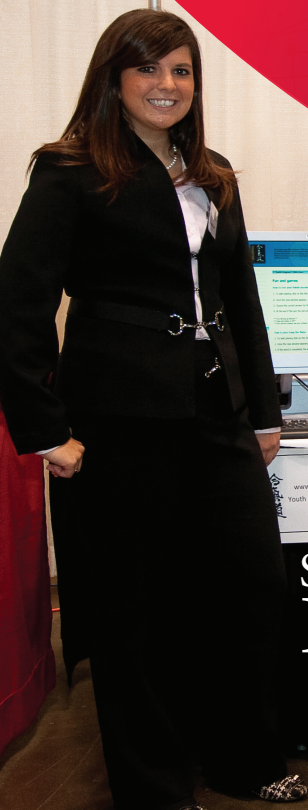# School of Information Technology
Revision of 2013-2019 Strategic Plan

CECH

Education
Criminal Justice
Human Services
Information Technology

School of
Information Technology
Experience+

Collaborate | Innovate | Apply

Information Technology is driving innovation in banking, insurance, healthcare, education, criminal justice, entertainment, sports, law enforcement, and almost every sector of our society. The availability of affordable and connected computing devices continues to enable the evolution of this exciting field. Our approach at the School of Information Technology (SoIT) centers around three main pillars: problem solving, effective communication, and hands-on technical skills. We view Information Technology as an integral part of every discipline and an essential component of every organization. The SoIT is positioned in the interdisciplinary College of Education, Criminal Justice, and Human Services (CECH) to highlight our commitment to integrating Information Technology, solving problems, and increasing the efficiency and productivity of people and organizations. This revision of the IT 2019 updates our strategic plan and refocuses our effort. We look forward to partnering with every individual and organization that is interested in seeing this vision turn to reality. We welcome your participation and feedback.

Hazem Said, PhD
Professor & School Director

Advancing society through the discovery and integration of applied computing technologies that leverage the power of information

UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI MISSION STATEMENT

The University of Cincinnati serves the people of Ohio, the nation, and the world as a premier public, urban research university dedicated to undergraduate, graduate, and professional education, experience-based learning, and research. We are committed to excellence and diversity in our students, faculty, staff, and all of our activities. We provide an inclusive environment where innovation and freedom of intellectual inquiry flourish. Through scholarship, service, partnerships, and leadership, we create opportunity, develop educated and engaged citizens, enhance the economy, and enrich our university, city, state, and global community.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, CRIMINAL JUSTICE, AND HUMAN SERVICES

The College of Education, Criminal Justice, and Human Services is committed to the pursuit of discovery and excellence in research, teaching, and service that addresses real world challenges and opportunities to create positive social change. We prepare students to maximize their ability to have a positive impact and to be contributing members to society. To this end, we embrace five key values:

- **Innovation:** exploring, discovering, and implementing new ideas, methods and applications
- **Partnership:** seeking out opportunities for partnership in our academic, research, and community pursuits
- **Diversity:** embracing and celebrating variation in styles, cultures, and disciplines
- **Leadership:** leading through research and by empowering individuals, communities, and organizations to evolve and facilitate change through best practices
- **Support:** providing an environment where faculty, staff, and students thrive

SCHOOL OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MISSION

We empower individuals to become passionate, solution-minded Information Technology professionals by fostering: continuous innovation, research, leadership development, interdisciplinary problem solving, and real-world experience.

HISTORY

The School of Information Technology (SoIT) at UC traces its roots to several computing technology programs offered across three different colleges. These programs merged to form the Bachelor of Science in Information Technology degree in the fall of 2004. In 2006, the Department of Information Technology emerged as an academic department bound to two different colleges. It finally settled in the College of Education, Criminal Justice, and Human Services (CECH) in July 2011 to support an evolving vision of integrated Information Technology. After a national search, Dr. Hazem Said took the helm as the head on January 1, 2012. The Board of Trustees designated the School of Information Technology on December 10, 2013.

PROCESS

The SoIT began a comprehensive strategic planning process in February 2012, with the help of Barry Morris and Meghan Clarke who led and facilitated the process as expert consultants. The planning continued through November 2012 when the IT2019 plan was finalized and published. After four years, a review process was launched where students, alumni, faculty, staff, academic leadership, advisory board members, and the IT community participated in input sessions and discussions to update and revise the plan. A strategic planning team, composed of representatives of the School's stakeholders, analyzed the feedback and produced a revised strategic plan. CREATE was the name to represent the five strategies of Collaborate, Research, Excellence in Academics, Talent, and lEadership. The plan was finalized during the advisory board meeting on November 7, 2016.

Strategic Goals & Priorities

Collaboration

- Scale-up partnerships with high schools, industry, and academic institutions
- Evolve the partnership model
- Better utilize College support
- Build and develop an engaged alumni network
- Connect students to the School of IT community
- Create international visibility

Research

- Define "active research" and "research productivity"
- Build credibility
- Define and evolve research focus areas
- Increase quality and quantity of publications
- Increase funding and grants
- Promote and expand collaborative research opportunities

Community Partners

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EXCELLENCE IN ACADEMICS
- Seek continuous national recognition
- Establish PhD program
- Engage in a thorough curriculum overhaul increasing quality of instruction
- Continue to improve and extend bridge programs
- Expand technology required to reflect changes in industry demands

TALENT
- Diversify and expand recruitment efforts
- Advocate pathways for high school students to directly enroll in IT education
- Value and continue to incorporate industry expertise into instruction
- Sustain placement rate in related job or grad programs
- Produce formal documentation outlining undergrad and grad student requirements

LEADERSHIP
- Create school leadership structure
- Foster a culture of diversity, inclusion, and equity
- Increase the number of quality graduate and undergraduate faculty and staff commensurate with growth
- Create faculty development program to improve teaching, research, and service
- Improve methods of recruitment, onboarding, and training of adjuncts
- Implement effective communication mechanism across the school
- Foster student leadership opportunities
- Develop robust strategic plan for Solutions Center
- Define / create center of excellence for cyber security
- Create 3 year operational plan

REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE
Through five semesters of co-op (full-time, paid work experience earning on average $55,044*) and the paramount Senior Design experience, students have many opportunities to apply their knowledge and talent on industry-relevant projects.

RANK
Top 40 Best Online Graduate Program in Information Technology (IT, 2017 *US News*)

* Based on five co-op semesters of 18 weeks at the average rate of $15.29/hr

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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
EXPO 18
TUESDAY, APRIL 10
UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI REC CENTER
University of CINCINNATI
School of Information Technology
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ABET
Computing Accreditation Commission

The Bachelor of Science in Information Technology (BSIT) is accredited by:

We are grateful to the following students, alumni, faculty, staff, IT professionals, and local and regional leaders for their valuable contribution and input throughout this process.

2017 Graduation Class

Contributors listed alphabetically by last name:

Ackels, Heather	Bott, Mike	Erpenbeck, Anne	Harknett, Richard	Kasak, Joseph	McLaughlin, Kevin	Peterson, Nate	Said, Hazem	Stasko, Patrick	Wei, Xuetao
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