

**Award-Winning PhD Project Announces Founder, Bernard J. Milano, Receives Newly Established Award: *Bernard J. Milano Excellence Award***



Montvale, NJ- The PhD Project, an award-winning program to create a more diverse corporate America, announces that Bernard J. Milano, President of KPMG U.S. Foundation, Inc. and The PhD Project, has received the **newly established (HBCU) Business Deans Roundtable *Bernard J. Milano Excellence Award***. The Roundtable’s purpose is to provide a forum for deans of historically black colleges and universities (HBCU) business schools to address opportunities and challenges associated with enhancing business programs and initiatives.

“The National HBCU Business Deans Roundtable is indebted to Bernie J. Milano for his significant personal and professional support and dedication to the development of our organization,” explains Barron H Harvey, Ph.D., CPA, Dean and Frank Ross/KPMG Endowed Professor, School of Business, Howard University. “Mr. Milano was one of the first corporate representatives to support the now National HBCU Business Deans Roundtable, but was also instrumental in the Roundtable becoming a national organization. Mr. Milano continues to provide advice and counsel to this organization and its member deans from its inception until today. Therefore, the Roundtable is very proud to establish the Bernard J. Milano Excellence

Award in his name to award to future individuals who provide significant contributions to the organization and to diversity and inclusion.”

“I am honored and humbled to receive this Award,” said Milano. “As with other recognitions I have received, this and the others really belong to KPMG, which has had the commitment, courage and generosity to attack important issues.”

“Bernie Milano’s contributions to HBCUs and their business programs extend far beyond his support of the HBCU Business Deans Roundtable Summit,” said Edward L. Davis, Professor and Christine McEachern Smith Chair, School of Business, Clark Atlanta University and the 2018-19 President of the HBCU Deans Roundtable. “He has been an advisor, sponsor, sounding board and friend. The Roundtable Executive Committee and its members congratulate Bernie for being the first recipient of the *Bernard J. Milano Excellence Award*.”

“Bernie’s leadership has had the most observable and pronounced effect on business education in my lifetime,” said Joe Ricks, Jr., Ph.D., Chair, Division of Business and J.P. Morgan Chase Professor of Sales and Marketing. It has been amazing to see what his support for the Roundtable and his leadership of The PhD Project has done first hand.”

The PhD Project, which was founded by the KPMG Foundation in 1994 and became a separate 501(c)(3) in 2005, 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 minorities earning a business Ph.D. from 294 to 1,517, of whom 1,303 are teaching in U.S. colleges and universities. Further, 259 minorities are currently enrolled in doctoral programs, and will take a place at the front of the classroom over the next few years. 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. Diversifying the faculty attracts more minorities to study business and better prepares all students to function in a diverse workforce.

The PhD Project has received ongoing support from its sponsoring companies, participating universities, individuals and organizations. The founding organizations, in addition to the [KPMG Foundation](#), are the [Graduate Management Admission Council](#) and [AACSB International](#). Other financial sponsors of The Project include: [AICPA Foundation](#), [DiversityInc](#), [Dixon Hughes Goodman LLP](#), [American Marketing Association](#), [Rockwell Collins](#), [John Deere Foundation](#), [California State University System](#), [Lincoln Financial Group](#), [Academy of Management](#), [American Accounting Association](#), [City University of New York System](#), [Aerotek](#), [NASBA](#), [Thrivent Financial](#), [American Express Foundation](#), [Fidelity Investments](#), [Bentley University](#), [LinkedIn](#), Annette L. Nazareth and Roger W. Ferguson, Jr., [New York Life](#), [IMA® \(Institute of Management Accountants\)](#) and over 300 [Participating Universities](#).

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). Visit us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/thephdproject>; Follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/ThePhDProject](http://www.twitter.com/ThePhDProject).