

Candidate for Chair

Daniel Benjamin
American Public University, Charles Town, WV USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Masters, Regional Engineering College, 1977, Electronic Instrumentation.

Professional Experience:

Department Chair, Information Technology; American Public University, Charles Town, WV, 2006 – Present;
VP for Academic Affairs (3 Masters in IT Degrees), Rockwell University, McLean, VA, 2005 – Present;
Academic Dean and President (3 Masters in IT Degrees), Rockwell University, McLean, VA, 2001 – Present.

Professional Interest:

Using Collaborative Technologies to Enhance Cognition;
Cognitive Processing of IT Educational Information;
Enterprise Databases (published a book with McGraw-Hill);
Enterprise Applications (published J2EE book with Element-K Pr);
The Effectiveness of Online Learning.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

PMP and Member, Project Management Institute, 1992;
Member, Association of IT Professionals (AITP), 2007;
Member, IEEE, 2007.

STATEMENT

As Chair, I would like to pursue the following:

1. Membership: Increase membership in SIGITE and enhance member participation.
2. Academic Repute: Enhance the respect for IT as an academic discipline through research, pedagogy, and the body of knowledge.
 - a. Research: Promote a mindset of research
 - b. Pedagogy: Improve respect for the discipline by infusing more educational theory into IT education.
 - c. Body of Knowledge: Capitalize on the momentum established by our predecessors on developing IT curriculum and body of knowledge. We need to take this to the next level and make them a national standard for IT education.

3. National IT Infrastructure: The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) designated IT education as an essential tool to protect our nation's critical IT infrastructure. We should leverage the momentum generated by this directive to enhance the role and respect of IT education.
4. Industry Certifications: Influence the assessment standards and the certification of IT industry certifications. The reputation of these certification companies affect the employers' perception of IT education at large.