

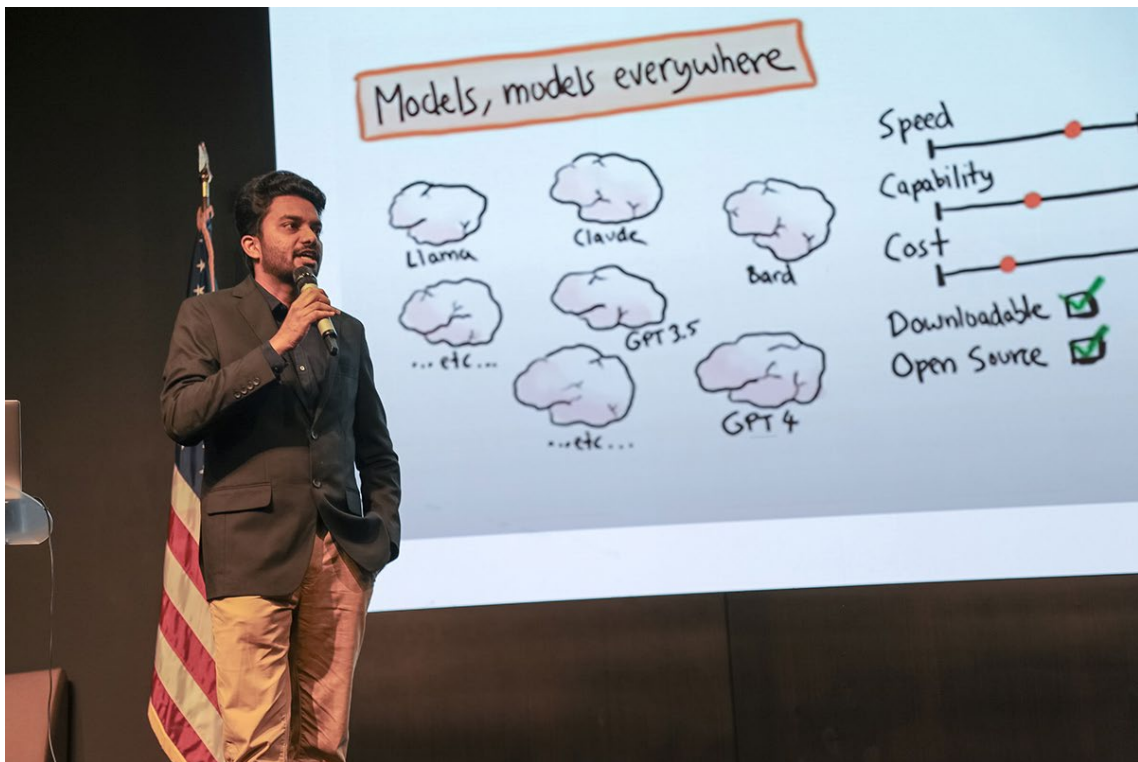


April 2025



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RISE Together Showcase Celebrates Innovation and Collaboration

AI, automation and emerging technology were the focus at the recent Information Technology Services (ITS) RISE Together Showcase. The second annual half-day conference highlighted breakthrough technology pilots and projects happening across Florida State University. Members of the campus community came together to engage in forward-visioning presentations from ITS faculty, staff and student interns. Featured topics included agentic AI, Microsoft Mesh and IT automation. Thank you to all who attended and contributed to fostering innovation and collaboration across the university.

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ITS News

ITS Hosts Annual Intern Banquet

On April 7, ITS hosted its annual ITS Student Banquet to honor our student interns. Thirty-two interns and supervisors attended the event where they enjoyed a catered meal and the chance to show off their semester's work. The banquet celebrated graduating students and multi-semester interns, recognizing their hard work and the valuable experience they gained while working with ITS. The night ended with a keynote speech by Randy McCausland, FSU alumnus and current managing vice president for Gartner's central region. Randy shared his career

journey and how to stand out amongst the competition, followed by a Q&A with the attendees. This event was made possible by the kind sponsorship from Florida LambdaRail, in memory of Jack Hall.

[See Photos](#)

IT Governance Council

Established in 2009, the IT Governance Council was created to align FSU ITS with the university's strategic goals and objectives. The council is comprised of 21 faculty, student and staff members from various departments to represent the best interests of the university. As part of their duties, members prepare feedback on IT initiatives' progress, provide formal recommendations to the university on IT operations and evaluate how the university's technology is supporting the school's mission, among other responsibilities.

[Read More](#)

Approved AI Assistants

As AI becomes embedded into our daily work, it is important to ensure safe and secure interactions with AI tools. ITS encourages all university students, faculty and staff to use approved AI technology such as Microsoft Copilot for official university business. FSU has a formal agreement with Copilot that protects university data and is looking to expand to other tools in the near future. Unvetted AI applications, such as Otter.ai or Read.ai, ingest data into their large language model, thereby potentially disclosing confidential information, such as protected research or FERPA data, into the technology. This is especially prominent in the use of AI meeting assistants that transcribe meeting notes. An official university policy regarding the use of AI is forthcoming. Meanwhile, ITS stresses the importance of using licensed AI tools when conducting university business.

[FSU AI Tools](#)

Pilot for Web-based Scanning Tool

The **Office of Digital Learning and Academic Technology** is offering instructors an easy and efficient way to scan with the Akindi pilot. Akindi is a web-based scanning tool that streamlines grading and offers increased flexibility for instructors who use bubble-sheet form scanning for paper-based tests. With one-click grade syncing in Canvas, Akindi simplifies the process of grading for both paper-based and online multiple-choice assessments. Instructors can skip the trip to the Testing Center by using any copier or scanner to print and scan forms from their home or office. To request access to Akindi and participate in the pilot, click the "Learn More" button below.



[Learn More](#)

Take Your Child to Work Day

On Thursday, April 24, ITS is excited to welcome your children for Take Your Child to Work Day. The festivities will feature engaging activities and games designed to inspire and entertain your child. They will have the chance to explore technology hands-on, making it a memorable experience. Then, the day will end with a sweet treat!



Submit Articles for *PursulTS*

Have you ever wondered, “Can I submit something for the newsletter?” Yes! You can! We have created a Qualtrics form for all ITS employees to submit content ideas of things they would like to share. Whether it is an event your team is planning, an award your employee received or a project update, we want to hear from you. Submit today for your chance to be featured in next month’s edition of *PursulTS*!

[Submit Here](#)

[@FSU](#)



FSU Leadership Attends ITS Town Hall

ITS staff members attended the ITS Spring 2025 Town Hall, hosted at the FSU Civic Center on April 8. The town hall featured a panel with university leaders,

President Richard McCullough and Provost and Executive Vice President James Clark, moderated by CIO **Jonathan Fozard**. Both distinguished guests shared their backgrounds and pathways to their current leadership positions before discussing their views on emerging technologies. The discussion portrayed a strong commitment to technical innovation at FSU and support of the technology professionals leading the work across campus.

ITS Baseball Outing

On April 1, ITS staff gathered for the monthly social hour at an FSU baseball game. The event saw 50 staff members and their families conversing over popcorn, hotdogs and ice-cold Coke while catching up with colleagues. The Seminoles defeated the Jacksonville University Dolphins in a close 11-10 victory. It was a fun and relaxed evening that gave everyone a chance to connect outside the office.

We Are IT



We Are IT | Meet Sathish Sundaramoorthy!

Meet **Sathish Sundaramoorthy**! As an ERP analyst, Sathish works on PeopleSoft applications. When he is not at work, Sathish enjoys spending time with his family, traveling to new places, playing pickleball and learning more about the latest trends in AI.

[Meet Sathish](#)

Welcome to ITS!

Welcome our newest team members: **Jack Parsons** and **Mark Peedin**.

Happy Anniversary!

Happy work anniversary to all the ITS employees celebrating milestone anniversaries with FSU this month.

25 Years

Patricia Van Buskirk
Christopher Hart
Charles Ogletree

15 Years

John Dingus

10 Years

Philip Kraemer
Nicholas Voran

1 Year

Sharif Alam
Ankur Navadia
James Peterson
Rachel Burns
Maxwell Hennessy
Nicole Rawson
Dorothy Morgan

Shout Outs



Transforming Education with Artificial Intelligence

FSU has collaborated with Microsoft on a range of innovative and exciting projects. Microsoft 365 Copilot and Copilot Studio are just two of the Microsoft AI tools available for the FSU community. Recently, Microsoft visited FSU and interviewed faculty and staff who are revolutionizing AI on campus. Chief Information Officer **Jonathan Fozard** detailed how rapid the change of technology is in higher education and how—while funding is limited—FSU tries to make the most out of every dollar to keep education affordable. **Rebekah Dorn**, senior director for strategy and outreach, recalled how ITS chose Microsoft 365 Copilot to lead the effort to launch an AI pilot.

[Check it Out](#)



Testing Services Manager Participates in Panel Discussion

Gerardo Díaz-Méndez, testing services manager for the Office of Digital Learning and Academic Technology, recently participated in the annual FACTA (Florida Association of College Test Administrators) conference. Díaz-Méndez was invited, along with testing directors from Eastern Florida State College and Florida International University, to join the “Building a Strong Testing Team: Leadership Training & Collaboration” panel discussion. He shared insights on reopening the FSU Testing Center to in-person proctored testing after a three-year absence due to the pandemic. He also emphasized the importance of the center for delivering essential services like exam security and test integrity.

ITS Graduates Two Staff Members from the MOR Leaders National Cohort

Congratulations to **Darla Shrum** and **Jose Rodriguez** for recently graduating from the MOR Leaders National Cohort. MOR, which coaches and empowers participants to adopt a leadership mentality, has equipped more than 90 FSU staff members to drive innovation and growth across the organization. The MOR Leaders National Cohort provides additional networking opportunities through visits to partner campuses and intensive leadership training. **Chris Cloud**, **Jeff Latimer**, **Clifford Stokes** and **Kathy Wilkes** will represent ITS in the next MOR national cohort, which commences this week.

Congratulations to Our Spring 2025 Graduates

ITS is proud to congratulate our graduating interns and employees on their Spring 2025 commencement. Please join us in celebrating all our graduates on this

incredible achievement. We can't wait to see what the future holds for you! **Mattie Animah Peasah, Brandon Beckett, Brooke Benator, Kyla Cacoilo, Jessica Contreras-Franco, Taj Dudley, Keith Faunce, Samantha Goldstein, Pranav Govindaswamy, Jason Hamilton, Ken Higgins, Sara Katsafanas, Jordan Kilday, Alexa Lowry, Madhuri Malyala, Maggie Martin-McKinnie, Mark Mayrovitz, Gavin McDavitt, Sara Mirza, Pritish Pandit, Courtney Pater, Ashari Penerton, Katherinne Peralta Laguna, Cole Pezzi, Sara Quintana, Pramodh Sairam Punjai Venkataraman, Milena Shakhnazaryan, Jonathan Sprinkle, Lauren Strickland, Hayden Therrell, Ethan Villa and Elyse Walcott.**



"I'm grateful to be part of the ITS team and to have opportunities... to share what I do. Being able to contribute to the department and see the impact of our work has been really rewarding."

Cole Plympton, IT Support Technician, Athletics Department

Count IT

8,566,337

total recipients of 1,043 FSU-generated emails since the start of 2025

Join IT

Join our team! Browse IT [job openings at FSU](#).



[Web Administrator](#)
[Stimulation Specialist](#)
[IT Manager](#)
[Systems Administrator](#)

Calendar



**Take Your Child
to Work Day**
04/24



**ITS Social Hour
@ Horizons Bar
& Grille**
04/29



**FSU Spring
Graduation**
05/03



FSU

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Questions?

We are here to help. Contact the ITS Service Desk at 850-644-4357 or its.fsu.edu/help.

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