



Cloud computing, Software-as-a-Service (SaaS), and other commercial frameworks are promising to transform how organizations conduct their IT operations. During a time of economic downturn and budgetary challenges it is also timely for institutions of higher education to evaluate if there might be more cost-effective means of providing IT services to campus constituents. However, the movement towards shared services is not only happening through outsourcing to commercial providers. Individual campuses are looking for ways to eliminate duplication of effort and increase efficiency by centralizing IT services where appropriate (e.g., fewer data centers). University systems are also looking for ways to collaborate by having system officers or single institutions act as service providers for their peers (e.g., hosting of systems for payroll, learning management, student information, etc.) Colleges and universities across the country are also moving services such as e-mail hosting to well-known providers such as Google (gmail) and Microsoft (hotmail). Not only is shared IT services and cloud computing a new business paradigm for higher education, it is also presents a host of challenging new policy and legal issues.

This session will focus on how the emergence of cloud computing and shared services is likely to introduce new contractual issues and compliance challenges that will require the collective attention and expertise of a host of campus experts and stakeholders.

Cloud Computing

January 19, 2010

Time: 9:30 - 10:30

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Who Should Attend:

- Compliance Officers
- Information Security Officers
- Privacy Officers
- Legal Affairs

Learning Objectives:

- Participants will be able to define cloud computing and understand how emerging models for shared services are leading to more collaboration among higher education institutions and increased outsourcing and third party handling of sensitive institutional data
- Participants will understand the business drivers that are leading institutions to explore "cloud computing"
- Participants will be able to identify legal, contractual, and other policy issues that can both enable shared services as well as challenge traditional approaches to liability and compliance

About the Presenter:

Rodney Petersen is a Government Relations Officer and Director of the Cybersecurity Initiative for EDUCAUSE. He is the lead staff liaison for the Higher Education Information Security Council.

Prior to joining EDUCAUSE, he served as the Director of IT Policy and Planning in the Office of the Vice President and Chief Information Officer at the University of Maryland. He previously held the position of Campus Compliance Officer in the Office of the President at the University of Maryland where he mediated disputes and handled grievances under the Human Relations Code, including claims of discrimination or harassment that increasingly involved misuse of the Internet. He also completed one year of service as an Instructor in the Academy for Community Service for AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps where he taught alternative dispute resolution and facilitated service learning projects. He began his professional career in higher education as the Resident Student Life Director at Michigan State University. He is the co-editor of a book in the EDUCAUSE Leadership Strategy Series entitled "Computer and Network Security in Higher Education". He is also a founding member of the Association of College and University Policy Administrators and the author of "A Primer on Policy Development for Institutions of Higher Education" and "A Framework for IT Policy Development".

Mr. Petersen writes and speaks regularly on topics related to higher education cyber law and policy. He received his law degree from Wake Forest University. He also received a certificate as an Advanced Graduate Specialist in Education Policy, Planning, and Administration from the University of Maryland.

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