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## A letter from the President/CEO and Board of BioCT

June 8, 2020

The bioscience industry's goal is to support the health of our nation by bringing therapies, drugs, devices, solutions that help people live longer and healthier lives. Our nation is sick, with the COVID pandemic and a disease called racism. This is a critical time for change, real change, not just words but action and we believe our industry has an obligation to be a part of the solution in helping find new ways to build inclusivity. BioCT thanks our members and our bio community that already have inclusive programs and we need more.

Why is the disproportionate share of COVID 19 deaths attributed to communities of color? They often lack access to: healthy food, quality education, safe neighborhoods, mental health treatments, stable environments.... things that many of us take for granted. BioCT 's mission: to collaborate to find cures and create a thriving community to improve patients' lives and public health and drive economic growth. How can this community achieve this mission and be successful if we don't change the status quo that is harming people, rather than improving their lives?

BLACK LIVES MATTER and BioCT is committed to addressing racism through its members' employment practices, their development of therapeutics to benefit all patients, and our support of educational and job initiatives that promote inclusive economic opportunity.

In the wake of tragic deaths and civil unrest, Bio's President and CEO Dr. Michelle McMurry-Heath [announced she will lead a panel discussion](#) at [BIO Digital](#) With industry leaders on the state of race and equity within the biotechnology industry. **On Thursday, June 11, [Leading Through Crisis: Speaking Up and Out on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Issues Impacting Our World](#)**. BioCT hopes you will join us in attending this important panel discussion.

More to follow on how the bio industry is responding and how BioCT and our community can participate.

Sincerely  
BioCT and the BioCT Board of Directors