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The National BILTs Support Student Success

The National Information, Security, and Geospatial Technologies Consortium (NISGTC), a U.S. DOL TAACCCT Grant, has four BILTs that meet quarterly to guide the work of the consortium in four IT specialty areas: Programming (including Mobile Apps, Database, Business Intelligence), Networking and Convergence Technology, Cybersecurity, and Geospatial Technologies. The NISGTC BILT model is based on the work of the NSF Convergence Technology Center's BILT that has guided the work of that Center for over 10 years. The BILT defines the knowledge, skills, and abilities business representatives want to see in future graduates and assists the colleges in numerous ways including student recruitment and hiring, class presentations and keynotes at conferences, traditional internships, and now virtual internship/externship experiences using business mentors.

VIDEO: Click on the play button to the left



BILT Members Give Their Perspectives

VIDEO: Click on the play button below



BILT Virtual Internship and Externship

Experience gained from traditional internships benefits students by exposing them to real-world work. However, busy college students realize barriers to completing an internship, and opportunities may not be available at the time the student qualifies for such an experience. The NISGTC has developed a virtual internship/externship to help overcome these obstacles. A virtual internship/externship comprises a team of students who design a solution to a real world problem or case study under the guidance of a business mentor. The mentor interfaces with the team four to five times throughout the semester via webinar. During these sessions, the business mentor helps the students and their faculty leader to design, document and implement a solution. The experience culminates in a face-to-face business panel review of the students' presentation describing how they solved the business problem.

Meet the Students

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