Mission

Advance the state of research and practice in the development and use of information technology for enhancing the performance of individuals and organizations; provide a forum for multi-disciplinary work on issues related to information technology; promote student interest in the study of information technology; and facilitate the exchange of information between the academic and business communities.

Goals

Research
- Create rigorous and relevant IT research
- Encourage and promote IT research
- Understand, explore, and encourage multi-disciplinary perspectives toward IT and IT research
- Provide a high quality IT research atmosphere that is of a recognizable national and international standard

Interest
- Increase interest in the study of information technology
- Attract students to the field of information technology

Interaction
- Cooperate with industry to address IT issues through research and development
- Keep constituents informed of leading edge research through dissemination of information via various outlets such as seminars, working papers, etc.
- Facilitate interactions between and within academia and industry.

Founded in 1999

The ITRI focuses on improving the three P’s of developing and using information technology:
- PEOPLE involved in developing and using IT,
- PROCESS of developing and using IT and
- PRODUCTS developed or used in the development process.

Research

Research is an investment in the future. The world is driven by innovative research, which lays the groundwork for new discoveries and can focus on small problems or examine trends in the industry. This knowledge can drive the advancement of information technology and society at large. The ITRI supports many research projects and actively engages its business member organizations in projects conducted by faculty and students from the University of Arkansas.
Programs
To facilitate interaction between and within academia and industry and to increase interest in the study of IT, the ITRI conducts more than 20 programs per year. Some examples of these programs include:

- **Technology Awareness Program**: this program introduces traditionally underrepresented groups (females and racial minorities) to the field of IT. Open to high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors, this program introduces students to college life and to the field of IT by bringing them to campus for a week of intensive study.

- **Women in IT Conference**: although women comprise about 50% of the U.S. workforce, they only represent about 28% of the IT workforce. In an effort to improve this representation, the Women in IT conference focuses on issues facing women in the IT workplace. This annual conference, started in 2004, draws hundreds of participants from Arkansas and surrounding states.

- **IT Executive Forum**: each year, members of the ITRI board of advisors – comprised of IT executives from member companies – participate in a question-and-answer forum for high school and college students. The interactive session provides a unique opportunity for students to ask questions of some of the world’s leading IT professionals in an open and frank exchange.

- **Executives in the Classroom**: in an effort to expose students to the leading IT practices and companies, the ITRI hosts a number of IT executives and professionals on-campus each semester to share their expertise and experience with students in the classroom. Typically, more than 50 classroom visits are facilitated annually.

I TRI Member Companies
The ITRI exists only because of the tremendous support and interaction with our industry partners, such as:

For more information about the Information Technology Research Institute, go to: itri.uark.edu