



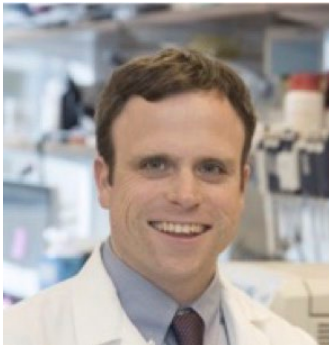
catalyst conversations: Breakdowns to Breakthroughs

Speaker Bios



Heather Flannery chairs the IEEE SA Open P2418.6 Standards Development Working Group (blockchain in healthcare and life sciences), served as FY19 and '20 Co-Chair and FY21 Chair of the global HIMSS Blockchain in Healthcare Task Force, chairs the Healthcare Interest Group at the Enterprise Ethereum Alliance (EEA), and is an Associate Editor of the peer-reviewed journal, *Frontiers Blockchain for Science*.

She is also Co-Founder and Board Chair of Blockchain in Healthcare Global ("BiHG"), a 501(c)6 trade association organized under the IEEE ISTO. Ms. Flannery has served as Industry Faculty for the United States Department of Health and Human Services Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (US HHS ONC) and is an active consultant, advisor, and keynote speaker.



Dr. Christopher Mason's background and appointments:
B.S. in Genetics, University of Wisconsin-Madison (2001)
B.S. in Biochemistry, University of Wisconsin-Madison (2001)
Ph.D. in Genetics, Yale University (2006)
Post-doc, Clinical Genetics, Yale Medical School (2009)
Fellowship of Genomics, Ethics, and Law, Yale Law School (2009)
Assistant Professor, Weill Cornell Medicine (2009)
Associate Professor, Weill Cornell Medicine (2015)
Director, the WorldQuant Initiative for Quantitative Prediction (2017)
Professor, Weill Cornell Medicine (2021)

Appointments at the Tri-Institutional Program on Computational Biology and Medicine between Cornell, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and Rockefeller University, the Sandra and Edward Meyer Cancer Center, and the Feil Family Brain and Mind Research Institute.

The Mason laboratory develops and deploys new biochemical and computational methods in functional genomics to elucidate the genetic basis of human disease and human physiology. We create and deploy novel techniques in next-generation sequencing and algorithms for: tumor evolution, genome evolution, DNA and RNA modifications, and genome/epigenome engineering. We also work closely with NIST/FDA to build international standards for these methods (SEQC2, IMMSA, and Epigenomics QC groups), to ensure clinical-quality genome



measurements and editing. We also work with NASA to build integrated molecular portraits of genomes, epigenomes, transcriptomes, and metagenomes for astronauts, which help establish the molecular foundations and genetic defenses for enabling long-term human spaceflight.

He has won the NIH's Transformative R01 Award, the NASA Group Achievement Award, the Pershing Square Sohn Cancer Research Alliance Young Investigator award, the Hirschi-Weill-Caulier Career Scientist Award, the Vallee Scholar Award, the CDC Honor Award for Standardization of Clinical Testing, and the WorldQuant Foundation Scholar Award. He was named as one of the "Brilliant Ten" Scientists by Popular Science, featured as a TEDMED speaker, and called "The Genius of Genetics" by 92Y. He has >175 peer-reviewed papers that have been featured on the covers of Nature, Science, Cell, Nature Biotechnology, Nature Microbiology, and Neuron, as well as cited by the U.S. District Court and U.S. Supreme Court. Coverage of his work has also appeared on the covers of the Wall Street Journal, New York Times, TIME, The LA Times, and across many media (ABC, NBC, CBC, CBS, Fox, CNN



Ajay Royyuru leads Healthcare & Life Sciences research at IBM. His team is actively pursuing high quality science, developing novel technologies and achieving translational insights across this industry, including areas of cancer, cardiac, neurological, mental health, immune system, and infectious diseases.

Ajay obtained his PhD in molecular biology from Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai. He had postdoctoral training at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York. In 2016 Ajay was named an IBM Fellow, the company's pre-eminent technical distinction.



With multiple roles at MIT, **Kathleen Kennedy** is on the front lines of cutting-edge technology. Right now, she is extremely passionate about topics such as global climate change, the evolving nature of work, and the future of education. She is a strategic leader with a unique skill set for transforming organizations as well as building new ones.

Kathleen currently is the Executive Director of the MIT Center for Collective Intelligence, a multidisciplinary center that includes Collective Intelligence Design Lab and the new Pandemic Response CoLab. In November, 2020, she also assumed the head leadership role of MIT Horizon, a new initiative of Open Learning. In addition, she is a venture partner at Good Growth Capital.

She is a cofounder of Manifest Boston (formally HubWeek), a first-of-its-kind civic collaboration that brings together the most creative and inventive minds making an impact in art, science and technology. She currently serves as a member of the board.

In 2016, she worked as a lead organizer of The Engine (www.engine.xyz), a venture fund and accelerator program for tough tech startups which was built by MIT. Prior to that, she served

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community²¹
biotechnology

as President as well as Chief Strategy Officer of MIT Technology Review, MIT's global media company. She also served as President of the MIT Enterprise Forum, MIT's entrepreneurial support organization.

Kathleen is a frequent speaker at global conferences and very active in the innovation community. She serves on numerous selection committees including the Eisenhower Fellowships, the Lemelson-MIT prize and the MacArthur Foundation 100&Change competition. The Women of the Harvard Club named her as one of Boston's Most Influential Women.



Patrick Schneider, Ph.D., is Head of Strategy, Business Development and Innovation for the Research Solutions Business Unit, and Chair of the Life Science Innovation Board as well as Chair of the Connected Lab and Gene Editing and Novel Modalities Promise Ventures at MilliporeSigma. His teams develop a wide range of research reagents, specialty chemicals, analytical instruments and kits for protein detection and biomarker discovery, as well as disposable devices and kits for sample preparation and processing, while also helping the Business Unit develop its strategy. As Chairman of the Innovation Board and Promise Ventures, he leads the review of important scientific trends, oversees the performance of innovation across Life Science, and ensures cross-business collaboration.

Over 20 years of leadership experience with MilliporeSigma, he has held various leadership roles in R&D, business development, management of research reagents portfolio and new business initiatives. Prior to MilliporeSigma, Patrick was the Vice President of R&D and Business Development for Research Reagents at Serologicals. Past appointments include Chief Scientific Officer at Chemicon International and Vice President of Genome Biosciences.