

# IT & ENGINEERING - FALL 2023 NEWSLETTER

BROWARD COLLEGE

## Fall 2023 - Reflection

Dear Students, Faculty, and Staff

As we bid farewell to another semester filled with growth, challenges, and achievements, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey we've experienced together. The end of the semester is not just a conclusion; it's a celebration of your hard work, resilience, and commitment to academic excellence.



- 1. Congratulations on Your Achievements:** A heartfelt congratulations to each one of you for your dedication to learning and achieving your goals. Whether you excelled in coursework, participated in extracurricular activities, or overcame personal challenges, your accomplishments have contributed to the vibrant tapestry of our academic community. I would like to acknowledge some students who have excelled in extra-curricular activities related to cybersecurity data analytics and artificial intelligence: Vanessa Amboise, Jaden Anderson, Simon Dunbar, Dashawn McCurchin, Leticia Medeiros, Christopher Minter and I also would like to thank the following for their valuable service as lab tutors and study coaches: Petar Dosev, Russell Pierre.
- 2. Gratitude to Faculty and Staff:** I extend my sincere gratitude to our exceptional faculty and staff who have worked tirelessly to create a nurturing and intellectually stimulating environment. Their dedication to your education is evident, and I encourage you to express your appreciation for the support they've provided throughout the semester. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Professor Sasha Charles-Prince to our team.
- 3. Feedback and Reflections:** Your feedback is essential to us. If you have thoughts on how we can enhance the student experience, or if you'd like to share reflections on the semester, please don't hesitate to reach out. Your input is invaluable as we continuously strive to improve.

Thank you for being an integral part of Information Technology and Engineering team. Wishing you a restful break and a joyous holiday season. May the new year bring you success, fulfillment, and exciting new opportunities.

Dr. Swaid  
Dean of IT and Engineering

# IT & ENGINEERING - FALL 2023

## GRANT EVENTS

BROWARD COLLEGE

### Project HaHa

The IT and Engineering Department has successfully implemented Project HaHa (Handson Hardware Security Education). This initiative aims to enhance cybersecurity courses by integrating hands-on hardware security education components and establishing new hardware security courses. The project utilizes the HaHa Hardware Platform, facilitating hands-on experiments. Collaboration spans across multiple educational institutions in Florida, including Florida International University (FIU), University of Florida (UF), University of South Florida (USF), Broward College (BC), Nova Southeastern University (NSU), and University of Tampa (UT). The primary objective is to expand and diversify hardware security education to address the growing cybersecurity demands in the state and nationwide. Notably, Project HaHa stands out for its use of the cost-effective yet highly integrated HaHa hardware board, emphasizing hands-on learning of hardware security concepts.

### ACCESS Title III HSI STEM Program

The ACCESS Title III HSI STEM program this past October introduced students from local community programs to cutting-edge technology and innovation during a site visit to explore a wide range of STEM activities.

This event showcased unique and insightful perspectives into the dynamic world of information technology. Students inquired how to build a career with immersive technologies and were excited to learn that it could enhance learning in any field.

At Broward College, we're dedicated to fostering student success by making college completion a reality. Experiential learning empowers multi-modal learners to find personalized niches for growth.

# IT & ENGINEERING - FALL 2023 HIGHLIGHTS & EVENTS

BROWARD COLLEGE

## PlutoHacks

A BROWARD COLLEGE HACKATHON

At Broward College, we believed in providing invigorating, team-based learning activities and events that allowed our computer science & IT students the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge, talent, and skills to our workforce partners.



We hosted our 8th Annual BC Hackathon – PlutoHacks, a 24-hour coding event where students joined a team that designed and developed a prototype mobile/web app to present to a panel of judges. This event provided a unique collaborative environment that promoted project and team-based learning and gave participants access to the most talented students.

### Clubs

The IT and Engineering Department at Broward College hosts vibrant student-led clubs that serve as dynamic hubs for collaboration and learning for all students regardless of skill level. These clubs bring together individuals with a shared interest in IT and Engineering, offering a space where members collaborate on projects, participate in insightful workshops, and benefit from excellent networking opportunities. Students find a supportive community that encourages growth and shared knowledge within the evolving realms of IT and Engineering.



Check Out the IT &  
Engineering Clubs at BC

# IT & ENGINEERING - FALL 2023 FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

BROWARD COLLEGE

## Professor Of The Year

Dr. Todd Price began his academic and professional journey as a Broward College student. He has over 20 years of teaching experience and became a full-time faculty member for the STEM-Information Technology Pathway at Broward College Online.

Dr. Todd Price believes his continuing passion and lifelong learning within the fields of education, graphic art, technology, and teaching translate to building robust learning environments that benefit faculty and students.

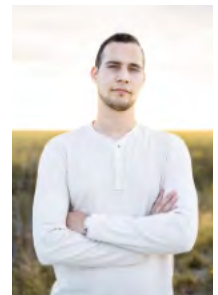


Dr. Price earned his PhD in Educational Leadership from Florida Atlantic University, an MEd in Instructional Technology from FAU, an MS in Management Information Systems with a concentration in Business Analytics from Nova Southeastern University and has also completed a graphic design program at the Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale. In 2018, Professor Price won FAU's Adjunct Excellence in e-Learning.

## Adjunct Of The Year

Alberto Rodriguez is a seasoned Information Security Professional with over 7 years of professional experience. His specialty lies in adversary detection and simulation, drawing from his extensive background as a former Cyber Operations Officer in the Army and the commercial sector.

Currently, Alberto leads a team of highly skilled hackers as a Managing Security Consultant (MSC) at Guidepoint Security and shares his expertise with aspiring professionals at various institutions around the United States.



Alberto holds a graduate degree in Digital Forensics from Champlain College and an undergraduate degree in Information Technology from Broward College. He also holds several industry-recognized certifications, including Offensive Security Certified Professional (OSCP), Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), and GIAC Certified Windows Security Administrator (GCWN).

# IT & ENGINEERING - FALL 2023 FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

BROWARD COLLEGE

## New Permanent Full Time Faculty

Sasha Prince is a passionate Professor of Computer Science who has a deep-seated love of teaching. She has been inspiring and educating students for over 8 years. Professionally, she is in her 10th year as an active Software Developer.

She believes that computer science has the potential to empower individuals from all walks of life and is committed to fostering a future where technology is accessible and beneficial to everyone.

Welcome Prof. Prince!



## New Temporary Full Time Faculty

Professor Stevan Stankovic joined the STEM IT and Engineering Pathway the Fall of 2022 as Full-time Temporary Assistant Professor at our North campus, having served as Adjunct Faculty since the Fall semester 2019. As an instructor he states, "I believe that every student is unique and that there exists a stimulating educational environment and set of practices where students can achieve their full potential and maximize their chances for success."

Welcome Prof. Stankovic!

## New Permanent Full Time Faculty

Assistant Professor Ricardo Vargas advanced to full-time regular Assistant Professor with the Online campus Fall 2022. He had served as a full-time temporary instructor for three years prior. With over 30 years of full-time experience in IT and network administration, and 22 years of teaching at Broward College, Professor Vargas brings valuable real-world experience into the classroom.

Welcome Prof. Vargas!



# IT & ENGINEERING - FALL 2023

## HIGHLIGHT: AI INCUBATOR LABS

BROWARD COLLEGE

In 2022, Broward College has joined forces with AACC, DELL, and INTEL in a collaborative effort aimed at enhancing the curriculum, enriching faculty expertise, and delivering career-focused assistance to students. This strategic partnership brings forth supplementary educational materials to augment the BC Data Analytics program, empowering students to cultivate proficiencies in data analytics, machine learning, and AI modeling. As a part of this collaboration, valuable technical guidance, faculty development, and mentoring resources have been extended to both students and faculty members, facilitating a comprehensive learning experience. Moreover, the partnership supported establishing AI Incubator lab at North campus and another AI lab at Central Campus.

### AI Incubator North Campus

The North Campus lab is equipped with a total of 30 state-of-the-art machines dedicated to student use. These machines are equipped with advanced hardware and software, enabling students to work on a variety of AI projects, ranging from machine learning and deep learning to natural language processing and computer vision. Each machine is configured to meet the computational demands of AI development, ensuring that students have the resources they need to implement and test their ideas effectively.



### AI Incubator Central Campus

Situated within the Central campus, the AI Incubator Lab stands as an advanced establishment meticulously crafted to provide immersive hands-on encounters within the realm of artificial intelligence. The lab boasts an array of 25 state-of-the-art machines, each exclusively allocated for student utilization. Outfitted with cutting-edge hardware and software configurations, students are empowered to engage in diverse data analytics and AI projects encompassing machine learning, deep learning, natural language processing, and computer vision.

