



PR Newswire

B-School Deans Say Job of Preparing All Students for Diverse Corporate Life Is Not Done Yet - but Minority Faculty Make a Difference, PhD Project Study Finds
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MONTVALE, N.J., Sept. 6 /PRNewswire/ -- A survey of business school deans at U.S. colleges and universities finds that a majority (52%) of them believe that as a group, they are not yet preparing all students to handle issues of diversity in the corporate world. However, 58% of the deans report students are better prepared for a career in business when they have had a minority business professor or doctoral teaching assistant.

The survey was conducted by the Bernard Hodes Group on behalf of The PhD Project, a multi-million dollar corporate and academic-led effort to increase minority representation among business professors. Since The PhD Project was founded in 1994, the number of minority professors at U.S. business schools has almost tripled, from 294 to 812 minority business professors. Further, nearly 400 minorities are currently enrolled in doctoral programs and will take a place at the front of the classroom in the next five years.

"The PhD Project's goal is to diversify the front of the classroom as a means to better prepare students for a diverse work environment," says Bernard J. Milano, President of the KPMG Foundation, founder, lead sponsor and administrator of The PhD Project. "As the survey reveals, more needs to be done to prepare these students. That is why the work of The PhD Project is so vital."

Other results from the business school deans' survey include:

When asked: In comparison to non-minority professors/teaching assistants, how are minority professors/minority doctoral teaching assistants impacting these aspects of your business program?

* 73% of respondents said that minority professor and/or minority doctoral teaching assistants are having a positive impact on career mentoring of minority students. * 62% of respondents said that minority professor and/or minority doctoral teaching assistants are having a positive impact on attracting minority students. * 60% of respondents said that minority professor and/or minority doctoral teaching assistants are having a positive impact on the education of minority students. Furthermore: * 68% of respondents said that the corporate world is more aggressive today in recruiting practices for minority hiring compared to 10 years ago. There were 80 respondents to the deans' survey; 41% from doctoral granting institutions and 59% from non-doctoral granting institutions.

Some of America's top companies and academic organizations support The PhD Project. They are: KPMG Foundation, Graduate Management Admission Council, 157

Participating Universities, Citigroup Foundation, AACSB International, AICPA, Robert K. Elliott, Goldman, Sachs & Co., Hewlett-Packard Company, The Merck Company Foundation, DiversityInc.

For a copy of the full survey reports, or to learn more about The PhD Project, please visit: www.phdproject.com.

Contact: Lisa King MediaImpact 212-590-2314 KPMG Foundation SOURCE KPMG Foundation -0- 09/06/2006 /CONTACT: Lisa King, MediaImpact, +1-212-590-2314, for KPMG Foundation/ /Web site: <http://www.phdproject.com> / CO: KPMG Foundation; PhD Project ST: New Jersey IN: EDU HED SU: SVY WS -- NYW163 -- 0547 09/06/2006 10:12 EDT <http://www.prnewswire.com>