Opening Address – 12:00 PM
Chinemelu Okafor and Rahma Ahmed will give a brief background about the RIC origins, what has been accomplished, and what is still to come. The audience is encouraged to ask questions.

Mentees’ Presentation – 12:15 PM
Mentees will present slides related to their 6-month long research projects. The zoom conference is open to the public, Princeton faculty, staff, and students as well as mentee and mentor friends are encouraged to attend.

Keynote Address – 1:00 PM
Prof. Lisa D. Cook (Michigan State University) and Prof. Trevon D. Logan (Ohio State University)
A candid discussion of their personal and professional paths - barriers faced and opportunities encountered, vision for the future of economics and how to hold universities and faculty accountable to advance equity, and advice for racial and ethnic minorities looking to enter the profession and how allies can help.

Mentors’ Address – 1:30 PM
Each Mentor will discuss what the process of mentoring is like, and their own experiences with mentoring. They will share advice for up and coming individuals in the field and highlight their mentee’s work.

Sponsor Recognition – 1:45 PM
Odichinma Akosionu and Chinekwu Osakwe will take the time to thank the sponsors who donated to RIC. They will discuss how the money is used and highlight the big donors.

Break – 1:50 PM
The team will highlight success stories of mentees and the achievements of the mentorship program.

Working Economist Panel – 2:00 PM
Dr. Kehinde Ajayi (The World Bank, Africa Gender Innovation Lab, Office of the Chief Economist for Africa), Dr. Tristan Reed (The World Bank, Trade and International Integration Unit of the Development Research Group), and Dr. Tomas Monarrez (The Urban Institute, Center for Education Data and Policy)
A discussion of why they decided to enter industry, touching on the eternal debate of ‘academia vs. industry’ and their experiences in the policy world.

PhD Admissions Panel/ Recruiter Panel – 2:30 PM
Prof. Alexandre Mas (Princeton University), Sarah Gault, MPA (J-PAL Global)
What are the most important aspects of a strong application package (beyond what is stated on respective programs’ websites)? What is the J-PAL MicroMasters degree program at MIT? How can the MicroMasters degree strengthen a prospective applicant’s profile? How are PhD programs actively working to diversify their pool of admits?

Closing Remarks and Thanks – 2:50 PM
Congratulate mentees that have completed the program and award scholarships. End with brief discussion of what the future holds for RIC.

Goodbye! – 3:00 PM