

## **The PhD Project Announces VMware Support to Inspire a New Generation of Diverse Business Leaders**

November, 2014—The PhD Project, an award-winning program to inspire a new generation of diverse business leaders by creating a support network for minority business school faculty candidates, today announced that VMware has joined its roster of corporate Sponsors.

The PhD Project was created in 1994 to address the severe under-representation of African-Americans, Hispanic-Americans and Native Americans in management by diversifying the front of the classroom—the business school faculty. A diverse faculty encourages more minorities to pursue business degrees, thereby increasing the pool of minority applicants for positions in today’s multicultural corporate environment.

“We look forward to working with The PhD Project to support their efforts to increase the diversity of business doctoral students and faculty,” said Tony Scott, senior vice president and chief information officer, VMware. “Like The PhD Project, VMware supports and appreciates efforts to create diversity in academia and the business world.”

VMware is a respected pioneer in virtualization and policy-driven automation – from the data center to the cloud to mobile devices, helping customers realize the dramatic benefits of a software-defined model for information technology (IT). With VMware’s commitment to The PhD Project, they join other leading corporations, foundations and associations to systemically change the face of corporate America. These organizations are involved in planning throughout the year and attend The PhD Project’s six conferences to develop relationships with minority faculty and minority doctoral students who are teaching at business schools throughout the U.S.

“It is encouraging to see corporate America’s support of diversity in education,” said Bernard J. Milano, President of the KPMG Foundation, the founder and lead funder of the program. “VMware’s support will help carry on the momentum of The PhD Project, which has more than quadrupled the number of minority business professors in its 20 years.”

When The PhD Project was created, there were only 294 doctorally qualified African-American, Hispanic American or Native American business professors in all U.S. business schools. Today, there are 1,237 minority business professors. Further, 332 minorities are currently enrolled in doctoral programs, and will take a place at the front of the classroom over the next few years. The PhD Project provides direct access to these individuals, so companies providing funding at or above a certain level can connect with participants and their students to share information about careers, scholarships and other educational initiatives.

Some of America’s top companies, foundations, associations and academic organizations sponsor The PhD Project along with VMware. They are: [KPMG Foundation](#), [Graduate Management Admission Council](#), [Citi Foundation](#), [AACSB International](#), over 285 participating universities, [AICPA Foundation](#), [DiversityInc](#), [JPMorgan Chase Foundation](#), [The Merck Company Foundation](#), [Microsoft Corporation](#), [Dixon Hughes Goodman LLP](#), [Rockwell Collins](#), [Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.](#), [American Marketing Association](#), [John Deere Foundation](#), [CIGNA](#), [ADP](#), [Edison International](#) (on behalf of the [California State University System](#)), [Lincoln Financial Group](#), [Aerotek/TEKsystems](#) (operating companies of [Allegis Group](#)), [3M](#), [American Accounting Association](#) and [The Hershey Company](#).

For more information on The PhD Project, visit: <http://www.phdproject.org> or contact Lisa King at 646-234-5080 or [lisak@mediainpact.biz](mailto:lisak@mediainpact.biz). Connect with our members at [www.MyPhDNetwork.org](http://www.MyPhDNetwork.org); Visit us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/thePhDProject>; Follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/ThePhDProject](http://www.twitter.com/ThePhDProject).

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