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## **P21 Names Timothy Magner as New Executive Director**

Former Director at U.S Department of Education Brings Wealth of Experience to Prestigious Position

**TUCSON, AZ – October 5, 2010** – P21, the leading national organization that advocates for 21st century readiness for every student, today announced Timothy Magner as the new executive director. The announcement comes at P21's 2010 National Education Summit on 21st Century Readiness, an annual two-day event that attracts more than 300 prominent national policy-makers, business leaders and educators affecting 21st century readiness. Magner will succeed Ken Kay who co-founded the organization in 2002 with the 8 original founding organizations.

"Tim is the perfect person to lead P21 into its next stage of development," said Julie Walker, executive director of the American Association of School Librarians and Chairwoman of P21. "With his strong background in education, knowledge of the DC education policy community and as a former P21 Board member, he is uniquely qualified to work with our state partners and help P21 and the Council of Chief State School Officers work together on projects of common interest."

As executive director of P21, Magner will be taking over day-to-day operations of an organization that has grown to 35 members, 16 state partners and 122 professional development affiliates.

"I have been a major advocate of P21 since my days on the P21 board," said Magner. "It is an honor to be able to work with this unique partnership on the next phase of development of 21st century education. P21 has been a great catalyst and I look forward to helping find ways we can further catalyze 21st century education policy at both the federal and state levels."

Magner will work extensively with business leaders, state partners and policy makers to refine their vision for 21st century readiness for every student. A key focus will be on the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, particularly promoting the inclusion of the four Cs (critical thinking and problem solving, collaboration, communication and creativity and innovation) within the legislation. Further, as states look at implementing the Common Core State Standards, Magner will guide P21 as it helps states create next generation assessments.

"Our country is competing in a global economy that demands innovation and our education system must keep up," said Walker. "I am confident that through Tim's leadership, P21 will continue the timely focus on advocating for 21st century readiness begun during Ken's tenure."

Magner's experience in framing education policy is extensive. As a Presidential appointee at the US Department of Education, he was responsible for developing education policy and carrying out the Secretary's education priorities. Magner also held executive positions advocating on behalf education entities with the Council of Chief State School Officers and the Schools Interoperability Framework Association. Magner served as the executive director for K12 education for Microsoft Corporation and developed global strategy for the education sector focused on primary and secondary schools.

In addition to his various leadership roles in education policy, Magner has significant classroom experience including teaching graduate level classes for master and Ph.D. students at George Mason University and Framingham State College. Early on in his career he taught social studies and theater to middle and high school students in the US and Europe. Magner received his MA in education from Harvard's Graduate School of Education, his Virginia teacher certification from the College of William and Mary and his undergraduate degree from the College of William and Mary.

When he departs P21, Kay will stay engaged in the 21st century education movement and focus his efforts at the local level, developing plans on how best to support superintendent and district efforts on 21st century readiness.

"The P21 state partners and member organizations appreciate Ken's 8 years of enthusiastic and visionary leadership. He has played a critical role in the growth of the 21st century education movement and advocacy in Washington, D.C. We wish him the very best of luck in his future endeavors," said Walker.

**About the Partnership for 21st Century Skills:** P21 is a national organization that advocates for 21st century readiness for every student. As the United States continues to compete in a global economy that demands innovation, P21 and its members provide tools and resources to help the U.S. education system keep up by fusing the three Rs and four Cs (critical thinking and problem solving, communication, collaboration and creativity and innovation). While leading districts and schools are already doing this, P21 advocates for local, state and federal policies that support this approach for every school.

**21st Century Skills Leadership States include:** Arizona, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin and West Virginia.

**Member organizations include:** Adobe Systems, Inc., American Association of School Librarians, Apple, Blackboard, Inc., Cable in the Classroom, Cengage Learning, Cisco Systems, Inc., Crayola, Dell, Inc., EF Education, Education Networks of America, Educational Testing Service, GlobalScholar, Hewlett Packard, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Intel Corporation, JA Worldwide, KnowledgeWorks Foundation, LEGO Group, Lenovo, Learning Point Associates, McGraw-Hill, Measured Progress, MHz Networks, Microsoft Corporation, National Academy Foundation, National Education Association, Nellie Mae Education Foundation, netTrekker, Oracle Education Foundation, Pearson, Project Management Institute Educational Foundation, Scholastic Education, The Walt Disney Company, and Verizon. Organizations or states interested in joining the Partnership may contact [info@21stcenturyskills.org](mailto:info@21stcenturyskills.org).