

CENTRAL HOUSTON ANNUAL LUNCHEON: INNOVATION**October 12, 2018****Hilton Americas-Houston**

Panelist Bios:

John Harthorne, Founder & CEO, MassChallenge

John earned his MBA from the MIT Sloan School of Management in 2007. While at school, John won Grand Prize in the 2007 MIT \$100K Business Plan Competition and received the 2007 Patrick J. McGovern Award for impact on quality and visibility of entrepreneurship at MIT. He also led the 10th annual MIT Global Startup Workshop (GSW) held in Trondheim, Norway. The Boston Business Journal has identified John as one of Boston's 50 Most Influential Business Leaders alongside the CEOs of Akamai Technologies, Blue Cross Blue Shield and the Boston Celtics. The World Economic Forum also elected John as one of the 2013 Young Global Leaders alongside Chelsea Clinton and Tony Hsieh, and Ernst & Young voted John as Social Entrepreneur of the Year in New England for 2013.

MassChallenge is a Boston-based globally recognized 501 (C)(3) non-profit startup accelerator that utilizes a competition that awards over \$2M in equity-free cash prizes globally every year – all to help high-impact and high-potential startups. Prospective applicants must be potential high-impact startups in their industry and have raised less than \$500,000 in equity-based funding and generated less than \$1 million in revenue in the last 12 months. Since its inception MassChallenge has provided the Boston innovation ecosystem with: 1,495 alumni, over \$2 billion in revenue, \$3 billion in outside venture funding, and over 80,000+ newly created jobs.

Adam Enbar, Co-Founder & CEO, Flatiron Coding School

Adam Enbar is CEO of The Flatiron School, which has trained thousands of software engineers and placed them into jobs at companies like Google, Intel, and The New York Times through intensive 3 to 5 month programs. Flatiron has also partnered with the City of New York to launch the NYC Web Development Fellowship, focused exclusively on students without college degrees, over 90% of which come from diverse and low-income backgrounds. In 2015, Flatiron School released the industry's first and only independently audited jobs report verifying 99% graduation rate with 98% job placement and \$74,000 average starting salary for graduates.

Adam began his career as a real estate developer before moving to Boston where he worked at HubSpot, leading the National Accounts team while the company grew from 70 to 350 employees in two years. He then spent time in Venture Capital with Charles River Ventures working with entrepreneurs in education, enterprise software, and connected devices. All the while, Adam remained close to education, teaching first grade in Brooklyn, TA'ing a marketing course at Harvard, and volunteer-teaching entrepreneurship at South Bay Correctional Facility in Boston. Adam received his BS from Cornell University and MBA from Harvard Business School.

The Flatiron School was brought together by a venture capitalist with a passion for education and a self-taught technologist bent on helping his students reinvent themselves as programmers. In 2012, Adam Enbar and Avi Flombaum partnered to create an alternative to an education industry leaving a wide skills gap in a booming tech world. Alongside a scrappy community of students ready for a new way to learn, they launched Flatiron School – an accelerated programming (software engineering, computer programming, and data science) school that inspired a coding bootcamp industry.

Flatirons proven that this model can work – with nearly all job-seeking students across their programs starting fulfilling careers at companies including Google, Apple, even NASA – we’ve pushed to expand accessibility to this transformative education, offering scholarships and fellowship programs for underrepresented groups in tech. In 2015, we took our classroom online with Learn.co, bringing the ability to change your career through code to those previously left out of the bootcamp model – people holding full-time jobs, parents balancing packed schedules, students hundreds of miles from the nearest tech hub.

Jen Bonnett, Former General Manager, Advanced Technology Development Center / Georgia Tech, Vice President of Innovation and Entrepreneurship for the Savannah Economic Development Authority

Jennifer Bonnett is a technology entrepreneur with over 25 years of experience in the Information Technology/Software Development field specializing in web and mobile technologies. She has served as Founder/CTO of a number of venture and angel backed firms, acting as both lead architect and growing/managing the technology team. She and her co-founders raised in excess of \$47 million in funding over 3 companies. Bonnett was most recently with the Georgia Institute of Technology where she served as the Director / General Manager of the Advanced Technology Development Center. Based out of Atlanta, ATDC is the longest-running and largest research university affiliated incubators in the United States. Since its inception in 1980, ATDC has fostered innovation and economic development by graduating over 177 companies, which together have raised over \$3 billion in outside financing and at any point in time employ over 3000 employees in the state of Georgia. Headquartered in Atlanta’s Technology Square adjacent to Georgia Tech’s campus, ATDC serves as the hub for technology entrepreneurship in Georgia. Bonnett, Jen was also awarded the 2017 Women of the Year Award (Non-profit) by Women In Technology (WIT).

Moderator:

Barbara Burger, President, Chevron Technology Ventures

Barbara J. Burger is president of Chevron Technology Ventures (CTV), a role she has held since June 1, 2013. CTV champions innovation, commercialization and integration of emerging technologies into the corporation and includes three business units: carbon and biofuels, emerging technologies and venture capital.

Joining Chevron in 1987, Burger started as a research chemist at the Richmond Laboratory. After several technical assignments, she went on to a number of management positions of increasing responsibility in International Marketing, Chemicals, Technology Marketing and Lubricants. During her time in Lubricants, Burger held the positions of vice president of Base Oils; vice president of Europe, Africa, Middle East, based in London; vice president of Global Supply Chain and vice president of Supply Chain and Base Oils.

Burger serves as a non-executive director for Caltex Australia Limited, an ASX100 company, of which Chevron is a 50 percent shareholder. She is also a director on the board of the Houston Technology Center, a technology and business incubator and is on the Board of Directors for the Houston Symphony. She serves on the U.S. Department of Energy National Renewable Laboratory External Advisory Council. Burger is the executive sponsor for Chevron’s industrial relationship with MIT and sits on the governing board and energy council for the MIT Energy Initiative.

An active alumna of the University of Rochester, Burger is a founding member of the university’s San Francisco Bay Regional Cabinet and is also a member of the Texas Regional Cabinet. She is a member of the George Eastman Circle, the university’s leadership annual giving society and the Libraries’ Advisory Council. In 2012, she established the Barbara J. Burger Endowed Scholarship in the Sciences to support students pursuing degrees in biology, chemistry, earth and environmental sciences, or physics. Burger graduated with a bachelor’s degree in chemistry from the University of Rochester in 1983. She went on to receive a doctoral degree in chemistry from the California Institute of Technology in 1987 and an academic honor M.B.A. in finance from the University of California, Berkeley in 1994.