

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

Agility Bootcamp: Fostering Innovation in Times of Change

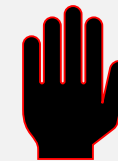
October 29, 2024



Host: Deb Kidwell,
Director of Technology
Initiatives, MHEC



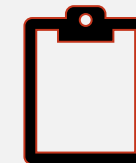
Any resources available
will be posted on the
MHEC website post-event.



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

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



Michelle Rakoczy
Associate Director
Infrastructure and Operations
University of North Dakota



What We'll Accomplish Today: Adaptability, Collaboration, & Creativity in IT

- **Objective:** Explore how IT departments can leverage adaptability, collaboration, and creativity to thrive in a dynamic higher education landscape.
- **Today's Focus:**
 - **Understand the Core Principle:** Discuss the definition and importance of adaptability, collaboration, and creativity in the context of IT in higher education
<https://bit.ly/ValuePropITHigherEd>
 - **Explore Real-World Challenges:** Analyze scenarios inspired by the sources, including cybersecurity threats, legacy system transitions, and funding opportunities.
 - **Generate Creative Solutions:** Brainstorm and share innovative approaches to the challenges presented in the scenarios.
 - **Identify Actionable Takeaways:** Determine how to apply the principles of adaptability, collaboration, and creativity to your own work and institutional context.
- **Discussion Ground Rules:**
 - Respectful dialogue and open sharing of ideas.
 - Active listening and engagement from all participants.
 - A willingness to challenge assumptions and consider diverse perspectives.

By embracing adaptability, encouraging collaboration, and unleashing creativity, IT leaders can innovate, solve problems, and thrive in an ever-changing world.



Adaptability



How can IT departments become more adaptable to the ever-changing technological landscape in higher education?

Collaboration

How can IT departments better collaborate with other departments on campus to address student needs and achieve institutional goals?



Creativity

How can IT departments encourage a culture of creativity and innovation?



Paper Scenario



The "Administrative Challenge": DBA Retiring

- How can adaptability, collaboration, and creativity be used to address a staffing shortage?

Scenario: The Cybersecurity Threat

Situation: A new cybersecurity threat emerges, targeting higher education institutions. The threat is sophisticated and rapidly evolving, and there is limited information available about how to mitigate it. Your team discovers that a critical system has a previously unknown vulnerability, and there is no patch available yet.

- **Discussion:**

- Who are the essential collaborators outside the institution to involve in addressing this threat?





Scenario: The Legacy System

Situation: A critical software system used by the institution for many years is reaching the end of its life. The vendor is discontinuing support, and upgrading to a new system will require significant changes to workflows, data migration, and user training.

Discussion:

- How can the IT department collaborate with users across campus to ensure a smooth transition and minimize disruption?



Scenario: The Funding Opportunity



- **Situation:** A major foundation announces a grant opportunity focused on using technology to improve student success in a specific academic field. The grant application requires a collaborative proposal involving multiple departments and demonstrating an innovative approach.
- **Discussion:**
 - How can the IT department adapt its existing resources and expertise to align with this specific funding opportunity?

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

- ✓ Breaking Down Silos: Communication Strategies That Work
 - September 24, 2024, 1:30 p.m. CT
- ✓ Culture Club: Navigating Your Institution's Unique Landscape
 - October 8, 2024, 1:30 p.m. CT
- ✓ Agility Bootcamp: Fostering Innovation in Times of Change
 - October 29, 2024, 3:00 p.m. CT
- Connecting the Dots: Holistic Approaches to IT Challenges
 - November 12, 2024, 3:00 p.m. CT
- Hidden Gems: Maximizing Your Current IT Assets
 - December 10, 2024, 3:00 p.m. CT

Questions?



Michelle Rakoczy
North Dakota University System
Michelle.Rakoczy@NDUS.edu

