BIS-ITSA Club Fair Wednesday January 28th, 1:00-3:00pm Betty Tipton Room

BIS-ITSA Club's goal is to propel students to achieve career success in advancing their opportunities through our variety resources of resume building, mock interviews, networking events, tech info session to further push our members and into the Business/Tech industry within and across state lines. Business Information Systems (BIS) integrates technology, people, and processes to enable businesses to gather, process, store, and distribute information effectively and efficiently. Through this approach, this assists organizations in enhancing decision-making, increasing efficiency, and managing data more effectively. Despite competing with larger institutions, Eastern BIS students consistently achieve high rankings in national IT skill competitions each year and job placements. Looking ahead, the BIS-ITSA Club is working to introduce new initiatives, including resuming more community-focused tech service-learning projects and additional company visits for students such as Google.

At the Spring 2026 Student Club Fair, held on Wednesday, January 28th, from 1:00PM-3:00PM in the Betty Tipton Room of the Student Center. Several BIS E-Board members and club members were present to promote the club. Sam Hurlburt and Coleman Tandler all played a crucial role at our club table, each person taking shifts throughout the duration of the club fair. The E-Board members present engaged with students and highlighted the benefits of joining the BIS-ITSA Club, garnering over 29 signatures from interested students and collecting emails for notifying those students of upcoming events.

BIS-ITSA Employability Jump Start Wednesday January 28th, 5:30-8:00pm Webb 358 & 410

The BIS-ITSA Club hosted its first Employability Jumpstart Event on Wednesday, January 28, 2026, from 5:30 to 8:00pm in Webb Hall rooms, 358 – Faculty Lounge and 410 labs. The event drew 19 undergraduate students, who made quick work of multiple boxes of pizza and pop. The primary goal of the Employability Jumpstart is to give newer college students timely, business-technology focused guidance, support, and resources. These insights come from BIS program alumni, employers, senior BIS students, and faculty, all aimed at helping students become better prepared to interview, secure internships, and obtain full-time job offers. The event was organized into six topic-based venues. The first, held in Webb Hall 358 Faculty Lounge, focused on "Employer/Alumni QNA about the current Industry and internships" Representatives and alumni from The Hartford, and Travelers shared practical advice to help students strengthen their chances of landing internships. The next section displays four venues, which took place in the large Webb 410 study lab and were divided into themed areas: **"LinkedIn/Handshake"** (northwest quadrant), focused on building a professional presence and network

"Strategies on Courses & CLEP/DSST" (northeast quadrant), emphasizing course selection aligned with career goals

"Resumes and Job Searches" (southeast quadrant), aimed at improving positioning for internships and jobs

"GitHub, ePortfolios, & Certifications" (southwest quadrant), highlighting ways to showcase and validate technical skills.

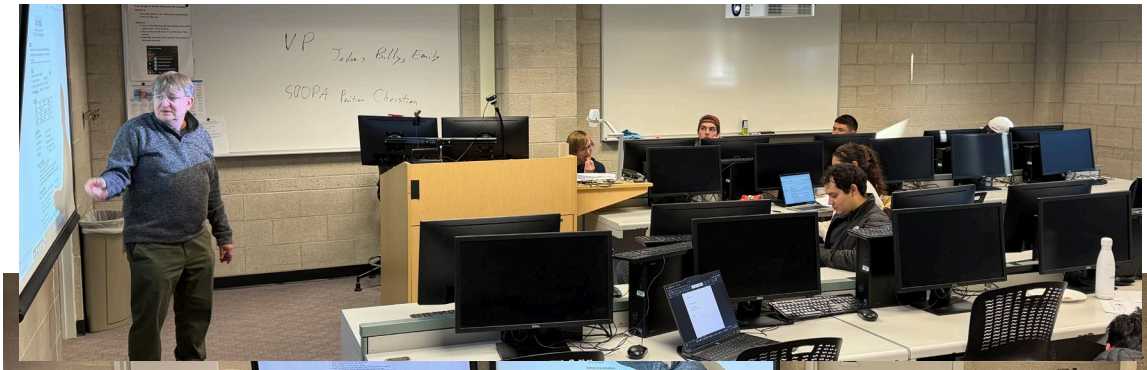
At each of these stations, teams of BIS seniors offered personalized advice, helped students set up relevant tools, and made recommendations based on their own experiences and the interests of each attendee. Feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive, with many expressing interests in seeing the event offered again next year.

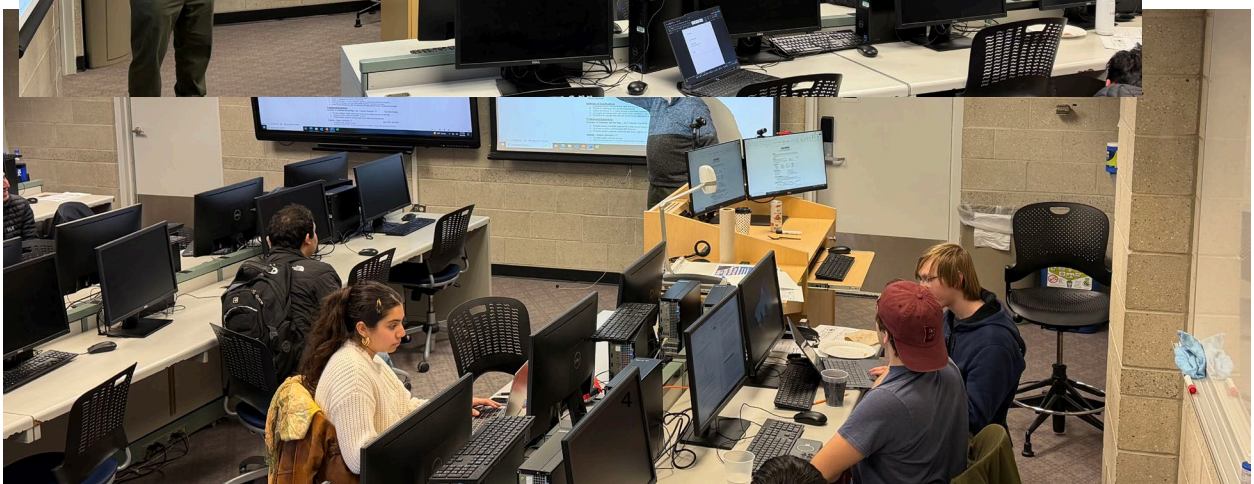
Employability
Jumpstart
Strategies Courses
Majors/Minors/Conc.
CLEP/DSST Tests

Employability
Jumpstart
GitHub &
Certifications

BIS-ITSA Resume Preparation Wednesday February 4th, 5:30-7:30pm Webb 407

On Wednesday, February 4th, from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm, the BIS-ITSA club hosted their “Resume Prep” workshop to get both members of the club, and anyone interested in the field of biz-tech a head start on how they can write a resume that both stands out and highlights the best aspects of their education. The Spring Resume Prep workshop gathered students at the intersection of business and technology. Dr. Citurs has a long history in the field of biz-tech and has fostered great connections with a plethora of major companies in Connecticut, who agree that the overall format of the biz-tech resumes from Eastern are superb. The real importance and benefits of this workshop happen a week later on February 12th, when former biz-tech alumni from different Connecticut companies visited the campus to provide feedback on the newly crafted resumes. Throughout the presentation, many valuable tips were given, some of them include: relevant skills, coursework and projects one should present on their resumes, formatting options such as modifying the margins and changing vertical spacing to fit more content on your resume, along with organizing skills and coursework into tables, then deleting the borders to give it a clean and structured look. This workshop is held a few weeks every semester, along with pizza, cookies, and pop being provided.





EXIT
EXIT

BIS-ITSA Resume Writing Workshop Wednesday February 11th, 5:30-7:30pm Webb 410

On Wednesday, February 12th, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm, the BIS-ITSA Club hosted their fall resume writing workshop. This is a follow-up event from the resume preparation workshop, which allows students to further refine their resumes and get professional advice on how to best format and present their accomplishments to employers. This event featured both company representatives and Eastern alumni, who work with several major companies in Connecticut, including The Hartford, Travelers, Arch Insurance Group, Hass Automation, and ISO New England. Those in attendance were given a unique opportunity to participate in a one-on-one session with an alumnus and receive personalized feedback on the strengths of their resumes as well as areas for improvement. In addition to this feedback, students learned key strategies for making their resumes stand out, such as using specific keywords, quantifying their work experience, highlighting business and technology skill sets, and showcasing projects from both academic and extracurricular experiences. In today's job market, where companies often receive hundreds of resumes for a single position, having a well-crafted resume that stands out from the competition is essential. The BIS-ITSA Club hosts this event each semester to provide Eastern students with a competitive edge and greater confidence when applying for these opportunities. Beyond serving as a valuable professional networking event, it also allows students to gain deeper insight into the skill sets that Connecticut employers are actively seeking for specific roles

BIS-ITSA Mock Interviews with Alumni & Reps

February 18th, 5:30-7:30pm Webb 410

On Wednesday, February 18th, the BIS-ITSA Club hosted the Spring 2026 Mock Interviews event. This event is catered towards Eastern Students with an interest in the field of Biz-Tech and hoping to sharpen their interviewing skills. The Mock Interview event featured both company representatives and Eastern alumni from several major companies in Connecticut such as The Hartford, Travelers, Hass Automation, and Mohegan Sun. Many of the alumni who were present at this event have attended this same event in prior years as students and are now frequently part of the interviewing teams for their respective companies. Thus, the questions asked, and the overall experience of the event are representative of actual interviews at these companies. This event aligns with the recent Resume Writing Workshop, as students can present their refined resumes to interviewers. The questions they face are both based on the content of their resumes and typical questions asked in Biz-Tech interviews. The interview structure mirrors the usual first-round interviews conducted at alumni companies. Students gain valuable insights into their performance and receive good feedback on how to improve their responses to certain questions. This event allows students to connect with interviewers from companies that Eastern has a good reputation with. It also gives students a safe environment to gain confidence in being interviewed, test their interviewing skills, and obtain constructive feedback. These mock interviews are held every semester in Webb 410, and along with having pizza, pop, and cookies, gives students much needed help and a boost in confidence to succeed in their interviews!

6:36

BIS-ITSA Travelers Analytics Case Competition Kickoff
February 25th, 3:00-4:00pm Webb 358

On Wednesday, February 25th, Travelers hosted its annual Analytics Kickoff, introducing students to the world of data-driven decision-making and innovative problem-solving. This event served as an opportunity for students to learn more about Travelers' case competition, an annual challenge where participants tackle real-world business problems using analytics and strategic thinking in-person at one of Travelers agencies in Hartford, CT. During the kickoff, students were introduced to key competition details, including the timeline to submit their application and an outline as to how the day would go if chosen at Travelers. If chosen, students would be in teams across different CT universities and receive help from a Travelers mentor who is skilled in certain technical applications and software.

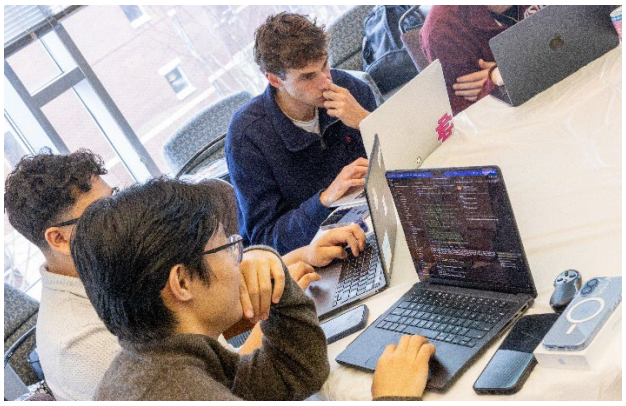
Attendees of the kickoff also had the opportunity to engage with Eastern Alumni's. Students were shown which practices and habits one needs in business insights and analytics to effectively approach the application for the competition. The event fostered valuable networking, allowing students to connect with company representatives. With business insights and analytics playing a crucial role in today's business landscape, events like this provide students with a competitive edge by enhancing their problem-solving, data analysis, and presentation skills. The Travelers Analytics Kickoff not only set the stage for the upcoming competition but also equipped students with the knowledge and confidence to excel in the field of business insights and analytics

Introductions
SUPERVISOR

participate in the annual Travelers Case Comp
Universi
Data &
Analytics
Challenge
©2026 The Trav

BIS Program Students Sweep Sparkathon!
March 7-8, 2026

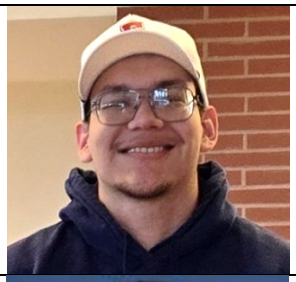
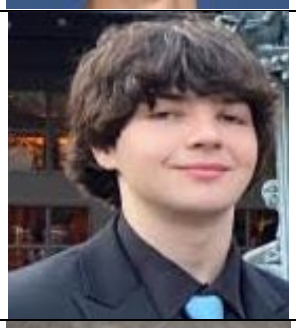
The first annual two-day Sparkathon to promote entrepreneurs and coders to create a software product that solves real world problems was held on Saturday/Sunday, March 7th & 8th. The event kicked off in Science Building Room 301on Saturday with participants using other breakout rooms on campus over the course of the weekend. Most of the students participating in it were majoring/minoring in Computer Science and/or Business Information Systems (BIS).



These individuals were tasked with building a full-stack application that could benefit users. All the participants were given Saturday to create and deploy their project ideas with the guidance of Artificial Intelligence. On Sunday, all of the participants demoed their projects in front of the Social Spark Judges, which included Raymond LaPointe, Gabriel Arevalo, Norbu Ciren, Nathan Coleman, Jordi Cassar, Jake Thompson, and Kylah Bilheimer.

The presentations to the judges were on Sunday afternoon, in Webb 110 auditorium. Each of the student contestants were given 15 to 30 minutes for their presentations, which was

followed by additional questions from the judges and the audience. After deliberation by the judges, the Sparkathon competition winners were announced. The top finishers were as follows:

1st Place **"Class Rewrite"**	**Christian Rodriguez** dual majors in BIS & Computer Science	
2nd Place **"Open Hour"**	**Joey Caruk** Computer Science major and BIS minor	
3rd Place (tie) **"Workbout"**	**Billy Heller** dual majors in BIS & Business Administration	
3rd Place (tie) **"SolarSail"**	**Alex Saranich** dual majors in BIS & Computer Science	

BIS-ITSA Club Win at the Mid-West Region 2026 Conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan

From March 25th-29th ten members of the BIS-ITSA Club (Business Information Systems – Information Technology Students of America) along with their advisor, Dr. Alex Citurs, participated in the 2026 annual ITSA Mid-West Collegiate Computing Conference (MWC3) hosted by Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids, Michigan. This year there was no National Information Technology Students of America conference (USITCC), since the ITSA national organization decided to focus and promote the regional conferences this year. Therefore, our BIS-ITSA club was invited to join the ITSA Midwest Region and attend its conference. This year's MWC3 included universities/colleges such as: Michigan State University (51,838 students), University of Iowa (31,563 students), Grand Valley State University (22,035 students), Western Michigan State University (17,605 students) etc. This year, Texas State University (44,596 students) decided to visit and attend the Mid-West regional conference this year rather than attend the Region 3 (Mid-South) conference to which they belong. The BIS-ITSA Club for Eastern Connecticut State University (4,355 Students) successfully competed and won/placed in the following five competition areas:

Data Analytics I With MS Office **First Place** Allison Kazmier and Edon Selimaj **Second Place** Gage Durate and Sam Hurlburt **Data Analytics II with Tableau** **Second Place** Emily Meagher and Billy Heller **Third Place** Alexander Saranich and Edon Selimaj **Honorable Mention** Allison Kazmier and Jacob Morales	**PC Troubleshooting** **Third Place** Jacob Morales **Data Analytics II with Excel** **Honorable Mention** Gage Durate and Sam Hurlburt **Business Solutions Using Generative AI** **First Place** Emily Meagher and Billy Heller

Overall, all our members did an outstanding job in representing Eastern Connecticut State University in a wide variety of contests against schools with at least twice to over ten times the

number of students as Eastern. Student team members feel that not only does the BIS Program teach concepts and hands-on skills for databases, systems analysis, applied business data analysis, and cloud/AI, but it also uniquely prepares them for future biz-tech careers. Connecticut employers actively seek out students that demonstrate successful application of these skillsets in real-world problem-solving situations such as displayed by the BIS-ITSA team members' results at the 2026 MWC3 conference!

All ten of the BIS-ITSA conference team members are earning bachelor's degree in Business Information Systems (BIS) along with other majors and minors. The BIS-ITSA 2026 MWC3 conference team consisted of the following ten student members:

Student	Major(s) (Concentration)	Minor	Year
Jordi Cassar	BIS, CSC		Sophmore
Gage Duarte	BIS, Fin (Invest)	BUAL	Senior
Billy Heller	BIS, Bus Adm(Mrkt)		Sophmore
Sam Hurlbert	BIS, Math (DSC)	BUAL	Senior
Allison Kazmier	BIS	BUAL ACC	Junior
Emily Meagher	BIS, DSC (BUAL)		Sophmore
Jacob Morales	BIS	BUAL	Junior
Christian Rodriguez	BIS, CSC		Sophmore
Alex Saranich	BIS, CSC	BUAL	Junior
Edon Selimaj	BIS, Bus Adm (Mgmt)		Senior

Legend:	
	BUAL- Business Analytics
	ACC- Accounting
	DSC- Data Science
	CSC- Computer Science
	FIN- Finance
	Bus Adm- Business Admin

(See more MWC3 Conference pictures next page)

Hartford Info Session Tuesday, March 31st
Webb 358

On Tuesday, March 31st, 3 The Hartford representatives: Justin Morreau (Eastern Alumni), Joe Hines (Eastern Alumni), and Sarah Bobinski presented their info session in Webb 358 Faculty Lounge which gathered around 18 students with pizza and pop provided; this event emphasized the career opportunities offered at The Hartford to the students at Eastern such as the Early Immersion Program which is a 3 day program which allows sophomore students to immerse themselves in The Hartford's work culture early on as a way to allow the students to get a headstart on networking opportunities.

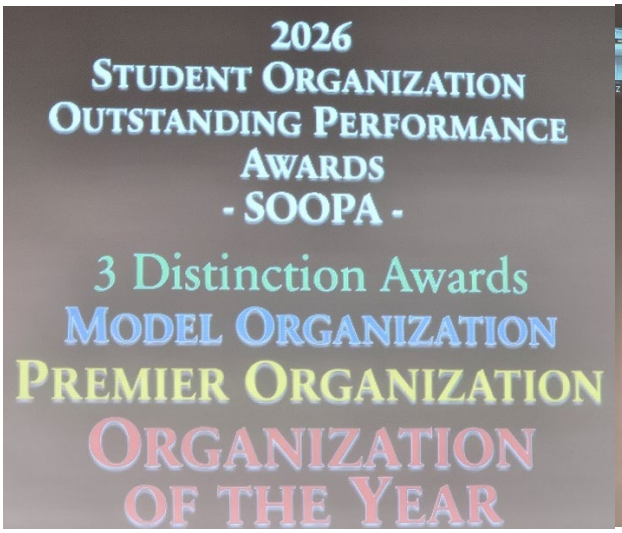
Sarah (University Recruiter) setup a panel like questionnaire for Eastern Alumni's Justin (Software Engineer) and Joe Hines (Associate in Tech and Operations) to answer a set of common questions people would ask, throughout the panel students would ask a variety of different questions such as skills in which is needed for one the stand apart from the rest when participating in such programs that The Hartford offers. The questions set up students with valuable insights on work life and flow within the company and the skillsets needed to be part of the team and what makes a potential employee valuable. Afterwards, students were encouraged (especially to current sophomores and juniors) to apply for the internship positions. Plus, with the current competitive environment, it is important for students to apply as early as possible, when given the availability.

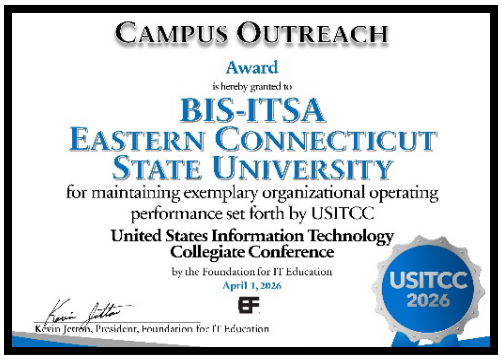
Joe Hines
ECSU '24
Tech & Operations Program
Associate

DRAPER

BIS-ITSA Club Receives - National ITSA 2026 Campus Outreach Award

On Wednesday, April 1, 2026 at 5:15 PM members of the BIS-ITSA Club gathered in Webb Hall 311 to watch and virtually attend the national Information Technology Students of America affiliate (chapter) awards ceremony. The awards were given to collegiate school affiliates/clubs for exhibiting in the calendar year of 2025 exemplary organizational operating performance as set forth by the United State Information Technology Collegiate Conference group of the Foundation for IT Education. Collectively the Student Organization Outstanding Performance Awards are known as SOOPA, consisting of three annual categories of Distinction Awards, as well as the annual awards for Model Organization Award, Premier Organization Award, and Organization of the Year. This year Eastern's BIS-ITSA received the "Campus Outreach Award" for its outstanding efforts at engaging its larger school community, alumni, employers, as well as the surrounding region. Besides resume and mock interview workshops and company info sessions, the BIS-ITSA Club, was recognized for its outreach through special events such as educational guest speakers, Biz-Tech Career Conversations (speed-dating by career area alumni), and the Employability JumpStart (upper-level students and alumni sharing insights and wisdom with First-Year through Junior students as well as other events involving non-club/BIS students and a wide range of greater ECSU and eastern Connecticut community members.





EASTERN
CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

BIS-ITSA Travelers Business Insights & Analytics Info Session Thursday April 2nd, Webb 358

On Thursday, April 2nd, from 5:30 to 7:30 PM, three representatives from Travelers Jake Cohen, Jacob Hartman, and Brandon Steen met with BIS-ITSA club members at the Webb Hall Faculty Lounge. They were joined by students from the Business Information Systems, Computer Science, and Data Science programs to discuss career opportunities at Travelers.

The representatives focused on the company's Business Insights and Analytics Leadership Development Program (BI&A LDP), which offers both internship and full-time positions. This three-year rotational program allows participants to gain experience across various areas within insurance data, including decision science, data engineering, GIS, data visualization, and business analysis.

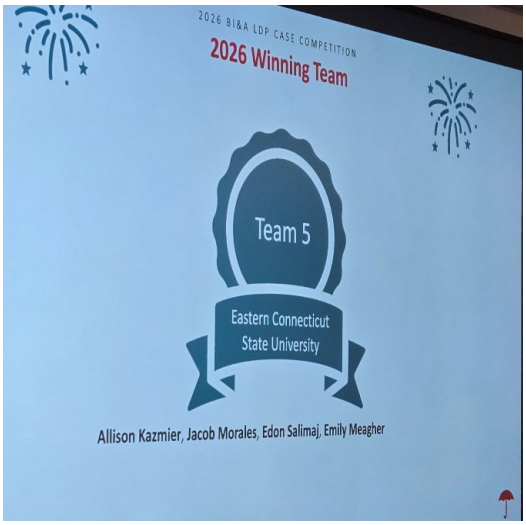
All three speakers are Eastern Alumni who have earned a degree in Business Information System as a major or a minor as well as Computer Science. Drawing from their own experiences as former interns and current employees at Travelers, they connected well with students and shared valuable insights about the program's benefits, as well as tips for succeeding in an internship.

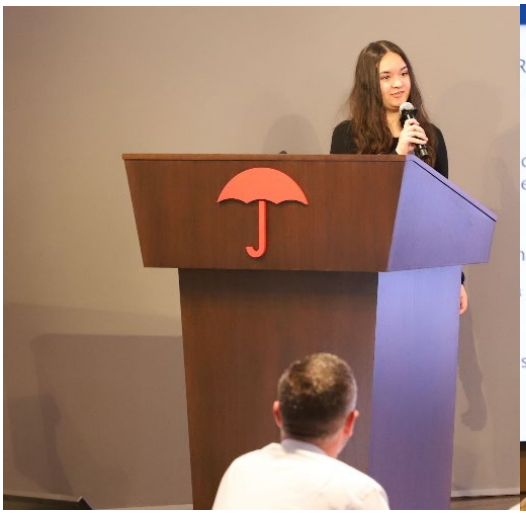
Eastern BIS Undergrad Team Wins Travelers 2026 Business Analytics Case Competition

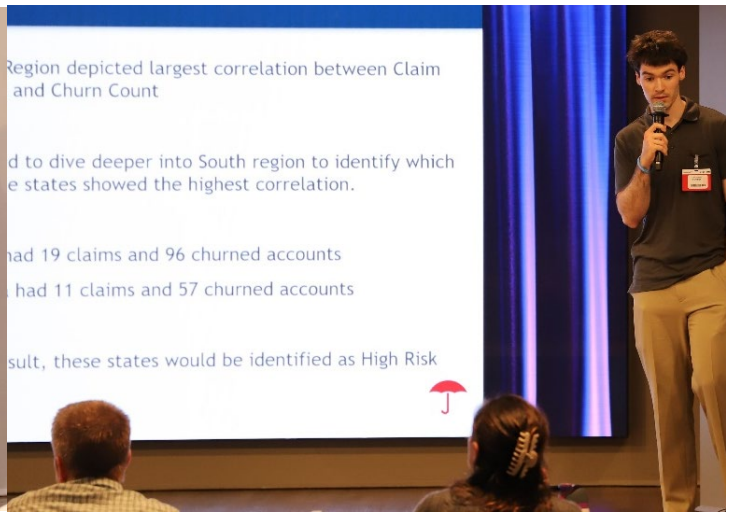
On Friday, April 3, 2026, four Eastern Business Information Systems undergraduate students won the Travelers 2026 Business Analytics case competition. They competed against five four-person teams: two team from UConn and one team each from Central Connecticut State University, University of Hartford, and Quinnipiac University. Each of the five other teams had two graduate students per team, except Quinnipiac with just one. Notably, Eastern's winning BIS team was made up entirely of undergraduate students. All four of Eastern's members are pursuing a major in BIS along with complementary second majors and/or minors. The team members were Allison Kazmier (Junior), Emily Meagher (Sophomore), Jacob Morales (Junior), and Edon Selimaj (Senior).

The daylong event was held at Travelers headquarters in Hartford. During the event, the teams were given anonymized insurance data to analyze. Based on their technical analysis, the students were asked to present their findings to a panel of industry experts. Their presentations included recommendations to Travelers' management on how to improve performance outcomes and the reasoning behind their conclusions. At the end of each team's presentation, the judges asked, clarifying and probing follow-up questions. At a networking reception late in the afternoon, Eastern's team was announced as the winner of the 2026 Travelers competition. Congratulations to Eastern's team of BIS students!!!

More pictures next page


2026 BI&A LDP CASE COMPETITION
2026 Winning Team
Team 5
Eastern Connecticut State University
Allison Kazmier, Jacob Morales, Edon Salimaj, Emily Meagher




Region depicted largest correlation between Claim
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had 19 claims and 96 churned accounts
had 11 claims and 57 churned accounts
sult, these states would be identified as High Risk

BIS-ITSA How to Have a Successful Internship Wednesday April 8th, Webb 358

On Wednesday, April 8th, 2026. BIS-ITSA held a panel discussion from 5:30 to 7:30 PM with four Eastern BIS Program Alumni on how to have a successful internship. From left to right in the picture below are alumni:

Robyn Vetterkind – earned dual majors in BIS and DSC dual major along with Business Analytics minor. She interned at both General Dynamics/Electric Boat and The Hartford and now works as Development Security Operations Engineer in the Technology & Operations Leadership Development Program.

Ariel Daniel – graduated with a Data Science major with a Business Analytics Concentration and earned a BIS minor. Ariel interned at Sherwin Williams and now works at Boehringer Ingelheim as a Senior Systems Engineer.

Logan French - earned a BIS major with a Business Analytics minor along with a major in Business Economics. He interned at The Hartford in AI and is now there as a Data Analytics with Snowflake.

Brandon Steen - graduated with a major in Computer Science and dual minors in BIS and Business Analytics. He interned at Travelers in Business Insights and Analytics and now works at Travelers in the area of Business Insights Delivery working with SQL and Qlik for data and analytics value streams.

Sam Hurlbert – BIS-ITSA Club President, moderated the event and is completing a BIS major and Business Analytics minor along with a Mathematics major with a concentration in Data Science. He will be starting at Travelers this summer in Business Insights and Analytics.

The alumni panelists shared valuable insights on methods of getting the most out of an internship and what you should retain and learn while interning. The alumni stressed that a person should not worry about not knowing everything and that if you get stuck on a problem for more than 90 minutes to ask for help. All four alumni stressed that the companies expect you to learn and gain valuable knowledge to potentially become a full-time employee afterward. The alumni brought out that at some of the companies not only

does an intern have project or unit teammates but that often interns are assigned a mentor who had been an intern at the company and may have graduated from the BIS Program.

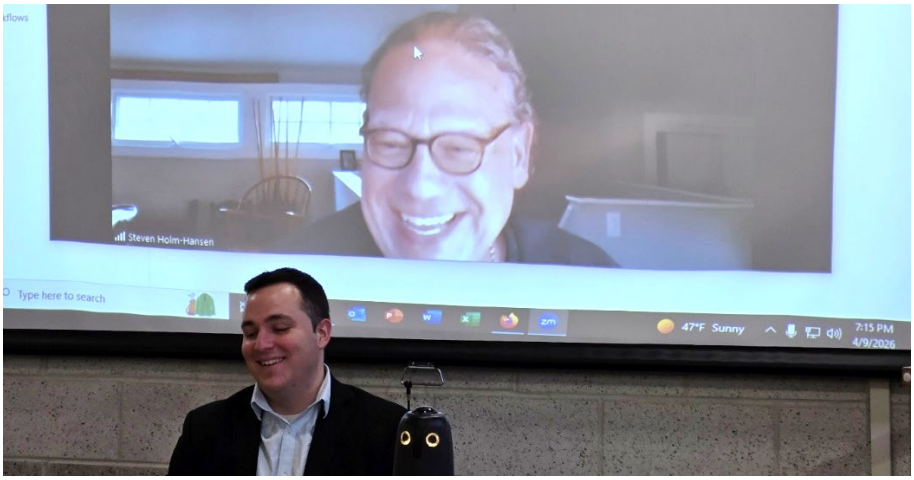
All of the alumni panelists stressed the importance of viewing an internship as if it were a 10-week to 3-month long interview. They also brought out the importance of professional networking and meeting with people within the organization to learn more about the organization and how it works as well as the business processes and technology systems. They stressed the importance of networking in a manner that is respectful of their time.

Overall, the alumni panelist stressed the importance while interning of taking advantage of and utilizing the resources available. Plus, they also urged students to find out what employers (both bosses and teammates) expect of them. Students attending the panel discussion felt that they gained valuable insights that would help them when interning.

Fintech Analytics Panel April 10, 2026

On Thursday evening, April 10th 2026, BIS-ITSA Club advisor, Dr. Citurs, and one-year appointment BIS Faculty member, Dr. Reay, organized a financial-technology (FinTech) panel as part of a Business Analytics grant speaker series. The FinTech panel consisted of two guest speakers. Greg Platosz, a Business Intelligence Manager Global Specialty at The Hartford insurance. Greg is a BIS and Finance dual major alumni. The other speaker was Steven Holm-Hansen, Vice President - Credit Risk at Synchrony. Synchrony, headquartered in Stamford is the largest provider of private label credit cards in the U.S. with $120 billion in total assets.

The speakers focused on four major themes in the answers to the questions by moderators Dr. Reay and Dr. Citurs. The first being that of what technology tools they used the most in their job roles. The most common non-AI tools used by both were SQL (extremely extensively) and MS Excel followed by PowerPoint, Python, SAS, dashboarding, pivot tables, and using agile frameworks (scrum and kanban). Both guest speakers stressed that they feel it more important to have a broad knowledge of different tools for BIS and analytics than focusing on deeper knowledge on only one tool, since that would limit students' internship and job options.



The second major theme was the growing use of generative AI and machine learning AI, along with the growing deployment of agentic AI at both organizations as well as across the finance sector. Both speakers mentioned multiple areas of their organizations adopting AI into more application settings and jobs roles. The third theme was what college learned skillsets they see as highly valuable and needed. In this area, database SQL and Excel skills top the list along with Data Wrangling skills to clean up and structure messy-dirty data mentioned by both speakers. Having agile/scrum project management skills were seen as needed by Greg, given its growing adoption for projects across the business world. Both speakers spoke of the ability to demonstrate solid problem-solving skills for complex situations, communicating effectively with people, and having good team skills as being very important. They brought out that coming to interviews as well as projects with energy, excitement as well as having done background research is something they look for when interviewing job/project-team candidates!

The fourth theme both Greg and Steve spoke to was that of the growing use of automation in structuring, cleansing, and modeling of data as well as for automating business processes and creating data pipelines. They brought out that the quality of business data models deteriorate overtime, and with changing economic conditions. This results in the need to enhance/refresh existing models as well as create new models and automate additional processes. Both Steve and Greg felt that solid foundational skills in SQL, MS Excel, PowerPoint are essential, along with the desire and ability to learn new skills and tools in cloud and AI. They both felt it was important to bring excitement to interviews, jobs, projects, and solving analytical data problems!

Connecticut FinTech and Financial Analytics related job prospects are currently relatively strong. Presently, there are 400 Financial Analyst jobs, and 1,842 financial analytics related jobs open in Connecticut, with average entry level job salaries between $55,000 to $73,000+.

For the financial industry, these FinTech analytics skills are particularly valuable, as automation and data modeling are increasingly used in areas like financial forecasting, risk analysis, investment decision-making, and or helping professionals make more accurate and efficient data-driven decisions.

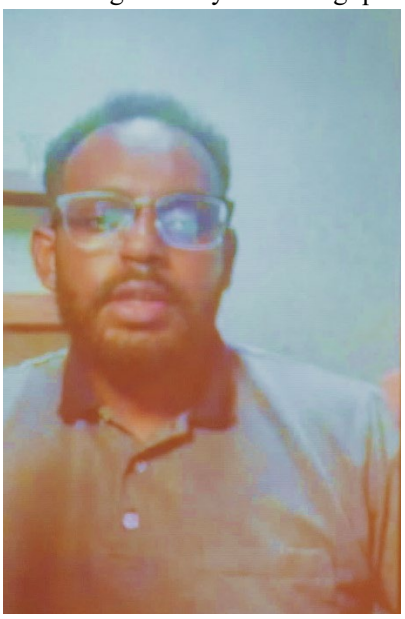
BIS-ITSA 2026 Spring Banquet May 8th

On Friday, May 8th, BIS-ITSA at 6:15 PM hosted its annual Spring Banquet to celebrate the accomplishments, contributions, and involvement of students and members throughout the academic year. The event provided an opportunity to recognize members for their achievements and participation within the club, while bringing together current students, faculty, alumni and company representatives from various industries.

The banquet was attended by more than 50 students and alumni, with alumni representatives participating from organizations such as Travelers, The Hartford, Electric Boat, XPO, and other companies. Their involvement provided students with valuable opportunities to network with professionals and learn about different career paths within the business and technology fields.

A highlight of the evening was a guest presentation from an Eastern Connecticut State University alumnus currently working at Google in the San Francisco – Silicon Valley area, Natnael Belay, Technical Program Manager – Chrome Generative AI. Nate (Natnael Belay) graduated in May 2020 with dual majors of BIS and Computer Science. Belay discussed the current business technology environment, industry trends, and the evolving opportunities and challenges facing professionals in the field. He stressed the extremely fast almost weekly rate of change and work environment due to AI. Belay stressed that students should develop not only their technical skills but also their critical thinking problem-solving and communication skills that can help them be better workers and more effectively leverage AI.

Below Left: Natnael Belay (BIS & CS 2020) – Google Technical Program Manager Chrome Generative AI.
Below Right: Belay answering questions from the audience moderated by Dr. Citurs



Natnael Belay focused in on Analytics and AI during a portion of his talk. Key aspects Belay brought out were the rapidly expanding ways that AI can help and assist with discovering, unearthing, integrating and cleansing data. He also brought out the many ways AI can assist with quickly writing computer code needed for initially developing good data analytics process flows. Nate also brought out the new ways that AI can assist in reducing the drudgework needed

for formatting and presenting data analytics visually as well as the rapidly ballooning amounts and variety of data that AI can quickly be analyzed.

Following the presentation, Nate interacted with students and faculty answered questions, providing valuable insight into careers and professional development strategies for business-technology related industries and career paths. When asked what technology skillsets and tools students should focus their learning on, Belay encouraged students to gain deep knowledge in a couple of skillset areas and tools and to acquire broad general skills in a wide variety of technology tools. Thus, Nate said this would demonstrate their ability to critically think, problem-solve, and learn as well as flexibility and adoptability to changing career/tech needs.

The event was catered by Chartwells was an Asian Buffet theme, with funding raised and obtained by the BIS-ITSA Club. The banquet created a welcoming and celebratory atmosphere for everyone in attendance. Overall, the Spring Banquet successfully brought together students, alumni, and industry professionals to celebrate the club's achievements, recognize member contributions, and strengthen connections between the Eastern BIS community and the professional world.

Above Left: Natnael speaking remotely from Google in California and answering audience questions.
Above Right: Some of the banquet audience listening Belay.

Below Left: Some of the BIS-ITSA 2025-2026 eBoard Officers receiving Certificates of Appreciation from Club President Sam Hurlburt and Dr. Citurs (Club Faculty Advisor.
Below Right: BIS-ITSA Club President Sam Hurlburt, hosting the awards ceremony program.