The Team

Authors Biographies

Dr. Katia Passerini

Dr. Passerini is Associate Professor and the Hurlburt Chair of Management Information Systems at the School of Management of the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) where she teaches courses in MIS, knowledge management, and IT strategy.

She has published in refereed journals and proceedings (Communications of the ACM, Communications of AIS, Society and Business Review, Journal of Knowledge Management, Computers & Education, Journal of Educational Hypermedia and Multimedia, IEEE Internet Computing) and professional journals (Project Management Network, Cutter IT Journal, Cutter Benchmark Review), particularly in the area of computer-mediated learning, IT productivity, and knowledge management.

Dr. Passerini’s professional background includes multi-industry projects at Booz Allen Hamilton (now Booz & Co.) and the World Bank where she focused on information technology projects in Europe, North America, and the South Pacific. Katia is a certified project management professional (PMP®) and worked on various projects in the automotive and telecommunications industries and higher education. Some of her projects included business process management, balanced scorecard definition, business needs analyses and gaps assessment, benchmarking, evaluation of IT investments feasibility and outcomes.

Dr. Passerini earned an MBA in International Business and a Ph.D. degree in Information Systems from the George Washington University. She completed a Certificate in Business Project Management from New York University.

Dr. Ayman El Tarabishy

Dr. El Tarabishy is a research professor of management at the George Washington University’s School of Business, where he teaches entrepreneurship and leadership. He developed the first social entrepreneurship course offered to MBA students through the School of Business.

Dr. El Tarabishy is also the Executive Director of the International Council for Small Business (ICSB), the oldest and largest non-profit organization across the globe devoted to advancing small business research and practices. He created and manages the Global Entrepreneurship Research and Policy Conference (ICSBGW) that is hosted each year at the George Washington University with ICSB as a partner. The
ICSBGW conference connects the latest and most cutting edge of entrepreneurship research to the most pressing and important national and international policy to promote entrepreneurship and SMEs.

Dr. El Tarabishy worked at the World Bank in the Corporate Strategy Group. He helped develop and manage their technology strategy for the Development Marketplace Program. The program’s mission was to identify and support creative cutting-edge solutions to the most pressing world social and economic concerns. To date, the Global Development Marketplace competition has disbursed over US$ 65 million in awards to 400 winning proposals.

Dr. El Tarabishy’s research is on innovation, social entrepreneurship, and entrepreneurial leadership. He has presented his work at national and international conferences around the world. He has published research articles in the International Journal of Entrepreneurship Education, Journal of Private Equity, and the Southern Business Review. He consults and conducts executive training for several national and international organizations, including the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the World Bank, and the National Federation of Independent Businesses (NFIB).

Dr. Karen P. Patten

Dr. Patten is an Assistant Professor in the Integrated Information Technology Program at the University of South Carolina, Columbia SC. She teaches technology project management, networking, and telecommunications. Dr. Patten has also taught MIS, IT management, and telecommunications at the New Jersey Institute of Technology and the National Technological University.

She is the author of Data Networking Made Easy (Aegis Publishing Group, 2000) and has published articles in Communications of the Association for Computing Machinery, Communications of the Association for Information Systems, Cutter IT Journal, and the International Journal of Computers, Systems and Signals. Her research areas include IT executive management, IT curriculum development, and wireless and mobile telecommunications.

Dr. Patten’s professional background includes fifteen years as an IT Manager and network engineer for AT&T Bell Laboratories and AT&T. Among her IT positions, Dr. Patten managed initial pre-bleeding-edge technology roll-outs within Bell Labs locations throughout the U.S. She also managed the internal IT planning and implementation projects group located in New Jersey. Dr. Patten also worked in innovative technical traffic control sales and marketing with the 3 M Company, and in consulting and construction management. She is also a member of the Board of Directors for the Project Management Institute (PMI, Inc), SC Midlands chapter. She is also a charter member of the Society for Information Management, Charlotte NC chapter, and a senior member of the Society of Women Engineers.

Dr. Patten has a B in Honors Economics from Purdue University, an M in Civil Engineering from the University of Minnesota, and a Ph.D. in Information Systems from the New Jersey Institute of Technology. She also earned a Certificate in Strategic Planning in Indiana’s Executive Management Program.
Research Assistants

Gilbert Gatchalian

Gilbert Gatchalian’s professional background spans technology roles across various industries including manufacturing (Siemens Fire Safety), legal (Cleary Gottlieb Steen and Hamilton), media and entertainment (Sony Music Entertainment), and finance (NYSE Euronext and Bank of America).

His technology roles across various industries provided real-world experience in global technology teams. Leading geographically diverse organizations in NYSE Euronext, Sony Music Entertainment, and Bank of America, he has first-hand experience in participating and managing a remote workforce.

His subject matter expertise spans multiple technology disciplines as well. He has architected and deployed various Web-hosting platforms for NYSE Euronext (i.e., nyse.com) and eCommerce and marketing sites for Sony Music Entertainment (i.e., myplaydirect.com, michaeljackson.com). Some of the Web hosting platforms he architected and deployed are fully hosted in an Infrastructure-as-a-Service or Cloud Hosting platform using cutting edge technologies by Amazon Web Services, Rightscale, Rackspace, and other hosting and software service providers. He has technology certifications in Red Hat (Certified Engineer/RHCE), Oracle Database (OCP), and IT Service Management Foundation (based on ITIL).

He has a B in Computer Science and an M in Management of Technology from the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT). He was selected for membership in Beta Gamma Sigma, the international honor society for collegiate schools of business, for high scholastic achievement. He continues to actively participate in academics and is current a teaching assistant for an online Knowledge Management class at NJIT.

Michael Bull

Michael Bull is a Math & Business Tutor for his own independent practice, Campus Tutoring Services, and also a Research Assistant (RA) at The New Jersey Institute of Technology. As a RA, Michael worked on various projects, including the information technology management for small and medium enterprises project and cognitive mapping techniques in higher education, an international research project.

Michael started his tutoring business to provide wider learning opportunities to students in need. His expertise is in the subject areas of Accounting, Economics, Finance, Mathematics, Financial Risk Management, and International Business & Investment.

Michael has a B in Management from NJIT and graduated in three years, Summa Cum Laude, with a 4.00 GPA and concentrations in Accounting, Finance, and Marketing. While at NJIT, he tutored for the on-campus CAPE tutoring service, wrote for The Vector student newspaper and The Nucleus yearbook committee, and served as one of 3 Student Senators for the NJIT School of Management. Michael also holds
an A in Business Administration from Bergen Community College, where he served as Advertising Manager and staff writer for The Torch student newspaper.

Michael Bull is a member of three academic honor societies, the N.J. Collegiate Business Administration Honor Society, and Beta Gamma Sigma, which honor superior academic performance in business schools, and Phi Theta Kappa, the national honor society for 2-year colleges.