



# Information Technology Research Institute

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Employer: University of Arkansas | [Information not correct? Update it today!](#)

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## **Girls in IT - Little Rock**

The Information Technology Research Institute at the Sam M. Walton College of Business hosted a Girls in IT event in Little Rock on Dec. 4 to introduce information technology careers to high school girls. Sponsored by Acxiom and Dillard's, the event was held at Acxiom's offices with more than 120 young women from 18 Arkansas high schools attending. [Read more.](#)

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## **Women in IT Conference - April 13, 2016**

Save the date! We are excited to hold this event for the 12th time. This year our theme will be "Cultivating the Future: It takes a village to foster growth." The event will have something for everyone! Attendees will gain knowledge, grow networks and lend a voice to how women can continue to forge new ground in the field of information technology.

Follow the [ITRI Facebook](#) page for more information!

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## **Executives in the Classroom**

The ITRI hosts a number of IT executives and professionals on campus each semester to share their expertise and experiences with students in the classroom as a part of our mission to promote student interest in information technology as well as to facilitate the exchange of information between the academic and business communities. Contact [Eric Bradford](#) for more information about this program.



## **Walton College Conference Services**

Located on the beautiful, historic campus of the University of Arkansas, our facilities offer small and large meeting rooms, breakout rooms, private boardrooms, a large auditorium and meal function areas. One of the benefits of being an ITRI board member is being able to rent the rooms at a discounted rate. Contact [Rebecca Clifton](#) for information.



## **IT Executive Forum**

The ITRI hosts an IT Executive Forum each fall. This is a unique experience for students to interact and network with top executives in the field of information technology. Two separate events for high school students and college students were held in 2015. There was a positive response to the change from students, educators and board members. Check out the [video of the high school forum](#).

## **2015 Fall Board Meeting**

The ITRI Fall Board Meeting was held Thursday, October 1, 2015. The board members networked with AIS students for breakfast, participated in the IT Executive Forum, and interacted with Ph.D. students on their current research. During the meeting board members discussed improving collaboration on research and other topics, recruiting more students into information systems, and growing board membership. Several board members participated in video interviews supporting the ITRI. It was a productive day and we look forward to using the feedback to work toward our mission.



## **ITRI Involvement**

**October 7, 2015 - Guest Speaker at Har-Ber High School** Eric Bradford visited Har-Ber High School in Springdale, Ark., to visit with students about opportunities in information technology.

**October 8, 2015 - STEM Coalition Meeting in Hot Springs, Ark.** Eric Bradford participated on a panel that addressed the question of what a qualified IT professional does. Read more about the [Arkansas STEM Coalition](#) and what they do.



**October 19, 2015 - Business Career Fair Dallas** Kristin Breen and Eric Bradford participated in the career fair held by Walton's Career Development Center and met with companies like Hilton, Southwest Airlines and PepsiCo. Find out more information about the [Walton's Career Development Center](#).



**October 28, 2015 - AIS Tour of Lab 415C** The ITRI hosted a tour of Lab 415c at Walmart ISD in Bentonville, Ark., for Clinical Assistant Professor Susan Bristow and the AIS student organization.



**November 10, 2015 - NWA Technology Summit** The ITRI partnered with the Ozark STEM Foundation to sponsor 10 information systems students to attend the NWA Technology Summit. The ITRI also provided an information table at the summit and networked with students, industry and current board members. Read more about the [NWA Technology Summit](#).

**November 19, 2015 - Connecting the Dots: STEM Roundtable Event** Eric Bradford attended a roundtable discussion on how to "connect the dots" across the many STEM programs and opportunities across our region. Learn more about the [Ozark STEM Foundation](#) and how you can be involved.

## **Professional Development Opportunities this Spring**

One of the many benefits of your organization being a member of the ITRI is gaining access to professional development and career enhancement programs.

This spring the [University of Arkansas Global Campus](#) is offering programs for industry professionals. There is a 10% discount for University of Arkansas faculty, staff, students, Alumni Association Members, Junior League of Northwest Arkansas as well as Center for Retailing Excellence and [ITRI board member companies](#).



The first is the [Leadership Certificate Program](#). This program offers working professionals the opportunity to build and enhance leadership skills necessary to be successful in today's workplace.

The second is the [Business Communications Professional Certificate Program](#). This program offers working professionals the opportunity to build and enhance business communication skills.

Group discounts are also available. Contact [Heather Sprandel](#) for more information on how to take advantage of these discounts or to register more than three people.



### **FLL Razorback Invitational: A First Lego Qualifier Event**

Tomorrow's innovators practice imaginative thinking and teamwork. Guided by adult coaches, [FIRST LEGO League](#) teams research a real-world problem and are challenged to develop a solution. They develop critical thinking and team-building skills, basic STEM applications, and presentation skills.



The FLL Razorback Invitational is a 72-team, invitational, FIRST LEGO League, championship tournament held on the University of Arkansas campus. The event is hosted by the Freshman Engineering Program at the University of Arkansas. The next invitational will be held on May 19-22, 2016. For more info, check out their [Facebook page](#) or [email](#) the director.

### **Coming up...**

Spring Business Career Fair: Tuesday, March 1, 2016

STEM Career Fair: Wednesday, March 2, 2016

Leadership Certificate Program: Thursday & Friday 8:30am-4:30pm, March 10-11, 2016

Business Communications Professional Certificate Program: Wednesdays 7:45 am-9:00 am, March 30 - May 4, 2016

ITRI Spring Pre-Board Meeting Dinner: Monday, April 11, 2016

ITRI Spring Board Meeting: Tuesday, April 12, 2016

NCWIT Aspiration in Computing: Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Women in Information Technology Conference: Wednesday, April 13, 2016

IT Information Session at Rich Mountain Community College in Mena, Ark: Spring 2016

Teacher/Counselor Workshop at Rich Mountain Community College in Mena, Ark.: Spring 2016

Razorback Invitational FIRST Lego Qualifier Event: May 19-22, 2016



# Your Connection Starts Here

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