

## Webinar

## ULI Boston: Making Consistent Impact in a Hybrid Environment

Date: May 11, 2022

00:00:04> 00:00:07: 00:00:07> 00:00:11: 00:00:11> 00:00:14: 00:00:14> 00:00:17: 00:00:17> 00:00:20: 00:00:20> 00:00:23: 00:00:23> 00:00:26: 00:00:26> 00:00:29:	Good afternoon, my name is Michelle Landers and I'm the executive director here at Uli Boston, New England. I'd like to welcome you to today's program. As you can see, we're using the zoom meeting format again rather than the webinar, so please feel free to share your camera, but do stay muted. You can use the chat function to communicate with other attendees, but do take a moment to understand the difference between a message to everyone, a message
00:00:29> 00:00:30:	to an individual.
00:00:31> 00:00:34:	We have a great discussion lined up for you today.
00:00:34> 00:00:37:	If you'd like to submit questions for the panel, please
00:00:37> 00:00:40:	feel free to do so anytime by sending it as
00:00:40> 00:00:42:	a direct message to me. And when we get to
00:00:42> 00:00:44:	Q&A, we can call on you to unmute and ask
00:00:44> 00:00:45:	your question live.
00:00:46> 00:00:50:	The recording of this session, along with all programming across
00:00:50> 00:00:53:	the ULI platform, will be available on the ULI knowledge
00:00:53> 00:00:56:	Finder in the coming weeks at uli.org.
00:00:56> 00:00:58:	Before we jump into.
00:00:58> 00:00:58:	The panel.
00:00:58> 00:01:02:	I'd like to thank and introduce today's sponsor, Keller Augusta.
00:01:04> 00:01:07:	Here with some opening remarks is Caitlin Kincaid take it
00:01:07> 00:01:08:	away, Caitlin?
00:01:10> 00:01:14:	Thanks, Michelle. I'm going to share my screen of a
00:01:14> 00:01:17:	couple of graphics to share with the group.
00:01:20> 00:01:21:	OK.
00:01:30> 00:01:32:	Bear with me for one second here.

00:01:34> 00:01:37:	But thank you we if you don't know me, I'm
00:01:37> 00:01:42:	Caitlin decade senior managing director at Keller Augusta.
	We're a
00:01:42> 00:01:47:	Boston beach based search firm focused exclusively on real
	estate.
00:01:47> 00:01:52:	We are really excited about this topic because we are
00:01:52> 00:01:56:	talking to all of our clients and candidates about the
00:01:56> 00:02:00:	new world that we're living in and navigating hybrid work.
00:02:00> 00:02:03:	And, you know, prioritizing collaboration.
00:02:04> 00:02:08:	And office time and sort of the in between. So
00:02:08> 00:02:12:	I wanted to share with you. We recently completed a
00:02:13> 00:02:14:	survey to about.
00:02:15> 00:02:17:	800
00:02:19> 00:02:21:	l apologize guys here.
00:02:22> 00:02:30:	800 candidates and clients asking them to weigh in on.
00:02:32> 00:02:36:	Hybrid the hybrid work and.
00:02:38> 00:02:39:	And.
00:02:42> 00:02:45:	And you know how? What people are, how people are
00:02:45> 00:02:48:	prioritizing it, and can you see my screen? Sorry. Can
00:02:48> 00:02:49:	someone just help me and?
00:02:51> 00:02:53:	Not at the moment yet.
00:02:57> 00:03:01:	In addition to navigating the hybrid work environment, also,
	any
00:03:01> 00:03:04:	technological challenges that come along with that.
00:03:07> 00:03:10:	For some reason I'm sort of struggling with our my.
00:03:11> 00:03:12:	Tap here.
00:03:17> 00:03:19:	Do you want to email it to us? Caitlin, one
00:03:19> 00:03:20:	of us, can share.
00:03:22> 00:03:22:	Umm?
00:03:27> 00:03:29:	OK, I got it.
00:03:31> 00:03:33:	l apologize for that.
00:03:34> 00:03:36:	There we go. OK here we.
00:03:36> 00:03:39:	Are sorry about that. OK, so we have. We've just
00:03:39> 00:03:42:	done a robust survey. Putting it out to candidates and
00:03:42> 00:03:45:	clients that we work with. Sort of asking them you
00:03:45> 00:03:49:	know what? What are you doing to make this work?
00:03:49> 00:03:51:	What are your plans? Is this here to stay? Is
00:03:51> 00:03:54:	this to be determined? And I think you know the
00:03:55> 00:03:57:	feedback has been pretty interesting.
00:03:59> 00:04:00:	We
00:04:01> 00:04:05:	you know, I think candidates are.
00:04:07> 00:04:09:	Prioritizing flexibility over.
00:04:10> 00:04:14:	Of many other benefits, including compensation, which I think

	is
00:04:14> 00:04:19:	kind of interesting, I think that companies although you know
00:04:19> 00:04:22:	the real estate industry, is a very in person business.
00:04:23> 00:04:26:	It's hard to manage an asset, or, you know, interact
00:04:26> 00:04:30:	with your tenants from home. So the idea of working
00:04:30> 00:04:34:	remotely was challenging specifically to this industry, but I think
00:04:34> 00:04:38:	many companies are, you know, forced or embracing this new
00:04:38> 00:04:41:	normal because I think they know that.
00:04:41> 00:04:44:	You know their employees are prioritizing it, so this is,
00:04:44> 00:04:47:	you know, some highlights of some of the results of
00:04:47> 00:04:50:	our survey, and I think if you can see, you
00:04:50> 00:04:50:	know.
00:04:52> 00:04:54:	The question was sort of returning to the office. What
00:04:54> 00:04:56:	things are most important to you?
00:04:56> 00:05:00:	And I think that you know the candidates are seeking
00:05:00> 00:05:05:	that real time interaction, whether it's communications or training or
00:05:05> 00:05:10:	mentorship. You know the employees are prioritizing. You know, the
00:05:10> 00:05:11:	idea that being together.
00:05:13> 00:05:16:	Works you know, down below here it shows sort of
00:05:16> 00:05:19:	where there was overlap and I think coming back to
00:05:19> 00:05:22:	the office people wanted to focus on benefits and program
00:05:22> 00:05:26:	and engagement. You know, everybody wants to feel safe and
00:05:26> 00:05:29:	make sure that their protocols and policies in place to
00:05:29> 00:05:31:	you make people feel comfortable.
00:05:33> 00:05:36:	You know, talking about some of the benefits that are
00:05:36> 00:05:39:	important to people as we move forward. You can see
00:05:39> 00:05:40:	here, you know.
00:05:40> 00:05:45:	Did the employees sort of putting that compensation and flexible
00:05:45> 00:05:49:	schedules at the top where the employer is like trying
00:05:49> 00:05:53:	to focus on the flexible schedules and the compensation down
00:05:53> 00:05:53:	below?
00:05:55> 00:05:58:	You know, I think one of the things like that.
00:05:58> 00:06:01:	My fellow panelists are going to cover today is sort
00:06:01> 00:06:03:	of. You know. How do we go from here? How
00:06:03> 00:06:06:	is this impacted the way that we work the way
00:06:06> 00:06:07:	that we think about future?
00:06:09> 00:06:14:	Career moves and, you know, professional growth. You

3

	know, I
00:06:14> 00:06:17:	think the idea is that the one of the.
00:06:18> 00:06:21:	Interesting stats that it's listed here that came back is
00:06:21> 00:06:24:	that you know 72% of the employees that responded to
00:06:24> 00:06:27:	the survey are considering a career change, and I think
00:06:27> 00:06:30:	there's a lot of reasons why that's the case. But
00:06:30> 00:06:33:	you know, I think it's something that the employer is
00:06:33> 00:06:36:	hearing loud and clear and working hard to, you know,
00:06:36> 00:06:40:	put strategies in place to retain the good people, whether
00:06:40> 00:06:43:	that is coming up with the hybrid model, whether it's
00:06:43> 00:06:47:	looking at compensation, whether it's you know, really engaging their
00:06:47> 00:06:49:	teams, and making sure people are happy.
00:06:50> 00:06:53:	You know, I think there are also people are looking
00:06:53> 00:06:56:	at their competitors. Many requests we have from our clients
00:06:56> 00:06:58:	is, you know, looking at compensation, looking at benefits, and
00:06:59> 00:07:01:	you understanding how they align with some of the other
00:07:01> 00:07:03:	firms who work with because if people want to be
00:07:03> 00:07:05:	competitive and they want to remain.
00:07:07> 00:07:08:	You know?
00:07:09> 00:07:11:	And the place that people want to work and not
00:07:11> 00:07:14:	lose people to their competitors. So I'm looking forward to
00:07:14> 00:07:16:	this discussion. I'm going to turn it over to Tanya
00:07:16> 00:07:19:	Mitchell, who's the director of Human Resources at the Davis
00:07:19> 00:07:21:	Company who's going to lead our panel today.
00:07:23> 00:07:27:	Thank you so much, Caitlin, I really appreciate it. And
00:07:27> 00:07:31:	as she mentioned, I am Tony Mitchell. I am the
00:07:31> 00:07:35:	Director of Human Resources and DE 9 initiatives at Davis,
00:07:35> 00:07:39:	which is a real estate development and investment company.
00:07:39> 00:07:43:	actually work pretty closely with Caitlin as it relates to
00:07:43> 00:07:47:	a number of candidates and for our recruiting efforts.
00:07:48> 00:07:52:	Some of the things that you know she highlighted is
00:07:52> 00:07:55:	just, you know, as we've been talking about the new
00:07:55> 00:07:59:	normal, you know this has been a conversation that we've
00:07:59> 00:08:02:	had since we entered into COVID, but now it's somewhat
00:08:03> 00:08:05:	is. Is it really about COVID or is it just
00:08:05> 00:08:09:	about like looking at your life and looking at personal
00:08:09> 00:08:13:	and professional things that you really want to do? And
00:08:13> 00:08:15:	how do we build out for the future? So in
00:08:15> 00:08:19:	this conversation we have some amazing panelists.
00:08:19> 00:08:22:	Which I will introduce, and we can kind of talk

00:08:23> 00:08:27:	about, you know their experiences, how they have worked with,
00:08:27> 00:08:32:	just looked at their own professional careers, but then also
00:08:32> 00:08:36:	how they worked with clients on trying to stand out.
00:08:36> 00:08:40:	So first I have with us calling Aria, who is
00:08:40> 00:08:44:	a principal and interior designer at Stantec and we have
00:08:44> 00:08:48:	Corinne Brandt who is the founder and CEO of Co
00:08:48> 00:08:49:	urbanize.
00:08:49> 00:08:54:	Also, we have Julie Brown, which I'm actually very happy
00:08:54> 00:08:58:	to finally meet Julie because funnily enough when I first
00:08:58> 00:09:02:	heard about her when we entered into COVID and how
00:09:02> 00:09:07:	she is a business strategist and an expert with networking
00:09:07> 00:09:11:	and then we also have Lauren Jasinski who is the
00:09:11> 00:09:14:	founder and CEO of 1 Circle. So with that being
00:09:14> 00:09:17:	said I want to kind of just dive in and
00:09:17> 00:09:20:	just, you know, engage these ladies.
00:09:20> 00:09:24:	And just a conversation and ask them a number of
00:09:24> 00:09:28:	questions and just kind of open up. And I'm going
00:09:28> 00:09:32:	to throw this to Julie and Lauren like what has
00:09:32> 00:09:33:	been your new normal.
00:09:36> 00:09:37:	Bar and you're gonna go first.
00:09:40> 00:09:41:	OK.
00:09:42> 00:09:45:	Considering I work in an office by myself, not the
00:09:45> 00:09:49:	pandemic, only affected what I did with other people like
00:09:49> 00:09:51:	my clients because I'm the only one in the office,
00:09:52> 00:09:54:	so I could still just go to the office and
00:09:54> 00:09:57:	through the entire pandemic so I didn't. I think I
00:09:57> 00:10:00:	worked from home for like the first two weeks of
00:10:00> 00:10:03:	lockdown and then I went back to work but everything
00:10:03> 00:10:06:	I did prior to the pandemic, everything was like FaceTime.
00:10:06> 00:10:09:	All of the events were in person. All of this.
00:10:09> 00:10:11:	I was one of those people. Was like you have
00:10:12> 00:10:14:	to meet in person. You have to do the coffees.
00:10:14> 00:10:19:	In person and I never really even thought about embracing
00:10:19> 00:10:22:	a virtual work style, but what has changed for me
00:10:23> 00:10:27:	during the pandemic is me as a networking expert. My
00:10:27> 00:10:32:	network grew geographically during the pandemic because I was no
00:10:32> 00:10:36:	longer limited by geography as far as who was allowed
00:10:36> 00:10:40:	to meet with. So I attended events in California. I
00:10:40> 00:10:44:	attended events in Texas like, obviously virtually and.
00:10:45> 00:10:47:	I don't want to say the pandemic was the best

00:10:47> 00:10:51:	thing that ever happened, because it's not. That's not the
00:10:51> 00:10:53:	case at all, but there are people now in my
00:10:53> 00:10:56:	network and networks that I are that I am tapped
00:10:56> 00:10:59:	into across the country that I otherwise would not have
00:10:59> 00:11:02:	had that opportunity to be a part of. So I
00:11:02> 00:11:05:	took advantage of. I really took advantage of the virtual
00:11:05> 00:11:08:	nature of how we were working and networking and
	connecting
00:11:08> 00:11:10:	over the past two years.
00:11:12> 00:11:14:	Yeah no, and to tack onto it, Julie said. And
00:11:14> 00:11:17:	also what Caitlin had mentioned. So I think I'm a
00:11:17> 00:11:20:	good example of the of Caitlin stat. There of during
00:11:20> 00:11:23:	the pandemic as it was setting in, I took the
00:11:23> 00:11:26:	opportunity to sort of revision and think through what I
00:11:26> 00:11:29:	wanted in terms of my next step and I've been
00:11:29> 00:11:32:	a positive development for a long time and had always
00:11:32> 00:11:35:	had sort of thoughts and dreams about starting my own
00:11:35> 00:11:37:	company. And when the pandemic hit I think it was
00:11:38> 00:11:40:	a moment of pause. We all had the chance to
00:11:40> 00:11:42:	sort of reflect on what we were doing.
00:11:42> 00:11:45:	Their jobs are lives and so about six months into
00:11:45> 00:11:48:	the pandemic, I left the studio to start my own
00:11:48> 00:11:51:	company 1 Circle Co where. So I'm doing a lot
00:11:51> 00:11:55:	of what I did before multifamily development, but with the
00:11:55> 00:11:59:	larger focus on health and Wellness and sustainability and
	future
00:11:59> 00:12:02:	projects. So it went from being at a very big
00:12:02> 00:12:05:	corporate national developer to doing my own thing. And so
00:12:05> 00:12:08:	it's a big shift. But I think it was the
00:12:08> 00:12:11:	right move and I think it was just the opportunity
00:12:11> 00:12:12:	to step back and.
00:12:12> 00:12:15:	Sort of. Take a leap that I thought about but
00:12:15> 00:12:18:	never seriously considered until the pandemic and and then
00.40.40 > 00.40.40.	just
00:12:18> 00:12:19:	felt. If not now, when?
00:12:21> 00:12:22:	And made that leap.
00:12:22> 00:12:23:	So.
00:12:23> 00:12:26:	Thank you Lauren, and it's funny that you said you
00:12:26> 00:12:29:	know you took that time to kind of reflect because
00:12:29> 00:12:32:	that's kind of what it Caitlin and eluded in her
00:12:32> 00:12:36:	presentation, where it wasn't just about COVID, but it was
00:12:36> 00:12:39:	like a time for individuals to pause and say, what
00:12:39> 00:12:42:	do I really want for myself? What do I want

00:12:42> 00:12:45:	for my career and where employers have to kind of
00:12:45> 00:12:48:	be mindful of that work? Life balance. So I'm going
00:12:49> 00:12:51:	to kick it over to Corinne like.
00:12:51> 00:12:54:	What did you need to do to kind of pivot
00:12:54> 00:12:57:	and stand out? You know whether for yourself or for
00:12:57> 00:13:00:	clients you know to get that opportunity.
00:13:01> 00:13:05:	Yeah, so corbanese as an online community engagement platform. We
00:13:05> 00:13:09:	help real estate owner developers build and document support for
00:13:10> 00:13:13:	projects and help more people participate in the process. So
00:13:13> 00:13:18:	when COVID happened, people weren't having public meetings and we
00:13:18> 00:13:21:	started getting lots of calls. What do we do? How
00:13:21> 00:13:25:	do we make sure that we're reaching people inclusively equitably?
00:13:25> 00:13:28:	Because we can't have people meet in person safely. So
00:13:28> 00:13:31:	we had to do a couple of things and the
00:13:31> 00:13:32:	first was really.
00:13:32> 00:13:35:	Step back and and hear the challenges that our customers
00:13:36> 00:13:38:	were have were having and think through how do we
00:13:39> 00:13:41:	help them pivot in this moment and support them.
00:13:43> 00:13:48:	And two really interesting things happen. Our business grew and
00:13:48> 00:13:52:	the geography of our client based grew. So we work
00:13:52> 00:13:55:	across 30 states in the US and in Canada, and
00:13:55> 00:13:59:	we also took stock of what our team needed and
00:13:59> 00:14:03:	we had team members who moved from the Boston area,
00:14:03> 00:14:08:	got Airbnb's long term and places like Nashville, Hawaii, Mexico,
00:14:08> 00:14:13:	and they wanted more flexibility. And it's a very difficult.
00:14:13> 00:14:16:	Marion market in in tech. So to be more competitive,
00:14:16> 00:14:20:	we embrace being fully remote so that we could really
00:14:20> 00:14:24:	have people across different time zones. Better serve our customer
00:14:24> 00:14:27:	base, have the talent that was needed in place and
00:14:27> 00:14:31:	what also happened for me was I realized that this
00:14:31> 00:14:34:	this really was something that I wanted that I had
00:14:34> 00:14:38:	never realized before. COVID of being a remote company. It's
00:14:38> 00:14:39:	served me well as well.
00:14:40> 00:14:41:	That's great.
00:14:43> 00:14:46:	And again, I like that you made that you know
00:14:46> 00:14:50:	determination that that's something that you needed for

	yourself. But
00:14:50> 00:14:53:	As for an organization that you embrace this, so I'm
00:14:53> 00:14:56:	actually now going to kind of kick it over to
00:14:56> 00:14:59:	Colleen because, you know, with your experiences, do you believe
00:15:00> 00:15:03:	that most companies are embracing this? What we call this
00:15:03> 00:15:06:	new hybrid model, or what we call the new normal?
00:15:07> 00:15:11:	So overall the answer is yes and what we're seeing
00:15:11> 00:15:16:	Stantec we're and architecture and engineering and interior design firm
00:15:16> 00:15:20:	and I work with a lot of companies and their
00:15:20> 00:15:25:	workplaces, both strategically and to design their spaces and then
00:15:25> 00:15:29:	also in commercial mixed use. So you know, working with
00:15:29> 00:15:33:	landlords to develop whether it's you know a office building
00:15:33> 00:15:37:	or mixed use building. So what we're seeing is that.
00:15:37> 00:15:42:	There were several trends brewing before the pandemic hit and
00:15:42> 00:15:46:	one was that many companies, especially ones with large real
00:15:46> 00:15:52:	estate portfolios including ourselves. We have a really large portfolio.
00:15:53> 00:15:58:	They were already a well aware that office occupancy rates
00:15:58> 00:16:02:	were at best between 38 and 50%. I mean 50%
00:16:02> 00:16:06:	is actually kind of out of the norm, so there
00:16:06> 00:16:11:	was a tightening of real estate that had already started,
00:16:11> 00:16:15:	and so once COVID came and hybrid work and flexible
00:16:15> 00:16:20:	work kicked into gear and even less people were seeing
00:16:20> 00:16:23:	now are in the office as frequently.
00:16:23> 00:16:28:	That reevaluation of real estate needs is increasing even more
00:16:28> 00:16:32:	so, so you know. Previously companies were perhaps being a
00:16:32> 00:16:37:	little conservative and taking shaving. Maybe 15% off of their
00:16:37> 00:16:41:	real estate. Now that conservative estimate is roughly 30% and
00:16:41> 00:16:42:	in some cases.
00:16:43> 00:16:47:	Our office is even where we're taking 50% less real
00:16:47> 00:16:50:	estate when we move in a few months. So and
00:16:50> 00:16:55:	and and we feel comfortable doing that because we've done
00:16:55> 00:16:59:	the research. Many companies that we work with do a
00:16:59> 00:17:02:	lot of surveying. They look at a lot of badging
00:17:02> 00:17:07:	data and just space utilization to understand how their spaces

00:17:07> 00:17:11:	are being used and with what frequency. The other thing
00:17:12> 00:17:13:	I think we saw happening.
00:17:14> 00:17:17:	And I did a discussion right as pandemic hit about
00:17:17> 00:17:22:	this. There are certain trends that happen after pandemics, and
00:17:22> 00:17:26:	one of them is that there's huge labor shortages and
00:17:26> 00:17:30:	we're all experiencing that now. So even if there are
00:17:30> 00:17:35:	companies that are apprehensive or begrudgingly embracing flexible work, they're
00:17:35> 00:17:40:	doing it because they really can't afford to lose people
00:17:40> 00:17:43:	to lose talent. And if anything, they need to hire
00:17:43> 00:17:44:	more.
00:17:44> 00:17:48:	Talent so flexible work and this was mentioned earlier. It's
00:17:48> 00:17:51:	it's seen as a retention and a recruitment technique and
00:17:51> 00:17:55:	in some cases is more powerful than compensation.
00:17:57> 00:17:57:	Wow.
00:17:59> 00:18:02:	There's like two major points that you know that you
00:18:03> 00:18:06:	hit on that I really appreciate, and I'm just like
00:18:06> 00:18:09:	OK. Which one do I tackle first? So I think
00:18:09> 00:18:13:	one I want to actually kind of throw back out
00:18:13> 00:18:17:	to the group 1st about the trends and whether they're
00:18:17> 00:18:20:	saying mostly I want to direct that to Karen and
00:18:20> 00:18:25:	then we can revisit the conversation about labor shortages and
00:18:25> 00:18:28:	trends there. But current if you want to also talk
00:18:28> 00:18:29:	about.
00:18:29> 00:18:32:	Some of the trends that you're seeing, especially when it
00:18:32> 00:18:33:	comes to office space.
00:18:34> 00:18:36:	Turns in office space.
00:18:37> 00:18:41:	Well, I think in terms of the the tech sector,
00:18:41> 00:18:44:	a lot of people have moved to be more remote
00:18:44> 00:18:47:	or more flexible. We were in a we work when
00:18:47> 00:18:51:	the pandemic happened, and as a tech company we we
00:18:51> 00:18:54:	were really glad that we are lease was coming up
00:18:54> 00:18:57:	so we were able to move out very quickly. But
00:18:58> 00:19:01:	a lot of people left the coworking space and since
00:19:01> 00:19:05:	then we've gone back for occasional like work, section, work,
00:19:06> 00:19:08:	work sessions to collaborate.
00:19:08> 00:19:12:	And it's a very, very different culture and community dynamic
00:19:12> 00:19:16:	in those coworking spaces there. So I see the coworking
00:19:16> 00:19:20:	space has shifted more to suburban markets. It's really just
00:19:20> 00:19:23:	changed the dynamic there, and I think a lot of
00:19:23> 00:19:27:	people are rethinking what the the office looks like long

9

00:19:27> 00:19:27:	term.
00:19:29> 00:19:33:	But that's my perspective from having a tech company.
00:19:34> 00:19:35:	Thank you.
00:19:36> 00:19:40:	So going back to just the point made about just
00:19:41> 00:19:45:	companies having to shift and to really make sure that
00:19:45> 00:19:52:	one that they're aligning with organizations, and you know, aligning
00:19:52> 00:19:55:	with just the talent pool out there.
00:19:56> 00:20:00:	One I want to know, you know I can actually
00:20:01> 00:20:03:	pose this to Julie of how our.
00:20:04> 00:20:09:	Candidates selling themselves, you know, to get that like basically
00:20:09> 00:20:11:	kind of what they want, you know to have that
00:20:11> 00:20:12:	flexibility.
00:20:16> 00:20:17:	You're on mute.
00:20:18> 00:20:20:	I was married very early happens.
00:20:22> 00:20:25:	Is an interesting question to ask somebody who is a
00:20:25> 00:20:28:	solo preneur because I'm not interviewing anybody.
00:20:29> 00:20:33:	But I think right now it's not. Unfortunately, it's like
00:20:33> 00:20:38:	a buyers market versus a sellers market. Employ those seeking
00:20:38> 00:20:42:	or looking to make changes in their career or looking
00:20:42> 00:20:46:	to change. Jobs are actually more being sold to by
00:20:46> 00:20:49:	the companies who are who are looking to hire. So
00:20:49> 00:20:53:	it's almost like a a reverse question. It's how can
00:20:53> 00:20:57:	the companies say we can accommodate the the work
00:20:57> 00:20:59:	environment that you want?
00:20:59> 00:21:02:	And work flexibility that you want. I mean, when it
00:21:02> 00:21:04:	comes to being the top candidate.
00:21:06> 00:21:09:	I mean, I'm going to say being really good at
00:21:09> 00:21:11:	your job as a barrier to entry for anything right
00:21:11> 00:21:14:	now because there is so much talent out there, so
00:21:14> 00:21:17:	it's how are you how you standing out from the
00:21:17> 00:21:20:	crowd? Aside from the fact that you're really good at
00:21:20> 00:21:23:	your job. So what other things have you done? Do
00:21:23> 00:21:26:	you create content? Do you have you been? Have you
00:21:26> 00:21:29:	had the opportunity to speak about your expertise? Like? What
00:21:29> 00:21:32:	are the ways that you can stand out? Because like
00:21:32> 00:21:35:	I said, it barrier to entry is being really really
00:21:35> 00:21:36:	good at your job.
00:21:36> 00:21:40:	There's no dummies here. There's no dummies in our industry

00:21:40> 00:21:43:	whatsoever. So what are you doing for yourself for your
00:21:40> 00:21:45: 00:21:43> 00:21:46:	own personal brand to stand out as far as a
00:21:46> 00:21:48:	thought leader in your expertise?
00:21:49> 00:21:52:	Thank you and.
00:21:53> 00:21:54:	Lauren, what would you say?
00:21:56> 00:21:59:	It is like this line of you know this question
00:21:59> 00:22:02:	and conversation. What would you say for someone to kind
00:22:02> 00:22:05:	of stand out like what basic practices that someone should
00:22:05> 00:22:09:	actually build into just making sure that they continue to
00:22:09> 00:22:12:	stand out to these organizations and then make sure that
00:22:12> 00:22:15:	they are getting noticed by these organizations?
00:22:17> 00:22:20:	I mean, it's a good question. I might answer it
00:22:20> 00:22:22:	a couple different ways. I think 1 as a company
00:22:22> 00:22:25:	standing out so less is the employee, but more as
00:22:25> 00:22:28:	a company and I know Karen and our prep call.
00:22:28> 00:22:31:	You spoke to this too. You mentioned Caitlin remote work
00:22:32> 00:22:35:	and flexibility. I was recently hiring 2 part-time associates and
00:22:35> 00:22:38:	posted on LinkedIn and tried to get the word out
00:22:38> 00:22:42:	and ended up taking bringing on two part-time associates, one
00:22:42> 00:22:45:	in New York and one in Virginia. So fully remote
00:22:45> 00:22:47:	understanding that they would never.
00:22:47> 00:22:50:	Potentially come to Boston for the time being and now
00:22:50> 00:22:54:	11 associate will be graduating Graduate School and
	hopefully moving
00:22:54> 00:22:57:	to Boston full time and she'll be here in person,
00:22:57> 00:23:00:	but even still, as we were working on, you know
00:23:00> 00:23:04:	the benefits package and what that role would look like.
00:23:04> 00:23:07:	We've settled on three days in the office and two
00:23:07> 00:23:10:	days out and it's still very remote. We're still very
00:23:10> 00:23:13:	flexible, I should say, and the idea of having a
00:23:13> 00:23:16:	lot of PTO and but potentially being able to work
00:23:16> 00:23:18:	from other places. So PTO.
00:23:18> 00:23:20:	To be able to travel and have time off. But
00:23:20> 00:23:23:	then maybe you're working from that other location. As you
00:23:24> 00:23:26:	mentioned Karen a couple days a week or you know
00:23:26> 00:23:30:	whatever that looks like. So I think flexibility is key,
00:23:30> 00:23:32:	but as an employer it was nice because I was
00:23:32> 00:23:35:	able to recruit from across the country. Really, if you
00:23:35> 00:23:38:	think about it for those first two hires and now
00:23:38> 00:23:42:	going forward, you know I'll probably look more locally, but
00:23:42> 00:23:44:	that was really nice and I know Karen you had
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,

00:23:44> 00:23:47:	said you had the benefit of that as well.
00:23:51> 00:23:53:	And if you want to speak to that, it was
00:23:53> 00:23:54:	great because I love how.
00:23:54> 00:23:58:	You clean that way, yeah? So we, we've hired fully
00:23:58> 00:24:01:	remote and we have people across.
00:24:02> 00:24:05:	Five or six different time zones right now, and so
00:24:05> 00:24:08:	that actually enables us to to support clients in a
00:24:08> 00:24:11:	different way. But there's two things that come from that.
00:24:12> 00:24:14:	One is, it's very hard when you hire remotely and
00:24:14> 00:24:18:	you're in different time zones to hire more junior team
00:24:18> 00:24:23:	members that require more training, more mentorship, more professional development
00:24:23> 00:24:26:	like we realize we're just not staffed to do that.
00:24:26> 00:24:29:	And so we hire people who are more experienced who
00:24:29> 00:24:32:	can hit the ground running who already have their skills
00:24:32> 00:24:33:	or their crafts.
00:24:33> 00:24:36:	A little bit more developed. Who are who are more
00:24:37> 00:24:40:	senior in their career and that's been helpful for us.
00:24:40> 00:24:43:	But I have people who are like somebody who is
00:24:43> 00:24:46:	last week in Mexico and this week said I'm in
00:24:46> 00:24:49:	Montreal now. I'll be here for a few months there
00:24:49> 00:24:53:	being being still still working. You know we'll take their
00:24:53> 00:24:56:	their time, but I think people want to have that
00:24:56> 00:25:00:	flexibility. Want to be able to work and travel on
00:25:00> 00:25:01:	their own schedule?
00:25:02> 00:25:03:	Thank you.
00:25:05> 00:25:08:	I'm actually kind of wanna piggyback off of what you
00:25:09> 00:25:12:	just said because I have seen this as well and
00:25:12> 00:25:15:	if you don't mind I want to call Caitlin into
00:25:15> 00:25:20:	this. It's more about the individuals who are more junior
00:25:20> 00:25:23:	and how are they you know what have you been
00:25:23> 00:25:28:	seeing as trend wise or getting those individuals opportunities to
00:25:28> 00:25:32:	stand out or what have you suggested to them because
00:25:32> 00:25:35:	you know companies are looking for.
00:25:35> 00:25:37:	A little bit more senior talent which you don't have
00:25:37> 00:25:39:	to spend that much time in that staying.
00:25:41> 00:25:44:	I mean, I think it's I think we're seeing like
00:25:44> 00:25:47:	two groups, if you will, within the up and coming
00:25:47> 00:25:51:	professionals, I think there's definitely those people that are embracing.
00:25:51> 00:25:54:	You know, they were down in Florida for a couple
00:25:54> 00:25:58:	weeks and the you know cold temperatures working remotely

	and
00:25:58> 00:26:01:	you maybe they went on a ski trip and that
00:26:01> 00:26:04:	kind of thing and really embracing to to your point.
00:26:04> 00:26:07:	Current like the ability to kind of work where you
00:26:07> 00:26:10:	want to be. But then there's definitely the the group
00:26:11> 00:26:11:	of people.
00:26:11> 00:26:15:	That are desperately seeking the mentorship and the in
	person
00:26:15> 00:26:18:	guidance, you know, I think if someone were to call
00:26:18> 00:26:21:	us to ask us to do an assignment for an
00:26:21> 00:26:25:	analyst or an associate, you know we're really trying to
00:26:25> 00:26:28:	give feedback to our clients that those candidates are just
00:26:28> 00:26:32:	lighter because they've missed the many of them didn't have
00:26:32> 00:26:33:	internships.
00:26:34> 00:26:40:	They missed like that critical. You know. Collaborative training hands
00:26:40> 00:26:44:	on exposure. You know, for those formative years, so I
00:26:44> 00:26:48:	think that's that's something that you know we're certainly facing
00:26:48> 00:26:52:	in the candidate pool. But I would say, you know.
00:26:53> 00:26:56:	Many of those candidates do want you know to get
00:26:57> 00:27:00:	back together with their peers and you know their managers
00:27:00> 00:27:03:	and have that you know real time exposure.
00:27:04> 00:27:08:	Thank you Caitlin. So actually I'm gonna kick it over
00:27:08> 00:27:11:	to Colleen. Can you tell me what have you found
00:27:11> 00:27:15:	as some of the biggest challenges you've experienced with this
00:27:15> 00:27:18:	hybrid or model or the new normal?
00:27:18> 00:27:22:	Yeah, it's it's a great question and I think Caitlin
00:27:22> 00:27:27:	you were definitely alluding to some of the biggest challenges
00:27:27> 00:27:29:	right now would be mentoring.
00:27:30> 00:27:35:	Younger staff, especially, and I think.
00:27:36> 00:27:40:	You know if I'm going to generalize, it's different across
00:27:40> 00:27:44:	industries. Depending on the type of work you're doing and
00:27:44> 00:27:48:	the technology. But what I find intriguing is that we're
00:27:48> 00:27:52:	in this like weird transition period across the board. Whether
00:27:52> 00:27:55:	it's real estate or digital tools, and we're kind of
00:27:55> 00:27:58:	the Guinea pigs, we're all going to look back at
00:27:58> 00:28:02:	this time. Like, especially the kids that are like 20
00:28:02> 00:28:05:	in their 20s. Right now. They're going to look back
00:28:05> 00:28:06:	right there.
00:28:06> 00:28:11:	Remember when and the struggles that we had and because
00:28:11> 00:28:16:	I think the younger generations now are so much better

00:28:16> 00:28:20:	equipped to develop the new workflows that.
00:28:21> 00:28:24:	Get over the hurdle of having to be in person
00:28:24> 00:28:28:	to get that mentorship, and I see it happening already.
00:28:28> 00:28:32:	Now. I'm actually changing the workflows that I do with
00:28:32> 00:28:36:	younger stuff because I have to because there's no way
00:28:36> 00:28:40:	to the earlier points made about hiring folks in different.
00:28:40> 00:28:40:	Time zones.
00:28:40> 00:28:42:	And across the nation.
00:28:43> 00:28:46:	I've been doing the same thing, so I've been, you
00:28:46> 00:28:50:	know, with this labor shortage and the fact that we're
00:28:50> 00:28:54:	a national company, I have the ability to pull staff
00:28:54> 00:28:58:	from other offices and pull talent of different abilities together,
00:28:58> 00:29:02:	and I have several projects where I haven't met people
00:29:02> 00:29:05:	like over for over a year, and we've only worked
00:29:05> 00:29:09:	virtually, and they're at all different levels, so it's really
00:29:09> 00:29:13:	forced all of us to figure out what is working,
00:29:13> 00:29:14:	what doesn't work.
00:29:14> 00:29:18:	And you know there I don't have any concrete rules.
00:29:18> 00:29:21:	We're still in that transition, so I think it's going
00:29:21> 00:29:25:	to be incredibly interesting to, you, know, ten 1520 years.
00:29:25> 00:29:28:	Look back and see the development of the tools that
00:29:28> 00:29:32:	we're using now, especially as it relates to mentoring. Because
00:29:33> 00:29:36:	it's it's not going away. We can't just say oh,
00:29:36> 00:29:39:	mentoring has to happen in person. That's not the solution.
00:29:40> 00:29:43:	That's great, but we're forever changed, right? So we walked
00:29:43> 00:29:45:	through the door.
00:29:46> 00:29:50:	I think the other thing in Caitlin. You mentioned this
00:29:50> 00:29:55:	too is that the workforce Americans were workaholics, right? We
00:29:55> 00:29:55:	We.
00:29:56> 00:29:56:	We
00:29:56> 00:29:59:	we live to work and that's.
00:29:59> 00:30:00:	Deeply.
00:30:00> 00:30:04:	You know, ingrained in us, but at the same time
00:30:04> 00:30:07:	I think we all got a taste of wow. If
00:30:07> 00:30:11:	I'm not commuting 2 plus hours a day, every day,
00:30:11> 00:30:15:	what does that mean? If I have the ability to.
00:30:15> 00:30:20:	-
	Work at varying times because now my my project
	Work at varying times because now my my project requirements
00:30:20> 00:30:24:	
00:30:20> 00:30:24: 00:30:24> 00:30:28:	requirements
	requirements are and demands are, you know, a little more loose

00:30:32> 00:30:35:	a bed check that I'm at my desk as long
00:30:35> 00:30:36:	as I get my work done.
00:30:38> 00:30:41:	People really enjoy that time so.
00:30:43> 00:30:46:	For you know whatever they want to do, whether it's
00:30:46> 00:30:50:	skiing, being with families, doing yoga, who knows. So I
00:30:51> 00:30:54:	think I think those are two of the biggest things,
00:30:54> 00:30:59:	and I wouldn't say they're hurdles. They're just, you know,
00:30:59> 00:31:02:	it's. It's kind of made us change course a little
00:31:02> 00:31:05:	bit, so I'm I'm. I'm like a history person I
00:31:06> 00:31:09:	just I'm really excited to see what happens in 10
00:31:09> 00:31:10:	years.
00:31:11> 00:31:14:	Colleen, thank you. It's funny you have made a point
00:31:15> 00:31:18:	of just and you mentioned something about the difference in
00:31:19> 00:31:21:	generations and I know I was going to try to
00:31:22> 00:31:24:	leave some of the questions to them, but I am
00:31:25> 00:31:28:	also monitoring the chat but I would also like kind
00:31:28> 00:31:31:	of ask you. Do you see something different when it
00:31:31> 00:31:35:	it has to do with candidates or you know individuals
00:31:35> 00:31:39:	of different generations like is anything standing out to you
00:31:39> 00:31:41:	or how would you even guide?
00:31:41> 00:31:44:	Individuals to kind of stand out.
00:31:45> 00:31:47:	Stand out as candidates.
00:31:48> 00:31:51:	I think now more than ever.
00:31:53> 00:31:53:	The.
00:31:53> 00:31:58:	Candidates have to show that their their own entrepreneurs, right?
00:31:58> 00:32:03:	They're very self entrepreneurial and that they will get the
00:32:03> 00:32:06:	work done right and they'll do it well. Just as
00:32:06> 00:32:10:	Julie said that, you know, there's a lot of talented
00:32:10> 00:32:14:	staff out there, but it's not just talent you have
00:32:14> 00:32:18:	to be self motivated, especially in this hybrid environment. More
00:32:19> 00:32:21:	so than ever, you have to be.
00:32:22> 00:32:26:	Able to see the bigger picture and how you fit
00:32:26> 00:32:29:	into that and how you know you are part of
00:32:29> 00:32:29:	a.
00:32:29> 00:32:30:	Team
00:32:30> 00:32:34:	that needs to keep the project moving and so it's
00:32:34> 00:32:38:	important for you to communicate and relay when you need
00:32:38> 00:32:38:	help.
00:32:40> 00:32:43:	So I think candidates really need to.
00:32:44> 00:32:46:	Show that they can do that.
00:32:47> 00:32:50:	And that's that regardless of generations.

00:32:50> 00:32:55:	Or, you know, any generation and then the ability to
00:32:55> 00:33:01:	be flexible. Honestly, because what I've learned even more so
00:33:01> 00:33:06:	now is that every you know people have different work
00:33:06> 00:33:07:	styles, so.
00:33:08> 00:33:13:	It's more important now to, especially with different generations to
00:33:13> 00:33:17:	recognize. OK, maybe this person isn't as fluent in a
00:33:17> 00:33:22:	certain way of communicating whether it's digital or a person
00:33:22> 00:33:27:	or whatever. Like recognizing that and saying OK like what's
00:33:27> 00:33:30:	the best way that we can work together and to
00:33:30> 00:33:35:	accomplish what our project goals are. So it's it's funny
00:33:35> 00:33:38:	because there's you know the the.
00:33:38> 00:33:41:	Skills of your trade, but a lot of what I'm
00:33:41> 00:33:45:	finding even more so now is are the soft skills
00:33:45> 00:33:48:	the people skills are so important and it it's.
00:33:49> 00:33:52:	It's one of those things that I I I work
00:33:52> 00:33:54:	a lot with the local universities and I tell the
00:33:54> 00:33:58:	staff there and the professors. I'm like this PeopleSoft skills.
00:33:59> 00:34:03:	Are so important we can train people in the technical
00:34:03> 00:34:08:	software and tools that we use. That's easy, but communications
00:34:08> 00:34:13:	seem bigger picture and and working with teams. Those make
00:34:13> 00:34:14:	people stand out.
00:34:16> 00:34:19:	Thank you so I'm gonna pivot just a little and
00:34:19> 00:34:24:	throw this to just, you know, Julie and Lauren just
00:34:24> 00:34:29:	with this hybrid environment. You know, have you learned to
00:34:29> 00:34:34:	do something different to gain opportunities or business connections?
00:34:36> 00:34:39:	What again just really kind of enforcing? How are you
00:34:39> 00:34:44:	building those long lasting connections with clients? Or you know
00:34:44> 00:34:47:	whoever? If it's a candidate client or just building out
00:34:47> 00:34:49:	those opportunities?
00:34:51> 00:34:54:	All Star, so first my entire career pivoted into virtual.
00:34:54> 00:34:57:	So I was speaking on stages across the country in
00:34:57> 00:35:00:	front of live audiences. And then when COVID I'm like
00:35:00> 00:35:04:	first COVID second COVID third COVID like first COVID happened.
00:35:04> 00:35:08:	Everything was cancelled because we had this like 2 weeks
00:35:08> 00:35:11:	and everything was postponed. We're like, OK we'll do it
00:35:11> 00:35:14:	live in a couple months and then we realized that

00:35:14> 00:35:17:	wasn't going to happen. So then I had to learn
00:35:17> 00:35:20:	a whole new skill set of presenting to an audience.
00:35:21> 00:35:25:	Personally, so that's a different skill set. Obviously different technology,
00:35:25> 00:35:28:	so I now I'm relearning how to be in front
00:35:28> 00:35:30:	of a live audience. I had a big you know
00:35:30> 00:35:33:	yesterday in front of a sold out audience. It's weird
00:35:33> 00:35:36:	pivoting back from from digital to to in person or
00:35:37> 00:35:38:	virtual to in person.
00:35:39> 00:35:42:	So part of my company went.
00:35:43> 00:35:47:	In a completely different direction that I had not anticipated,
00:35:47> 00:35:49:	and I saw somebody put it as Susan put in
00:35:49> 00:35:52:	a question about a conventions and conference in in the
00:35:53> 00:35:55:	conference space. And I don't have an answer.
00:35:55> 00:35:56:	For that but.
00:35:57> 00:35:59:	For a long time, I think we thought we would
00:35:59> 00:36:02:	do everything hybrid. There would be an option to stay
00:36:02> 00:36:04:	at home and there would be an option to go
00:36:04> 00:36:06:	in person, but I think that's going to be on
00:36:06> 00:36:08:	a case by case basis with each conference on whether
00:36:08> 00:36:11:	or not they have the infrastructure to do that, because
00:36:11> 00:36:13:	that's a lot of infrastructure to do that I know.
00:36:14> 00:36:17:	People are chomping at the bit to get back to
00:36:17> 00:36:20:	in person conferences. I have a big importance in person
00:36:20> 00:36:24:	keynote next week. Another thing that I did to stay
00:36:24> 00:36:27:	connected with my network was I started creating a lot
00:36:27> 00:36:31:	of really good content and useful content. So during the
00:36:31> 00:36:34:	pandemic I launched my podcast as a way of I
00:36:34> 00:36:37:	with all the people in my network and all the
00:36:37> 00:36:41:	people that I'm connected to, there's no way it could
00:36:41> 00:36:44:	possibly be in touch with each person every week.
00:36:44> 00:36:47:	I feel like I could touch them every week, but
00:36:47> 00:36:51:	with creating really good content and disseminating it in multiple
00:36:51> 00:36:55:	ways. So on LinkedIn it's obviously disseminated via text and
00:36:55> 00:36:58:	written word, and then my podcast is via audio.
00:36:59> 00:37:02:	So finding ways to continually be in contact with my
00:37:02> 00:37:05:	network to deliver value was a way that I not
00:37:05> 00:37:09:	only stay connected, but grew my network because people started
00:37:09> 00:37:13:	finding me through through those mediums. And another thing is
00:37:13> 00:37:17:	just being really, really cognizant of the fact that you

00:37:17> 00:37:20:	have to work at relationships. So even if we're working
00:37:20> 00:37:24:	at them in a virtual medium and we're doing everything
00:37:24> 00:37:27:	virtually, you still have to put in the effort to
00:37:27> 00:37:29:	to make sure that you are fostering.
00:37:29> 00:37:33:	Relationships and maintaining relationships so not letting the excuse of
00:37:33> 00:37:36:	not being able to get together in person be the
00:37:36> 00:37:39:	reason why our relationship started to flounder or flounder or
00:37:39> 00:37:42:	not. Even that just didn't get stronger or didn't.
00:37:42> 00:37:42:	Grow.
00:37:44> 00:37:47:	Thank you so actually Lauren can. Before I kick it
00:37:47> 00:37:47:	over.
00:37:47> 00:37:47:	То.
00:37:47> 00:37:48:	You
00:37:49> 00:37:52:	it's funny because I when I sent out an email
00:37:52> 00:37:55:	to Julie and got a response back of just notification
00:37:55> 00:37:58:	of like what is she doing today and it was
00:37:58> 00:38:01:	very engaging and one of the things that I pulled
00:38:01> 00:38:04:	also from like her site is you know something she
00:38:04> 00:38:07:	has on there. This is do you know why some
00:38:07> 00:38:11:	people get ahead in their careers and businesses while
	others
00:38:11> 00:38:15:	lie behind simple they have a network of people invested
00:38:15> 00:38:17:	in their success and if you could just add a
00:38:17> 00:38:21:	little bit more tidbit of how do you get individuals
00:38:21> 00:38:22:	to invest in your success.
00:38:23> 00:38:27:	It's really easy. You be invested in their success first,
00:38:27> 00:38:30:	like you help. I mean you help them be successful.
00:38:30> 00:38:33:	You do everything you can. Do, you know, sort of
00:38:33> 00:38:36:	a rising tide lifts all boats. So if you are
00:38:36> 00:38:41:	really good connection in somebody's network there the reciprocity reflex
00:38:41> 00:38:44:	clicks and is not quid pro quo because quid pro
00:38:44> 00:38:48:	quo doesn't work. That's literally this. For that things happening
00:38:48> 00:38:52:	at the same time the transaction happens at the same
00:38:52> 00:38:54:	time. But the idea of reciprocity.
00:38:54> 00:38:58:	In your relationships, finding ways to help each other when
00:38:58> 00:39:01:	that person needs it, not when you need to give
00:39:01> 00:39:04:	somebody something. You know what I mean. So the easiest
00:39:04> 00:39:07:	thing I can say is if you want a network
00:39:07> 00:39:09:	invested in your success, give first.
00:39:10> 00:39:14:	Thank you and Lauren if you wanted to add your

00:39:14> 00:39:17:	insights of just how you know what are you doing
00:39:17> 00:39:18:	differently.
00:39:20> 00:39:23:	So as I mentioned, starting on my own and and
00:39:23> 00:39:27:	growing this company in a remote environment, I tried to
00:39:27> 00:39:32:	figure out ways to boost my presence, platform visibility digitally
00:39:32> 00:39:36:	and it was simple. Things like really dialing in my
00:39:36> 00:39:40:	LinkedIn profile, which I did. A little sidebar webinar on
00:39:40> 00:39:44:	and learned you know keywords and how to just sort
00:39:44> 00:39:48:	of really create a robust profile and but then as
00:39:48> 00:39:51:	gone as far as creating a monthly newsletter.
00:39:51> 00:39:54:	To go out to my network with updates on projects
00:39:54> 00:39:57:	that I'm working on and company news and so that's
00:39:57> 00:40:00:	getting on folks radar every month. And it's just a
00:40:00> 00:40:04:	nice reminder and I regularly get emails saying how much
00:40:04> 00:40:07:	they you know folks love to hear about things that
00:40:07> 00:40:10:	we're working on and then also more just sort of
00:40:10> 00:40:14:	on the branding marketing side. We created an Instagram and
00:40:14> 00:40:18:	Facebook profile for the company, which we're really just trying
00:40:18> 00:40:21:	to grow from a brand awareness standpoint, more like business.
00:40:21> 00:40:24:	Need to beat AC less be to be there but
00:40:24> 00:40:28:	just the idea of trying to stay present. Trying to
00:40:28> 00:40:32:	stay on folks tridar whether it's newsletters or on social
00:40:32> 00:40:35:	media as we now get to come back in person
00:40:35> 00:40:39:	as Julie said to more in person networking we sort
00:40:39> 00:40:42:	of shored up our digital presence in the meantime to
00:40:42> 00:40:44:	to stay relevant.
00:40:45> 00:40:48:	Thank you units and I like how you kind of
00:40:48> 00:40:52:	pivoted in leaned in on more technology. Karen is there
00:40:52> 00:40:56:	anything that you want to add? Or was there something
00:40:56> 00:41:00:	that you did differently? What advice or techniques would you
00:41:00> 00:41:05:	suggest to anybody to make those long lasting connections and
00:41:05> 00:41:06:	impressions?
00:41:07> 00:41:10:	I think the biggest change for me is I thought
00:41:10> 00:41:13:	that to build a lot of the business relationships that
00:41:13> 00:41:16:	I had to be meeting with people in person. So
00:41:16> 00:41:18:	I was traveling a lot. A lot of coffees in
00:41:18> 00:41:21:	person meetings and what I've been able to see is
00:41:21> 00:41:25:	just the dramatic shift from taking what was a conversation

00:41:25> 00:41:27:	on a phone to zoom has really enabled me to
00:41:27> 00:41:31:	have a deeper, more faster connection with people, I think
00:41:31> 00:41:34:	because you know, people are in their homes. Sometimes you
00:41:34> 00:41:37:	hear kids in the background, a cat pops in.
00:41:37> 00:41:41:	Like you're able to break the ice and to connect
00:41:41> 00:41:44:	at a deeper level a lot faster. You know I've
00:41:44> 00:41:46:	had clients tell me I'm in an apron and I've
00:41:47> 00:41:50:	got the kids here. I'm making dinner, you know, and
00:41:50> 00:41:54:	we're having this conversation and you just get a little
00:41:54> 00:41:57:	bit closer, faster than if you were in a Starbucks
00:41:57> 00:42:00:	or in an office environment. And so I think being
00:42:00> 00:42:03:	able to lean in and be real and to also
00:42:03> 00:42:06:	acknowledge what people may have going on in their life
00:42:06> 00:42:07:	a little bit.
00:42:07> 00:42:11:	Or in those first minutes that you're on, a zoom
00:42:11> 00:42:16:	call has made some of these connections and opportunities
	much
00:42:16> 00:42:17:	richer faster.
00:42:18> 00:42:21:	Thank you so much. So I want to make sure
00:42:21> 00:42:25:	that I leave some time to address some of the
00:42:25> 00:42:29:	questions in the chat, and I know that we've answered
00:42:29> 00:42:32:	one or two, but I believe that there were some
00:42:32> 00:42:36:	from Connor as a related to just is like the
00:42:36> 00:42:39:	offset of hybrid work. Does it have to do with
00:42:39> 00:42:43:	just housing prices or you know in the urban areas?
00:42:43> 00:42:47:	I don't know if anybody would like to feel that
00:42:47> 00:42:48:	Colleen.
00:42:49> 00:42:54:	Actually just posted a response because I couldn't help myself.
00:42:56> 00:43:00:	Well, I you know I would. I would love to
00:43:00> 00:43:05:	dig into those actual numbers more, especially as it relates
00:43:05> 00:43:12:	to the different regions of the country's demographics and industries.
00:43:12> 00:43:17:	You know, Boston, we have an incredible wealth of intelligence
00:43:17> 00:43:24:	and talent here which drives incredible industries like life sciences
00:43:24> 00:43:25:	and tech.
00:43:26> 00:43:30:	And there's this ripple effect, right? As we're all seeing
00:43:30> 00:43:35:	those companies also, you know, have the highest rents for
00:43:35> 00:43:39:	real estate and also are able to afford some of
00:43:39> 00:43:42:	the best salaries. And so then you know rents can
00:43:42> 00:43:46:	also go up with that, but not every every industry

00:43:46> 00:43:51:	can afford those salaries. So for example, we again before
00:43:51> 00:43:55:	COVID so funny. I like literally a month before COVID
00:43:55> 00:43:56:	hit we had.
00:43:56> 00:43:59:	That's right up our hybrid work policy and we have
00:43:59> 00:44:02:	been doing hybrid work for quite some time. We are
00:44:02> 00:44:06:	office specifically has a lot of working moms, so we've
00:44:06> 00:44:10:	been really flexible about work in general. But what we
00:44:10> 00:44:13:	were starting to see is exactly what Connor was alluding
00:44:13> 00:44:16:	to was. That housing is just so expensive in the
00:44:16> 00:44:20:	Northeast region and a lot of our talent when they're
00:44:20> 00:44:23:	getting to those points in their life where they want
00:44:23> 00:44:24:	to buy a first.
00:44:24> 00:44:25:	Home.
00:44:25> 00:44:28:	Are moving further and further and further away.
00:44:28> 00:44:32:	Because that's really what is affordable, and so we were
00:44:32> 00:44:35:	realizing in order to keep our talent in order to
00:44:35> 00:44:36:	hire talent.
00:44:37> 00:44:40:	We had to be willing to embrace hybrid work, even
00:44:40> 00:44:44:	more so, and flexible schedules because people we just couldn't
00:44:44> 00:44:45:	expect them to.
00:44:45> 00:44:47:	Commute from Maine or new.
00:44:47> 00:44:51:	Hampshire, or Rhode Island on the regular and and this
00:44:51> 00:44:54:	is what I was getting back to with this ability
00:44:54> 00:44:59:	to be, you know, entrepreneurial and to be really organized
00:44:59> 00:45:02:	and diligent. You know we were able to find great
00:45:02> 00:45:07:	talent that you know exemplified everything that you would
00:45:07> 00:45:08:	want in and out.
00:45:08> 00:45:11:	Of the office, you know they get their work done.
00:45:12> 00:45:15:	They are self motivated and so it was easy for
00:45:15> 00:45:18:	us to make that decision. You know, I I don't
00:45:18> 00:45:21:	have the numbers Connor, but I I.
00:45:21> 00:45:22:	If you want to get together and.
00:45:22> 00:45:25:	We can do some research I think would be great
00:45:25> 00:45:28:	because I do think it's something when we talk about,
00:45:28> 00:45:32:	you know, the diversity of our cities and everything like
00:45:32> 00:45:33:	housing is a.
00:45:33> 00:45:34:	Huge.
00:45:34> 00:45:38:	Part of that and and having a diverse mix of
00:45:38> 00:45:38:	housing.
00:45:39> 00:45:42:	For the workforce is super important.

00:45:43> 00:45:45:	Clearly, did you want to add to that?
00:45:45> 00:45:48:	I just wanted to add this quick little thing I
00:45:48> 00:45:51:	saw on the news this morning about the hybrid. The
00:45:51> 00:45:55:	ability to have a hybrid come into the office when
00:45:55> 00:45:57:	when you want and work from home when you want
00:45:57> 00:46:01:	is the cost of gas right now, because as companies
00:46:01> 00:46:04:	ask for their employees to come back into the office,
00:46:04> 00:46:07:	gas is almost \$5 a gallon right now and and
00:46:07> 00:46:10:	they were interviewing people, saying we wish we still had
00:46:10> 00:46:14:	the opportunity to work remotely because it's the cost of
00:46:14> 00:46:14:	gas.
00:46:14> 00:46:18:	Is really impacting their family budgets, so that is something
00:46:18> 00:46:21:	that companies have to think. So think about as well
00:46:21> 00:46:24:	as the housing prices get more expensive and people are
00:46:24> 00:46:27:	now living further away from major cities. The cost to
00:46:27> 00:46:31:	commute in if they're driving is really exorbitant right now
00:46:31> 00:46:34:	with the cost of gas, so that's just another thing
00:46:34> 00:46:37:	to think about that's on the minds of people who
00:46:37> 00:46:40:	are deciding whether or not they're going to take a
00:46:40> 00:46:41:	certain job over another.
00:46:43> 00:46:46:	Agree and I know one of the points in the
00:46:46> 00:46:50:	chat was also like the commute and these were all
00:46:50> 00:46:53:	factors before COVID, but I think also.
00:46:55> 00:46:58:	Being home remotely made everyone pause and just again
	as
00:46:58> 00:47:01:	we talked about reflect like what is what is best
00:47:02> 00:47:06:	for themselves, their personal lives, their careers, and again we're
00:47:06> 00:47:10:	talking about long lasting impressions. You want to make
	sure
00:47:10> 00:47:13:	that you are having that taken that time rather being
00:47:13> 00:47:16:	in a car or spending money and actually connecting more
00:47:16> 00:47:20:	with people. So this that balance. I don't know if
00:47:20> 00:47:23:	there was anyone else who wanted to add to that
00:47:23> 00:47:23:	Lauren.
00:47:24> 00:47:24:	I'll just say that.
00:47:25> 00:47:28:	Absolutely, we saw we saw through the pandemic where
	rents
00:47:29> 00:47:32:	were falling in downtown Boston. Or, you know, somewhat
00:47:32> 00:47:36:	holding steady in some neighborhoods, but growing throughout the
00.47.32> 00.47.30.	pandemic with
00:47:36> 00:47:39:	this idea that all of these people are moving to

the suburbs and rents have continued to grow 567 percent
in the suburbs. So I think it it starts to
tell that story that it's the commute, but you're also
saving thousands of thousands of dollars from a housing perspective,
so it'll just be really interesting to see where that
starts to level off.
Because the suburbs can't support Boston housing prices, but as
they continue to grow 567 percent a year, you start
to narrow the gap. So it's just a really interesting
dynamic over the next few years to watch.
Thank you, I'm just trying to see is there any
other questions out there?
Ohh everyone's quiet.
So ladies, is there anything else that you want to
leave?
You know to kind of speak on any other lasting
impressions. Any other suggestions tidbits?
I'll actually kind of lean into Karen Karen, sorry.
1st.
Let's see, I think one one thing that was talked
about earlier is around hiring and across different generations. But
also how do you get the right talent in place
and something that we've seen?
Well.
Two specific things is more assignment based interviewing so like
giving people a real taste of the actual work that
they'll do.
To make sure that we're on the same page and
then really robust clear onboarding, I think there's so much
that people pick up has kind of osmosis, and when
you're not in the office, that's really hard, so having
a lot more explicit communication if you can't read body
language through zoom, getting back to those soft skills that
Lauren talked to to really make sure that you've got
the right people and the right resources and support system
for them to be successful is a lot more.
Effort in this environment, then in the before times.
Thank you.
Julie, do you have anything you want to add to

00:49:53> 00:49:53:	that?
00:49:54> 00:49:57:	As far as the search for talent, I would be
00:49:57> 00:50:00:	remiss if I didn't mention that 85% of jobs are
00:50:00> 00:50:04:	filled through networking, so the companies that are actively looking
00:50:04> 00:50:07:	for to fill positions. What are you doing from a
00:50:07> 00:50:11:	networking front? Are you asking your current employees what their,
00:50:11> 00:50:14:	what their peer group is looking for, and how they
00:50:15> 00:50:18:	you could potentially talk to their peer group about what
00:50:18> 00:50:21:	it would be like to work in your office on
00:50:21> 00:50:24:	your projects? So I would just say lean into the
00:50:24> 00:50:25:	people that you have.
00:50:25> 00:50:28:	And lean into their networks to see if you can
00:50:28> 00:50:30:	fill the positions that you're looking for.
00:50:33> 00:50:37:	I'll just add from a flexibility standpoint. We talked to
00:50:37> 00:50:40:	geography but also time and Karen made me think of
00:50:40> 00:50:43:	it when you mentioned sort of project based interviews. I
00:50:43> 00:50:44:	think you said so.
00:50:46> 00:50:49:	Slightly different take on that where the two associates that
00:50:49> 00:50:51:	I brought on I mentioned they were part time and
00:50:51> 00:50:54:	so it's sort of served as like a three or
00:50:54> 00:50:57:	six month interview process to some extent. To really understand
00:50:57> 00:51:00:	how we work together, their work styles and approaches. And
00:51:00> 00:51:04:	so I think that's another opportunity that that the pandemic
00:51:04> 00:51:06:	has allowed in remote work is that you can do
00:51:06> 00:51:09:	that from a time standpoint as well and sort of
00:51:09> 00:51:11:	have a longer sort of on ramp to maybe a
00:51:11> 00:51:14:	full time position, but it's really part time and you're
00:51:14> 00:51:16:	just sort of getting to know each other.
00:51:16> 00:51:19:	Work you know, for some extended period of time, look
00:51:19> 00:51:21:	like an internship of sorts, but.
00:51:22> 00:51:24:	Yeah, so there was that too.
00:51:25> 00:51:28:	It's, you know, before I kinda ask Colleen to give
00:51:28> 00:51:32:	her so it's funny that you just had said well
00:51:32> 00:51:36:	but internships, have you seen anything different when it relates
00:51:36> 00:51:39:	to industry internships with this hybrid model?
00:51:42> 00:51:45:	I personally haven't, but I would actually be curious if
00:51:45> 00:51:47:	Caitlin has seen internships, you know.
00:51:49> 00:51:52:	Like what we had before. It's just such an interesting

00:51:52> 00:51:53:	role that summer internship.
00:51:54> 00:51:56:	Yeah, I think I mean, I think the summer of
00:51:56> 00:51:59:	2022 is shaping up for. I mean, I know a
00:51:59> 00:52:00:	lot of firms are.
00:52:02> 00:52:06:	Bringing in larger than normal classes of internships, maybe just
00:52:06> 00:52:10:	sort of fuel. A pipeline of talent to their organization.
00:52:10> 00:52:13:	You know from what I've heard, because I, you know,
00:52:13> 00:52:16:	generally talked to a couple of young up and comers
00:52:16> 00:52:21:	looking for internships. Since I've made several introductions and folks
00:52:21> 00:52:24:	like we, we have plenty of intern. So I think
00:52:24> 00:52:26:	this year should feel normal.
00:52:27> 00:52:31:	But I think again, that young up and coming professional
00:52:31> 00:52:36:	missed that opportunity because many were cancelled for at least
00:52:36> 00:52:38:	one year, if not two years.
00:52:39> 00:52:42:	So you know, I think it will be. Hopefully, this
00:52:42> 00:52:44:	year we'll you know these these students will be able
00:52:44> 00:52:46:	to gain that real time exposure.
00:52:48> 00:52:50:	And I'll just say I saw on the chat. I
00:52:50> 00:52:53:	think Susan you had mentioned about employers asking too much.
00:52:53> 00:52:56:	This was definitely they were on board and getting paid
00:52:56> 00:52:58:	and what not. But I agree with you there, there's
00:52:58> 00:52:59:	a balance between.
00:53:00> 00:53:02:	You know someone's working on something for a week just
00:53:02> 00:53:05:	and then they don't. They never get hired, but yeah,
00:53:05> 00:53:06:	so the this just to clarify that.
00:53:09> 00:53:13:	And Colleen, is there any other additional insights that you'd
00:53:13> 00:53:13:	like to share?
00:53:15> 00:53:18:	I think we we had a lot of great discussions.
00:53:18> 00:53:22:	This group. This panel leading up to this.
00:53:22> 00:53:23:	Discussion today.
00:53:23> 00:53:27:	And one of the things we did touch upon previously.
00:53:28> 00:53:32:	And I'll use the generic term that everyone is using
00:53:32> 00:53:36:	these days, which is Wellness when we talk about talent,
00:53:36> 00:53:42:	recruitment, retention, you know, flexible work obviously. And thinking about
00:53:42> 00:53:46:	commutes and all that stuff and and blending of personal
00:53:46> 00:53:49:	and work time is important. But I I would definitely
00:53:49> 00:53:53:	stress when we we talked about this idea that employees
00:53:53> 00:53:58:	want to know that you're invested and thinking about their

00:53:58> 00:53:58:	physical.
00:53:58> 00:54:01:	And mental and emotional well-being.
00:54:03> 00:54:08:	You know, we've all been through probably one of the
00:54:08> 00:54:13:	craziest moments of our lives, right? For all sorts of
00:54:13> 00:54:18:	reasons, and this notion, you know, this real threat that
00:54:18> 00:54:19:	we had to our.
00:54:19> 00:54:20:	Health.
00:54:20> 00:54:24:	And and sadly, you know some some some people, you
00:54:24> 00:54:28:	know it was a threat and and I think it's
00:54:28> 00:54:32:	left a mark on us and so this idea.
00:54:32> 00:54:32:	That
00:54:32> 00:54:33:	employers.
00:54:34> 00:54:34:	Are
00:54:36> 00:54:41:	recognizing that and our invested in making sure that the
00:54:41> 00:54:46:	whole employee is being thought about and cared for.
	Whether
00:54:46> 00:54:50:	that means you know you have more access to E
00:54:50> 00:54:56:	or emotional mental health programs or better insurance
	programs or
00:54:56> 00:55:01:	more PTO. I think we're starting to see that ripple
00:55:01> 00:55:05:	into recruitment and retention as well.
00:55:06> 00:55:06:	And it's.
00:55:06> 00:55:07:	Important.
00:55:07> 00:55:07:	That
00:55:07> 00:55:09:	they aren't doing it. They should be doing it.
00:55:10> 00:55:11:	Yeah, I mean.
00:55:13> 00:55:17:	I think a lot of organizations they want to embrace
00:55:17> 00:55:21:	it. They want to do what's best and they're they're
00:55:21> 00:55:25:	they're feeling it out and they're trying to figure it
00:55:25> 00:55:28:	out and work with their employees. So I know we
00:55:28> 00:55:32:	are getting close to time and I want to, you
00:55:32> 00:55:36:	know, give a round of applause to these amazing ladies.
00:55:36> 00:55:40:	And I want to thank Colleen, Julie, Lauren, Karen and
00:55:40> 00:55:43:	Caitlin. Thank you so much. Thank you for sharing.
00:55:43> 00:55:47:	And providing your insight to the group, and I am
00:55:47> 00:55:51:	going to give it back to Michelle, that's a close
00:55:51> 00:55:52:	us out.
00:55:53> 00:55:56:	Thanks Tanya and thank you to Clean Curran Julie and
00:55:56> 00:56:00:	Lauren. What a fabulous discussion and incredibly timely.
	You know,
00:56:00> 00:56:03:	as these COVID waves are coming and going, I think
00:56:03> 00:56:07:	flexibility is absolutely more important than it's ever been. And

00.50.00 > 00.50.44.	you know this requirement that even one in the office five
00:56:08> 00:56:11:	you know this requirement that everyone in the office five
00:56:11> 00:56:14:	days a week simply doesn't work. If half of your
00:56:14> 00:56:17:	team is up sick, so this was incredibly timely again
00:56:17> 00:56:20:	and I also want to thank all the Members who
00:56:20> 00:56:23:	participated. If you're looking for opportunities.
00:56:23> 00:56:26:	To connect in person we have a great panel. Next
00:56:26> 00:56:29:	week we're going to be out in Worcester looking at
00:56:29> 00:56:32:	the Polar Park and how transformative that project has been
00:56:32> 00:56:35:	and that area of Worcester. We have a fabulous panel
00:56:36> 00:56:38:	followed by a tour and then tickets to the game,
00:56:38> 00:56:40:	so I hope that you can take a look at
00:56:41> 00:56:43:	that. I had posted the link on our website and
00:56:43> 00:56:46:	l'm also gonna post a link. I would be remiss
00:56:46> 00:56:49:	in missing this opportunity to share with our network ULI
00:56:49> 00:56:52:	is hiring or seeking a director who's going to work
00:56:52> 00:56:52:	on.
00:56:53> 00:56:56:	Many of the important issues that are facing Boston as
00:56:56> 00:56:59:	well as our entire District Council, which covers all of
00:56:59> 00:57:03:	New England issues around housing around climate, change, resiliency and
00:57:03> 00:57:06:	all the things that are happening in the small and
00:57:06> 00:57:08:	large communities that we serve. So if you know anyone
00:57:08> 00:57:12:	who might be interested, please share that opportunity with them
00:57:12> 00:57:14:	and then with that I think we'll let everyone go.
00:57:14> 00:57:17:	This again has been a fabulous discussion if you'd like
00:57:17> 00:57:21:	to share with this webinar, will recording will be available
00:57:21> 00:57:23:	on the ULI knowledge platform. UI knowledge Finder.
00:57:23> 00:57:26:	Platform in the coming weeks and we hope to see
00:57:26> 00:57:29:	you around another ULI program soon. Thank you everybody.
00:57:30> 00:57:31:	Thank you.

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