

## **Agile v. Traditional Panel**

On Tuesday, November 13, 2018, Eastern Business Information Systems students and members of the ECSU BIS AITP Student Chapter gathered in the Library Johnson Room to discuss, compare and contrast the use of Agile and Traditional methodologies in biz-tech project management. The students were joined by the Business Information Systems (BIS) Program Coordinator, Dr. Alex Citurs and Professor Rodriguez who is a part time faculty member in the BIS Program and works at General Dynamics as a Senior Engineer – Performance Monitoring in charge of IT initiatives to support manufacturing.

The panel started with a discussion of some common causes of project failures and then gave students a refresher on what the two general methodology approaches (Traditional and Agile) entail. The panel continued by going through the 12 principles of the Agile Manifesto. For each point, Dr. Citurs and Professor Rodriguez broke down the meaning of each Agile Manifesto principle, and how it compares to aspects of Traditional methodology. Additionally, Eastern BIS and CS students who have worked in business and technology positions shared their experiences working in the Agile and Traditional environments. Thus, through discussion and presentation, the general perspectives and experiences from current students, alumni, and panelists were shared on Traditional and Agile approaches from project experiences at Accenture, Aetna, Cigna, Ernst and Young, Pfizer, Travelers, and other organizations.

The panel ended with a vote between the two methodologies that resulted with approximately a tie. The general consensus at the end of the panel sessions was that while many companies are moving towards Agile, Traditional development still has its place for certain types of projects.