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## Media Advisory

### **Women's Power Gap Initiative Hosts 35 Massachusetts College Presidents at Summit on Gender Parity in Higher Education Leadership**

#### ***Second annual report finds the higher education sector should and could be the state's first major industry to reach gender parity, but obstacles still remain***

BOSTON — Nov. 4, 2019 —The Women's Power Gap Initiative (WPG) at the Eos Foundation and 35 college and university presidents will convene in a landmark Presidents' Summit on Monday, November 4<sup>th</sup> to discuss findings from the second annual *Women's Power Gap in Higher Education* report. The study will reveal both progress and potential:

- While women are just 37% of all the state's college and university presidents, they were half of the 14 newly appointed presidents for the 2019 academic year.
- The pipeline to the presidency is full of qualified female candidates in key leadership roles – women make up over half of all deans and provosts statewide.
- Obstacles remain, however, particularly among the largest universities, where women hold just 22% of presidencies, and none of the 13 large university boards are chaired by a woman.
- There is only one woman among the ten most highly paid presidents in the state.

“The opportunity is within reach for the higher education sector to become the first major industry in Massachusetts to reach gender parity. The turnout of so many presidents shows that these leaders are committed to creating inclusive, diverse leadership and stand poised to publicly lead on this issue,” said Andrea Silbert, President of the Eos Foundation and lead author of the study.

Lee Pelton, President of Emerson College and chair of the Presidential Advisory Committee for the WPG added, “Colleges and university leaders have begun to set aspirational goals to achieve gender parity, committing resources, putting strategies into play, and empowering talent. The facts in the Women's Power Gap report have prompted us all to take stock of where we are and to be honest with ourselves as we progress toward these goals.”

Although the event is private, Pelton, Silbert, and other presidents (see host committee below) will be available prior to and post event to discuss the report and summit.

**What:** Presidents' Summit and release of second annual *Women's Power Gap in Higher Education: Study and Rankings*. The summit will feature a panel of presidents including Pelton, Lawrence Bacow of Harvard University, Pam Eddinger of Bunker Hill Community College, and Laurie Leshin of Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

**When:** Monday, November 4, 2019, 12:30 – 2:30 pm

**Where:** UMass Club, One Beacon Street, Boston, MA

**Who:** The host committee includes:

- Lawrence Bacow, Harvard
- Roger Brown, Berklee College of Music
- Robert Brown, Boston University
- Javier Cevallos, Framingham State
- Frederick Clark, Bridgewater State
- Michael Collins, UMass-Medical
- Alison Davis-Blake, Bentley University
- Mark DeFusco, Bay State College
- Helen Drinan, Simmons University
- Harry Dumay, Elms College
- Pam Eddinger, Bunker Hill CC
- Sister Janet Eisner, Emmanuel College
- Patricia Gentile, North Shore CC
- Gena Glickman, Massasoit CC
- Lily Hsu, Labouré College
- Deborah Jackson, Cambridge College
- Paula Johnson, Wellesley College
- Andrea Kalyn, NE Conservatory of Music
- John Keenan, Salem State
- Marisa Kelly, Suffolk University
- Ellen Kennedy, Berkshire CC
- Laurie Leshin, WPI
- Richard Miller, Olin College of Engineering
- Paula Milone-Nuzzo, MGH Institute of Health Professions
- Jacqueline Moloney, UMass-Lowell
- Anthony Monaco, Tufts University
- David Nelson, MassArt
- Katherine Newman, UMass-Boston
- Luis Pedraja, Quinsigamond CC
- Lee Pelton, Emerson College
- David Podell, Mass Bay CC
- Valerie Roberson, Roxbury CC
- Christina Royal, Holyoke CC
- Yves Salomon-Fernández, Greenfield CC
- Kurt Steinberg, Montserrat College of Art

**About the Women’s Power Gap Initiative:**

The mission of the Women’s Power Gap Initiative is to dramatically increase the number of women leaders from a diverse set of backgrounds across all sectors in Massachusetts. The Initiative conducts actionable research on prominent sectors of the Massachusetts economy, measures the extent of the power gap, and proposes solutions to reach parity. For more information, see [WomensPowerGap.org](http://WomensPowerGap.org).

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