

InsightNews

PhD Project professors Lewis, White, Jones promoted at University of St. Thomas

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The PhD Project, an award-winning program to create a more diverse corporate America, announced three Project participants have been promoted to associate professors with tenure at the University of St. Thomas.



Dr. Nakeisha Lewis



Dr. Janine Sanders Jones



Dr. Sheneeta White

Dr. Nakeisha Lewis, has been promoted to associate professor with tenure and received her Ph.D. in Advertising from the University of Texas at Austin. Dr. Sheneeta White, has been promoted to associate professor of operations and supply chain management with tenure and received her Ph.D. from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Dr. Janine Sanders Jones, has been promoted to associate professor with tenure and received her Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota.

Lewis is one of only 95 female African-American marketing business school professors in the U.S. White and Sanders Jones are two of only 184, female African-American management business school professors in the U.S.

The PhD Project was created in 1994. The project's vision is to diversify corporate America by increasing the number of minority business professors (African-American, Hispanic-American and Native-American), who attract more minority students to study business in college.

"These three professors have succeeded in the very difficult endeavor of being promoted to associate professors with tenure," said Bernard J. Milano, president of The PhD Project and president of the KPMG Foundation, founder and lead funder of the program. "They have demonstrated dedication, hard work and

intelligence in joining the rapidly growing ranks of minorities choosing to influence the next generation of business leaders as college professors. The PhD Project takes great pride in their achievements, and looks forward to following their success throughout their careers."

The PhD Project, a 501(c) (3) organization that the KPMG Foundation, recruits minority professionals from business into doctoral programs in all business disciplines. Since its inception, The PhD Project has been responsible for the increase in the number of minority business professors from 294 to 1,269. Through the program, 308 minorities are currently enrolled in doctoral programs. According to those affiliated with The PhD Project, the project attacks the root cause of minority under-representation in corporate jobs. Historically, very few minority college students study business as an entrée to a corporate career. Officials with the project say diversifying the faculty attracts more minorities to study business and better prepares all students to function in a diverse workforce.

Each year, highly qualified professionals who are considering leaving their careers to enter doctoral programs in business are invited to The PhD Project Conference where they hear from deans, professors and current minority doctoral students about the benefits of pursuing a business. Once a person enters a program, every minority business doctoral student in an accredited U.S. business school becomes a member of one of the project's five Doctoral Student Associations (DSAs) – accounting, finance, information systems, marketing and management.