

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY LEADERSHIP TEAM



WHAT IS A BILT?

The BILT (Business and Industry Leadership Team) consists of executives and technicians, from both large corporations and small companies, who understand the current and future state of the IT industry nationally and what skills will make graduates employable. Keeping curriculum current with business world demands is one of the best ways to get students jobs.

In an engaged BILT, employers co-lead college programs by...

- participating in a forum to share trends with other business leaders in a neutral, non-proprietary environment
- using a structured and repeatable process to update the knowledge, skills and abilities (KSAs) businesses want workforce-ready grads to have 12 to 36 months into the future
- influencing the creation of a pipeline of skilled future job candidates
- developing relationships with local high schools, community colleges, and universities preparing those future employees

WHY JOIN A BILT?

The National Convergence Technology Center (CTC) finds that getting business and industry to actively co-lead, rather than just advise, a program's focus and curriculum produces positive results for students.

BILT members have the unique opportunity to...

- widen the pipeline of right-skilled job candidates
- interact with other key IT leaders nationally

The table below shows how the BILT model differs from traditional advisory boards.

Advisory Board	Business-led BILT
May only give advice	Co-leads
Annual KSA* suggested	Annual KSA* required
May "rubber stamp" existing program	Actively helps faculty improve program
May only meet just once a year	Meets at least three times a year
If advice is ignored, commitment may be eroded	When advice is valued, commitment is boosted
May not be highly invested in success of the program	Feels ownership of the program

* Knowledge, skills, and abilities update



This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under Grant No. 1700530. Any opinions, findings and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.