

ASANTÉ Q. BARR, ED.D.

CHIEF INFORMATION (IT) OFFICER

QUALIFICATIONS PROFILE

A visionary leader and accomplished professional with a history of success in leading strategic IT initiatives, optimizing technology infrastructures, and driving digital transformation for schools/universities.

Demonstrated aptitude for achieving operational excellence through implementing ingenious IT solutions, developing innovative business strategies, and implementing new technology programs to attain cost savings, increased efficiency, and improved productivity. Expert at developing and executing IT strategies to enhance competitive advantage and support organizational growth, leveraging emerging technologies to drive innovation and business value. Reputed as a servant leader skilled in leading cross-functional and multidisciplinary teams, fostering collaboration, and empowering staff to deliver high-performance results and exceptional customer service. Proficient in establishing and maintaining robust cybersecurity programs, mitigating risks, and ensuring data protection and regulatory compliance. Adept at managing complex IT projects from conception to completion, focusing on delivering projects on time and within budget. Well-versed in vendor management, contract negotiations, and procurement of technology solutions, optimizing resource allocation and maximizing ROI, and recognized for the ability to drive change and lead digital initiatives that enhance customer experience and deliver competitive advantage.

DOMAIN OF EXPERTISE

Strategic IT Planning & Execution	IT Project Management	Stakeholder Relationship Management
Digital Transformation & Innovation	Cybersecurity & Risk Management	Team Leadership & Talent Development
IT Governance & Asset Management	Budget Management & Financial Control	Business Process Optimization & Automation
Enterprise Infrastructure Management	Vendor Management & Contract Negotiations	Organizational Leadership & Development
Active Learning Principles: Focusing on Andragogy & Pedagogy	ITIL Methodologies	Evidence-based Researcher & Practitioner

SALIENT ACHIEVEMENTS

- Successfully led the implementation of a comprehensive IT transformation strategy, resulting in streamlined processes, increased efficiency, and cost savings.
- Reduced time-to-fill for critical roles by 30% and built a high-performing technology team by revamping IT talent acquisition strategy.
- Improved IT service delivery: Streamlined processes and implemented new tools, resulting in faster response times, higher customer satisfaction, and reduced downtime.
- Achieved a 25% reduction in IT operational costs and increased agility in scaling resources through spearheading a successful cloud migration initiative.
- Enhanced cybersecurity posture: Implemented security measures that reduced the risk of breaches and data loss, protecting sensitive information and ensuring business continuity.
- Established and maintained robust cybersecurity programs, ensuring data protection, mitigating risks, and maintaining regulatory compliance.
- Mitigated several attempted breaches and safeguarded sensitive end-user/stakeholder data and university assets by implementing a comprehensive cybersecurity program.
- Cultivated a culture of innovation that led to multiple patent applications and the development of a disruptive new product by establishing an R&D lab.
- Implemented comprehensive onboarding and training procedures for various stakeholders across RBHS to enhance organizational efficiency and user adoption.
- Enhanced student experience by increasing wireless network speeds in public spaces, lecture halls, and labs, improving connectivity and productivity campus-wide.
- Headed the integration and rebranding of the Office of Technology Services and the Office of Instructional Design into the Department of Networking, Telecommunications, and Educational Technology (DoTNET).

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- Negotiated favorable contracts with technology vendors, optimizing resource allocation and maximizing return on investment (ROI).
- Modernized legacy systems: Upgraded outdated technology, resulting in improved performance, reliability, and scalability.
- Orchestrated the integration of cutting-edge technology solutions, enhancing the organization's IT infrastructure and positioning it for future growth.
- Received recognition from executive leadership for outstanding leadership and contributions to the organization's overall success.

PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY – RUTGERS BIOMEDICAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES (RBHS), NEWARK, NJ

Deputy Chief Technology Officer &

Associate Dean of Infrastructure, Integration, & Academic Pedagogy

Jun 2020–Present

Devise and oversee robust technical architecture that supports RBHS initiatives. Led integration of technology and instructional design across eight RBHS schools by managing all technical operations for distance learning and instructional computer technology. Transform administrative applications, networking, data, and technologies to align with the university's mission, leveraging leading-edge technologies and best practices. Conducted performance evaluations and executed personnel actions to drive peak productivity and performance, recommending salary actions, promotions, and other personnel activities. Identify and assess requirements and schedules for preventive maintenance for system hardware, operating systems, and peripherals to ensure up-to-date critical system patches.

Transformative Outcomes:

- Achieved strategic and tactical planning, development, evaluation, and coordination of information and technology systems for the school's IT infrastructure, driving impactful technological initiatives.
- Established effective governance structure: Implemented policies and procedures that improved decision-making, risk management, and regulatory compliance.
- Provided expert oversight to IT and data governance processes for RBHS, leading project and program management activities and developing strategic roadmaps in collaboration with University IT governance chairs.
- Instigated onboarding and training procedures for various stakeholders throughout RBHS.
- Transformed the student experience by providing lightning-fast wireless speeds in all public spaces, lecture halls, and labs.
- Implemented single-sign-on (SSO) to bolster security across multiple RBHS IT systems, ensuring data integrity and access control.
- Steered and directed multiple IT teams within RBHS to deliver superior system support and maintain an accessible, sustainable, secure, compliant, reliable, and cost-effective IT infrastructure.
- Designed and integrated PollEverywhere & Kahoot! technologies to promote Active Learning pedagogy and gamification, enriching student engagement and learning outcomes.
- Strategically formulate and oversee the technology budget, effectively distributing resources to priority initiatives.
- Fostered a new culture of customer service excellence within RBHS IT, nurturing stronger relationships and collaboration between IT personnel and university stakeholders.
- Led the successful implementation of innovative technology solutions to streamline operations and achieve strategic goals, specifically:
 - *Developed and piloted tailored software solutions to address the school's unique needs.*
 - *Optimized technology systems and workflows to enhance end-user productivity and efficiency with computer hardware and software.*
 - *Revamped technology platforms for an enhanced customer experience.*
 - *Orchestrated the introduction of innovative technology solutions at RBHS, empowering IT professionals and staff with the skills and knowledge needed for successful implementation.*
- Recommended and implemented complex system hardware upgrades/modifications, executed forward-thinking system enhancements/transitions, and managed system backup procedures, restoration plans, and disaster recovery strategies.

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY – SCHOOL OF NURSING, NEWARK, NJ

Associate Chief Information Officer &

Assistant Dean of Telecommunication, Instructional Design & Educational Support

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Jan 2017–Jun 2020

Orchestrated the operation of information technology and instructional design across the School of Nursing throughout three campuses in New Jersey, overseeing the implementation of technology-related strategies and initiatives. Oversaw

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developing and maintaining enterprise-level information systems, optimizing distributed and centralized clinical and business operations. Championed end-user experience by introducing new technological platforms and maintaining high-performance technological infrastructure, ensuring system security and efficient backup procedures. Managed IT-related projects in collaboration with department chairs, program directors, and faculty, implementing assessment programs and courses to meet School of Nursing assessment requirements.

Transformative Outcomes:

- Acquired consistent service levels across various campuses by coaching IT leaders, ensuring seamless operations and customer satisfaction.
- Led the school's instructional design and technology services, overseeing staff comprising full-time, part-time employees and student workers.
- Fostered a culture of continuous improvement and innovation within the IT department, leading to heightened productivity and performance.
- Improved IT service delivery: Streamlined processes and implemented new tools, resulting in faster response times, higher customer satisfaction, and reduced downtime.
- Maintained 99.9% uptime for critical systems: Proactively monitored and addressed potential issues, preventing outages and ensuring high availability of essential IT services.
- Developed and delivered training sessions for stakeholders: Educated users on new software and hardware, improving their technical skills and productivity.
- Created knowledge base articles and tutorials: Developed helpful resources that empowered users to troubleshoot common issues and resolve problems independently.
- Collaboratively managed IT projects alongside department chairs, program directors, and faculty while developing assessment programs and courses to effectively meet the School of Nursing's assessment requirements.
- Led the seamless integration and rebranding efforts of the Office of Technology Services and the Office of Instructional Design into the Department of Networking, Telecommunications, and Educational Technology (DoTNET).
- Directed the DoTNET team to foster a collaborative environment and promote innovative approaches to technology integration.
- Reduced average ticket resolution time by 30%: Streamlined troubleshooting processes and implemented efficient solutions, resulting in faster response times and improved customer satisfaction.
- Interacted with centralized IT Services, administrators, and faculty to identify, acquire, and sustain hardware and software solutions for instruction and assessment.
- Evaluated technological advancements to identify competitive advantages, positioning the organization at the forefront of educational technology.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA – SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES, PHILADELPHIA, PA

Director & IT Senior Project Leader for Public Computing & Multimedia Services

Nov 2011–Dec 2016

Directed centralized software image deployment, provided support for public computing servers, and managed instructional technology. Led hardware and software acquisitions to drive new initiatives and improve existing systems and applications. Collaborated with other IT departments to ensure network security and compliance with established principles, policies, standards, procedures, and guidelines. Leveraged technical expertise to design customizable software packages, oversee critical server communications, and generate budgeting reports. Orchestrated the seamless planning, installation, configuration, testing, and implementation of the IT systems environment to optimize functionality and operational efficiency.

Transformative Outcomes:

- Provided expert oversight to IT operations, supporting over 1,000 users across 12 buildings with exceptional service and reliability.
- Successfully migrated over 1000 users to a new operating system: Planned and executed a seamless transition to a new OS, minimizing user disruption and ensuring a smooth upgrade process.
- Streamlined user onboarding process: Implemented new procedures and tools that made it easier for new employees to acclimate to their IT equipment and software.
- Conducted impactful training sessions on best practices for maintaining public computers, resulting in improved performance and reliability of IT resources.
- Attained significant enhancements in departmental productivity, risk mitigation, and customer satisfaction through successfully executing process improvement initiatives.
- Facilitated workshops to educate staff on optimal procedures for maintaining public computer systems.

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- Implemented a new backup and recovery system: Designed and deployed a reliable backup solution that reduced the risk of data loss and enabled faster recovery in case of disasters.
- Streamlined and optimized Windows and Mac OS administration as primary administrator, contributing to enhanced system stability and performance.
- Implemented efficient image management strategies using Symantec Ghost Solution Suite and DeployStudio, resulting in standardized and reliable classroom and laboratory setups.
- Performed regular maintenance on 25 servers: Implemented updates, patches, and security measures to ensure optimal performance and protect against vulnerabilities.

PRIOR PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

DREXEL UNIVERSITY - IRT DEPARTMENT, PHILADELPHIA, PA

Assistant Director and Computer Imaging Architect for Cabrini College ITR

DELAWARE STATE UNIVERSITY, ACADEMIC COMPUTING OFFICE, DOVER, DE

Lead Computer Technician for ACO Help Desk

SCHOLARLY PRACTITIONING

SAINT JOSEPH'S UNIVERSITY, PHILADELPHIA, PA

Adjunct Professor, *Computer Information Sciences, Management & Teacher Education Leadership* Jan 2021–Present

Led the development of comprehensive and engaging curricula for graduate and undergraduate students in teacher education, computer science, and information systems, incorporating cutting-edge research and best practices.

- Designed and delivered dynamic course content, incorporating various instructional methods and materials to promote student engagement and deep understanding of the subject matter.
- Fostered an active learning environment through lectures, discussions, group activities, and hands-on exercises, ensuring students developed critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

CHESTNUT HILL COLLEGE, PHILADELPHIA, PA

Academic Advisor and Visiting Professor, *Computer Science & Information Technology* Jun 2010–Jun 2014

Created rigorous and relevant coursework in teacher education, computer science, and information systems, ensuring alignment with program goals and accreditation requirements.

- Adapted teaching methods and materials to meet students' diverse needs and learning styles, employing lectures, discussions, group work, and technology-based tools to enhance learning outcomes.
- Utilized various instructional techniques, including presentations, demonstrations, and simulations, to create a stimulating and practical learning experience for all students.

ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS

Doctor of Education in Higher Education and Postsecondary Education | SAINT JOSEPH'S UNIVERSITY, PHILADELPHIA, PA

Master of Business Administration | GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY, PHOENIX, AZ

Master of Science in Organizational Leadership | GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY, PHOENIX, AZ

Bachelor of Science in Information Technology | DELAWARE STATE UNIVERSITY, DOVER, DE

Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems | DELAWARE STATE UNIVERSITY, DOVER, DE

INDUSTRY CERTIFICATIONS

Cisco Networking Academy Certification	Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA)	CompTIA A+ Certified Professional	CompTIA Net+ Certified Professional
CompTIA Security+ Certified Professional	ITIL Foundation Certification	ITIL Master Certification	Quality Matters: Teaching Certification
Quality Matters: Online Course Instructor & Facilitator Certification	Microsoft Certified Professional (MCP)	Microsoft Certified Solutions Expert (MCSE)	Microsoft Certified System Administrator (MCSA)
Microsoft Certified Technology Specialist (MCTS)	Project Management Professional Certification (PMP)	Six Sigma Black Belt Certification	

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Microsoft Expert Level: Desktop Infrastructure - Microsoft Expert Level: Enterprise Devices and Applications - Microsoft Expert Level: Server Infrastructure - Microsoft Associate Level: SQL Server - Microsoft Windows Academy