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Drexel Educator Named Chairman of National Distance Learning Week

United States Distance Learning Association names Dr. Kenneth Hartman as National Chairman for the 2007 National Distance Learning Week.

Philadelphia, PA (PR Web) - September 24, 2007 – The United States Distance Learning Association (USDLA) named Dr. Kenneth E. Hartman, of Cherry Hill, NJ, Chairman of the <u>2007 National Distance Learning Week</u> committee. Sponsored by the USDLA, the <u>2007 National Distance Learning Week</u> (NDLW) will take place on November 12-16, 2007. During that week, numerous events will be held throughout the country and online to educate the public about the fast growing world of distance learning.

Currently the academic director at <u>Drexel University Online</u>, Hartman has served more than 26-years in higher education as a university professor, administrator, and consultant. He is the author of numerous publications related to educational technology (books, articles, CD-ROMs), and was formerly a syndicated newspaper columnist, television talk show host, and commissioned military officer. He can also be seen regularly on NBC10 (Philadelphia) as the station's on-air technology contributor.

"USDLA could not have found a better person to lead this initiative. Dr. Hartman's experience in education and the media will ultimately result in a very successful campaign," says Dr. John G. Flores, Chief Executive Officer the USDLA.

Hartman recently received the 2007 Penn Educator of the Year Award from The University of Pennsylvania and has many other honors to his name including, the 2006 Partners in Education Award from the Pennsylvania Association for College Admission Counseling, and the 2006 Drexel School of Education's Faculty Fellow and Associate Award.

"I am honored to take on such an important project. Our goal is to educate the public on the exciting and ground breaking events occurring each day in distance learning", says Hartman. "Millions of students and workers are going online each day to learn new concepts and skills. We want to share their stories and advice", says Hartman. The 15 member NDLW national committee, lead by Hartman, is made up of representatives from throughout the U.S., covering various constituencies including university and K-12 educators, corporations, military and government representatives, home schooling administrators, Telehealth and media professionals. These members were chosen for their dedicated work in their professions and the field of distance learning. The committee will work to promote the awareness of distance learning within their organizations and communities.

Senator Edward Kennedy (D. Mass.), chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions committee, recognizes the importance of distance learning as well as the pertinence of the <u>National Distance Learning Week</u> initiative. "Online learning programs are invaluable because they provide a segment of our population with critical literacy and job-related skills as well as the means to take their careers to the next level," said Senator Kennedy. "It is important that people have a greater awareness and appreciation for distance learning."

For more information regarding NDLW contact Dr. Kenneth Hartman by email, kenhartman@drexel.edu or by phone, 215.895.0501 or visit <u>http://www.ndlw.org/</u>

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About Drexel University Online:

Drexel University Online, winner of the 21st Century Best Practice Award for Distance Learning from the United States Distance Learning Association, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Drexel University, specializing in innovative, Internet-based distance education programs for working professionals and corporations in the United States and abroad. A pioneer in online education since 1996, Drexel's online programs are taught by the same world-renowned faculty as the University's on-campus courses. Drexel University is continually ranked one of the best national doctoral universities by *U.S.News & World Report* and enjoys regional accreditation by the Middle States Association of Colleges & Secondary Schools.