2023 PIT-UN Network Membership Application

Membership Overview

Launched in 2019, the Public Interest Technology University Network is a partnership that unites colleges and universities committed to building the nascent field of public interest technology and growing a new generation of civic-minded technologists. Through the development of curricula, research agendas, and experiential learning programs in the public interest technology space, these institutions aim to develop graduates with skills and knowledge at the intersection of technology and policy.

By joining PIT-UN, members commit to:

Field Building on Campus—Members may choose to focus on some or all of the activities below, in addition to other initiatives to build the field of public interest technology on campus:

- Support curriculum and faculty development to enable interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary education of students, so they can critically assess the ethical, political, and societal implications of new technologies, and design technologies in service of the public good.
- Develop experiential learning opportunities such as clinics, fellowships, apprenticeships, and internships, with public and private sector partners in the public interest technology space.
- Find ways to support graduates who pursue careers working in public interest technology, recognizing that financial considerations may make careers in this area unaffordable to many.
- Create mechanisms for faculty to receive recognition for the research, curriculum development, teaching, and service work needed to build public interest technology as an arena of inquiry.
- Provide institutional data that will allow us to measure the effectiveness of our interventions in helping to develop the field of public interest technology.

Membership Benefits and Commitments

Membership Benefits

- Participating in a learning community of scholars and practitioners seeking to prepare civic-minded technologists and leaders.
- Applying for grant funding offered to Network members.
- Complimentary registration and attendance by Network liaison at an annual convening to discuss shared challenges and goals.
- Exclusive access to toolkits, training, and resources that are available for members only.
- Accessing workshops and seminars to showcase the latest advancements in PIT.

Membership Commitments
Liaison Activities—Designated university/college liaisons and Network staff will meet at least quarterly, either in person or via teleconference. Quarterly meetings will include reporting on field-building activities as well as opportunities to work on the following three areas as a Network:

1. **Annual Convening**—university/college liaisons and any participating faculty members will help to facilitate the formal annual convening to discuss programmatic progress, lessons learned, future planning, and strategies for success with Network members.

2. **Communications**—aid in telling the stories of public interest technology by actively engaging with your school’s PR/marketing team along with PIT-UN membership to highlight and celebrate researchers, faculty, and students advancing the public good.

3. **Membership Engagement**—members must serve on one of our committees or working group. Members will be able to join the committee or working group for their institution’s focus area. These positions will take effect in January 2023.

### 2023 Membership Exploration

PIT-UN is currently developing a curated experience where interested institutions participate in the Network while exploring full membership. We recognize that institutional commitment to Public Interest Technology varies. In 2023, we are creating an explorational pathway of workshops for organizations to develop their understanding of the PIT ecosystem and begin to develop their institutional PIT vision and mission. This process empowers a broad spectrum of institutions to investigate the University Network prior to fully committing to becoming a PIT-UN member. At the end of the explorative pathway, institutions can decide to enter as a PIT-UN member or decide it is just not the right time or right fit for their institutions. Exploration participants can participate in activities within the Network which include members-only workshops and seminars. Exploration participants cannot participate in any of the PIT-UN-specific funding opportunities.

**PIT-UN Exploration Benefits**

1. Participation in a learning community of scholars and practitioners seeking to prepare civic-minded technologists and leaders, and enhancing possibilities to make social connections that can lead to a variety of activities (e.g., external funding efforts, curricular developments) that are in the public interest.

2. Opportunities to apply for grant funding as a partner with existing Network members. (If the Affiliate member becomes a full member, they will be able at that point to apply for grant funding on their own or with any network member or affiliate.)

3. Complimentary registration as a liaison at an annual convening to discuss shared challenges and goals.

### Type of Membership Application *

- [ ] 2023 Membership Exploration
- [ ] Full Membership

**INSTITUTIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION**
Please enter your institution's name *

Please enter your name *
First Name
Last Name

Enter your official title or role at the institution *

Enter your institutional email address *
email@example.com

Enter your phone number *

Enter your institution's official mailing address *
Country
Select...
Address
Address Line 2 (optional)
Designee Identification

Designee and Team Support:
Institutions can identify two to three faculty, staff and/or administrators who have been given the mandate to pursue PIT within their departments and across the university or college.

In this section you will need to identify a designee with the capacity to work across departments; a track record of delivering programs/services that align with PIT’s goals; and an ability to access a team of other individuals across the institution who can support PIT and PIT-UN including university communications, student career services, or development. Please be prepared to provide contact names for these individuals who should be included in the PIT efforts of your institution.

Enter the Designee name *
First Name

Last Name

Enter the Designee's official title or role *

Limit: 50 words

Enter the Designee's institutional email address *
email@example.com
SCHOOL PROFILE INFORMATION (0-50 points)

PIT-UN seeks to strategically add new members that will allow us to pilot and test the types of projects and initiatives that will have success within academia across a number of institutional types. Please use this section to tell us more about your institutional profile.

Region *

- Midwest
- North
- South
- West

Does not apply as we are an international institution

Type of Institution *

- Minority Serving Institution (MSI)
- Predominantly White Institution (PWI)

Educational Sector *

- Public
- Private

Level *

- 2-year
- 4-year
- Both
- Graduate only

Student Population to be Served *
Special Focus Institution (Select all that apply) *

- Faith-related Institution
- Other Technology-related Institution
- Community College
- Engineering Institution
- Business & Management Institution
- International, non-U.S. university or college
- Institute of Technology
- Arts, Music & Design Institution
- Other Special Focus Institution

From your answer above, please select two (2) key PIT fields that will be your institution's PRIMARY focus of PIT field building. *

- AI
- Career/Workforce Pipeline
- Civic Data
- Civil Justice
- Climate
- Criminal Justice
- Cyber
- Data Analytics/Data Literacy
- Data Privacy
- Data Science
- Digital Divide/Infrastructure Access
- Ethics
- Experiential Learning/Clinics/Labs
- Fellowships
- Open Data
- PIT Law
- PIT Policy
- Racial Equity
- Smart Cities
- Smart Communities
- Social Justice
- Student Club/Student Network
Your Institution's Field Building Focus Area (select all that apply) *

- Curriculum and faculty development to enable interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary education & research.
- Experiential learning opportunities such as clinics, fellowship, apprenticeships, and internships.
- Financial support of graduates who pursue careers in public interest technology.
- Faculty recognition for research, curriculum development, teaching, and service work within public interest technology.
- Use of institutional data to measure effectiveness of PIT intervention strategies.

PIT-UN READINESS (all questions require an answer)

Please attach your response to the following questions (in total you will have approximately 2000 words in 7 different fields within the Submittable platform to complete your responses to the questions. This works out to approximately 300 words per question.)

1. Describe any current and planned Initiatives or Strategies in PIT using the PIT framework and the 5 field building areas. Does your institution have any existing or planned collaborations with current PIT-UN members? OR if no planned collaborations did they describe opportunities to build on activities that have potential synergy with PIT? (25 Possible Points ) (400 word limit) *

2. The network seeks to support its members: Please describe how involvement with PIT-UN would aid your current, planned, or desired initiatives. (Possible Points 25) (400 word limit) *

Limit: 400 words
3. The network seeks to diversify: Please describe how your institution will enhance the network, as relates to students served, geographic location, type of institution, and/or field-building areas. Applicants may wish to highlight particularly noteworthy aspects of their institutional identity and mission in this section. (Possible Points 25) (250 word limit)

As part of your affiliate membership application, please upload a letter of support from leadership (department chairs or higher) showing support for the application.

As part of your affiliate membership application, add any supporting documents you wish us to consider with your application. (Please limit supporting documents to 10 or less files)
If possible please label your supporting documents with easily identifiable terms such as strategic plans, department overviews, marketing materials, institutional PIT awards, PIT project plan, letters of support or commitment.