

Welcoming Remarks

Hello, I'm Esther George, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. In late August each year, since 1982, the Kansas City Fed has been honored to welcome central bankers, policymakers, academics and others to Jackson Hole, Wyoming, for our Economic Policy Symposium. After hosting a virtual conference last year, it was our hope that we could convene in person this week, and that seemed a reasonable plan before local health conditions changed.

I regret the inconvenience of this last-minute pivot to a virtual format, and want to express my thanks to our partners at the Jackson Lake Lodge and many others in the Jackson Hole area for working with us for months to make preparations and accommodations. So virtually we will open the program today with our first speaker, Fed Chair Jay Powell, whose remarks will be broadcast to the public. Following that, the remainder of the program titled "Macroeconomic Policy in an Uneven Economy" will continue for invited guests. As always, the full agenda, and each of the papers presented will be posted at our public website, *KansasCityFed.org*, and the transcript of the symposium will be made available after the event.

Now it's my distinct honor to welcome Federal Reserve Chair Jay Powell. Chair Powell, I want to thank you for your flexibility in these circumstances. The virtual floor is yours.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Esther L. George". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "E".

Esther L. George

President and Chief Executive Officer

Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City