

# Association for Management Information Systems



Indiana University of Pennsylvania  
2017 – 2018 Annual Report  
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# Table of Contents

Executive Summary and Overview .....	1
Professional Development .....	3
Career/Internship Recruiter Events .....	3
Tech Week .....	5
Membership and Socialization.....	7
Fall Recruitment .....	8
Membership Socials .....	8
Project Management .....	9
Project Management Institute .....	9
Project Management Speakers .....	10
Fundraising.....	11
Bake Sale .....	11
Community Service.....	12
Hurricane Relief Fund .....	12
Communications .....	13
Weekly AMIS E-Mails & Dynamic Calendar .....	13
Social Media Usage.....	13
GroupMe Instant Messaging.....	14
Chapter Operations .....	15
Organizational Structure .....	15
Officer Transitioning .....	17
Metrics & Demographics.....	18
Membership .....	18
General Meetings .....	18

## Executive Summary and Overview

The Association for Management Information Systems (AMIS) is organized and operates through the Eberly College of Business and Information Technology (ECOBIT) at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP). This chapter was one of the founding chapters of AIS and was first introduced by Dr. Micki Hyde to serve as an open forum for MIS students to collaborate outside of a classroom setting with fellow peers, faculty, alumni and MIS majors in the field. In AMIS we focus on our four pillars: Professional Development, Community Service, Fundraising, and Social. We hold several events for each pillar throughout the year. We held many different events including Recruitment Events, Fundraisers, Food Drives, and multi-purpose Social Events.

With every year that we head into, we are presented with new challenges that test our chapters creativity and drive. The absolving of the Project Management Club back in 2016 gave us a new forefront to face, which was successfully set with a sturdy foundation through the Fall of 2017 into the Spring of 2018. More opportunities were given to our members with this action and they have already benefitted from it already, that being our membership into the Project Management Institute which connects our members into a wider range of connections than ever before.

Throughout the beginning of the Fall going into the Spring, our chapter has been in a phase of self-development, with the focus of recruiting more members into our association. Compared to other members of AIS around the world, we do have somewhat of a low number ranging from the low 30's to 40's, but this year we have held strong with membership retention and plan to increase from our current 31 to around 50 next full year. With that being said, even though we are on the low-side with numbers, we still give our members the greatest opportunities to be as successful as possible. Including the new field of Project Management that we are still diving into, we gave our members the chance to become close and familiar with representatives of major business in the area ranging from PNC Banking, BAYER Pharmaceuticals, PITT-OHIO Supply Chain, Highmark Health Solutions to smaller local business like Jarus Technologies Self Service Solutions, and WebpageFX Digital Marketing. Brining students and peers closer with each other as well as faculty and these professionals throughout different events and mediums is something that our chapter succeeds at every year.

These said events will be categorized by first the areas of priority this full year: first Professional Development, second Membership/Socialization, third Project Management, fourth Fundraising, and fifth Community Service. Following those categories, each event will be set forward beginning with the first event of the year descending by date. Other areas of our chapter will also be discussed after.

## Professional Development

The main aspect of giving our members the opportunity to meet with representatives with businesses is one of our strongest points and has been our strongest point for a long time. Holding most of these events in the Fall semester is an overlaying strategy of ours which gives our members the chance to land an internship. An internship is required for graduating with an MIS degree from IUP, therefore, we see it fit for focusing heavily on this point.

### Career/Internship Recruiter Events

During the Fall 2017 semester, we've had a total of four recruiters from businesses come into our organization to present what their company is about and then afterwards connect with our members. A special event to start off this semester was the presentation by PNC Banking presenting a segment called "Letters to Myself" where 4 kind female representatives of came to the ECOBIT to speak about their stories and the increasing roles for women in the fields of business and information technology. This was a special event due to the unison of our AMIS chapter and the Women's STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)



*Dr. Hyde as well as PNC Reps and AMIS Members at the "Letters to Myself" Presentation*

organization here at IUP. Both our organization and theirs worked together in joint force to plan, logicize and advertise for the event. Events that followed consisted of AMIS members only, to prevent any confusion to these business representatives. Companies such as consulting firm AC-COY presented for multipurpose of internships as well as advice on interviews and resume building. Larger businesses followed with meetings with our chapter. These included BAYER Pharmaceuticals



*BAYER Representatives, Andy Selker and Members Chad Mosesso and Indranil Lingyat at the Recruitment Presentation.*



*AMIS Members and Dave Wunderley from PITT OHIO after his Presentaiton.*

where preceding President of AMIS and current employee of BAYER came in to speak about the importance of an internship and how he transitioned from an intern into an employee at that company. PITT OHIO was the next company to come in and speak to our chapter about opportunities at their company who specialized in supply chain and logistics. After all these meetings with representatives, opportunities such as internships and possible future positions were discussed face to face between the reps and our members, usually involving some Dominos or Papa John's pizza.

During the Spring 2018 semester, we focused on giving our members the opportunities of becoming familiar with more local companies, which usually lacked size, but made up for it in opportunity. We started this semester off with the visit from Jarus Technologies which is located in nearby Greentree, PA. Members were given a presentation by speaker and representative Brandon Yusko, who talked about the company's role of application development in the area. Mylan Pharmaceuticals also stopped by and spoke with our members about their company as well as WebpageFX Digital Marketing. One special event was a presentation given by one of our member's fathers. Thomas Tomosky, father of our current VP of Communications, spoke about his career transition being a neuro-scientist into a computer science role specializing in artificial intelligence and machine learning. Thomas gave some insight to the opportunities out there for those who are in the field of MIS and Computer Science.

## Tech Week

Tech Week is an important annual event that we have at AMIS. This Spring, we held our 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive Tech Week where AMIS holds four innovative technology related presentations. Through the four days of Monday, March 26<sup>th</sup> to Thursday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, we held these presentations. On Monday, we had members who specialized in PC Building display their computers in the atrium of ECOBIT

where they spoke about the pricing and specifications of their rigs. On Tuesday, our Tech Week head, Jed Reese held a Robotics Workshop in a nearby dormitory's resource room. At this event, Jed facilitated the participation of attendees with small robotics presented by MIS professor Dr. James Rodger. Our own Dr. Micki Hyde also presented on Robotics. Wednesday, the renowned YouTube channel "Holo Herald" <http://theholoherald.com/> agreed to live-stream and do a live question-based session with AMIS through the Discord messaging app. Paul and Erik of the HoloHerald first carried on a presentation about the history of VR/AR/MR and then discussed about the near future acceleration of the technology and the industries it can potentially discuss. On Thursday, I presented to an interested audience about history of Blockchain, incorporating its popular use in recent cryptocurrency movement. I also spoke about the enormous amount of industries that Blockchain technology will disrupt, which was followed by an in-depth discussion with Department Head Dr. Pankaj and professors Dr. James Rodger and Dr. Hyde.



## Membership and Socialization

As stated in the summary and overview, our chapter is throttling our involvement in Membership. This full school year, we saw eight of our members graduate, and three international students leave for relocation. This created a small void in our membership, which we plan to fill in the upcoming semester with additionally double the numbers. Another reason why we want to focus on membership is because of the fourteen juniors we have. Large classes can create voids; therefore, this is another reason why we are moving towards a general recruitment focus next semester. Our dues are set at \$25 per semester or \$40 for the whole year, it is up to the member to decide which they want to utilize. As a smaller chapter and program within our college, membership development is consistently one of our greatest challenges. Bigger events like Tech Week are another way we get our name out there because they usually require more publicity which is always great for trying to attract new members. In addition to our normal Membership Recruitment activities like Department Orientation, IUP Day, and Undecided Business Majors Event, we held several other recruitment events over the school year.

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## Fall Recruitment

The Fall semester is crucial for gain of membership. We held multiple events outside of ECOBIT where our members conversed with invited MIS majors to play cornhole and eat pizza with ambient music. Since ECOBIT is close to the dormitories at IUP, there were many freshmen who were attracted to these events; which is who our target was. These types of events were done sometimes in unison with fundraisers for our chapter and community service projects which helped show potential members the importance of these AMIS pillars.

## Membership Socials

Throughout the full year, we have fostered an environment for strengthening friendships and unity in our chapter. We see it to be one of our main pillars because if there is no unity, there is no progress throughout an organization. Something we do every semester, which is a major semi-annual event is a LAN Party. If you are not familiar with the term, a LAN Party is when you link several computers or gaming consoles together to play multiplayer video games locally. We make sure that we hold these each semester so that our members can learn about setting up a Local Area Network. LAN Parties are our most popular social events. Other events consisted of “family dinners” usually held at our Social Chairman’s house. We also met multiple times over the full year for movie nights.

## Project Management

Over the two years that we have held their club under our ranks, we have received membership from over 7 Management Majors seeking the fitting mix between MIS teachings and core management teachings since they go together well. During the Fall Semester, our second Vice President of Project Management, David Brison worked with members of our MIS Department including Dr. James Rodger and Micki Hyde to create a stable basis for the absolved ECOBIT club of Project Management. Dave made connections that would last over the Winter going into the Spring of 2018 to setup key events for the section of Project Management.

## Project Management Institute

The Project Management Institute (PMI) unison with AMIS sparked another opportunity to join our chapter. PMI advances careers by improving organization success in project management through globally recognized standards, certifications (including the PMI and CAPM certifications), and networking opportunities which we can now give to our members of AMIS at a student discounted rate of \$40 per student compared to \$129. Members Neal Weaver and David Brison attended PMI meetings in Johnstown as well as Pittsburgh to



network and learn about different management skills throughout March and April.

## Project Management Speakers

One of the main proponents to AMIS's acceptance into the PMI, was Dan Strazizar. Dan came to present at the end of February about careers in project management by giving a backstory about himself and his career followed by the many different options people have through management certifications. Following the presentation, he announced that our chapter was eligible for the PMI discounted membership. Later that Spring, we had one more speaker. Louis Martina from Highmark Health Solutions talked about his extensive career in project development and then went through a presentation about his career in IT/IS and Project Development going back through past projects he has done, integrating the Agile Methodology being used in these projects.



*Louis Martina visit and presentation on Agile Methodology with David Brison*



## Fundraising

As one of the smallest AIS Student Chapters, AMIS has to raise our own funds for our activities and trips. We do not receive funds from ECOBIT due to our small school. We also are not large enough to receive donations from corporate sponsors. AMIS receives some funds from our members paying dues that are either \$25/semester or \$40 for the whole year. We make up the difference by holding fundraising events throughout the year including events like our bake sale we had in the Spring.

### Bake Sale

One of the easiest and most successful fundraisers that AMIS holds every year are bake sales. Our members make homemade baked goods or purchase some baked goods and donate them to AMIS. This way AMIS makes nothing but profit with our sales. We held one bake sale Spring over the week of our Business Day in ECOBIT. The baked goods were mostly made up of brownies, however there were was a handful of cookies for sale.

## Community Service

It is very important to us as a club to give back to our wonderful community of Indiana, PA and IUP. ECOBIT is also very involved around the community and encourages its clubs to be active around the community as well. AMIS Members are required to have two hours of community service per semester, whether that be community service through AMIS events or other community service. Community service this year had a great deal of concept ideas that we have been working on to refine for the upcoming school year. Some of these ideas include large operations to get the community of Indiana together using the basis of technology. We are excited to show you what we have in store for the next full year!

## Hurricane Relief Fund

Due to severity of Hurricane Irma and then later Hurricane Harvey, the service committee canned in multiple locations across campus (Both ECOBIT entrances, the hub, North Dining Hall, Oak Grove) from 1PM – 3PM to collect money for the Texas Diaper Bank. Our chapter Raised over \$350 to send down to the Texas Diaper Bank that provided babies and elderly with supplies needed after/during the hurricanes of the Fall.



*Vice President of Communications Neal Weaver and President Chad Mosesso taking part in the Hurricane Relief Fund at IUP Day.*

## Communications

### Weekly AMIS E-Mails & Dynamic Calendar

One of the most important parts of any organization is reliable communication. Therefore, we make it a top priority to get our information out to all of our members and the MIS department as soon as possible. We hold our officer meetings on Mondays, where we discuss our plans for the next few weeks. On Tuesday, our Vice President of Communications sends out an email to all our members on what is going on for that week and weekend. Our VP of Communications also has the Communications Committee to help with updating our various social media accounts and hanging flyers around campus. One new improvement that we have installed into our communications grid is the dynamic Google Calendar. We can use this to invite our current members to only view our calendar, so they can be updated on the go.

### Social Media Usage

AMIS uses the most popular social media sites such as Facebook (IUP A.M.I.S.) and Twitter (@AMIS\_IUP). IUP also has its own social media site for campus organizations known as CrimsonConnect. One of the Vice President of

Communication's primary tasks is to make sure that all these services stay up to date with all of our upcoming events, accomplishments, notifications, etc. It is up to the VP of Communications to delegate tasks to members of their committee as well.

## GroupMe Instant Messaging

With the way the world is today, there is no time to waste when sending out communications. Many times, our members do not have time to read our weekly emails. This is where Instant Communication comes in. AMIS uses the mobile application known as GroupMe to communicate to our members instantly. This way we can alert members of cancelled events or changes in location. We also use this application to post our events for our members. This allows our members to RSVP to each event whether they are going, not sure, or not going. We can also set each event to send out reminders for each event before they start.



## Chapter Operations

### Organizational Structure

#### Executive Board

- President
  - Presides over general and officer meetings
  - Establish and foster positive relations with other relevant organizations
  - Conducts long term organizational planning
  - Evaluates officers' progress toward their goals
- First Vice President
  - Implements and manages the organization's activities and services
  - Maintains routine contact with President and stand in when necessary
  - Parliamentarian
  - Serves as ex-officio member of standing committees
- Vice President of Communications
  - Responsible for all communications of and between members of the organization, the IUP community, the community at large, and the AISSC
  - Serves as the chair of the Communications Committee
- Vice President of Project Management
  - Responsible for working with Project Management Professors and students to organize teams for competitions
  - Attends PMI meetings in Pittsburgh
  - Serves as the chair of the Project Management Committee
- Secretary
  - Records the activity of every General and Officers' meeting through detailed meeting minutes
    - Must send General Meeting minutes to the membership post-meeting
  - Coordinates with the VP of Communications to handle all communications to be filed with university and other student and professional organizations

- Responsible for all communications with guest speakers and/or other professional contacts for plant tours, etc. This includes Thank You notes
- Treasurer
  - Responsible for maintaining and reporting accurate records of the organization's financial status (both internally and to external entities such as COBSAC)
  - Promotes fundraising activities
  - Assists other officers in determining budgets for events and preparing the budget for funding proposals

### **Committee Chairmen**

- Fundraising Chair
- Professional Development Chair
- Social Chair
- Community Service Chair
- Membership Recruitment Chair

## Officer Transitioning

We hold officer elections about halfway through spring semester for the following academic year. This gives the current officers plenty of time to train the incoming officers regarding their new roles before all of the new officers are thrown into the deep end without a lifeguard. This also allows the incoming officers to attend the AIS Student Chapters Leadership Conference in the Spring, where they can learn more about being an officer and learn about how other chapters run their organizations. This way should any questions/problems arise, the member who held the position before them is still there to guide them through it. Passwords to all AMIS related accounts are passed on to the incoming officers so they already have a head start on preparing for their terms as the leadership. What is arguably the most important piece of material to get transitioned is the username and password for the AMIS Google account which provides access to the shared calendar, drive, and email account that are the center of everything that AMIS does. Without this, AMIS would cease to exist as we know it.

## Metrics & Demographics

### Membership

AMIS had around 31 members during the school year of 2017 – 2018.

Year	Membership 2017-2018
Freshman	13%
Sophomore	22%
Junior	35%
Senior	29%

### General Meetings

We held 15 weekly general meetings this academic school year from August through May, with an average member turnout of approximately 19 members.

