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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 11, 2020

## **Connecticut Science Center Welcomes New Trustees**

The Connecticut Science Center is pleased to welcome two new trustees. Elected to the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut Science Center are **Stephanie Bush**, Executive Vice President, Small Commercial and Personal Lines from The Hartford, and **Alison Nelson**, Chief Transformation Officer at Optum Technology a division of Optum and part of UnitedHealth Group.

“Stephanie and Alison are incredible leaders in their professional and personal spheres,” said William Malugen, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut Science Center and Travelers Executive Vice President and National Accounts President. “We are delighted that they will bring their skills, passions, and expertise to the Connecticut Science Center at this critical time, when science education and inspiration have never been more important for our future.”

Since the opening in 2009, the Science Center has served more than 3.25 million people. The Science Center offers more than 165 exhibits in ten galleries. As the Science Center prepares to reopen its doors in accordance with the Reopen Connecticut plan, visitors will be able to engage in the exhibits that they have come to know and love in a safe, clean environment as well as see the blockbuster traveling exhibit, Maya: Hidden Worlds, which has been extended through the end of the year.

“The Connecticut Science Center is led by a dedicated and insightful Board of volunteer leaders. Their experience and vision inspire us in our mission to inspire lifelong learning through interactive and innovative experiences that explore our changing world through science,” said Connecticut Science Center President & CEO, Matt Fleury. “We are grateful for the leadership of our Board of Trustees, and our team is excited to work with Stephanie and Alison in the coming years.” For a complete list of current Trustees, please visit [CTScienceCenter.org/about/board-of-trustees](https://CTScienceCenter.org/about/board-of-trustees).

A wide range of topics reflecting the STEM fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics is evident throughout Connecticut Science Center, along the Connecticut River in downtown Hartford. They include human health, space and earth sciences, physical sciences, biology, the Connecticut River watershed, alternative energy sources, Connecticut inventors and innovations, a children’s gallery, and much more. With a focus on creating the next generation of our workforce, the STEM Career Connections program also introduces children, teachers, and caregivers to the jobs that are available in Connecticut-based companies including health care, advanced manufacturing, aerospace, pharmaceuticals, and more.

### About Stephanie Bush:



Stephanie Bush is Executive Vice President of The Hartford's Small Commercial and Personal Lines insurance businesses. Small Commercial provides insurance solutions to businesses with annual revenues under \$20 million. The Hartford is an industry leader in writing small commercial insurance, with more than one million policies providing coverage for small businesses across the United States. Personal Lines provides automobile, homeowners and personal umbrella coverages to individuals across the United States, and includes The AARP® Automobile and Homeowners Insurance Program serving more than 37 million members.

Bush returned to The Hartford in 2013 as chief product and underwriting officer for Small Commercial, was promoted to head of that business in 2014 and assumed leadership of Personal lines in 2018. Previously she was senior vice president of product management in personal insurance at Travelers. Prior to that she spent 20 years at The Hartford in positions of increasing responsibility in commercial insurance product, underwriting and field operations. Bush is chair of the board of directors of the National Council on Compensation Insurance. She holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

### About Alison Nelson:



Alison Nelson is the Chief Transformation Officer at Optum Technology a division of Optum and part of UnitedHealth Group, a mission-driven organization grounded in values of Integrity, Compassion, Relationships, Innovation, and Performance. Alison leads a global team with a diverse set of responsibilities supporting several Optum business teams and leading technology operations and transformation. Alison has had an extensive career in healthcare technology and is committed to leveraging technology to improve the healthcare system. She focuses on driving the utilization of modern technologies, simplifying solutions, transforming the workforce, and improving the customer experience. She has specialized in continuous improvement and agile methodologies to drive business and technology collaboration and overall member and customer value.

Alison is a strong supporter of Women in Technology and STEM, leading initiatives for Optum Technology in Hartford supporting girls' interest and women' careers in technology. Alison joined UnitedHealth Group in July of 1996. During her tenure, she has held various leadership positions in the company, all with a focus on technology, software development, program management and application architecture. Prior to joining UnitedHealth Group, Alison worked for Price Waterhouse, LLC in the Insurance Industry management consulting practice. Her passions include emerging technologies and promoting diversity in technology leaders. Alison will become a Board Member of the Connecticut Science Center in Hartford in June of 2020.

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**About the Connecticut Science Center:** The LEED-Gold certified Connecticut Science Center, located in downtown Hartford, sparks creative imagination and an appreciation for science by immersing visitors in fun and educational hands-on, minds-on interactive experiences while maintaining an environmentally conscious presence. Serving more than 3.25 million people since opening in 2009, the Science Center features more than 165 exhibits in ten galleries, covering a range of topics, including space and earth sciences, physical sciences, biology, the Connecticut River watershed, alternative energy sources, Connecticut inventors and innovations, a children's gallery, and much more. Other features include the state's only year-round butterfly habitat, five educational labs, a 200-seat 3D digital theater, function room, gift store, and ongoing events for all ages.

The Science Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing science education throughout the state of Connecticut and New England, providing learning opportunities for students and adults of all ages, and engaging the community in scientific exploration. The Connecticut Science Center is the home to the **Joyce D. and Andrew J. Mandell Academy for Teachers**, offering powerful professional development for educators. *More information:* [CTScienceCenter.org](http://CTScienceCenter.org) or (860) SCIENCE.