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DR. FREDERIC BERTLEY HONORED WITH PHILADELPHIA BUSINESS JOURNAL 2014 MINORITY BUSINESS LEADER AWARD

PHILADELPHIA, August 7, 2014 The Franklin Institute is proud to announce that Senior Vice President for Science and Education Dr. Frederic Bertley has been recognized with the Philadelphia Business Journal’s 2014 Minority Business Leader Award. Bertley is one of 25 individuals to receive this year’s award, which recognizes leaders and advocates in business, nonprofits, and community organizations for the example they set and for the work they do on behalf of minority communities. Bertley was recognized at the Minority Business Leader Awards Program held earlier today.

As the Senior Vice President for Science and Education, Frederic Bertley heads various departments and programs that capture the history and legacy of The Franklin Institute and a diverse portfolio of initiatives supporting innovation in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) learning. Bertley conceived and created STEM Scholars, a flagship Franklin Institute youth program, which serves a select group of highly motivated urban students in grades 9-12 who are passionate about STEM subjects. He also leads the Partnerships for Achieving Careers in Science and Technology (PACTS) program, which for more than two decades has been successful in providing science enrichment, career development, cross-age mentoring, and leadership opportunities for diverse middle and high school students across the greater Philadelphia region.

Bertley also directs a number of community outreach programs which have been nationally recognized for successfully reaching underserved audiences, including the Philadelphia Science Festival. He oversees City Skies, the PECO Energizing Education Program (PEEP), the Communities of Learning for Urban Environments (CLUES) program, Climate & Urban Systems Partnership (CUSP), GSK’s Science in the Summer (SIS) program, and the nationally implemented initiative Leap into Science—all aimed at providing free access to STEM education for diverse audiences in Philadelphia. In addition, he leads the partnership between The Franklin Institute and the acclaimed magnet high school Science Leadership Academy, and the Institute’s role in building STEM high schools in Egypt. Other international programs under Bertley’s purview include the lauded Franklin Institute Awards, which
honors the world’s best scientists and engineers in a celebration of scientific achievement each year in Philadelphia.

Bertley founded and directs the Color of Science™, which highlights the incredible contributions of women and persons of color to modern-day science and engineering. The free public program, which has editions in select cities nationwide and in Canada, is highly successful in providing students and the public direct exposure to some of today’s top scientists in an effort to inspire careers in STEM. Bertley continues to provide yearlong access to these and other remarkable STEM pioneers through his monthly call-in radio show “The Color of Science” on WURD 900-AM.

Bertley has a strong record in academia, studying physiology, mathematics, and the history of science as an undergraduate student. Following his B.Sc., he obtained a Ph.D. in Immunology, both degrees from McGill University, and then completed a post-doctoral fellowship at Harvard Medical School. Bertley is a Research Affiliate at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and he sits on several boards of directors locally and nationally. Highly relevant to his position at The Franklin Institute is his formidable background in applied science and science education as well as his passion for distilling complex scientific principles to more easily understood concepts for a wide and inclusive audience.

“We are thrilled that the Philadelphia Business Journal has recognized and honored Frederic Bertley with the Minority Business Leader Award,” said Larry Dubinski, President and CEO of The Franklin Institute. “Dr. Bertley is a true advocate for the Philadelphia community and for STEM education. His vision and expertise extend well beyond the walls of the museum, and we are fortunate to have him as a leader at The Franklin Institute.”

In addition to the Philadelphia Business Journal’s Minority Business Leader Award, Bertley has received numerous honors, some of which include: Dell Inc. Inspire 100 World Changers, Harvard Medical School Dean’s Service Award, Philadelphia Business Journal’s 40 Under 40, The President’s Award (Merck), and a Mid-Atlantic National Academy of Television and Science EMMY™.

The Franklin Institute
Located in the heart of Philadelphia, The Franklin Institute is a renowned and innovative leader in the field of science and technology learning, as well as a dynamic center of activity. Pennsylvania’s most visited museum, it is dedicated to creating a passion for learning about science by offering access to hands-on science education. For more information, visit www.fi.edu.