

**PhD Project Professor Miles K. Davis Named
First African-American President of Linfield College**
First PhD Project professor to become a college president

Montvale, NJ - The PhD Project, an award-winning program to create a more diverse corporate America by diversifying business school faculty, is pleased to announce that Project member, **Dr. Miles K. Davis has been named president of Linfield College in Oregon. Dr. Davis is the first African-American president in Linfield's 160-year history, and the first PhD Project professor to become a college president.**

“The PhD Project applauds Linfield College for selecting a scholar and leader of distinction who will make a superb president,” said Bernard J. Milano, president of The PhD Project and president of the KPMG Foundation, founder and lead funder of the program.

“As we celebrate this significant career milestone for Dr. Davis, who started his academic career journey through The PhD Project, we also note that it is a milestone for The Project,” Mr. Milano said. “This appointment is both a well-deserved personal success, and a meaningful step forward in the ongoing effort to systemically diversify higher education faculties and administration.”

Mr. Milano noted that The PhD Project has, since 1994 encouraged and supported more than 1,000 Hispanic-Americans, Native Americans and African-Americans – including Dr. Davis – to become business school professors. More recently The PhD Project developed an initiative, AHEAD, to encourage and support tenured minority faculty to explore positions in college administration.

“The appointment of Dr. Davis reflects a new chapter, one in which business professors of color will increasingly advance to positions of leadership at the highest levels of college administration, beyond their original positions in business school. The result will increasingly be colleges and universities whose leadership more closely resembles the students they serve.”

Dr. Davis is currently dean of the Harry F. Byrd Jr. School of Business at Shenandoah University, and founding director of its Institute for Entrepreneurship. He begins his new appointment as Linfield College president July 1, 2018.

Dr. Davis received his Ph.D. in human and organizational sciences from The George Washington University, and holds an M.A. in human resource development from Bowie State University and a B.A. in communications from Duquesne University.

Linfield College offers 45 majors and 47 minors, spread across the liberal arts and sciences and pre-professional programs, on campuses in McMinnville, Ore., and Portland, Ore. More than 25 percent of Linfield students are the first in their families to attend college, and 32 percent are American students of color.

The PhD Project, a 501(c) (3) organization that the KPMG Foundation founded in 1994, recruits minority professionals from business into doctoral programs in all business disciplines. **Since its inception, The PhD Project has helped increase in the number of minority business**

professors from 294 to 1,429. Further, 270 minorities are currently enrolled in doctoral programs, and will take a place at the front of classrooms 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 and organizations, and supply alliance members. The founding organizations in addition to the [KPMG Foundation](#), are the [Graduate Management Admission Council](#), [Citi Foundation](#) and [AACSB International](#). Other leading corporations, foundations and associations funding it include: 298 [Participating Universities](#), [AICPA Foundation](#), [DiversityInc](#), [Dixon Hughes Goodman LLP](#), [American Marketing Association](#), [Rockwell Collins](#), [John Deere Foundation](#), [CIGNA](#), [California State University System](#), [Lincoln Financial Group](#), [Academy of Management](#), [American Accounting Association](#), [City University of New York System](#), [Aerotek](#), [NASBA](#), [OCWEN Financial Corporation](#), [Thrivent Financial](#), [American Express Foundation](#) and [Fidelity Investments](#).

For more information on The PhD Project, visit: <http://www.phdproject.org>, or contact Lisa King at 646-234-5080 or lisak@mediainpact.biz. Visit us on Facebook at ; Follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/ThePhDProject.