The inaugural Watch-City Forum, a full-day event connecting scientists and teachers, took place on November 5, 2019. The Brandeis MRSEC led a Brandeis team of scientists, technologists, and librarians to develop and execute the event.

In the first half of the day, 21 Waltham teachers met in small groups with 15 Brandeis scientists for “behind the scenes” tours of Brandeis research labs. The teams developed curriculum for future visits by the scientist(s) to the middle and high school classrooms.

In the second half of the day, attendees listened to talks from teacher-scientist teams about past examples of successful scientist-in-the-classroom visits and had the opportunity to engage with other scientists presenting scientific posters of their work. There were also hands-on booths with science demos, and tables with representatives from local companies. All attendees were encouraged to create SciLinkR.com profiles.

To minimize the cost to the MRSEC, funds were raised from local companies in exchange for table access at the event.

PP Avi Rodal and Waltham teacher Ellen Stanton speaking to teachers and scientists gathered for the Watch-City Forum. This event celebrated Brandeis as a hub of innovation and discovery and promoted SciLinkR.com as a way to connect the broader community with professionals and promote science.