



COLLEGE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

A Note From College Leadership

Autumn leaves are falling, the night air is crisp, corn mazes are open, and cybersecurity awareness messages abound. It must be October again! Since 2004, October has been recognized by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the National Cyber Security Alliance as National Cybersecurity Awareness Month.* This year, WGU was designated by the National Cybersecurity Alliance as a Cybersecurity Awareness Month Champion. We are promoting the 2020 theme, “Do Your Part. #BeCyberSmart,” through a myriad of internal and external activities, including partnering with the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce to provide a public awareness video.

This year’s focus is on securing internet-connected devices, otherwise known as the Internet of Things or IoT. This growing collection of consumer, professional, and industrial devices expands the realms of comfort and automation while simultaneously creating potential vulnerabilities thanks to the devices’ remote access connections. IoT manufacturers are challenged to securely source components, reliably encrypt communications, and program robust security functions into constrained operating systems. Consumers can minimize the threat of compromise by following these two, simple routines:

- Immediately change the device’s default administrative username and password, and
- Ensure the device is regularly updated with the most recent software version

Consistent application of these two practices will help you Do Your Part. #BeCyberSmart

*(National Cybersecurity Alliance, 2020)

Sign up to
refer a friend!



Introducing WGU's New Refer-a-Friend Program!

WGU recently launched a new Refer-a-Friend program! By signing up you can receive your own referral link to share via text, social media, email, and just about anywhere. Plus, you'll get a gift code to redeem at the WGU Online Store for every friend you refer that requests more information from WGU. Sign up today to refer your friends and family!

[SIGN UP](#)



WGU Honors WGU Grad Shayne Moore with Mural

WGU unveiled a mural of Shayne in Philadelphia by artist Eric Okdeh. The piece is a part of the "Role Model Murals" project — a series of murals by local artists across the U.S.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Industry News



Using Data Analytics in Communication

Using data to tell a story and support an argument at the same time is a skill that can sometimes be hard to come by. This article provides a case study and outlines the steps that you can take to include data analytics to

tell a more compelling story during your next presentation.

[READ MORE](#)



Phishing Attacks Are More Successful During Pandemic

We've heard it on the news: email phishing attacks are on the rise and are seeing success during the COVID-19 pandemic. This is never good, and organizations are at risk. Read on to learn more about what the GreatHorn 2020 Phishing Attack Survey uncovered and areas that your team should be keeping an eye on.

[READ MORE](#)

Stay Involved

Introducing new WGU alumni email signature stamps!

Enjoy this new way to share your Night Owl pride! Email signature stamps can be downloaded and added into your personal email signature. [Check them out.](#)

P R U D
WGU ALUMNI

Share Your Story

Everyone loves a good success story—including your family here at WGU! Help inspire future students by sharing your story



for the chance to be featured on the [WGU blog, alumni website](#), or other marketing materials. Take a few minutes to fill out [this short form](#) to share it with us!

SHARE NOW

Apply to Be a WGU Alumni Ambassador

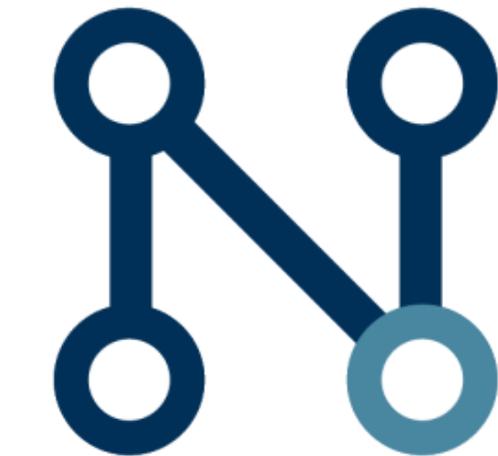
Do you consider yourself WGU's biggest fan? Then [join the WGU Alumni Ambassadors!](#) This is a leadership opportunity for alumni who are dedicated to representing the university. Members share their time and experience by engaging with potential students, current students, and other alumni. Click [here](#) to learn more and apply.

APPLY HERE

WGU 
ALUMNI
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Join the Night Owl Network

It's often said that success is as much about "who you know" as "what you know." Earning your degree helped you hone what you know. The [Night Owl Network](#) can help you expand who you know. Join the [Night Owl Network](#), an exclusive professional community of WGU Night Owls from around the world!



Carry the Night Owl Network with you in your pocket by downloading the app from the [App Store](#) or the [Google Play Store](#).

Other Articles We Think You'll Like



- [Cybersecurity Risk Management Takes On a Whole New Meaning—The Risk Might be in the Boardroom.](#)
- [What Does the E.U. Cybersecurity Act Mean for the U.S.?](#)
- [The 2020 IT Project Manager and How the Role Has Changed](#)
- Watch this short 10 minute TED Talk titled [“The Cost of Work Stress—and How to Reduce It”](#) presented by Rob Cooke.

WGU Has Partnered with Practice Labs

WGU has partnered with IT competency hub Practice Labs to give IT grads discounted access to their live Practice Labs. These are live virtual labs—not simulations—connecting to real devices and accessible straight from your web browser.

Some example topics:



Digital Literacy



Cybersecurity



Computer
Forensics



Programming



Operating
Systems



Networking



Server
Management



Troubleshooting

This special WGU discount represents more than 50% off any Practice Lab product/s, including the full library (Practice Labs Unlimited), individual Practice Labs, certification bundles, topic packs, or sandboxes. [Learn more.](#)

CLAIM YOUR DISCOUNT

Capstone Excellence Awards

Capstone Excellence Award Recipients | Biannual Report

The WGU Excellence Program is proud to recognize the 56 students who received the prestigious Capstone Excellence Award from February to July 2020. These culminating capstone projects must meet strict criteria for excellence, and reflect one or more of the following attributes: ingenuity, mastery, or synergy for the greater good. Capstone Faculty Evaluators nominate deserving capstone projects, followed by a two-step Evaluation Management review process for approving the finalists' work. See additional criteria [here](#).

The [Biannual CEA Awards- Recipient List](#) (8-20) shows by college the WGU graduates who received the Capstone Excellence Award for their work. You can also link from the report directly to the Evaluator's nomination statement and archived work in the [Capstone Excellence Archive](#), accessible with your WGU login.

Please join us in celebrating the success of our most recent Capstone Excellence Award

recipients as they begin a new season in their careers as distinguished WGU graduates. For questions please email excellenceawards@wgu.edu.