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**Five Leaders in Innovation Elected to Project Scientist Board of Directors**

*Project Scientist provides STEM-based camps and enrichment opportunities for girls ages 4-12*

**CHARLOTTE, N.C., June 15, 2018** — Leaders representing five industries across the country were elected in March, 2018 to the board of directors for Project Scientist, a nonprofit organization that provides camps and enrichment opportunities in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) to girls ages 4-12. The new members bring to the board their experience from the marketing, finance, technology, science, strategy and engineering fields. The diverse members from five cities and three states share a commitment to closing the workforce and education gender gap that currently exists in STEM fields.

Although women fill nearly half of all jobs in the U.S., they hold less than 25% of STEM jobs, according to the U.S. Department of Commerce. This statistic is even more striking given the results of a University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Harvard University and Project Scientist study finding that 78% of school-age girls have an interest in STEM subjects.

“Project Scientist is serious about fostering a love of STEM subjects in the next generation of female scientists, engineers and innovators,” said Erika Duncan, Project Scientist board chair and community relations manager at Bank of America. “A serious commitment takes dedicated leadership, and we are thrilled that these new board members share our passion for Project Scientist’s mission.”

The Project Scientist Board of Directors welcomes the following new members:

Lori Friedman is senior director of translational oncology at Genentech in San Francisco, C.A. She earned her Ph.D. in molecular and cell biology at the University of California, Berkeley followed by postdoctoral research at the University of Cambridge, U.K. Friedman serves on the Women in Cancer Research Council of the American Association for Cancer Research.

Dan Fromm is chief operations officer for Barkley, an integrated marketing and advertising agency with offices in Kansas City M.O., Pittsburgh, P.A. and Boulder, C.O. Fromm graduated from Boston University with a degree in film and television and previously worked in production for ESPN.

Betsy Grider is chief strategy officer at Patron Technology, having previously built, launched and led NASCAR’s technology development and integration division. Grider is a keynote speaker on sports innovation, virtual and augmented reality, strategic alliances and women in sports and technology.

Jennie Ibrahim is a software engineer at Google in Irvine, C.A. and has previous experience with several Department of Defense contractors. She holds a master’s degree in computer science from Northeastern University. As a child in Sudan, Ibrahim saw firsthand how nonprofits can improve entire communities through investment in education.

Stephen Jenvey is director and vice president of enterprise architecture and strategy at Capital Group based in Irvine, C.A. Over more than 25 years in financial services he has covered both technical and business functions with companies such as Merrill Lynch and Fidelity Investments.

**About Project Scientist**

Project Scientist is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to educating, coaching and advocating for girls and women with a passion, aptitude and talent for STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics). Core programs include Project Scientist Academy, a six-week summer science intensive for girls ages 4-12 held on university campuses in North Carolina and California. All programs are research-based and 40% of services are scholarship-based. More information is available at [www.projectscientist.org](http://www.projectscientist.org).

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