BIS/AITP Alumni - Rafael Rodriguez on Adaptive vs Production and Other Aspects of Agile Project Management - Audio Session

On Thursday, February 6th, 2020, both BIS students and BIS-AITP Student Chapter members attended an audio session between the BIS 437 - Rapid IT Development Management class and Rafael Rodriguez, an ECSU BIS major alumni. Rafael Rodriguez is now a Senior Supply Chain Systems Analyst in Software Engineering at Chewy.com, the world's largest online pet supply company, located in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Rafael spoke about his experience with Agile project management and some of the latest software development trends.   He also drew upon his prior experience as a Senior Engineer – Software – IT Project Management at Electric Boat, General Dynamics as well as a Business Technology Associate, Procurement Coordinator at Pfizer here in Connecticut.

Rodriguez brought out in the session the differences in project management styles and practices used between and within Pfizer, Electric Boat, and Chewy.com. He focused on the challenges faced in transitioning new projects and products between an initial more prototyping, adaptive agile project management setting and production systems focused Agile project environments, like he was encountering at in his current position at Chewy.com. Rodriguez also discussed issues and successful strategies dealing with resistance to switching to Agile development models found in some units and cultures in a variety of organizations.

The audio session provided an inviting open forum in which students asked questions about some of the challenges and requirements involved in the various areas of project management that he has encountered at the three organizations where he has worked in project management, software development and data analysis using Agile, Traditional and a mixture of project management approaches. Several students engaged in directed insightful inquiries on various aspects and approaches to Agile Project Management with BIS alumni guest speaker, Rafael Rodriguez.