

Compete Connect

First Edition



From the President's Desk



Deborah L. Wince-Smith,
President and CEO, Council
on Competitiveness

Welcome to the inaugural edition of the Council's newsletter, where we will feature critical competitiveness insights, member and program news, and upcoming events.

Fifteen years ago, the Council on Competitiveness led the call for a national innovation strategy. Legislatively, the result was the bipartisan America COMPETES Act passed in 2008 and reauthorized multiple times since. Yet, this story of success comes with a stark warning for the current debate happening in Congress related to authorizing vital increases in spending on research and development (R&D) and stand up a new directorate at the National Science Foundation that focuses on technology development and deployment. Check out the "chart of the month" below for more, but the bottom line is that the promised funding in the COMPETES law never materialized. As the Council's [Competing in the Next Economy](#) report warns, global competition is targeting U.S. leadership in critical technologies that will define how we work, play and live for decades to come. We must do more than agree we need to invest in innovation — we need to actually invest.

News

U.S. leaders need to be more proactive and aggressive in writing the rules for global competition in tech-based innovation. In her latest monthly article for Forbes.com, Deborah Wince-Smith argues how and why ([read more here](#)).

New Council Leadership

Brian Moynihan, Chairman and CEO of Bank of America, has assumed Chairmanship of the Council's Board — becoming its 10th Chair in 35 years. Joining him on the Board — alongside longstanding Labor Vice-Chair Lonnie Stephenson, International President of the IBEW, and Council President and CEO, Deborah L. Wince-Smith — is Joan Gabel, President of the University of Minnesota, as University Vice-Chair.



Brian Moynihan, CEO & Chairman, Bank of America

"The Council has a real opportunity to grow, share its message, and engage many more Americans in our movement to boost long-term innovation, sustainability and resilience."



Joan Gabel, President, University of Minnesota

"As a Council, we have a unique opportunity to leverage our collective competitive advantage — the diverse perspectives of our membership [...] — to come together to solve the greatest challenges facing our country."

The National Commission on Innovation and Competitiveness Frontiers

The Council team focused the first half of 2021 on an active outreach and communications strategy, sharing with key policy leaders the major recommendations from [Competing in the Next Economy](#), including meetings with House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, NSF Director Sethuraman Panchanathan, Acting Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy Kei Koizumi, and key staff from the offices of Senator Chuck Schumer, Senator Tim Scott, Senator Jerry Moran, Senator Chris Coons, Senator Todd Young, Representative Haley Stevens and many more.

In addition, the Council, in partnership with Lockheed Martin, launched a new webinar series to build on the 2020 National Commission priorities. The first focused on ["Sustainability: Pursuing Innovation with Purpose"](#) and features key leaders from Lockheed Martin, UC San Diego, Bank of America and the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory.

To find out more, email EVP [Chad Evans](#).

Technology Leadership & Strategy Initiative



Dr. John Smees,
VP Engineering, Qualcomm

The May TLSI: Competitiveness Watch focused on the market-changing power of 5G technology. Dr. John Smees, Vice President of Engineering, Qualcomm, and TLSI member, highlighted 5G opportunities, as well as the pathway to 6G and beyond. He also led a conversation around the necessity of advanced microelectronics manufacturing in the United States.

To find out more, email EVP [Chad Evans](#).

During the April 28 [University Leadership Forum](#) (ULF) meeting, guest speaker Kei Koizumi, Acting Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), spoke about the Biden Administration's [American Jobs Plan](#) to boost US competitiveness and job creation with R&D investments of over \$180 billion over multiple years to address infrastructure, establish the U.S. as a climate science leader around the globe and eliminate race and gender disparities in STEM subjects. Of this total budget, \$50 billion are for a National Science Foundation technology-focused directorate. He also addressed key challenges to U.S. technology leadership such as critical materials and supply chain dependencies.



Kei Koizumi,
Acting Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy

For more information, email EVP [Bill Bates](#).

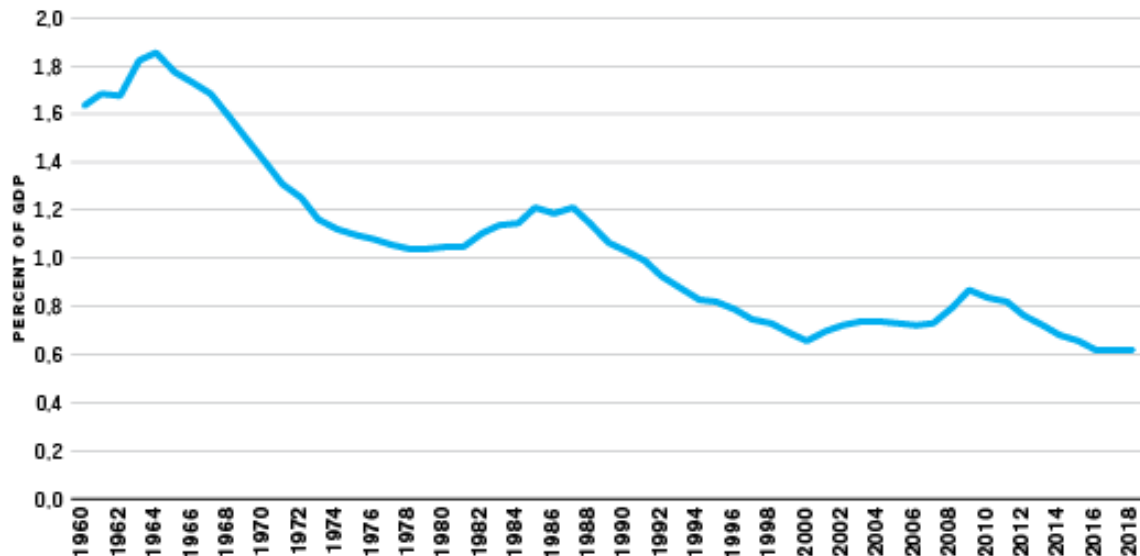
Council Insight

The U.S. must reverse the structural slide in federal support of R&D over the past decades to meet growing, global competitiveness challenges. Past, significant investments played fundamental roles in building U.S. science and technology — and commercial — strengths in health, defense, energy, agriculture, etc.

While the U.S. economy has continued to grow over the past 50 years, federal support for R&D as a percentage of that economy has not kept pace — declining steadily. If today's federal R&D investment as a percent of GDP matched its 1964 height, the investment would be nearly \$400 billion annually — not the estimated \$140 billion in 2019.

Federal Government R&D Investment as Percent of GDP

Source: National Science Foundation



Sources: Competing in the Next Economy, Council on Competitiveness, December 2020; and, Chapter 17. Research and Development, Analytical Perspectives, Presidents FY 2021 Budget, Office of Management and Budget, February 2020.

Member Spotlight

Dr. Thom Mason, Director of Los Alamos National Laboratory, testifies before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural



Resources

“National laboratories occupy a unique position in this ecosystem, synthesizing and applying science and engineering to problems of national interest...”

Read his full testimony [here](#).



Dr. Michael Crow speaks on Our American Stories Podcast

Listen as Dr. Michael Crow, President of Arizona State University, speaks about how the university system can be reformed to ensure that children from all social background can achieve quality education.

Click [here](#) to listen.



Distinguished Fellow Dr. France Cordóva selected President by the Science Philanthropy Alliance

The Science Philanthropy Alliance announced its newly elected president Dr. France Cordóva on May 5. Dr. Cordóva’s appointment follows her record of achievement and experience in academia and as the National Science Foundation Director under President Obama.

Read more [here](#).

Mark Your Calendars!

Beyond Digital Manufacturing: Understanding the Imperative of Total Transformation
Presented by Lockheed Martin

June 23, 2-3 PM Eastern

[Click here to register](#)

Featuring:



Yvonne Hodge,
Senior Vice President, Enterprise Business
Transformation, Lockheed Martin



Jahmy J. Hindman,
Chief Technology Officer, Deere &
Company



Thomas R. Kurfess,
Chief Manufacturing Officer, Oak Ridge
National Laboratory



Theresa S. Mayer, Executive Vice
President for Research and Partnerships,
Professor of Electrical and Computer
Engineering, Purdue University

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