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Message from SIM

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Message from the SIM Chief Executive

We strongly support the collaboration between SIM academic leaders and SIM IT industry leaders. The partnership between academic leaders and practitioners provides a dialogue which will generate talent for the IT workforce, a top priority for IT leaders. You may be interested in several initiatives within SIM:

The IT Trends Study Webinars are being hosted by academic leaders and are going well. The Cybersecurity briefing was facilitated by Keri Pearlson, MIT, and Chris Maurer, University of Virginia. The Data Analytics webinar was hosted by Russell Torres, University of North Texas, and the CIO briefing was facilitated by Tony Gerth, University of North Texas and Susan Malisch, SIM Chicago Chapter Leader and Loyola University.

The SIM National Executive Retreat will be held at the Ritz Carlton in Amelia Island, SC on November 14, 15, and 16, 2021. The retreat will bring together Chapter Leaders and cross-connect IT professionals in progressive sessions organized around Key Themes, including digital marketing, CIO leadership, and IT workforce issues. The IT workforce theme is of particular relevance to academic leaders and will include topics such as equity inclusion, pipeline development and talent acquisition.

Reports from the Subgroups:

Cybersecurity Group: The team has now gained 125 responses from the Cybersecurity Skills Survey and will be gathering additional responses from future meetings in South Florida, Tuscon, Chicago, and Houston. We hope to have 200 responses by June, 2021.

CIO Leadership Group: The team has organized CIO Roundtables in the SIM Phoenix Chapter and the SIM Chicago Chapter. Dan Mazzola, Chris Maurer, Degan Kettles, and Mark Taylor facilitated the Roundtable in Phoenix; and Susan Malisch and Tony Gerth facilitated the Roundtable in Chicago. Future Roundtables in several Texas Chapters (Austin, Dallas) are in the planning process.

Altogether, academic leaders are making a valuable contribution to SIM professional activities. The SIM Best Paper Award, which draws research that impacts practice, is being announced this month and will provide an opportunity for academic researchers to partner with IT industry leaders to develop case studies which address “real world” issues and best practices.

If you are interested in learning more about SIM academic activities, please contact Mary Sumner at msumner@siue.edu.

Mark Taylor, SIM CEO

SIM - Society for Information Management