials.
- The moderator will be poised to turn to the plenary audience for short Q&A toward the end of the panel.
- The moderator will provide brief closing remarks (2-3 min), summarizing the overall themes of the panel discussion and/or providing relevant concluding insights at the end of the panel.
- There will either be a clock on stage – or a colleague flashing time cards – so that the moderator and panelists can be aware of general timing.

PANELISTS' ROLES

- Panelists are requested to provide a conversation-catalyzing, though-provoking, personal response to the questions posed by the moderator.
- No PowerPoint slides or other graphics will be used in the panel.
- Each panelist is asked to provide short responses to the questions in order to allow for plenty of conversation.
- If time allows for questions from the audience, the panelist should also be prepared to answer questions posed by participants and curated by the moderator.
- Panelists should not provide descriptive self-introductions, as biographies will be in the Summit program materials.
- Panelists should feel free to mention ongoing projects at their organization relevant to the conversation.
- Panelists should also feel free to raise, in the context of the moderated conversation, a relevant topic that the suggested tee-up questions may not address.
- When appropriate and when not taking away from another's "talk time," panelists are encouraged to "jump in" and create a conversational dynamic. The moderator will help to manage to keep the session on time and all panelists engaged.

PANEL SUMMARY AND KEY QUESTIONS TO ADDRESS

A moderated conversation of the Summit Co-Chairs to discuss the local "geography of innovation" – challenges and opportunities to overcome in the region and add to the nation's innovation capacity and capability – and joints goals/outcomes for the Mountain West Innovation Summit.

<<More to come>>

MODERATOR AND PANELIST BIOS



Mr. Bill Bates
Senior Advisor
Council on Competitiveness

Bill Bates is a Senior Advisor to the Council on Competitiveness. He was previously an Executive Vice President with the Council and the founding Executive Director of the Global Federation of Competitiveness Councils. He has led multi-year initiatives to explore the economic opportunity for advanced manufacturing in the United States and the development of a national cyber security agenda. Bill was also the chief architect of the Council's National Competitiveness Forum (NCF), the annual C-suite conversation that sets a pro-growth agenda for the U.S. policymakers. He is a frequent speaker both nationally and internationally on a range of competitiveness and innovation topics from education to technology policy to advanced manufacturing.

Since 2019, Bill has led the Council's University Leadership Forum to draw greater attention to higher education's role in U.S. competitiveness from leadership in game changing technologies to the development of the next generation of entrepreneurs.

As the first Executive Director of the Global Federation of Competitiveness Councils (GFCC), Bill helped establish and build a network of more than 30 competitiveness councils from around the world. He managed the Council's role as secretariat to the GFCC, oversaw membership engagement and outreach and directed the development of annual policy reports, including Best Practices in Competitiveness Policy.

He previously served as Director of Government Relations for the United States Telecom Association. Prior to that, he was Chief of Staff and Legislative Director to House Commerce Committee member, U. S. Congresswoman Anna Eshoo (D-CA) where he advised the Congresswoman on a wide range of technology issues including telecommunications, biotechnology and intellectual property. Before joining Ms. Eshoo, he was an Associate with the Washington, DC-based public affairs company, Cassidy & Associates.

He holds a master's degree in government from Johns Hopkins University and a bachelor's degree in government and History from Cornell University. In his spare time, he runs ultramarathons and is a member of the Marine Corps Marathon Runners Club, having completed the race seven times.



Mr. Joshua “Josh” Parker
Chief Executive Officer
Ancora

Josh Parker is Ancora’s Founder, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. He leads the Board of Directors and sits on the firm’s Investment Committee. As Chairman and CEO, he is responsible for overseeing all firm strategy, policies and procedures as well as day-to-day operations.

A national leader in the anchor institution, life sciences, and innovation real estate sectors, he has unique real estate experience spanning adaptive re-use, urban redevelopment, innovation and entrepreneurship initiatives, university-leased real estate and mixed-use development.

After a stint in NY theatre, Josh began his real estate career in Durham, NC. In the two decades since as a serial entrepreneur, he experienced industry success that includes developing a combined 3.5 million square feet totaling over \$2 billion in value.

While leading Ancora, Josh remains committed to public service. He has served in a variety of roles for non-profit and government appointed positions. He is currently a member of the Selective Service Board (local board member), full member of the Urban Land Institute serving as Vice-Chair of the University Development & Innovation Council, a member of the Economic Club of Washington, DC, a member of the Council on Competitiveness and Commissioner on the National Commission on Innovation and Competitiveness Frontiers.

He is a graduate of North Carolina Central University.



Mr. Steven “Steve” Stevanovich
Chairman & Chief Executive Officer
SBS Global Holdings

Mr. Steve G. Stevanovich is a Co-Founder and Executive Chairman of Skyworks Aeronautics Corp. He led the \$210 million acquisition of the assets of Groen Brothers Aviation Inc. into what ultimately became Skyworks Aeronautics Corp.

Mr. Stevanovich is also the Founder, Chairman, and CEO of Lonford Global as well as the Epsilon, Westford and SGS family of funds, which he founded in 1997 and which hold control investments in a number of technology companies in various industries.

He launched his first fund, the Epsilon Global Active Value Fund (“EGAVF”), in 1997 and soon followed up with EGAVF II and EGAVF III as well as the Westford Special Situations Funds I & II, along with other additional Funds and other investment vehicles. Since inception, Mr. Stevanovich has invested over \$6 billion via his various investment vehicles. Though the Funds employ multiple investment strategies, a main focus has been an event-driven, hands-on activist strategy, that is particularly focused on finding opportunities in distressed situations and restructurings. The current portfolio consists primarily of control positions in early-stage technology companies acquired via restructuring.

Mr. Stevanovich has had a 30 year career in international investing and technology commercialization including as a member of the Board of Governors of the U.S. Department of Energy’s Argonne National Laboratory and as a member of the University of Chicago’s Board of Trustees. He is currently a Council Member of the University of Chicago’s technology accelerator, The Polsky Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, a Commissioner on the National Commission on Innovation & Competitiveness and a member of the Executive Committee of the U.S. Council on Competitiveness. He also serves on the Board of Advisors to the University of Chicago’s Master of Science Program in Financial Mathematics and on the Council of the Booth School of Business.

Mr. Stevanovich is an Inaugural Member of the Coalition for Access, Affordability and Success – a group of more than 140 distinguished colleges and universities across the U.S. that joined together to increase students’ access to higher education. In 2007 he endowed the Stevanovich Center for Financial Mathematics. Mr. Steve Stevanovich holds an AB in Economics from the University of Chicago as well as an MBA from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business.