

Dr. Cronan speech

Hi, I am Paul Cronan in the Information Systems department at the University of Arkansas. Has anyone asked you the question about what you are going to be majoring-in in college? I bet everyone is asking you that question. I just wanted to plan a few ideas. Have you considered information systems, computer technology, information technology?

So let's talk about information systems and what an Information Systems major does. A computer scientist really deals with the computer itself. Inventing the technology, they know all the details of how the computer works. At the same time, a business person management, marketing, accounting; they solve business problems. Someone has to be the go between the accountant, the manager and the computer technologist; this is an information systems person. They help solve business problems using technology, that's information systems. Now you might have heard that there are no jobs in information systems that maybe all the jobs were sent elsewhere, "off shoring" they called it. Well, jobs were sent elsewhere but I have to tell you more jobs came back and there are even more jobs because of all the technology in the world. There are many many job opportunities and they are paying quite a bit. Just to give you a little indication, the median income across the United States was \$60,000.00 for a college graduate in Information Technology. Here at the Walton College of business this last spring the average salary was \$54,000.00.

In the Walton College of Business at the Information Systems department we have world class computing facilities. Nowhere in the world can any other university say that they have the same kind of computing facilities that we have. We have an IBM mainframe that we all use, a Teradata database machine, real datasets, Microsoft Business Intelligence, Microsoft SQL server, and on and on and on; all these for our students have been given to us so that we can allow you to be the best student that you can possibly be. So think about it maybe you want to major in Information systems in the school of business, the Walton School of Business. You have any questions don't hesitate to contact me. I am Paul Cronan and you can find my email [pcronan@walton.uark.edu](mailto:pcronan@walton.uark.edu).