**Mission:**
To increase workplace diversity by increasing the diversity of business school faculty who encourage, mentor, support and enhance the preparation of tomorrow’s leaders.

**Vision:**
A significantly larger talent pipeline of African-Americans, Hispanic-Americans and Native Americans for business leadership positions.

**Objectives:**
- To inform and educate minorities about all aspects of a business doctoral program, and encourage them to follow their dream of becoming a professor;
- To provide a nurturing a support network for minorities as they navigate their doctoral program;
- To increase the number of minority business professors who can function as role models and mentors;
- To influence more minorities to pursue business degrees/careers;
- To increase the number of qualified minority applicants to fill critical positions in the business disciplines;
- To improve the preparation of all students by allowing them to experience the richness of learning from a faculty with diverse backgrounds; and
- To reach the goal of a better prepared and more diversified workforce to service a diversified customer base.

**Dr. Larzette Hale, PhD Project Trailblazer**

It is with great sorrow that we announce the passing of a trailblazer, Dr. Larzette Hale. She received a B.S. from Langston University and both M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Dr. Hale was the first African-American woman to hold both the CPA and Ph.D. in Accounting; the first African-American appointed to the Utah Board of Regents of Higher Education and in 1966, she was elected as the 17th International President of the Sorority the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. Dr. Hale was awarded an honorary doctorate from Utah State University in 2003.

Dr. Hale spanned more than 40 years as an accountant, a college professor and researcher. She taught at Clark Atlanta as well as at Utah State University as professor emeritus of accounting, where she led its school of accounting. Although she retired in 1990, she couldn’t stay retired. She taught at Brigham Young University and a few other colleges until she officially retired in 1998. Dr. Hale was a trailblazer in every sense of the word.

According to HBCU Digest, “Dr Hale described her career as a return on the investment of her mentors.” She has been quoted as saying, “I would advise all young people thinking about public accounting as a career- especially African-Americans; Work hard. Accounting is an excellent field to be in. If you are serious about it, you can go far.” Her proudest accomplishments, said Dr. Hale, have been the successes of her students.

We salute Dr. Hale for setting the course for today’s minority business students. She will be missed!
Listed below are the accomplishments of PhD Project participants reported since the last issue of the newsletter. A year after the participant’s name indicates the year they attended a November PhD Project Conference.

**STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Congratulations to the following students who recently passed comprehensive exams:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Teaching At/Employed By</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R. Christopher Small-2004</td>
<td>Accounting</td>
<td>University of Iowa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kecia Williams Smith-2010</td>
<td>Accounting</td>
<td>Texas A&amp;M University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashleigh Poindexter-2008</td>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>University of South Carolina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montressa Washington</td>
<td>Management</td>
<td>Case Western Reserve University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tyrha M. Lindsey-2009</td>
<td>Marketing</td>
<td>Rutgers University</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations to the following students who successfully defended their proposal:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Teaching At/Employed By</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Franklin Warren</td>
<td>Information Systems</td>
<td>Virginia Tech</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CONGRATULATIONS! NEW PROFESSORS**

The following individuals advised us of their successful dissertation defense!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Doctorate Received At</th>
<th>Teaching At/Employed By</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexander Pelaez</td>
<td>Information Systems</td>
<td>Baruch College</td>
<td>Hofstra University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olusola Samuel-Ojo</td>
<td>Information Systems</td>
<td>Claremont Graduate University</td>
<td>Seeking Faculty Position</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IN MEMORIAM: DR. DAWN PEARCY**

It’s always with heavy hearts we announce the loss of any PhD Project member.

**DR. DAWN PEARCY**, Professor of Marketing and Supply Chain Management at Eastern Michigan University passed suddenly on January 15, 2015.

Dr. Pearcy earned a PhD at Florida State University in 2002 and specialized in Supply Chain Management. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Michigan State University, and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Wayne State University.

Her research has been published in journals such as the Journal of Supply Chain Management, the International Journal of Market Research, the International Review of Retail, Distribution and Consumer Research as well as the proceedings of several national and international conferences.

Her life ended much too early. She will be missed by many in particular by her Marketing colleagues.
**THE PHD PROJECT SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT**

**Academy of Management Increases Support to The PhD Project**

As our PhD Project Management DSA members are well aware, since 1997 The PhD Project Management Doctoral Student Association Conference has been held in conjunction with the AOM Annual meeting, and as a result of AOM support, The PhD Project members have been afforded the unique opportunity to attend the AOM event each year.

This past August, at our Management DSA final dinner, The PhD Project received the wonderful news that the Academy of Management (AOM) was increasing its funding to become a full Sponsor! AOM is an organization of over 19,000 members from nearly 120 nations with 25 professional divisions and interest groups that promote excellence in established management disciplines.

“We are pleased to expand our funding to the PhD Project that we have supported since its very early years,” said Nancy Urbanowicz, Executive Director of the Academy of Management. “The important work of the PhD Project aligns with our mission to tend to the next generation of scholars committed to making a difference in the profession and in the lives of countless management students that our members touch through their scholarship and teaching each year.”

“This support from AOM sends a strong message of inspiration and encouragement to those considering leaving their current careers to enter a management doctoral program,” said Bernard J. Milano, President of the KPMG Foundation, the founder and lead funder of the program. "Those that choose this path are on their way to becoming part of the academic world, influencing generations to come. Our thanks to the AOM Board and membership."

Thank you to AOM for your strong and continued support. We look forward to this enhanced partnership and working together to even more closely to strengthen both of our organizations.

The Academy of Management’s Annual Meeting is in Vancouver, BC this year from Friday, August 7th through Tuesday, August 15th. The Doctoral Student Association Conference will precede it starting Wednesday, August 5th.

*PhD Project Members at the 2014 Management DSA Conference in Philadelphia*
# The PhD Project Sponsors

- KPMG Foundation • Graduate Management Admission Council
- Citi Foundation • AACSB International • 285+ Participating Universities • AICPA Foundation • DiversityInc
- The Merck Company Foundation • Dixon Hughes Goodman LLP • Rockwell Collins • Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.
- American Marketing Association • John Deere Foundation • CIGNA • ADP
- Edison International (on behalf of California State University System) • Lincoln Financial Group •
- Aerotek & Teksystems (operating companies of Allegis Group) • 3M
- American Accounting Association • The Hershey Company • VMware • Academy of Management • NASBA

# The PhD Project Board of Directors

- John Fernandes, Board Chair; President & CEO, AACSB
- Bernard J. Milano, Board President; President, KPMG Foundation
- Kendra Johnson, Board Secretary; Director, Disability Policy & Services, GMAC
- Willie Deese, President, Merck Manufacturing • Rod S. Dooley, VP, Diversity, Rockwell Collins
- Kim Drumgo, Director of Diversity & Inclusion, AICPA
- Ana Duarte-McCarthy, Director of Global Workforce Diversity, Citi
- Milford McGuint, Partner, KPMG • Jose Rodriguez, Partner, KPMG
- Kent Satterfield, COO, Dixon Hughes Goodman LLP • Tony Scott, CIO, VMware
- Rebecca Sproul, Partner, KPMG • Luke Visconti, CEO, DiversityInc

# The PhD Project Deans Advisory Board

- Carolyn Callahan, College of Business, University of Louisville
- Quiester Craig, Dean Emeritus, School of Business, North Carolina A&T University
- John Elliot, Dean, School of Business, University of Connecticut
- Eli Jones, Dean, Sam Walton College of Business, University of Arkansas
- dt ogilvie, Saunders College of Business, Rochester Institute of Technology
- Andy Policano, DLC Endowed Professor and Former Dean, Paul Merage School of Business, University of California-Irvine
- Melvin Stith, Dean Emeritus, Whitman School of Management, Syracuse University

www.phdproject.org
NEW STUDENT TRANSITION GRANTS

Melvin and Patricia Stith Transition Grant for New Ph.D. Students in Marketing

Eligibility Requirements
In order to apply, applicant must be:
- African-American, Hispanic-American or Native American
- U.S. citizen or permanent resident of the United States (possess a green card)
- Must be a new Ph.D. student admitted to a full-time AACSB accredited marketing program for Fall 2015

Terms of the Grant
- Up to five $2000 grants awarded annually

Application:
- A completed copy of the Application Form-- visit http://www.phdproject.org/resources/education-funding
- Letter of admission from AACSB accredited full-time marketing doctoral program

Email your application package to Tara Perino at tperino@kpmg.com or fax to 201-624-7763 to arrive by May 1st. If you have questions please call 201-307-7932.

Carolyn M. Callahan New Student Transition Grant

Eligibility Requirements
In order to apply for this scholarship, applicant must be:
- African-American, Hispanic-American, or Native American
- U.S. citizen or a permanent resident of the United States
- Must be a new student admitted to a full-time AACSB accredited accounting program for Fall 2015.

Terms of the Grant
- Up to five $2000 grants

The application consists of the following items:
- A completed copy of the Application form- visit http://www.phdproject.org/resources/education-funding
- Letter of admission from AACSB accredited full-time accounting doctoral program

Email your application package to tperino@kpmg.com or fax to 201-624-7763 to arrive by May 1. If you have any questions please call 201-307-7932.

PAYING IT FORWARD–The PhD Project 20th Anniversary Campaign

PLEDGE:
Providing a Legacy to Ensure Diversity for Generations in Education

In total, we received over $90,000- almost reaching our 20th anniversary campaign goal of $100,000! Thank you all for your support and generosity.

If you are not already doing so, please consider making a recurring PLEDGE.

DONATE TODAY @ http://www.phdproject.org/support-the-phd-project/individual-supporters
DSA SUMMER CONFERENCES

Our annual summer DSA conferences will be quickly upon us. Are you going to be there? The invitational links will be distributed early spring. If you do not receive your invitation, please contact Myrna Varner at myrnavarner@kpmg.com or 201-307-7628. Each DSA will host a Project AHEAD session. Faculty members: look for your invitation to attend at your respective DSA conference. We will be visiting some great cities this year such as:

Finance DSA - The Westin Seattle - Seattle, WA, June 15-17
In conjunction with Western Finance Association, June 17-20, 2015

Accounting DSA - Swissotel - Chicago, IL, August 7-9
In conjunction with American Accounting Association, August 8-12, 2015

Info Systems DSA - El Conquistador - Fajardo, Puerto Rico, August 12-13

Management DSA - The Westin Bayshore - Vancouver, BC, Canada, August 5-7
In conjunction with Academy of Management, August 7-11, 2015

Marketing DSA - Sheraton Hotel & Towers - Chicago, IL, August 12-14
In conjunction with AMA Summer Educators Marketing Conference, August 14-16, 2015

FACULTY CORNER

Please join in congratulating The PhD Project Faculty membership for all their accomplishments!

Congratulations to Dr. Antoinette Smith, Accounting, Florida International University, named Assistant Program Director for Technology Assisted Learning. She also will continue as an Associate Professor in the School of Accounting.

Congratulations to Dr. John Warren, Information Systems, University of Texas-San Antonio, named Associate Dean of Recruiting in the College of Business. Dr. Warren will be engaged in actively recruiting undergraduate and graduate students as well as faculty members.

Congratulations to Dr. Irma Becerra-Fernandez, Information Systems, St. Thomas University (Miami), named the new Provost.

Congratulations to Dr. Sharon D. White, Information Systems, North Carolina Central University, named Associate Dean of the School of Business.

Congratulations to Dr. Jorge Perez, Information Systems, Kennesaw State University, named Vice Provost for Institutional Effectiveness. The Office of Institutional Accreditation will be renamed the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and re-assigned to report to Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Ken Harmon.

Congratulations to Dr. April Reed, Information Systems, East Carolina University who have been promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure.

Congratulations to Dr. Nicole Thorne Jenkins, Accounting, University of Kentucky, whose co-authored article with Dr. Karl E. Hackenbrack and Mikhail Pevzner titled, “Relevant but Delayed Information un Negotiated Audit Fees.” Has been published in Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory, November 2014 Volume 33, Number 4.

www.phdproject.org
THE SPONSORS’ CORNER

We are pleased to announce that NASBA (National Association of State Boards of Accountancy) has joined us as a Sponsor!

We are also pleased to report the renewals of:

- 3M
- DiversityInc.
- Edison International (on behalf of the Cal State University System)
- Graduate Management Admission Council
- Hershey

As we continuously work to broaden support for The PhD Project, we ask for your support in acknowledging our Sponsors and also identifying prospects. If you have a corporate contact that might be interested in learning more about supporting The PhD Project, please contact Marie Zara at mzara@kpmg.com or 201-307-8660.

UNIVERSITY CORNER

Not only did The PhD Project celebrate its 20th anniversary but have experienced a great year of university support. An earnest effort was expended in reaching out to business schools since one of the components for success of The Project is university support. Below is a listing of non-doctoral granting universities we are happy to announce have joined as PhD Project supporters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alabama A&amp;M University</th>
<th>Prairie View A&amp;M University</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arcadia University</td>
<td>Texas Woman’s University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berea College</td>
<td>Troy University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowling Green State University</td>
<td>University at Albany, SUNY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creighton University</td>
<td>University of Houston-Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware State University</td>
<td>University of Maryland University College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairfield University</td>
<td>University of Northern Iowa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida Gulf Coast University</td>
<td>University of South Alabama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Valley State University</td>
<td>Whitworth School of Business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota State University</td>
<td>Willamette University</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We thank all of our members for their efforts in communicating with the university administrators the importance of supporting the diversification of the business schools and supporting The PhD Project mission. We look forward to another successful year!

PHD PROJECT HALL OF FAME

Honoring commitment, involvement and inspiration, that’s the purpose of The PhD Project’s Hall of Fame. Each year our Hall of Fame will honor a select few who have greatly inspired many. We’ll recognize those who have sustained an unwavering commitment to our mission. And we’ll bring tribute to the leaders among us who have achieved significant encouragement and impact within our network of minority business doctoral students and faculty.

Nominations for 2015 inductees will be accepted through April 30, 2015. Please download the Nomination Form for more details and consider nominating those who have been instrumental in fulfilling The PhD Project’s mission and had a profound impact on our network at http://www.phdproject.org/fame.html.

Who will be inducted alongside Bernie Milano, Dean Emeritus Quiester Craig, Dean Emeritus Melvin Stith, Dr. Andy Policanco, Dean John Elliott, Dr. Carolyn Callahan, Dr. Ralph Katerberg, Dr. Tom Lopez, Dr. Miriam Stamps, Dr. dt ogilvie, Dr. David Ford, Jr., Dr. Laura Hall, Dr. Sandra Shelton and Dr. Jerome Williams?

THE PHD PROJECT ANNOUNCES NEW WEBSITE!

It was an exciting year; reflecting on wonderful memories, exchanging stories, viewing old photos and most important, looking towards the future, especially our new website.

Here you can view:

- Live Twitter feeds to stay on top of our tweets
- View an adjusted screen to your mobile phone or tablet
- All of the latest videos in real time via our YouTube channel
- Our most recent news and events
- New mobile giving options for individual supporters

Everything you need to know about The PhD Project and getting a Ph.D.-All within a few clicks! We invite you to visit our site at www.phdproject.org.

PHD PROJECT AHEAD

With fewer than 20 African-American, Hispanic-American and Native American Deans at majority business schools in the U.S., the need for administrative diversity has become increasingly evident. Project AHEAD encourages tenured minority faculty to explore positions in administration. Following The PhD Project model, this program offers resources and support by hosting webinars and providing mentors to help members on this path. For more information, visit our website, http://www.phdproject.org/our-success/alumni-resources-programs#panel1 and join The PhD Project AHEAD LinkedIn Group for more information.
This past year marked the 20th anniversary of The PhD Project. As we reflect back over the years, we realize there have been many milestones that are cause for celebration. We are excited to celebrate with our newly capped group of professors.

First row: Dr. Anjelita Cadena-Our Lady of the Lake University; Dr. Erika Hall-Emory University; Dr. Stephani Mason-DePaul University; PhD Project President Bernie Milano; Dr. Cinthia Satornino- Northeastern University; Dr. Jennifer Zarzosa- Henderson State University; Dr. Dalila Salazar- Texas A&M-Central Texas; Dr. Takisha Toler- Stevenson University; Dr. Ella Washington-Northwestern University; Dr. Kemi Ajayi-University of Colorado Denver; Dr. Jennifer Bailey-Babson College

Second row: Dr. Dereck Barr-Pulliam-University of Wisconsin-Madison; Dr. Marcus Brooks-University of Nevada; Dr. Mary Dunaway-Quinnipiac University; Dr. Ahmed Elkassabgi-Texas A&M International University; Dr. Yvette Holmes Nelson-Florida A&M University; Dr. Jennifer Hutchins-Kennesaw State University & Dr. Richelle Oakley-Savannah State University