

Shaping Innovation Leaders

Information Session

Wednesday, October 29

Northwestern | Kellogg



INNOVATION RESEARCH
INTERCHANGE

Accelerating Value Creation

A division of the National Association of Manufacturers

Program Basics

WHAT IT IS

An intensive, five-day executive management program for experienced R&D, innovation, technology, and technical leaders ready to connect deep expertise with broader business leadership.

WHY IRI

IRI brings a close understanding of innovation organizations, the leadership challenges facing technical professionals, and a cross-industry community grounded in real-world practice.

WHY KELLOGG

Kellogg brings outstanding faculty, proven management frameworks, and an immersive executive education environment designed to help leaders apply new thinking to strategic business decisions.

Together, IRI and Kellogg create a learning experience that connects innovation expertise with the business judgment, perspective, and confidence required for greater leadership impact.

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Participant Profiles

Dimension	Strong Fit
Experience	10+ years of experience in R&D, innovation, technology, engineering, or a related field
Role & Level	Seasoned manager, senior technical leader, director, or high-potential leader with growing business responsibility
Leadership Scope	Leads a laboratory, department, portfolio, team, personnel, budget, or other significant innovation work
Business Interface	Works across functions and engages leaders on strategy, financial performance, investment, or growth decisions

Participants come from many industries and titles and have reached a level of responsibility that demands close engagement with executives from a cross-section of vital business functions.

Participant Profiles

Shaping Innovation Leaders might be the right fit for you if:

You are a technical leader broadening your business impact

- Lead complex research, product development, or technical work
- Manage people, resources, a laboratory, or a portfolio
- Need stronger financial, strategic, or cross-functional fluency

Typical roles

Senior Scientist • Group Lead • R&D Manager
NPD Engineering Manager

OR

You are an innovation leader shaping strategy and growth

- Guide innovation or technology initiatives across the organization
- Translate technical opportunities into business decisions
- Influence investment, portfolio, partnership, or growth choices

Typical roles

R&D Director • Innovation Director • Technology Director • Portfolio Leader

**These are guideposts, not rigid categories.
Many strong candidates will see themselves in both profiles.**



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SIL Alumni Network

In 2026, we launched a series alumni-exclusive activities designed to bring the network together. These opportunities focus on helping alumni expand their professional network, share ideas and experiences, and continue learning and growing beyond the program.



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Registration Timeline



The program fee includes tuition, materials, a single guest room for four nights, breakfasts, lunches, coffee breaks, as well as welcome and closing dinners.

Recap

Register by February 22, 2027 to save \$1,000

- **What?** Executive Management Program Designed for Innovation Leaders.
- **Why?** Strengthen business acumen, strategic decision-making, financial confidence, cross-functional communication, and leadership impact.
- **How?** An intensive in-person 5-day executive education experience led by renowned Northwestern University's Kellogg of Management faculty members and experts.
Sample titles: Senior scientist, R&D Manager, Innovation Director, Technology Director, Portfolio Leader
- **Where and When?** Northwestern University's Global Hub from June 14 – 18, 2027.



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Questions?



Learn more and register
iri@nam.org



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Shaping Innovation Leaders

The Premier Executive Management Program Designed for Innovation Leaders

June 14-18, 2027 | Northwestern University Global Hub | Evanston, IL

This intensive 5-day in-person program delivers the management skills, concepts, and tools that innovation leaders need to make more effective strategic decisions and become more confident business decision-makers and communicators.

<https://iriweb.org/events/shaping-innovation-leaders-2027/>



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