



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# The Institute for Educational Leadership Welcomes Johan Uvin as New President

**Washington, DC—January 17, 2017—** The Board of Directors of the Institute for Educational Leadership (IEL) announces Dr. Johan Uvin, Acting Assistant Secretary for the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE) at the U.S. Department of Education, as the sixth president of the Institute. Uvin succeeds Martin Blank, who served as IEL President since 2009 and remains the Director of the Coalition for Community Schools.

“Building on IEL’s long-standing commitment to linking education and workforce development systems, Dr. Johan Uvin’s appointment signals IEL’s renewed commitment to cross-boundary leadership to create equitable opportunities and improve outcomes for all young people, from childhood through their transition to adulthood. Johan brings entrepreneurialism, strategy, and interdisciplinary expertise to expand the organization’s reach by strengthening ongoing IEL initiatives and creating new opportunities,” states Dr. Kent McGuire, IEL Board Chair and President, Southern Education Foundation.

“I am excited about the opportunity to join and lead the IEL team,” said Uvin. “I am looking forward to working together with the Board, the staff, and external stakeholders to further increase the impact of IEL’s work in the lives of youth and adults in communities all across the country. I bring a deep commitment to closing opportunity and achievement gaps and view IEL’s policy and practice work as critical vehicles in pursuit of these goals.”

Prior to his current post, Uvin served at the U.S. Department of Education in various capacities, including: OCTAE acting director of the Policy Research and Evaluation Services Division; Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Strategic Initiatives, and as an OCTAE senior policy advisor. While at the Department, he co-chaired the Interagency Forum on Disconnected Youth, a multi-agency federal collaboration to improve the outcomes of disconnected youths and provided oversight and direction to the multi-agency Performance Partnership Pilots.

He served as a member of the steering committee of the Domestic Policy Council’s New Americans Citizenship and Integration Initiative and the White House Task Force on New Americans to make every American feel welcome and make our communities stronger in the process. Uvin has received multiple awards for his work. Most recently, he was the recipient of the 2016 National Literacy Leadership Award and the 2016 Outstanding American by

Choice Award. Uvin holds a doctorate in administration, planning, and social policy from Harvard University.

"The IEL Board is grateful for Marty Blank's leadership over the past eight years. Marty has transformed IEL into a movement building organization, securing a strong foundation and a bright future for IEL," noted McGuire.

Uvin builds on a strong legacy of prior IEL Presidents: Norman Drachier, Samuel Halperin, Michael Usdan, Elizabeth Hale, and most recently, Martin Blank. He starts his Presidency on February 15. IEL welcomes Johan Uvin!

*About the Search Process:* The planned transition and search for the new IEL President was led by the IEL Board Search Committee, Chaired by Decker Anstrom and assisted by Korn Ferry, a global search and talent solutions firm.

*About IEL:* For over a half-century, the Institute for Educational Leadership (IEL) has championed the need for leaders at all levels to shake off their institutional constraints and work across boundaries to address the needs of young people and their families. Bound by no constituency, IEL serves as a catalyst that helps policymakers, administrators, and practitioners at all levels to bridge bureaucratic silos and undo gridlock to improve outcomes for all young people and their families. The organization connects families, schools, and communities; builds more effective pathways to adulthood; and prepares generations of leaders. IEL is seen as a trusted leadership organization that serves as a catalytic force for building learning and action networks that enable communities across the United States to face significant challenges of today and those yet to come. Learn more at [iel.org](http://iel.org)

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## JOHAN E. UVIN BIOGRAPHY

Johan E. Uvin joins the Institute for Educational Leadership as its new President. Prior to his IEL leadership, he served as the Acting Assistant Secretary for the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE) at the U.S. Department of Education. While at the Department, he also served as the acting director of the Policy Research and Evaluation Services Division of OCTAE and the co-chair of the Interagency Forum on Disconnected Youth, a multi-agency federal collaboration to improve the outcomes of disconnected youths. Since 2010, he has also been a member of the steering committee of the Domestic Policy Council's New Americans Citizenship and Integration Initiative, which developed a framework for federal efforts on immigrant integration. Uvin further led the Department's Pay for Success work and coordinates the Department's responsibilities related to the implementation of the Presidential Memorandum on Job-Driven Training. He started at the Department as the OCTAE senior policy advisor to then Assistant Secretary Brenda Dann-Messier (IEL Board member), before advancing to Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Strategic Initiatives in the Office.

Prior to his appointments at the Department, Uvin led the Rhode Island state office that oversees adult education, career and technical education, and GED testing. He also held

several leadership positions in education and workforce development in both the public and private sectors.

Uvin holds a doctorate in administration, planning and social policy and a master's degree in international education from Harvard University. He also holds a Master of Arts in teaching English to speakers of other languages (TESOL) from the School of International Training in Brattleboro, Vt.

Uvin is married to Alison Simmons and has two young adult twin sons. When not in D.C. he resides in Roslindale, Mass.

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## SOCIAL MEDIA

### #IELPresident

- Johan Uvin joins IEL as its new President @IELconnects @uvinjo\_us #IELPresident <http://iel.org>
- Johan Uvin joins IEL as its new President @IELconnects @educationweek @politico @washingtonpost @BostonGlobe #IELPresident
- A new cross-boundary leader for @IELconnects - @usedgov Acting Assistant Secretary Johan Uvin @uvinjo\_us #IELPresident <http://iel.org>
- 2017, a year of new beginnings – Johan Uvin joins @IELconnects as its #IELPresident <http://iel.org>
- @hgse alum and @usedgov Acting OCTAE Assistant Secretary Johan Uvin to lead Institute for Educational Leadership @IELconnects #IELPresident <http://iel.org>
- With appreciation to the outgoing @IELconnects President @MartyBlankIEL for his cross-boundary leadership @IELconnects #IELPresident <http://iel.org>