



## The PhD Project Welcomes New Member to its Board of Directors

**MONTVALE, New Jersey (February 23, 2022)** – [The PhD Project](#) is excited to announce Jeremy Van Ek of the American Marketing Association (AMA) has joined its Board of Directors, which is made up of 17 leaders in both business and academia, focused on helping advance the project’s mission to increase diversity in business.

“We are delighted to welcome Jeremy to The PhD Project board,” said Neil Bosland, PhD Project board chair and executive vice president and chief operating and financial officer for AACSB International. “He has demonstrated a true commitment to diversity and inclusion throughout his career, and we’re excited to work alongside him to help build a stronger, more diverse workforce.”

Van Ek is the chief operating officer for the AMA – where he has been since 2016 – and has recently taken on the role of acting chief executive officer. He is charged with delivering the mission of the AMA to be an essential community for marketers and a welcoming place where those who practice marketing can learn, engage and grow. Van Ek has worked in the marketing industry for more than 20 years in roles that drive strategy, financial performance, digital transformation, people development and operational efficiency. His experience spans many different organizations – from B2B and B2C to regional, national, and global to public, private and non-profit.

“We’re thankful for our continued partnership with the AMA, and we’re so pleased to welcome Jeremy to our PhD Project family,” said Blane Ruschak, president of The PhD Project. “As we continue to build momentum in 2022 and beyond, we know that his experience, knowledge and enthusiasm will be a great asset to our organization.”

The AMA has been a Corporate Partner of The PhD Project since 2008. In addition to funding, the AMA also provides in-kind support to the nonprofit, including funding full registration for all of The PhD Project’s doctoral students for its AMA Summer Academic Conference.

### **About The PhD Project**

Founded in 1994, [The PhD Project](#) works to increase diversity in the business world. Through its unique model, the nonprofit organization’s Black/African American, Latinx/ Hispanic American and Native American members pursue business PhDs with the intent to become university faculty, teaching and guiding underrepresented students who aspire to a career in business. Since its launch, The Project has been responsible for quintupling the number of underrepresented professors, administrators and academic leaders at an extensive list of academic programs, helping more than 1,400 former business professionals and undergraduate students receive their doctoral degree. The PhD Project also includes more than 250 students currently enrolled in a business PhD program.

For more information on The PhD Project, webinars and sponsors visit [www.phdproject.org](http://www.phdproject.org) and follow the program on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

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