

*IT Leadership Launchpad Series:  
Transforming Real-World  
Challenges into Triumphs*

# Breaking Down Silos: Communication Strategies that Work

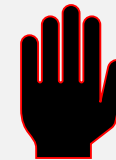
September 24, 2024



Host: Deb Kidwell,  
Director of Technology  
Initiatives, MHEC



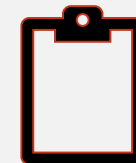
Any resources available  
will be posted on the  
MHEC website post-event.



Raise your hand, let's  
make this interactive.



OR submit your  
questions in the chat.



Please complete our  
survey.

# Learn More - MHEC Technologies Community

- The Technologies Community engages IT innovators and specialists from services areas for technology, academia, students, and administration. The community provides strategic guidance to MHEC on technology-related topics in support of the mission of higher education institutions and states in the Midwest.
- Navigate to: <https://www.mhec.org/tech-community>
- Contact Deb Kidwell to get involved: [debk@mhec.org](mailto:debk@mhec.org)

# *Conveying the Value of Information Technology*

- A peer guide to IT governance, highlighting IT's strategic role in institutional success
- Special thanks:
  - **Dirk Huggett**  
Assistant CIO, Administration  
North Dakota University System
  - **John Rathje**  
Vice President for Information Technology and  
Chief Information Officer  
Kent State University



# Facilitator



**Dr. Chet Strebe**  
*Vice President of Business and  
Technology*  
Northcentral Technical College

# What we'll accomplish today



- Explore communication strategies that work across diverse campus stakeholders.
- Workshop real challenges and develop actionable solutions.
- Enhance your ability to "translate" IT's value to non-technical audiences.

# Why Communication Matters



Effective communication breaks down silos and builds trust.



It ensures that IT initiatives align with institutional goals.



Clear communication enhances collaboration across departments.

# Common Challenges



Misalignment between IT and academic departments.



Difficulty in translating technical benefits into strategic value.

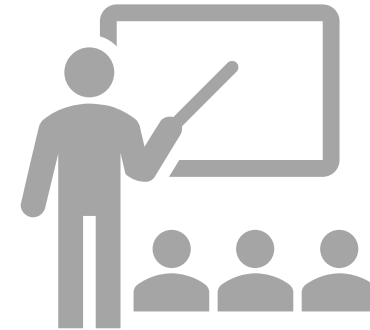


Overcoming skepticism about IT investments.

# Let's Discuss



Challenge 1: Translating IT's  
Value to Senior Leadership



Challenge 2: Engaging Faculty  
with New IT Solutions



# Share Your Challenges



What are your toughest communication challenges.



What are potential solutions and strategies.

# Communication Strategies that Work



Tailor your message to your audience.



Be transparent and build trust through open dialogue.



Use stories and examples to make technical concepts relatable.

# Other Things We Learned Today



Effective communication is key to breaking down silos and driving IT success.



Always align your message with the strategic goals of your institution.



Use real-world scenarios to practice and refine your communication skills.

# Your Mission if You Choose to Accept IT

1

Identify a current communication challenge in your role.

2

Apply the strategies discussed today to address it.

3

Share your results in the next session.

# Thank You!!!

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Next Session:

Culture Club: Navigating Your  
Institution's Unique Landscape

Date/Time:

10/08/2024 1:30 CT