IBIT INSTITUTE FOR BUSINESS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

2023-2024

ANNUAL REPORT

T Fox School of Business

a message from
THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Institute for Business and Information Technology (IBIT) engages with industry through its advisory board led by Bruce Fadem and corporate partners to develop *knowledge* and *talent* for the digital era.

IBIT's endowed Digital Innovation Foundry (DIF) had a great year reaching its seven-project-at-a-time capacity for the first time since the pandemic. We are excited about projects such as digital therapy, ticket pricing, professional development, and portal user experience. A project with board member Raghu Sankaran, CIO, Scholastic, to investigate GenAI is leveraging IBIT's new exciting workbench of AI engines. Also exciting is that the PRO platform, the inspiration for DIF, received a U.S. Patent in 2024.

This year, we are proud to break new ground by formally assessing impact and pleased that our results are positive. The assessment is based on a new model to measure external impact. The IBIT mentoring program received the highest impact rating.

A research project with board member, Michael Bradshaw, SVP & Global Practice Leader, Kyndryl is rethinking enterprise systems strategy. One outcome is a framework on how firms can extract ongoing value from large legacy systems by managing transplantability and tailoring.

We are thrilled this year to honor board member Jeff Hamilton, Chris Wink, and Fran Geatens at the 22nd Annual IT Awards. Please read about board member Chris Cera, a pioneer in building digital products. Also pleased to welcome Larry Brandolph, VP IT, Temple University, to the IBIT board.

We are grateful for your support and look forward to impacting business and society this year.

Munir Mandviwalla
Executive Director
Institute for Business and Information Technology

TRIBUTE

Dinesh Desai, board member since 2015, passed away on March 27, 2024. Dinesh was the founder, CEO, and Chairman of Emtec, and recipient of the Fox IT Award for Distinguished Alumni. As a board member, Dinesh was most interested in helping struggling students. He was also heavily involved in supporting underprivileged children in Camden, NJ and in his village in India. As an entrepreneur, he started several different companies. Most recently, he worked with IBIT on a case study about how he and his colleagues acquired, grew, and then merged Emtec with a larger firm. Please read about Dinesh's story in the featured case.

ibit
ADVISORY BOARD

The Advisory Board and corporate partners engage with IBIT to generate knowledge and human capital for the digital era. The board is chaired by **Bruce Fadem**, retired VP and CIO, Wyeth. The board meets throughout the year and has the following goals and responsibilities:

Education + Research + Fund Raising + Professional Development + Careers + Promotion of the School

Andrea Anania Stewart
Retired EVP & CIO
CIGNA

Atish Banerjea
CIO
Meta

Sondra Barbour
Board of Directors
AGCO & NiSource

Satbir Bedi
Advisor

Himesh Bhise
CEO
Arabella Advisors

Michael Bradshaw
SVP & Global Practice Leader
Kyndryl

Larry Brandolph
VP for Information Technology
Temple University

Jonathan A. Brassington
Partner
NewSpring Capital

Chris Cera
CEO
Arcweb Technologies

Larry Dignan
Editor in Chief
Constellation Insights

Vince Ford
SVP
Curtis Institute of Music

Jeff Hamilton
CIO
Teva Pharmaceuticals

George Llado
Board of Directors
Charles River Laboratories

Jignesh Patel
SVP
Cencora

Niraj Patel
CIO
Greystone

Raghu Sankaran
CIO & CISO
Scholastic Inc.

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2023-2024

AT A GLANCE

NEW IBIT MODEL TO ASSESS THE IMPACT OF INTERDISCIPLINARY CENTERS

DIF TEAM AWARDED **PATENT FOR SOFTWARE PRODUCT**

NEW DIF WORKSHOPS PROVIDE EXPERIENCES AND EXPLANATION OF CUTTING-EDGE TECHNOLOGIES

$22,500 IN **IBIT SCHOLARSHIPS** AWARDED TO STUDENTS

HOSTED THE **22ND ANNUAL IT AWARDS** RECEPTION FEATURING 3 AWARD RECIPIENTS

THE IBIT MENTORSHIP PROGRAM MATCHED **15 INDUSTRY EXECUTIVES** TO **33 STUDENTS** FROM ACROSS THE UNIVERSITY

IBIT
PARTNERS

IBIT offers rigorous knowledge, talented human capital, valuable relationships, and an established network. Benefits include:

+ Commission projects involving world class faculty and students as part of the Digital Innovation Foundry.

+ Featured in published case studies.

+ Speaking or keynote roles at symposiums such as Spatial strategy in the next generation Internet: The role of metaverses, AR, VR, MR, and digital twins

+ Spotlighted in national projects such as the Information Systems Job Index.

+ Mentor students as part of the IBIT Mentoring program.

+ Customized assistance with recruiting, including special recruiting events.

+ Professional development opportunities include speaking in class and engaging in curriculum design.

+ Featured in national or local competitions such as the Analytics Challenge

+ Present named scholarships to students.

+ Customized corporate education and professional training programs.

+ National and local visibility – partners are showcased on all materials.

+ Selected executives are invited to serve as Executives-in-Residence.

+ Selected individuals may be invited to serve on the IBIT advisory board.

+ Featured at the IT awards, an annual celebration and evening of recognition.

For more information about partnering with IBIT, please contact Laurel Miller at Laurel.Miller@temple.edu or 215.204.5642.

meet our
PARTNERS

IBIT partners impact student development through mentoring, experiential projects, scholarships, and curriculum feedback. Partners engage with IBIT affiliated faculty to generate new knowledge in forums and projects.

Arcweb TECHNOLOGIES	cencora
CURTIS INSTITUTE OF MUSIC	kyndryl.
Meta	Pfizer
SCHOLASTIC	T

board member
SPOTLIGHT

Arcweb Technologies CEO Chris Cera, *IBIT Advisory Board Member*

CHRIS CERA

CEO, Arcweb Technologies

Chris Cera, CEO of Arcweb Technologies, a leader in building digital products, has served on the IBIT Advisory Board for seven years. He has played a major role in the IBIT mentoring program and provided valuable curriculum and entrepreneurial advice.

Like Chris, the other sixteen industry leaders on the Advisory Board guide IBIT in its mission to engage with industry to develop knowledge and talent for the digital era. Board members represent a range of industries, including technology, finance, healthcare, and others.

"I very much appreciate Chris's contribution" said Bruce Fadem, Advisory Board Chair and retired VP & CIO of Wyeth. "His digital acumen and judgement are extremely valuable. We all listen carefully to his feedback and appreciate that he always follows through."

Arcweb, which is headquartered in Philadelphia, is the inaugural partner of IBIT's small company program, and has sustained and expanded its relationship with IBIT for more than seven years. Known for experience in bringing successful digital products to market, Arcweb specializes in innovation strategy, user experience, software design and development.

Arcweb is a certified B Corporation that has helped more than 100 companies and won honors for their work including Fast Company World Changing Ideas.

Prior to Arcweb, Chris was the CTO and co-founder of Vuzit, a cloud document management software company that was acquired by Accusoft. Prior to Vuzit, Chris was employed as a software engineer for several companies including GSK and Traffic.com. Chris also co-founded Philly Startup Leaders, one of the city's largest non-profit organizations dedicated to entrepreneurs. Chris served on the Transition Advisory Committee for Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro in 2023, and the Special Committee on Regulatory Review and Reform for the City of Philadelphia in 2017. Chris has co-authored three awarded patents, numerous peer-reviewed publications, and holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in Computer Science from Drexel University.

"IBIT has a longstanding reputation of **growing relationships between industry professionals and the academic community** so students can create career pathways before and after they graduate."

PRO platform
RECEIVES PATENT

"System and Method for Quantifying Professional Development" – U.S. Patent No. 11989679 was issued May 21, 2024 listing the DIF team of **Munir Mandviwalla**, **Manoj Chacko**, and **Laurel Miller** as inventors.
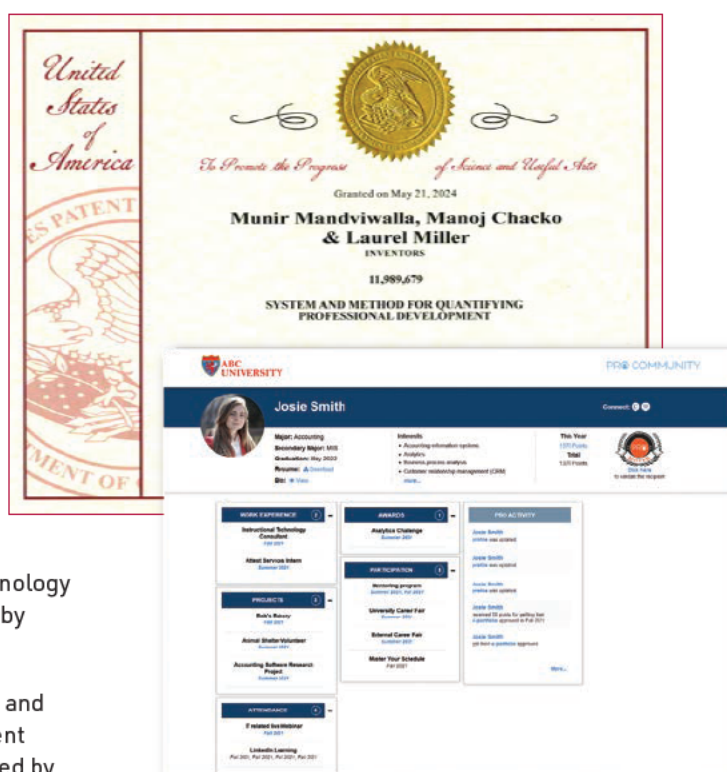
The patent is on how PRO structures, motivates, and measures student and employee development in universities and corporations. PRO develops students, a goal that all universities have but few have found a way to motivate and systemize beyond course work and GPA. You can read the article *A System to Structure, Measure, and Improve Student Development* published in IEEE Transactions on Learning Technologies by scanning the QR code below (bottom left).

PRO is housed in IBIT's Digital Innovation Foundry (DIF), which applies Design Science Research. PRO was the inspiration for the DIF Lab, is the first DIF project, and is continually being developed as DIF's anchor tenant.

PRO Community, LLC is a 2020 spin-off co-founded by the patent inventors and Niraj Patel with support from Steve Nappi and Niraj Muni in Temple's Office of Technology Commercialization and Business Development. See more by scanning the QR code below (bottom right).

San Jose State University's School of Information Systems and Technology is the first licensee with more than 2,000 student users since 2018. Temple's Kornberg School of Dentistry, led by Dean Amid Ismail signed on in 2022. University of Scranton's Kania School of Management led by Dean Mark Higgins and Associate Dean Murli Rajan just signed on. Earlier versions prior to PRO evolving into a product were licensed by Scholastic Corporation, Georgia State University, Loyola University Maryland, and KIPP Philadelphia Schools.

PRO started in Temple University's Management Information Systems (MIS) department in 2008. Temple MIS is the living lab for the platform, which has **impacted more than 4,000 MIS graduates.**

To read the article, visit:
ieeexplore.ieee.org/ document/10266714

To learn more about the PRO platform, visit:
procommunityplatform.com

IBIT
IMPACT

A NEW MODEL TO ASSESS THE IMPACT OF INTERDISCIPLINARY CENTERS

The new *IBIT impact model* is a systematic measure of the impact of Temple's Institute for Business and Information Technology (IBIT).

IBIT is widely regarded as a successful high impact center. However, to keep advancing, we need specific impact measures to identify strengths and weaknesses, strategize areas for improvement, improve accountability with stakeholders, and assess how well we are executing our mission. Yet, there is no universally accepted measure of impact, especially for academic entities. Typical academic measures such as citations are internally focused.

IBIT's mission is to **engage** with industry through its advisory board and corporate partners to develop relevant **knowledge** and **talent** for the digital era. Therefore, using a systematic approach we created a model to measure impact that includes:

+ Assess the entire range of IBIT activities including research projects, workshops, networking events, student mentoring, and others.

+ Involve all stakeholders – industry, academics, and students.

+ Assess both the value generated for and the contribution of stakeholders to each activity.

To implement the above, we developed a simple digital survey of knowledge, talent, and engagement impact. The survey is used to assess every IBIT activity. The impact model was prototyped during spring 2024. The results show that on **knowledge, engagement, ability to contribute**, and **value**, IBIT has an overall average impact score of **5.94** on a scale from 1 to 7 with 7 being highest *(see below)*.

Activity	New Knowledge	Apply Knowledge	Improved Ability to Engage	Enhanced Network	Contributed to Success	Valuable	AVERAGES
Workshops (x2)	6.45	5.41	5.62	5.17	4.79	6.10	**5.59**
Mentoring	6.04	6.14	6.07	5.79	6.61	6.86	**6.25**
Awards Dinner	6.17	5.66	6.14	6.31	4.92	6.43	**5.94**
AVERAGES	**6.21**	**5.72**	**6.03**	**5.98**	**5.24**	**6.45**	**5.94**

Note: All numbers are averages on a scale from 1 to 7 with 7 as the highest rating from 141 students, faculty, and industry.
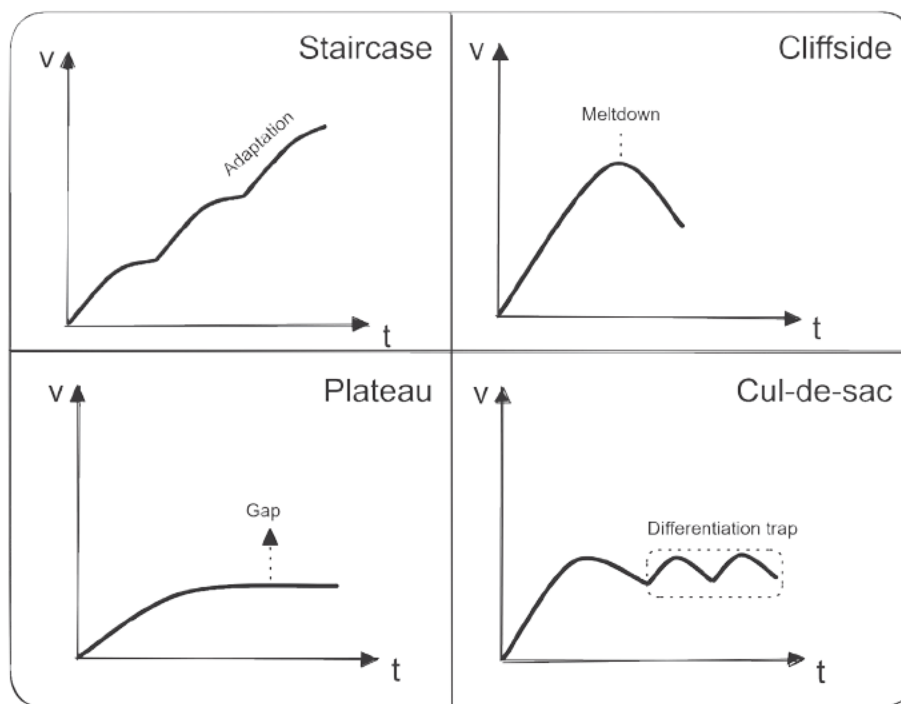
To learn more about the IBIT impact model, please go to: *ibit.temple.edu/impact*

IBIT PROJECT

TRANSPLANTABILITY AND TAILORING OF ENTERPRISE SYSTEMS

Michael Bradshaw, Senior Vice President, Global Practice Leader for Applications, Data and AI, Kyndryl, an IBIT partner, is collaborating with IBIT on a research project to rethink organizational enterprise systems strategy and propose new management concepts. The IBIT team includes Munir Mandviwalla and Amrit Tiwana, Professor, University of Georgia.

> "It's been **an incredible experience to take applied experience from our modernization efforts at Kyndryl**, completely reimagining legacy enterprise systems, and working with Temple to abstract those concept and ideas so that others can learn from our successes."
>
> **- Michael Bradshaw**
> *SVP & Global Practice Leader*

The project is focused on important questions about systems strategy, evolution, and value. The results include a framework to assess the opportunity and risks of generating business value over time from enterprise systems.

DIF
PROJECTS

The Digital Innovation Foundry (DIF) generates innovation by assessing, integrating, and prototyping digital technologies.

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The DIF lab is a prototype generator, analytical engine, and demonstration showcase. It can solve problems, build demonstrations, and generate solutions as part of research or industry projects. In addition, DIF awards scholarships to students, presents awards to recognize digital innovation, and new this year, hosts workshops on important tech topics.

Each project receives one or more scholarships and/or or grants from the Persson-Barbour, Stewart Family, Bruce and Betsy Fadem, Niraj and Cara Patel, and Brassington endowments and DIF fund.

To ensure success, the DIF approach is to only work on seven projects on a rolling basis, adding new ones to get to seven when current projects near completion. **The current set of ongoing and new DIF projects are on the following pages.**

REVOLUTIONIZING REHABILITATION; EMPOWERING CLINICIANS WITH PERSONALIZED DIGITAL THERAPY SOLUTIONS

The Movision Pro digital platform for physical and occupational therapists, and chiropractors enables providers to create personalized home exercise programs for patients. The Augmented Reality app that applies AI will also provide real-time feedback to patients at home.

Cole Hagen, a PhD student in Neuromotor Science is leading the project in partnership with Dr. Shivayogi Hiremath's Personal Health Informatics and Rehabilitation Engineering lab. Movision Pro was the recipient of the DIF 2023 Digital Innovation Award. Manoj Chacko is providing architectural guidance. According to Hagen: *"DIF has been instrumental in creating a structure and team to push Movision forward. We now have a roadmap to make the vision a reality."*

Yuval Shimoni, a Computer and Information sciences (CIS) student, is further developing the platform by adding real-time feedback capabilities. Yuval is enthusiastic about the project: *"The project has strengthened my technical skills, allowed me to learn new technologies, and also express my passion for health and fitness."*

FANALLI - FAIR-PRICED TICKETS FOR TRUE FANS

The Fanalli platform ensures that genuine fans can access concert tickets at fair prices. Rhea Mohite, Management student, recognized that ticket bots inflate prices, depriving fans of fair prices: *"Fanalli unlocks the power of fandom to create an enjoyable concert ticket buying experience."*

DIF partnered with Fanali after their entry into the Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship's Idea Competition. Cole Roberts and Ayush Gupta are designing the platform's architecture to create a Minimum Viable Product (MVP), with Manoj Chacko providing architectural guidance.

According to Cole: *"The project has allowed me to refine the skills I acquired as a Management Information Systems (MIS) major including building an application and starting a business."* Ayush, a CIS student added: *"I enjoy learning new programming languages and getting a glimpse into the dynamics of working in industry and startups."*
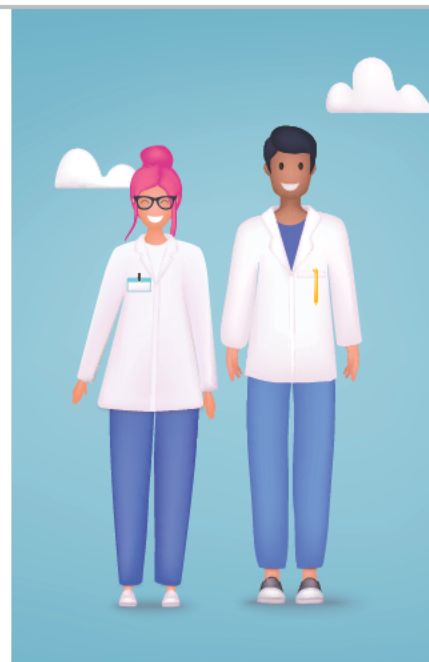
MEASURE AND STRUCTURE DENTAL SCHOOL STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

DIF is partnering with Temple's Kornberg School of Dentistry to implement the PRO platform, to measure, structure, and motivate the professional development of dental students. The DIF team includes Manoj Chacko, Laurel Miller, and Munir Mandviwalla, co-founders of PRO Community LLC, a Temple University spin-off company that arose from the first DIF project.

At Kornberg, according to Dean Amid Ismail: *"Student development is a critical part of our mission. Professional development of students can be advanced by PRO that document and allow faculty to measure the professional development and experience of students."*

Currently, an extended soft release is underway, with the platform set to become mandatory for all students starting in fall 2024 *(see PRO Platform for more information)*.

GENERATIVE AI TRANSPARENCY AND PREDICTABILITY

Raghu Sankaran, CIO, Scholastic Inc., an IBIT partner, is working with DIF to investigate the results produced by generative AI solutions to increase transparency and predictability. The DIF team includes Konstantin Bauman, Assistant Professor of MIS, Yan Wang, Associate Professor of CIS, Manoj Chacko, and Munir Mandviwalla.

Sankaran notes that: *"There are so many unknowns and facets around Gen AI that that we need to evaluate, so partnering with Temple was a no brainer to help us make progress on multiple fronts simultaneously."*

The goals include evaluating (a) how generative AI responds to different types of requests (b) evaluate the accuracy and appropriateness of the responses, and (c) estimate the factors that contribute to the responses and how that can be used to improve the tool. The DIF team has configured a virtual lab that includes the major Gen AI platforms and generated preliminary results.
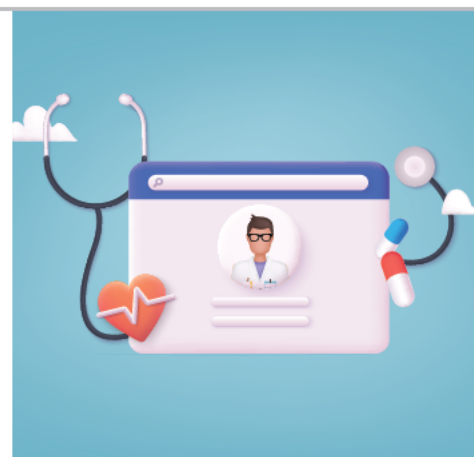
RETHINKING THE UX OF TEMPLE'S PORTAL

Abey John, Director, Temple Information Technology Services is partnering with DIF to improve the user experience and governance of TUportal – a platform for information and transactions for internal stakeholders.

The DIF team includes Amy Lavin, Associate Professor of MIS who is conducting focus groups to evaluate usability and identify needs. The team also includes Manoj Chacko and Munir Mandviwalla.
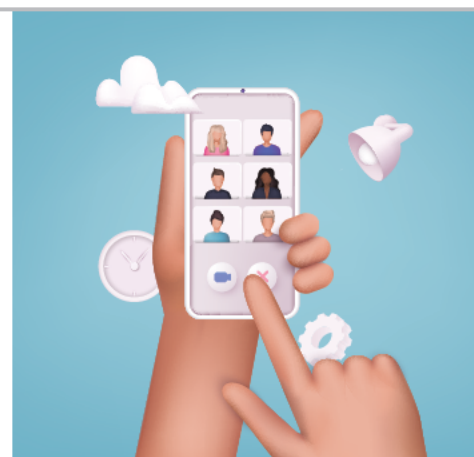
HEALTHCARE DECISION PLATFORM

Bari Dzomba, Kesa Bond, and Cathy Flite, all professors in the College of Public Health are partnering with DIF to develop a Digital Decision Support System to provide interactive and actionable knowledge to healthcare leaders. DDSS will leverage available cost and revenue data to estimate reductions in chronic conditions due to weight loss. Initially, DIF is assisting on data collection and focus groups, the results of which will influence the design of the platform.

NEW!

THE ROLE OF AI AVATARS IN HOSPITALITY

Lu Lu, Associate Professor, School of Sport, Tourism and Hospitality Management and Wangoo Lee, Graduate Fellow are partnering with DIF to explore the role of AI avatars in hospitality. The Embodied Intelligence project will involve comparison and effects of AI avatars on the efficacy of hospitality interactions.

NEW!

DIRECTLY MANAGING AND ADJUSTING PATIENT REHAB

DIF is partnering with Omid Pourshahid, Assistant Professor, Lewis Katz School of Medicine to develop a platform that allows providers to assess and manage patient rehab, and patients' ability to provide data that is used to regularly adjust their rehab plan.

To learn more about DIF inluding how to partner and see more project examples, please visit:

ibit.temple.edu/digital-innovation-foundry

digital innovation
WORKSHOPS

Digital Innovation Foundry (DIF) Workshops feature the expertise of IBIT industry partners. Designed for students, each workshop provides hands-on experiences and explanation of cutting-edge technologies. The 1–2-hour workshops are held in the DIF Lab, a state-of-the-art co-working space, capped to 15-20 attendees with appropriate background and training.

Cencora, an IBIT partner, presented a *Virtual Reality and Bots* workshop on April 3, 2024. The 15 participants learned how Cencora is creating immersive spaces and how they build RPA bots.

Cencora, also presented a *Generative AI* workshop on February 23, 2024. The 22 participants learned about the mechanics of Generative AI, understanding its ability to employ algorithms and machine learning techniques to create original content.

The average impact rating for the workshops was **5.59** on a scale from 1 to 7, with 7 being highest. The highest rating was for the value of participation at **6.1**, while the lowest rating was ability to contribute to success. The following student comments illustrate the ratings:

*"I thought this event was **very interesting** and it was cool to see how VR is actually applied in business."*

*"It wasn't as hands-on as expected but **I gained some important insights** and am grateful for the opportunity to attend."*

For more details about the impact assessment,
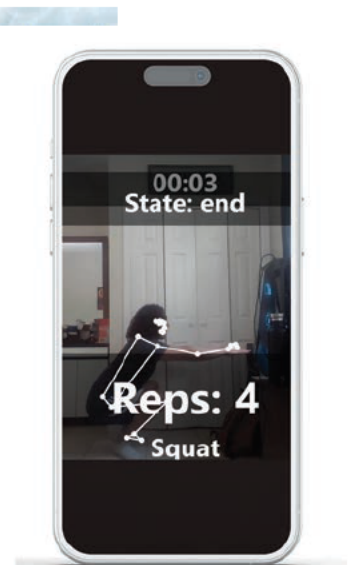**visit:** *ibit.temple.edu/impact*

digital innovation
AWARD WINNERS

The Digital Innovation Foundry of Temple's Institute for Business and Information Technology has partnered with **Temple's Innovation and Entrepreneurship Institute (IEI)** to award prizes and provide support to the Annual Innovative Idea Competition and Be Your Own Boss Bowl (BYOBB).

The benefits include **$1,000 - $5,000** in awards, mentorship and support to develop the project, and access to the DIF lab and IBIT network.

Company / Project	Year
UfarmX	2024
Movision Pro	2023
HouseCall VR	2023
Career Experience	2022
Agora World	2021
LogixCxt	2021

The most recent award in 2024 was presented to **UfarmX**, an agricultural platform, founded by Alexander Zanders, Andrea Kamara Dunbar and Segun Fagbami that utilizes AI and Blockchain solutions to empower smallholder farmers in Africa. UfarmX provides tailored support for crop management, market access and financial inclusion, and smart farming practices. UfarmX was selected to receive $2,500 and support from DIF to further develop and commercialize its platform.

Movision Pro was selected to receive $1,000 in 2023 to develop a digital platform for rehab clinicians. The founders include Cole Hagen, a PhD student in Neuromotor Science at Temple University, and Shiv Hiremath, Associate Professor, College of Public Health. DIF is partnering with Movision to complete a prototype *(See page 11)*.

DIF awards are open to Temple University students, alumni, faculty and staff.

information systems
JOB INDEX
COMING FALL 2024

The AIS Temple University IS Job Index is a key resource on the placement, demographics, jobs, and knowledge of the entry-level Information Technology (IT) workforce.

Led by Temple's Institute for Business and Information Technology (IBIT), the 2022 report featured more than 1400 job market entrants from 36 universities across the United States.

In 2024, the Association for Information Systems (AIS) will become IBIT's lead partner, particularly in publishing and disseminating the result.

IS JOB INDEX 2024

AIS Association for Information Systems

Temple University Fox School of Business

IBIT INSTITUTE FOR BUSINESS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

kyndryl.

Launched in 2013 and published every 2 years at isjobindex.com, each report analyzes several thousand job market entrants from more than 30 universities across the United States. The report profiles IS job market demographics, popular job types, current salaries, factors leading to offers, reasons for job acceptance and rejection, regional and industry trends, and knowledge levels and preparedness.

The 2024 report will be co-led by **Munir Mandviwalla**, IBIT Executive Director and Professor; **Michael Dinger**, Associate Professor at Baylor University; and **Laurel Miller**, IBIT Director and Associate Professor.

*"We are very pleased to expand our **long-standing partnership with Temple's IBIT** in producing this important resource for current and prospective students, faculty, deans, and industry."*

- Matt Nelson
AIS Associate Executive Director

*"IBIT has been a leader at Fox for **more than 20 years in engaging with industry and research on the IT workforce.** We are very proud of IBIT's expanded partnership with AIS, which will further strengthen the impact of this valuable resource."*

- Sunil Wattal
Associate Dean for Research, Fox School of Business, Temple University

Past Reports and More Details: *isjobindex.com*

case studies
2024

Cases published by IBIT affiliated faculty generate practical knowledge on important topics such as digital transformation, innovation, IT workforce, analytics, and artificial intelligence.

Intended to fill critical gaps in existing knowledge, the cases provide relevant insights to highlight the rapid evolution of digitalization, and how firms adapt and evolve. Cases also provide the content to train the next generation workforce and influence scholarly research.

DINESH DESAI GREW EMTEC INTO A HIGH PERFORMING MID-MARKET IT SERVICES FIRM

Dinesh Desai and colleagues grew Emtec into a high performing mid-market IT services firm, by creating a unique culture, acquiring firms, and digital co-innovation.

In the newly published case titled **Emtec: Culture, Acquisitions, and Co-innovation as the Upstream Future for Midmarket Firms**, Munir Mandviwalla, Larry Dignan, Laurel Miller, and Bertrand Guillotin tell the story of a how a start-up grew through acquisitions and an entrepreneurial cooperative culture in the cut-throat trillion-dollar IT services market. The case also shows how co-innovation enables digital transformation. Harvard Business Publishing, W33454-PDF-ENG, February 2024.

The case is dedicated to **Dinesh Desai**, Fox'78, founder, CEO, and Chairman of Emtec. He received the 2015 Fox IT Award for Distinguished Alumni and served on the IBIT board. Dinesh passed away on March 27, 2024.

Note: Colleagues of Dinesh interested in reading the case, please contact ibit@temple.edu

Published Cases

ALEXION: DIGITAL CO-INNOVATION ACCELERATES THE APPLICATION OF ANALYTICS

Larry Dignan, Laurel Miller, and Munir Mandviwalla. Harvard Business Publishing W28560-PDF-ENG, February 2023.

Learn how George Llado co-innovated with startups to rapidly set up a big data analytics platform to increase sales.

META: DIGITALLY TRANSFORMING WORKFORCE MANAGEMENT AT SCALE AND WITH AGILITY

Munir Mandviwalla, Laurel Miller, and Larry Dignan. Harvard Business Publishing, W33549-PDF-ENG, August 2023.

Learn how Atish Banerjea restarted the process of onboarding new employees into the firm and simultaneously supported the pivot to remote work.

22nd annual
IT AWARDS

Temple University's Institute for Business and Information Technology (IBIT) honored three accomplished digital leaders, **Jeff Hamilton, Chris Wink,** and **Fran Geatens,** at its 22nd Annual Information Technology Awards.

The awards event, held Wednesday, May 1, 2024, in Philadelphia, brought together an elite group of tech leaders, innovators and disruptors for an engaging evening of celebration amongst the IBIT community. Dean Chip Hunter started the program by welcoming the participants. The rest of the evening spotlighted the honorees who shared their expertise and vision.

Jeff Hamilton, *Chief Information Officer, Teva Pharmaceuticals,* received the **2024 Information Technology Leader Award**. Hamilton is responsible for technology systems and infrastructure in 60 countries and 50 plants at Teva. Previously, Hamilton was Senior Vice President, Pfizer Digital with responsibility for manufacturing, supply chain and finance systems. He directed Pfizer's digital efforts to rapidly scale COVID-19 vaccine production and distribution of billions of doses to more than 170 countries.

Chris Wink, *cofounder and CEO of Technical.ly*, received the **2024 Information Technology Innovator Award**. Wink, a journalist and entrepreneur, co-founded Technical.ly, a news and community resource for technologists and entrepreneurs. Wink is the lead organizer of Philly Tech Week and in 2022, he was named one of Pennsylvania's most influential impact leaders, and in 2017 Folio magazine named him one of the 100 most innovative media leaders in the country.

Fran Geatens, *Vice President, Technology Infrastructure, Operations, and Experience, Merck,* received the **2024 Information Technology Award for Distinguished Alumni**. Geatens is responsible for managing Merck's worldwide technology infrastructure and business applications. He led Merck's accelerated cloud transformation that is enabling new ways of working. Geatens is a graduate of Temple University's Fox School of Business.

A sub-committee of the IBIT advisory board including **George Llado** (committee chair), **Sondra Barbour, Michael Bradshaw, Andrea Stewart,** and **Bruce Fadem** (board chair) identified nominees for the 2024 awards from a list of 62 candidates. These nominations were submitted to and approved by the entire board. Fadem, Barbour, and Llado also introduced each award recipient at the event.

The impact of the 2024 awards was rated highly on IBIT's new Impact Model with an average score of **5.94** on a scale from 1 to 7 with 7 being the highest rating. The highest rating of **6.43** was for the value of participating in the activity, while the lowest rating of **4.92** was for contributing to the success of the activity. The following is a sample of comments included in the above responses.

*"This year's group of honorees are **truly exceptional** and we are proud to recognize them as digital innovation leaders."*

- Munir Mandviwalla
Executive Director

*"It was even better than the last year. **I loved it.**"*

- Student Participant

*"Great to see the strides the program has made and industry connections to **strengthen IBIT's place in the market.**"*

- Industry Participant

*"**The event was the best so far.** Excellent choice of venue, everything was very professionally run."*

- Industry Participant

Learn more about the IT awards: *ibit.temple.edu/itawards*

executives
IN RESIDENCE

The IBIT Executive in Residence Program facilitates mutually beneficial engagement and collaboration between select industry leaders and Temple University.

Jeff Hamilton
CIO
Teva Pharmaceuticals
Appointed 2017

Michael Bradshaw
SVP & Global Practice Leader
Kyndryl
Appointed 2017

Dale Danilewitz
Retired EVP & CIO
AmerisourceBergen
Appointed 2016

Atish Banerjea
CIO
Meta
Appointed 2015

Ben Hasan
Retired SVP & Chief
Culture, Diversity, Equity
& Inclusion Officer
Walmart
Appointed 2014

Sondra Barbour
Member, Board of Directors
**AGCO Corporation
& NiSource**
Appointed 2010

Niraj Patel
CIO
Greystone
Appointed 2011

best practices for
ACADEMIC-INDUSTRY COLLABORATION

At a panel session during *Temple University's MIS Academic Leadership Conference*, keynote speaker **Michael Bradshaw**, SVP & Global Practice Leader, Kyndryl and member of the IBIT advisory board, presented a new vision for organizational IT.

Vince Ford, SVP, Curtis Institute of Music, **Jeff Hamilton**, CIO, Teva Pharmaceuticals, **Tarun Kapoor**, MD, MBA, SVP, Virtua Health, **Christopher Kearns**, VP, Kyndryl, & **George Llado**, Board member, Charles River Lab, participated in a panel and identified five best practices for increasing and sustaining academic-industry collaboration.

five best practices

1. Industry is interested in collaborating with academia, but often does not know how to start. Academics need to initiate the conversation.

2. Talent development is a better first step than complex research projects.

3. Talent development at scale such as competitions (e.g., Temple Analytics Challenge, National Cyber Analyst Challenge) can generate immediate value and have a visible impact.

4. Collaborative academic-industry research is possible but will need to overcome the time and shorter-term performance pressures faced by industry.

5. Multi-layered relationships that include talent, engagement, and research are preferred over one-time initiatives. An advisory board can sustain such relationships (e.g., IBIT Advisory Board).

The Fox School hosted the MIS Academic Leadership Conference (MALC), October 26-28, 2023. MALC is the exclusive forum for MIS academic leaders including Business School Deans, Associate Deans, Department Chairs, Editors, and Program Directors to network with and learn from each other.

Topics included research impact, new directions and opportunities for Undergrad and Master's programs, academia-industry partnerships, and redefining MBA in the age of AI.

IBIT was one of the sponsors of the 2023 MALC Conference.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Every year, IBIT—along with several corporate partners—offers support and encouragement to promising students with a series of scholarships. Winners are celebrated at the *Annual IT Awards Reception.*

IBIT CORPORATE SCHOLARSHIPS

The IBIT Corporate Scholarships recognize exceptional students with **$2,500 - $5,000 tuition scholarships**. Students must excel academically and impress the committee with their potential for achievement and accomplishment.

IBIT Pfizer Scholarship

IBIT Scholastic Scholarship

IBIT Kyndryl Scholarship

IBIT Cencora Scholarship

DIGITAL INNOVATION FOUNDRY (DIF) SCHOLARSHIPS

The Digital Innovation Foundry (DIF) generates digital innovation by assessing, integrating, and prototyping digital technologies. Students who work on a project in DIF receive one of two scholarships.

IBIT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The Institute for Business and Information Technology announces this year's scholarship recipients. Students were awarded a total of **$20,000 in scholarships.**

Abby Dorotov
IBIT Pfizer Scholarship

Sarah Maher
IBIT Scholastic Scholarship
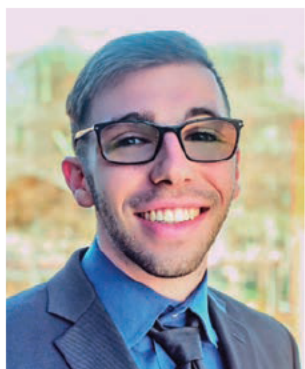

Zuzana Tyryllo
IBIT Kyndryl Scholarship

Yanelly Ortiz Yanes
IBIT Cencora Scholarship

DIF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

The Digital Innovation Foundry (DIF) announces this year's scholarship recipient.

Mitchel Zilbershteyn

Persson-Barbour Endowed Scholarship

MENTORING HAS A HIGH IMPACT ON INDUSTRY & STUDENTS

IBIT's Spring 2024 mentoring program which involved **16 students** and **12 mentors** ended the year with a reception for mentors and mentees to network. The average impact rating of the program was **6.3** on a scale from 1 to 7 with 7 being the highest.

IBIT matches Temple University students with senior executive IT mentors based on students' interests and career goals using a structured process to ensure regular engagement. The mentoring program runs each term and has, to-date, served 189 students from three different schools at Temple since spring 2020.

The high impact rating of **6.1** suggests that students and mentors are on average very positive about all aspects of the program. The highest rating was for the value of participation at **6.8**, while the lowest rating of **5.79** was for enhancing professional network. However, this is still a positive result since both mentors and mentees contributed to the rating. The following comments illustrate the impact:

*"I was very nervous at first going into my first meeting but coming from my own experience, it was easier than I thought it was going to be to talk to my mentor and things just felt natural. I believe that **I gained a lot of valuable knowledge and lessons from my mentor's advice and experiences** which makes me glad I did the program."*

- Mentee

*"**It's fun giving guidance,** especially surfacing career options the mentees may have not considered yet."*

- Mentor

mentoring program participants

MENTORS

Andrew Anania
Cigna (Retired)
Sondra Barbour
AGCO & NiSource
Chris Cera
Arcweb Technologies
Craig Conway
FIS
Kevin Dang
McKinsey & Company
Larry Dignan
Constellation Insights

Bruce Fadem
Wyeth (Retired)
Vince Ford
Curtis Institute of Music
Chris Kearns
Kyndryl
Michael Luckenbill
Capgemini
Neil Mundell
Cencora

Sukumar Narayanan
CorVant
Niraj Patel
Greystone
Rich Rivara
Wave6
Dave Woodson
KPMG

MENTEES

Tyler Allen
Sajjad Alloo
Rhenece Andrew
Nikitha Arramada
Janice Augastine
Duncan Carpenter
James Carpenter
Sarah D'Amico
Victoria Doan

Nahum Elias
Nora Esack
Adam Foster-Baird
Jenna Fraioli
Jonathan George
Joseph Gorman
Emily Greene
Evangelos Kamariotis
Carly Krieger

David Levit
Veronica Li
David Liang
Aaron Markowitz
Mia Myers
Theresa Nguyen
Alex O'Leary
Alison Park
Odalys Perez

Victoria Phung
Cole Roberts
Kamilya Salikhova
Nayana Santhosh
Biko Smith
Maya Smith

Sondra Barbour, Board Member, AGCO & NiSource is the chair of the Mentoring Program. Laurel Miller manages the mentoring program for IBIT.

For more details about the impact assessment,
visit: *ibit.temple.edu/impact*

2024-2025
LOOKING AHEAD

NEW
DIGITAL INNOVATION FOUNDRY
PROJECTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

EXPAND
MENTORING PROGRAM ACROSS TEMPLE UNIVERSITY

GROW IBIT PARTNERS AND ADVISORY BOARD

PUBLISH
AI OPPORTUNITY INDEX

AWARD
IBIT AND DIF
SCHOLARSHIPS

HOST
EXECUTIVE-IN-RESIDENCE

23RD **IT AWARDS**

PUBLISH
2024 IS JOB INDEX

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about
IBIT

The Institute for Business and Information Technology (IBIT) engages with industry and the Advisory Board to develop knowledge and talent for the digital era. IBIT integrates industry perspectives with academic expertise to create best practice forums engaging faculty and students from all of Temple University.

IBIT partnership offers participating corporations the opportunity to leverage our knowledge, human capital, relationships, and established network.