



The PhD Project Announces New Advisory Council to Provide Guidance on Program Initiatives

The PAC-15 Represents Professors at 15 Business Schools Nationwide

MONTVALE, NJ (Feb. 6, 2023) – [The PhD Project](#) – a nonprofit organization helping to diversify college business schools and, ultimately, the business world – is pleased to announce the 15 people who will make up its new advisory council, The PAC-15. The committee will serve as the collective “voice” of The PhD Project’s members, provide guidance as The PhD Project considers new programs and partnerships, and act as a sounding board for The PhD Project as it executes its strategy.

“The business world is evolving, and The PhD Project must evolve with it to support the growing need to diversify the U.S. workforce,” said Blane Ruschak, president of The PhD Project. “This group will help us keep a pulse on what our members need, share the trends they’re seeing in higher education, help craft our response to those trends and other societal events, and assist with any other issues they or we identify.”

The PAC-15 inaugural committee, listed below, includes three members from each of the five discipline associations and represents the diversity of The PhD Project’s membership by ethnicity/race and gender.

Jared DeLisle, PhD, Associate Professor of Finance, Utah State University

Kerron Joseph, PhD, Assistant Professor of Finance, Western Kentucky University

Roderick Lee, PhD, Associate Professor of Information Systems, Penn State University at Harrisburg

Patricia Martinez, PhD, Associate Professor of Management, Loyola Marymount University

Stephani Mason, PhD, Assistant Professor of Accounting, DePaul University

Susan Perkins, PhD, Associate Professor in of Strategic Management, University of Illinois at Chicago and New York University – Stern (Visiting)

Rebeca Perren, PhD, Associate Professor of Marketing, California State University San Marcos

Clinton Purtell, PhD, Clinical Assistant Professor of Logistics and Operations, University of North Texas at Frisco

Maura Scott, PhD, Professor of Marketing, Florida State University

Craig Sisneros, PhD, Assistant Professor of Accounting, Oklahoma State University

Jason Thatcher, PhD, Milton F. Stauffer Professor of Management Information Systems, Temple University

Esther Uduehi, PhD, Assistant Professor of Marketing, University of Washington

Sonja Wiley, PhD, Associate Professor of Information Systems, Louisiana State University

Stephanie Yates, PhD, Regions Bank Endowed Professor of Finance, University of Alabama Birmingham

Arthur Wharton, III, PhD, Associate Professor of Accounting, Virginia State University
The group will meet quarterly.



The next PAC-15 meeting on March 23, 2023, will coincide with The PhD Project's [annual conference](#) – an event designed for Black/African American, Latinx/Hispanic American and Native American business professionals and students who are considering pursuing a business PhD.

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, graduate and undergraduate students receive their doctoral degree. The PhD Project also includes 239 students currently enrolled in a business PhD program.

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

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