

# Biography

## Melvin J. Gravely II, Ph.D.

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Dr. Melvin Gravely, II, is an expert on the subjects of minority business development and supplier diversity initiatives. He is the founder of the Institute for Entrepreneurial Thinking, the leading think tank on issues related to minority business development. The Institute is nationally known for providing thought leadership, and industry changing research on issues at the intersection of business and race. The Institute is a trusted advisor to Chambers of Commerce, major corporations and community leaders across the nation.

Gravely is the author of seven books including *The Lost Art of Entrepreneurship*, *When Black and White Make Green*, and his latest *Getting To The Next Level*. He is a frequent guest on radio stations from Los Angeles to New York and has been featured in many national publications including *Black Enterprise Magazine*, *Minorities and Women In Business*, *MBN USA*, *Entrepreneur Magazine*, and *American City Business Journals*.

After ten successful years working for a large corporation, he co-founded a civil engineering firm and grew it into a multimillion dollar company. Dr. Gravely speaks and writes on various topics related to entrepreneurial thinking and minority business development.

Mel has a B.S. in computer science and business finance from Mount Union College and an MBA from Kent State University. Dr. Gravely's Ph.D. is in Business Administration and Entrepreneurship from The Union Institute and University.