University of Pittsburgh, Katz School of Business
Information Systems and Technology Management
PhD Program

Thanks for your interest in our PhD program in Information Systems and Technology Management (ISMS)! This information sheet will provide you with a brief view of the advantages of studying ISMS at the Katz School, at the University of Pittsburgh. For more information, please call us at +1(412) 648-1524, email us at kazphd@katz.pitt.edu, or visit our website at http://katz.business.pitt.edu/phd. Click on the “Choose a Program” button on the left and choose “Information Systems and Technology Management.”

Placements: We are a leading program with respect to placement. Over the last decade 100% of students who actively sought university positions obtained them, and our recent alumni were placed as faculty members at University of Arizona, Colorado-Boulder, Maryland, Indiana, Michigan, and Texas.

Publications: According to a 2011 paper in Communications of the AIS by Clark et al., our graduates ranked 4th out of 109 PhD programs studied when considering the top 6 journals (as defined by the AIS Senior Scholars). Our faculty ranked 6th out of 109 schools studied when considering the same target journals.

Our Focus on Mentorship:
We actively collaborate with our PhD students. The faculty members who currently work with PhD students are:

- **Ruba Aljafari** (PhD, University of Arkansas) is an assistant Professor of Business Administration at the Katz School. Before joining Katz, Ruba was a Doctoral Academy fellow, as well as a research and teaching assistant at the Sam Walton College of Business. She earned her master’s degrees in information systems (University of Nebraska) and international business. Her research interests include ICT implementations in organizations, usability, and healthcare IT, with special emphasis on patient-centered e-health and analytics. Her work has been published in leading journals in information systems and human-computer interaction, such as MIS Quarterly and the International Journal of Human-Computer Studies. She also serves as a data manager for the IS ranking website, launched and led by Prof. Viswanath Venkatesh and affiliated with the Association for Information Systems (AIS).

- **Dennis F. Galletta** (PhD, University of Minnesota) is currently Director of the PhD program at the Katz School, Ben L. Fryrear Faculty Fellow, an adjunct at Harvard’s Summer Program, and a Professor in the MIS field. He received a Provost’s mentorship award for his work with doctoral students at Katz. He is an AIS LEO and Fellow and was President of AIS. He and two co-authors won a 2013 Citation of Excellence Award by Emerald Management Reviews for publishing one of the top 50 papers in business administration. In two 2009 studies of research productivity, he placed #2 in human factors in information systems and #9 in the MIS field overall. His primary interests are in behavioral security and human factors in information system design. He has co-authored over 100 papers in information systems. Among those are 92 papers with doctoral students (40 journal papers and 52 conference papers); 17 of the journal papers reached our field’s top journals. His editorial boards include Information Systems Research, MIS Quarterly, and Journal of MIS and he and Joe Valacich are Co-Editors in Chief of AIS Transactions on HCI. He served as co-program chair of ICIS in 2005 and co-chair of ICIS in 2011.

- **Zia Hydari** (PhD, Carnegie Mellon University) is an Assistant Professor of Business Administration at the Katz School. Before joining Katz, Zia was a Research Scientist at Carnegie Mellon, where he received a PhD in Industrial Administration (Business Technologies) in December 2014. Prior to academia, he worked at high technology firms, most recently as a Principal Product Manager at Oracle USA. He has also worked as a management consultant in the telecom and pharmaceutical industries as well as a software engineer in the telecom industry. His research interest are in the economics of business technologies, especially in the healthcare context. He has presented his research at NBER, ICIS, WHITE, and WISE. His research on advanced electronic medical
records and patient safety in Pennsylvania hospitals, titled “Saving Patient Ryan—Can Advanced Electronic Medical Records Make Patient Care Safer,” won best paper awards at WISE and WHITE.

Chris F. Kemmerer (PhD, Carnegie Mellon University) is the David M. Roderick Professor of Information Systems at the Katz Graduate School of Business, University of Pittsburgh and an Adjunct Professor of Software Engineering in the Computer Science School at Carnegie Mellon University. His current research interests include management and measurement issues in information systems and software engineering, and he has published more than seventy articles on these topics in a wide variety of professional and academic journals, leading him to be recognized as a Distinguished Fellow in the Information Systems Society of INFORMS and an ISI/Thomson Reuters International Highly Cited Researcher in Computer Science. His paper “A Metrics Suite for Object-Oriented Design” is the most highly cited software engineering paper ever in the history of the field. He is a four-time winner of the student-voted EMBA Distinguished Professor Teaching Award. He is also a past Editor-in-Chief of Information Systems Research, Departmental Editor for Information Systems at Management Science, and Senior Editor for MIS Quarterly.

Laurie Kirsch (PhD, University of Minnesota) is currently Vice Provost of Faculty Development, having just served a term as Senior Associate Dean. She is also Professor of Business Administration. Her research explores the exercise of control and the transfer of knowledge in the IS context, examining how stakeholders can better manage IS initiatives and improve software processes. Dr. Kirsch has been awarded multiple grants to support her research, including two large recent grants from the National Science Foundation. She has served as a Senior Editor for Information Systems Research, and has also been on the editorial boards of Management Science and MIS Quarterly.

Narayan Ramasubbu (PhD, University of Michigan) is an Associate Professor of Business Administration at the Katz School. Prior to his academic career he was a senior developer at SAP AG and CGI Inc. His research interests include software product development and services delivery; the design, implementation, and governance of enterprise information systems; software-driven innovation; and generating business value from IT. He has published in Management Science, MIS Quarterly, IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering, Strategic Management Journal, Information Systems Research, and IEEE Computer, among others. He currently serves as an Associate Editor for Management Science and is on the editorial review board of Journal of AIS.

Flexibility: Katz offers a breadth of research topics – many students can find a home here. Recent PhD dissertation topics have included ecommerce, online communities, project management, IS security and trust, knowledge management, user participation, digital goods economics, and software measurement. Of course, your thesis topic is limited only by your imagination and drive.

Examples: Our collaboration frequently results in articles that are published in top journals. Notable examples of publications or working papers over the last several years include the following: (Note: Names of our PhD students are in bold type.)


Eargle, D., Galletta, Dennis F., and Jenkins, Jeffrey L., “What’s it (cybersecurity) worth to you? Applying risk tradeoff paradigms to explain user interactions with intrusive security messages” (2016). WISP 2016 Proceedings. 14


