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Drexel Educator Named Chairman of Week Recognizing Distance Learning

United States Distance Learning Association names Dr. Kenneth Hartman, academic director at Drexel University Online, as Chairman for the 2009 National Distance Learning Week.

Philadelphia, PA (PR Web) – October 13, 2009 – The United States Distance Learning Association (USDLA) named Dr. Kenneth E. Hartman, of Cherry Hill, NJ, Chairman of the [2009 National Distance Learning Week](#) for the third consecutive year. Sponsored by the USDLA, the 2009 National Distance Learning Week (NDLW) will take place on November 9-13, 2009. 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.

Honored at last year's NDLW ceremony at Drexel University were both former First Lady Laura Bush and Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell. Both were acknowledged for their outstanding dedication to academic technology and education and were awarded the 2008 National Leadership Award.

Governor Ed Rendell, who in addition to being honored also delivered the keynote address, was hailed by the late President of Drexel University Constantine Papadakis, as someone who "under his leadership the Commonwealth has built an infrastructure and platform to permit 21st Century education to flourish in the state." Papadakis went on to say, "These connections will soon make it possible to support timely and global communication in classrooms across Pennsylvania and around the globe."

With the success of last year's event and the buzz about this year's event growing, Hartman is more excited than ever to again be named Chairman for the 2009 National Distance Learning Week. Currently the academic director at Drexel University Online, Hartman has served more than 27-years in higher education as a university professor, administrator and consultant.

"Under Dr. Hartman's leadership, the 2008 NDLW was a huge success. Therefore, we are delighted by his willingness to serve our association and lead this initiative for another year," said Reggie Smith III, President Elect of USDLA. "Dr. Hartman's experience in education and the media will result once again in a very successful campaign."

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. In 2008, USDLA awarded Hartman their *Leadership in Distance Learning Program Administration Award*

"I am honored to be asked, once again, to take on such an important project and am looking forward to 2009's National Distance Learning Week to be bigger than ever," said Hartman. "Our

goal is to reach as many individuals as we can and educate the public on the exciting and groundbreaking events occurring each day in distance learning. Millions of students and workers are going online each day to learn new concepts and skills. We want to continue to share their stories and advice.”

The 2009 NDLW national committee, led 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 and Telehealth and media professionals. These members were chosen for their dedicated work in their professions and the field of distance learning.

For more information regarding NDLW contact Hartman by email at kenhartman@drexel.edu or by phone at 215.895.0501 or visit www.ndlw.org.

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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.