

## **CU IT Summit fosters partnerships, innovative thinking** <sup>[1]</sup>

September 19, 2018 by [UIS Communications](#) <sup>[2]</sup>

The University of Colorado hosted its second annual IT Summit to bring IT professionals together from across the CU System to foster collaboration and networking opportunities.

At the July 31 event, IT leadership from all CU campuses and UIS came together to discuss how procurement can partner with IT to further the University's goals and missions. While IT procurement was a major event theme, the main focus was providing IT-related content that appealed to a broad audience and triggered innovative ideas and ongoing conversation.

"Based on the attendance and feedback that we received, it was a huge success," said Michael Viola, IT Category Manager for the Procurement Service Center.

Keynote speaker David Schonthal presented, "Question 0: Beginning the Hunt for New Ideas," which delved into how inspiration for innovative new products, services and ventures is all around. Schonthal is the Clinical Associate Professor of Innovation and Entrepreneurship at Northwestern University, an innovation consultant with IDEO and the co-founder of MATTER, a 25,000-square-foot innovation center in downtown Chicago.

The event also featured a CIO panel discussion in which CIOs Scott Munson, Larry Levine, Jason Hunter and Russ Poole spoke and answered questions from the crowd; "Tech Talks" a series of short, concise presentations on a range of topics given by CU IT professionals from all campuses; and multiple networking opportunities.

"I found all of the presentations to be both informative and compelling. The combination of an external keynote speaker and internal tech talks were a nice balance and really grounded the event in the issues and opportunities that we face on a daily basis," said Al Wirtes, the Assistant Director of Advanced Technologies and Enterprise Architecture for UIS.

Want to know more? [View the agenda](#) <sup>[3]</sup> from this year's event.

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