

# CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICERS GROUP

**COLLABORATION ON A GRAND SCALE**

**BIG**  
ACADEMIC ALLIANCE

## About the Chief Information Officers Group (CIOs)

The CIOs of the Big Ten Academic Alliance convene every leadership and functional area of higher education information technology. Over 1700 IT professionals from across the consortium participate in 34 professional peer groups.

Members share collective wisdom, data and information, and develop collaborative programs and approaches. Working together, the CIOs and their peer groups advance the education, research and engagement missions of their universities.

### CORE PEER GROUPS

#### IT Accessibility (ITAG)

In a powerful partnership of technologists and accessibility professionals, ITAG works to maximize access to digital resources for students, scholars, staff and visitors. Members share effective practices and develop trainings, tools, maturity models, vendor cookbooks, and other valuable resources.

#### Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs)

Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) enjoy uniquely open exchange of real-time threat intelligence and best practices for policy, strategy, operations, risk management, IT forensics, and incident response. CISOs collaborate to develop and encourage new practices, tools, and technologies.

#### Identity and Access Management (IAM)

Identity and Access Management provides national leadership in developing trust frameworks and underlying federated technology. Among IAM's significant contributions are CICme (InCommon's first demonstration project) and the Cloud Services Integration Cookbook, a compilation of higher education technology environments and best practices for working with cloud-based vendors.

#### Deputy Chief Information Officers Group (DCIOs)

Senior members of the CIOs' leadership teams constitute the membership of the DCIOs. In addition to sharing data, best practices, and approaches to common interests, the DCIOs oversee special projects for the CIOs.

#### Women in Technology (WIT)

Women in Technology is a vibrant and diverse community committed to strengthening recruitment, retention, and advancement of women in IT. Dedicated to expanding connections and providing a place for respectful dialogue and information sharing, WIT regularly meets and hosts virtual conferences, reaching large audiences across the consortium.

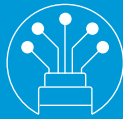
#### Learning Technology Leaders (LTL)

Learning Technology Leaders collaborate to advance learning technologies in four main foci: content creation and affordability; faculty development; learning analytics; and learning environments. LT Leaders work across the consortium and with external consortia, including Unizin, the University Innovation Alliance, and others.



OmniPoP Network

**\$10.4M**



**ESTIMATED  
SAVINGS** IN FY22

OmniPoP is a fiber optic network collaboration between participating Big Ten Academic Alliance members. Shared infrastructure and a uniquely rich collaborative community provide OmniPoP members incredible responsiveness, value, and leading network expertise at significant cost savings. Knitting together members' regional networks to OmniPoP fiber circling downtown Chicago, OmniPoP provides multiple access points, redundancy, peering, and services to support bandwidth-intensive applications and massive research databases.

**Serving our communities through trust and collaboration:**

"When you think of the Big Ten Academic Alliance CIOs, you might think first of their big collaborative programs and shared infrastructure, such as their co-owned OmniPoP Network or shared security assessment platform. Or you might reflect on the impact that this group of CIOs and their sponsored IT professional peer groups have on the national IT and higher education communities writ broadly, through the scholarly contributions, open source tools, and other resources they provide to cybersecurity, identity access management, IT accessibility and the whole range of IT matters.

Even more than those highly valuable outcomes, perhaps the most significant aspect of the CIOs Group is how the CIOs and their teams learn from one another and take that expertise home to better serve the missions and communities of their own universities. The outcomes and advances for our universities through this collaboration is the envy of higher education collaborations nationally."

**Sean Reynolds**

Vice President for Information Technology  
and Chief Information Officer  
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

**34**

PEER GROUPS

300 MEETINGS

**1700**

PARTICIPANTS



The Big Ten Academic Alliance is the academic consortium of the world-class research universities in the Big Ten Conference and the University of Chicago. By casting our collective futures together, we can fulfill our missions and meet the challenges of the 21st century.

#### Core Member Groups

- Provosts
- Chief Information Officers
- Deans of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- Graduate Deans
- Senior International Officers
- Procurement Directors
- University Librarians
- Vice Provosts for Faculty Affairs

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

INDIANA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

PURDUE UNIVERSITY

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY-NEW BRUNSWICK

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

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