

# Let's Empower Five Million New Inventors

*A Workshop To Develop a Research, Policy, and Action Agenda  
To Increase Participation in Inventing and Patenting*

## AGENDA

Thursday, March 7

9:00 am: Registration and Breakfast

9:30 am: Welcome Remarks

Holly Fechner, Executive Director, Invent Together

9:45 am: SESSION 1: Recent Research on Diversity and Innovation

### *Panel 1: The Demographics of Inventorship*

#### **Facilitator:**

Dr. Alex Bell, Postdoctoral Scholar, California Policy Lab, University of California Los Angeles

#### **Speakers:**

Dr. Michelle Saksena, Senior Research Economist, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)  
*Presenting:* "Where Are U.S. Women Patentees?: Assessing Three Decades of Growth"

Dr. Nicholas A. Pairolero, Senior Research Economist, USPTO  
*Presenting:* "Discovering Value: Women's Participation in University and Commercial AI Invention"

### *Panel 2: Inventor Experiences and Best Practices To Broaden Participation in Inventing and Patenting*

#### **Facilitator:**

Elyse Shaw, Policy Analyst, Women's Bureau, U.S. Department of Labor

#### **Speakers:**

Dr. Jessica Milli, Founder and Principal, Research2Impact

Dr. Breann Branch, Racial Equity Fellow, Research2Impact  
*Presenting:* "Forthcoming study on trust and patenting"

Dr. Gauri Subramani, Assistant Professor, Lehigh University  
*Presenting:* "Try, Try, Try Again? Differential Responses to Rejection & The Gender Innovation Gap"

**Dr. Nicholas A. Pairolero**, Senior Research Economist, USPTO

*Presenting: "Closing the Gender Gap in Patenting: Evidence from a Randomized Control Trial at the USPTO"*

**Jane Muir**, Research Strategy Consultant, Jacksonville University

*Presenting: "Engaging More Women in Academic Innovation: Findings and Recommendations"*

**11:45 am: Lunch**

**12:30 pm: SESSION 2: Public Policy Update and Agenda Setting**

**Facilitator:**

**Laurie Self**, Senior Vice President & Counsel, Government Affairs, Qualcomm

**Speakers:**

**Valencia Martin Wallace**, Executive Lead, Council on Inclusive Innovation and Deputy Commissioner for Patents, USPTO

**Dr. Jennifer Shieh**, Acting Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Investment and Innovation, U.S. Small Business Administration

**Morgan Schreurs**, Policy Director, Invent Together

**2:00 pm: Break**

**2:15 pm: SESSION 3: Inventor Needs and Resources**

**Facilitator:**

**Sierra Stubbs**, Outreach Coordinator, Invent Together

**Speakers:**

**Sudepto Roy**, Vice President, Engineering, Qualcomm, Inc. / The Inventor's Patent Academy Project Lead

**Dr. Stephanie Couch**, Executive Director, Lemelson-MIT Program

**Sandra Nowak**, Vice President, 3M Innovative Properties Company / Chief IP Counsel, Vice President, Solventum

**Marina Biragova**, Executive Director, Technology and Entrepreneurship Clinic, Southern University Law Center

**3:15 pm: SESSION 4: Small Group Discussions on a Research, Policy, and Action Agenda**

**4:00 pm: SESSION 5: Large Group Discussion on a Research, Policy, and Action Agenda**

**4:45 pm: Closing Remarks**

**Holly Fechner**, Executive Director, Invent Together