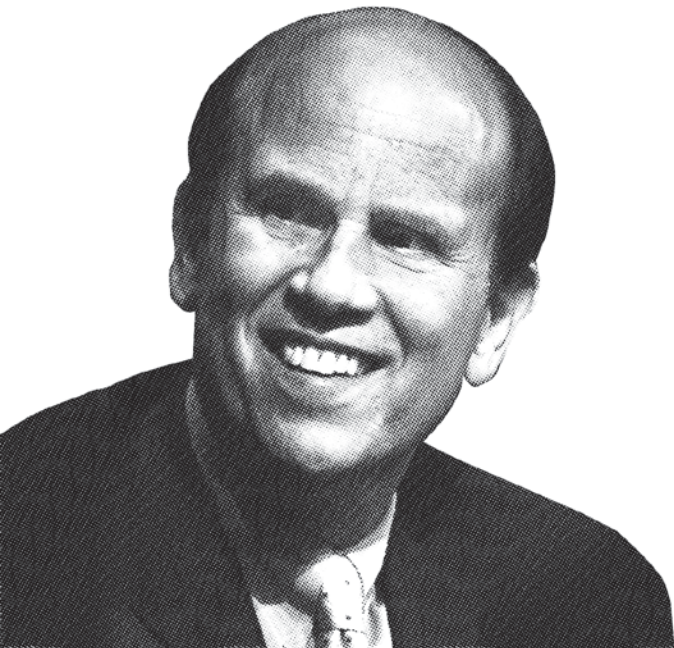

Ideas Into Action

Mike Milken

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On the occasion of the 18th annual Milken Institute Global Conference, we've asked 18 leaders in their fields to offer insights on the issues important to them. The pages that follow exemplify the spirit of the event and reflect the breadth of topics the Milken Institute addresses throughout the year. The Global Conference is our opportunity to bring that work together in one place. It's our way of bringing the world to you.

These articles touch on all 11 content tracks of the Global Conference, and they ask challenging questions. What economic policies will foster greater stability, innovation and access to capital for job-creating businesses? As people continue to live longer, healthier and more fulfilling lives, how can we harness this enormous increase in human capital? What are the most effective means by which philanthropists can effect positive change for billions of the world's poor? How do environmental and energy policies affect economic development? What are the returns on investments in medical research and public health? How do we responsibly increase access to education? And — consistent with our special focus this year — how can we promote greater equality of opportunity for women and girls?

We call this collection "The Power of Ideas," and we're grateful to all of our contributors for their insights. Now it's up to the 3,500 Global Conference participants to test these ideas, to challenge and add to them. And, most important, to put the best ideas into action.

Mike Milken