

About BIS

The Business Information Systems Co-operative (BIS) Program was established in 1989. Its structure is unique, as organisations and businesses within the State play a major part in its management. Graduates complete both a Bachelors and Masters degree in Business Information Systems, after having spent significant time undertaking real-world projects in partner organisations. The Program is designed to meet industry needs, and is regularly reviewed to maintain industry relevance.

2009 Awards Ceremony

Each year industry partners recognise student achievements and qualities via generous awards: most outstanding 3rd year and Masters Student awards, leadership award and team player award. These awards are presented on an annual awards night where students are able to get recognition and network with key people in the industry. These awards are extremely valuable to the students — prestige, something for the résumé and a generous prize. Thank you to our sponsors for their on-going support of the BIS Program.



Most Outstanding Student in Masters Year:
Awarded by **Fujitsu Australia** to **Ashley Crouch**



Most Outstanding Student in 3rd Year:
Awarded by the **Australian Computer Society** to **Dean Semler**



3rd Year Leadership Award:
Awarded by **EDS/HP** to **Allisyn Ramm**



Best 3rd Year Team Player
Awarded by **Adelaide Bank** to **Andrew Sandford**

ABB Grain

“During my placement at ABB Grain I created three policies for the Business Processes and Information Systems (BPIS) business unit, a Due Diligence Framework, Project Execution Guide and Incident Management Policy. I found the entire experience extremely valuable and learnt a great deal about the IT industry and the business environment.” — **Haylee Adams**

Adelaide City Council

“BIS has challenged me to become a better student and to develop relevant skills that I will use throughout my working career. Whilst challenging, my industry project at the Adelaide City Council opened my eyes to a world outside of university and I look forward with optimism to tackling my further two placements.” — **Michael Haydon**

Air Warfare Destroyer Alliance

“My final placement for the Program was with the AWD Alliance. It was a fabulous opportunity to experience the complex environment of a multi billion dollar project. The work I completed and mentoring I received from my placement manager Katrina Burzynski has proved invaluable for my first year after university.” — **Chris Eaton**

“Our group consulted the Air Warfare Destroyer Alliance project’s ITIL program. As well as learning to push through the pain of reading the ITIL suite, we learned a lot about how to operate in a group situation, and were each able to grow as productive group members. The AWD Alliance approved our recommendations.” — **Marian Hackett**

“My experience of the group placement at AWD would have to be the most valuable one of the BIS Program. The fact that we were in groups, and going through a lot of the issues that would be experienced in life after the Program, made it the most helpful in terms of self development. It also was a way to experience the different aspects of project management, and how to successfully work in a team environment which is a key requirement for all businesses in the world today.” — **Andrew Sandford**

APA Group

“**Abbas Leghari** did a great job while he was here. He will be an asset to any company that hires him.” — **Steve Nield**

“A pleasure to have supported **Simon Haan** during his placement, a valuable experience for APA.” — **Philip Totman**

“My placement at APA was an invaluable experience in the corporate workplace environment both personally and professionally. I worked in collaboration with experienced professionals in the area of project management and was lucky enough to contribute to an organisational restructure initiative. This gave me an excellent insight into the challenges of working in a dynamic environment as well as future career opportunities.” — **Simon Haan**

ASC Pty Ltd

“ASC assisted in expanding my skill set and knowledge base required to successfully manage and overcome the battles which are associated with the everyday business world. A valuable experience indeed.” — **Allisyn Ramm**

Centrelink

“**Marian Hackett** is a great ambassador for the Industry Alliance Program and we were delighted with her approach to the project, her enthusiasm and professionalism. The project was challenging enough, in our expectation of delivery of an analysis of our current methods and capabilities in software development effort estimation plus assessment of best practices. We also wanted a tool to be developed to capture estimates and retain the estimate history! Marian delivered all that was expected and more, leaving us with a tool to be deployed that acknowledges best practice and enables estimates and their iterations to be captured and used as the basis for comparing their accuracy against actual performance. This will facilitate quality improvement and efficiencies over time in our branch.” — **Keith Riley**

Department for Families and Communities

“Having chosen a change of career after a number of years in the workforce, the BIS Program not only provided the opportunity to gain a Masters level degree, but also provided opportunity to practise the skills learned in real life industry applications. This type of exposure was valuable in being able to re-enter the workforce, hitting the ground running.” — **Dean Semler**

Department of Education and Children’s Services

“In 2008 DECS participated in the BIS Program and had **Rudi Hendra Jaya** undertake an Information Security Analysis project. Rudi’s task was to review the Human Resources area’s data in light of legislation, policy and risk and propose corrections to the classifications as appropriate. We found Rudi’s work to be high quality, professional and useful and his conduct in undertaking the project could not be faulted.” — **Darrin Wallace**

“My placement at DECS was an extremely rewarding experience in which I was part of a team carrying out the Business Process Redesign and System Design Phase of the Early Years System Project. I gained invaluable knowledge regarding the complexities of system design, teamwork, communication and stakeholder involvement.” — **Kate Nelligan**

Department of Treasury and Finance

“**Andrew Sandford** worked with the ICT Services team within the Department of Treasury and Finance to develop an Information Security Governance Framework. Andrew worked closely with team members and his mentor to ensure he delivered a framework which successfully balanced best practice with practical application in the work environment.” — **Janelle Sollitto**

ETSA Utilities

“I must say it was a pleasure to have **Diego Castellanos** here as he was very professional and thorough in the work he was performing. He had a lot to gain an understanding of, which was a challenge in such a short time.” — **Geof Axon**

Justice Technology Services

“Justice Technology Services has been a proud supporter of the BIS Co-operative Program for many years. During that time many BIS students have worked on a number of our most complex projects and have never failed to add value in a positive, constructive and professional manner. The Program is an outstanding endeavour that has resulted in many many benefits to the University, students, and to JTS” — **John Roberts**

“The JTS project involved planning and implementing an internet filtering and reporting package used by 5,000 employees across five State Government agencies. **Phil Gatt** interviewed each agency and customised the package to meet their requirements. Phil demonstrated excellent project management skills and completed the project on schedule. All agencies expressed appreciation for Phil’s excellent work.” — **John Roberts**

“While at JTS, I had the task of evaluating several potential replacements for their Internet Access Management system. The Security and Audit team, along with personnel from other areas (e.g. Networks, Infrastructure and Admin) were fantastic in providing expertise and guidance where needed. Although I was there to recommend a solution that would best fit JTS and client requirements, I felt that my own growth was a key goal of theirs.” — **Ashley Crouch**

National Pharmacies

“National Pharmacies has participated in the BIS Co-operative Program for a number of years and there are wins all round. The organisation benefits from the services of bright, enthusiastic students to work on relevant business projects, the students gain necessary exposure to systems, processes and cultures that they may not have faced before, and the collective IT Industry also benefits in the medium to long term.” — **Peter Skuse**

“It was a pleasure to have **Inam Qazi** complete the assignment for us. His work, along with our internal resources, has left us with a useful workable labour modelling tool.” - **Tony Wojciechowski**

“My final Masters placement at National Pharmacies was a great opportunity to gain some exposure into private enterprise. The placement focused on assimilating business data into a graphical format which will assist managers make informed strategic decisions in a timely fashion. During the placement I was able to gain an insight into the various National Pharmacies departments, liaise with software vendors and consultants, and write a business report which will assist National Pharmacies achieve their short-term strategic goals.” — **Tim Martin**

SA Water

“Each year that SA Water has participated in the BIS Program we have been very pleased with the project delivered and the hard work of the student(s) involved. This year was no exception with **Andrew Sandford** implementing an IS Verification Manual to improve service verification after an outage or change.” — **Gavin Hedrick**

“Whilst at SA Water, **Diego Castellanos**, **Andre Kasmir** and I worked collaboratively on an internal web site initiative within the Change Management Department. As Project Manager I was able to gain new skills in leadership in the corporate environment. The group experience was invaluable as we were able to tackle all the ups and downs of the workforce as a team to reach our end goal.” — **Allisyn Ramm**

SA Health

“The BIS Program offers an excellent opportunity for students to gain industry experience with real-world projects. Hosting BIS students, such as **Sarah Grevins**, has provided a wonderful opportunity, from our perspective as the industry partner, for mentoring students, fostering a culture of learning within our own organisation, and building partnerships with the university sector.” — **Katherine Baldock**

UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide

“The ongoing partnership with the BIS Program benefits UCWA, the Uni of SA and importantly the students. It provides us with opportunities and resources to explore IS issues within our organisation that we may not cover by other means. All projects have a practical outcome and are often incorporated into the work being done by the UCWA IS department. Over the years UCWA has had many students, the most recent ones being **Tristan Williams** and **Stefan Nagy**” — **Peter Coulson**

Allan Baird

Manager Industry Alliances

This year the BIS Co-operative Program turns 20. This is an amazing achievement and a tribute to the many students who have graduated with IS qualifications as well as the unstinting support of our industry sponsors. Our students can now be found in many parts of the world as well as right across Australia engaged in a wide variety of professional roles. A great part of the success of our students is having completed their industry placements during their studies at UniSA. Therefore, it is very clear that without our sponsors, the success of the Program and indeed the success of our students would not be a reality.

The blending of enthusiastic talented students and highly supportive sponsors makes this Program unique to UniSA and for that matter any other university in SA - and leaves the student with a memorable experience whilst at the same time adding value to the sponsor. I hope that we can continue to grow the Program with more students and sponsors as we head into our 21st year - turning out some of the best professionals in the business.



Introducing Malcolm Pattinson

Program Director



I am involved in teaching in the area of information security and related topics such as IT governance, IT evaluation, InfoSec metrics and information risk management. My current research looks at various types of end-user behaviour and the resultant impact on the security of computer systems. I have been an active member of ISACA for many years which has provided a unique 'bridge' between academia and the Adelaide Chapter during this time. I am a member of the Australian COBIT development workgroup responsible for developing COBIT 4 and also a member of IFIP TC11 Working Group 11.1 – Information Security Management.

I continue to liaise and consult with the business community not only to keep up-to-date but also because it complements my academic activities and makes for better publications and presentations.

Dr Chris Nettle

Industry Alliance Program Manager

I have been closely involved with the BIS Co-operative Program over many years and in many capacities: industry partner, member of various support committees, Chair of the Board of Studies, Program Director, Course Coordinator and Course Manager. I am firmly convinced of the value of the Program as WIN-WIN-WIN: Students win by getting valuable skills and experience not always available in other degrees, Partners win by having high quality work performed by students on placements, and the University wins by developing strong ties with industry.

The relatively recent downturn in the ICT industry may well result in some significant changes on the UniSA side of the partnership, but there will always be opportunities for graduates able to bridge that gap between the world of business and the world of technology. I believe the Program can look forward with confidence to another 20 years of success.

Normally 100% of graduates gain immediate employment, but **James McNamara** took a year off for a holiday thus ruining our perfect record. And Finally, welcome to **Jarrad Cutting**, **Ken Adzanku** and **Ben Martini** who have just joined the Program.



Interested in becoming involved?

<http://bis.unisa.edu.au>

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