

## CIT BIS PROGRAMME WORKS CLOSELY WITH VMWARE TO DEVELOP AND SHAPE CIT BUSINESS INFORMATION SYSTEMS GRADUATES



**GERRY MURPHY,  
SENIOR PROGRAM  
MANAGER,  
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AND  
DIRECTOR OF IT@CORK**

“Over the past number of years, VMware has had outstanding success hiring students from CIT’s BIS Degree into our Graduate Program.

Our program is quite technical and fast-paced and we look for students who are quick and flexible learners and extremely adaptable. In this regard, CIT’s BIS students are supremely adept at attuning to the pace and depth of the program.

Soft skills and teamwork are very important for our graduates to ensure success and these students are very comfortable in this area. Communication and collaboration are critical success factors and we find that BIS students are well rounded in key facets of both skills.

In a fast-paced industry, where new and emerging technologies present many opportunities, responsiveness to change is crucial and these graduates flex with ease to adapt and grow in our very dynamic environment. Shortly after joining the program the graduates are presented with an opportunity to attain professional industry accreditations and this is always welcomed, and indeed requested, by CIT students.

This whole journey of growth is reflected and attested to by a stream of very positive CSAT scores for our CIT BIS graduates as submitted by our valuable customers.”

### FIELD TRIPS

In 2019 VMware welcomed over 115 first year BIS students to its Ballincollig Offices. Students were treated to a host of inspiring VMware speakers and a mindfulness session. The guest panel Q&A session included CIT BIS graduates who are now employees of VMware. Students are also part of the VMware STEM Aspire programme for mentoring female STEM students.

### GUEST LECTURES

The BIS programme places a strong emphasis on guest lectures from industry experts. Each year speakers from VMware share their educational background, career paths and explain their current roles and responsibilities within their organisation.

These have included John Ryan, Systems Engineering Manager talking on emerging technologies; Mairead O’Flynn, University Campus Manager speaking on Career Options and Gerry Murphy, Senior Program Manager speaking to the Project Management class.

### PLACEMENT AND GRADUATE RECRUITMENT

Some CIT BIS placement students spend 6 months in VMware working closely with customers and taking VMware certification exams in the third year of their programme. VMware also recruits CIT BIS students on to their graduate programme.

### ASSESSMENT

These interactive activities with VMware also have a practical element. BIS student groups are required to undertake written assignments based on field trips, presentations and work placement - forming part of their module assessments.

“It is invaluable for BIS students to see first-hand how well CIT BIS graduates are performing in the industry. These sessions also give students a greater appreciation of the diversity of skills that graduates can pursue, as well as keeping them up to date with the latest trends and emerging technologies in specific sectors. Students welcome the opportunity to meet these past graduates and there is no shortage of questions.”

- Dr Anna Dynan, lecturer in Accounting & Information Systems