“It is an honor to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month and the Initiative’s 25th anniversary with the release of nearly 150 commitments to action that will help strengthen the educational outcomes and opportunities for the Hispanic community,” said Executive Director Alejandra Ceja. “These commitments will bring critical resources to Latino students and families across this country, are examples of meaningful investments being made in support of the largest, youngest and arguably the fastest growing minority community in the country and will help fulfill America’s future.”

The PhD Project was selected TWICE by the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics!

The PhD Project was first chosen as a “Bright Spot in Hispanic Education” by The White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics’ – and then for our Commitment to Action in honor of the Initiative’s 25th Anniversary.

In recognition of the Anniversary of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics, The PhD Project (www.phdproject.org) commits to increase the percentage of Hispanic American PhD Project members by 10% over the next 10 years (from 23% to 25%) by doing the following:

- Establish The PhD Project Committee on Hispanic Excellence to engage members in this initiative
- Develop toolkit specific for PhD Project Hispanic American members to enhance their visibility on their campuses - and as a result - their mentoring of Hispanic students on their campuses
- Promote this initiative at PhD Project DSA Conferences and on social media (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube)

The PhD Project will utilize its network of over 1,600 minority business faculty and doctoral students (this includes over 400 Hispanic-American members) to enhance outreach to Hispanic-American students enhancing this completion rate. The program will formally recruit Hispanic-American business professors to serve as mentors to these students with the purpose of facilitating the students’ successful completion of their undergraduate and graduate degrees through one-on-one mentoring. The Hispanic-American mentors will also “plant the seed” encouraging these students to consider a career in business academe, thereby creating a new generation of Hispanic-American mentors, and increasing the reach of the program exponentially each year.

The PhD Project Committee on Hispanic Education includes members from each DSA:

- Dr. Marcus Bellamy, Boston University
- Dr. Donna Blancero, Bentley University, Chair
- Dr. Anjelita Cadena, University of North Texas
- Dr. Giovanni Fernandez, Stetson University
- Dr. Laura Hall, University of Texas – El Paso
- Dr. Margarita Lenk, Colorado State University
- Dr. Pablo Machado, San Diego State University
- Dr. Jorge Perez, Kennesaw State University
- Dr. Rebeca Perren, California State University at San Marcos
- Dr. Jose Rosa, Iowa State University

The White House Initiative was established in 1990 to address the educational disparities faced by the Hispanic community. The full list of Commitments to Action and online Commitment catalog are accessible at: https://sites.ed.gov/hispanic-initiative/

Thank you to our PhD Project Sponsors and Participating Universities for helping us earn this recognition.