

Bert Berkley Retires from Institute for Educational Leadership Board

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Washington, D.C., November 19, 2014– The Institute for Educational Leadership (IEL) announces the retirement of board member Bert Berkley, chairman of the board at Tension Corporation and Former President of the Envelope Manufacturers Association.

Mr. Bert Berkley retires from the IEL board of directors after 20 years and will remain involved as a director emeritus. IEL president, Martin J. Blank awarded Mr. Berkley with the IEL Leadership Award at the November board meeting for his extraordinary dedication and service for his many years on the Board of Directors.



Mr. Berkley is the Founder of the Local Investment Commission (LINC), which oversees via 2,100 volunteers federal and state government funding for social services for Kansas City where we first got to know IEL.

“Bert epitomizes the best of what local leaders can do in their own communities and how they can inform what national organizations do. I am delighted he is staying with us as director emeritus,” says Blank.

He is a past Chairman of Civic Council, an organization made up of the CEOs of the 80 larger businesses in Kansas City, and a past chairman of the Center for Business Innovation (CBI), a nonprofit business incubator in Kansas City that was recognized during his chairmanship as one of the top 10 business incubators in the country. He served as chairman of the University of Kansas City Board of Trustees and subsequently received the Chancellor’s Medal, the highest award of the University to a non-academic individual.

He is a past board member of the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation’s Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership, the Family and Community Trust (FACT), State of Missouri, and Turn the Page KC.

Mr. Berkley has been awarded the Distinguished Service to State Government Award by the National Governors Association. He was the recipient of a Proclamation by the Mayor and City Council of Kansas City, MO in recognition of his many civic contributions. He co-authored a book, *Giving Back, Connecting You, Business and Community*, published by Wiley.

Mr. Berkley is a graduate of Duke University and Harvard Business School. He is a member of the Dean’s Leadership Council at the Harvard Graduate School of Education.