

## **The PhD Project and White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics Hold First Regional Summit at Northeastern University**

Montvale, NJ. April 14, 2016- The PhD Project, an award-winning program to create a more diverse corporate America, joined nearly 150 public and private sector organizations to answer the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics' call to action in October, 2015. As part of its Commitment to Action, The PhD Project is utilizing its network of over 1,600 minority business faculty and doctoral students (this includes 423 Hispanic-American members) to enhance outreach to Hispanic-American students to improve their completion rate. On **April 22<sup>nd</sup>** the first PhD Project summit, held in conjunction with the White House, will take place at Northeastern University. *Diversifying Business by Enhancing Hispanic-American Educational Attainment: Insights for Business Schools, Employers, and Policy Makers*, will consist of presentations and panel discussions by the nation's leading diversity experts. **The keynote speaker from the White House will be Lisette Nieves, President's Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for Hispanics. Presenters include professionals from Boston Business School Collaborative; Diverse Issues in Higher Education; Excelencia in Education; Fidelity; GMAC; Inroads; KPMG; Liberty Mutual; Marketing Edge; National Campus Compact; Pew Research Center; State Street; The PhD Project; along with Jim Bean, Provost and John Armendariz, Diversity Officer, Northeastern University; and Kenneth W. Freeman, Dean, Boston University.**

“This summit is just the beginning. The PhD Project Committee on Hispanic Excellence, co-chaired by Dr. Cinthia Satornino and Dr. Rebeca Perren, is formally recruiting Hispanic-American business professors to serve as mentors to Hispanic students with the purpose of facilitating the students' successful completion of their undergraduate and graduate degrees through one-on-one mentoring,” said Bernard J. Milano, President of The PhD Project and the KPMG Foundation, co-founder and lead funder of The PhD Project. “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. We are thrilled to be part of this collaboration with the White House.”

The PhD Project was founded by the KPMG Foundation in 1994 then became a separate 501©(3) in 2005, and 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 minority business professors from 294 to 1,312. Further, 296 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 and organizations, and supply alliance members. Its founding organizations in addition to [KPMG Foundation](#), are the [Graduate Management Admission Council](#), [Citi Foundation](#), [AACSB International](#). The leading corporations, foundations and associations

funding it include: 300+ [Participating Universities](#), [AICPA Foundation](#), [DiversityInc](#), [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 \(operating companies of Allegis Group\)](#), [American Accounting Association](#), [The Hershey Company](#), [Academy of Management](#), [NASBA](#), [OCWEN](#) and [Thrivent Financial](#).

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 ([https://www.linkedin.com/manageGroup?dispModQueue=&gid=97395&category=SD&trk=my\\_groups-tile-flipmgmt](https://www.linkedin.com/manageGroup?dispModQueue=&gid=97395&category=SD&trk=my_groups-tile-flipmgmt))please check this link, when I click it brings me to my LinkedIn profile; Visit us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/thehdproject>; Follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/ThePhDProject](http://www.twitter.com/ThePhDProject).

To view the full Summit agenda and register, visit: <http://www.2016chesummit.com/>.

The full list of Commitments to Action and online Commitment catalog is featured at [www.ed.gov/hispanicinitiative](http://www.ed.gov/hispanicinitiative)