

9-25-2002

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Recommended Citation

University Marketing and Communications, "09/25/2002 - Mihirk "Chat" Chatterji Accepts Position as EIU's Assistant VP for ITS" (2002). 2002. 138.

https://thekeep.eiu.edu/press_releases_2002/138

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NEWS

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02-141

September 25, 2002

For Immediate Release:

CHATTERJI ACCEPTS POSITION AS EIU'S ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT FOR ITS

CHARLESTON – Having lived in the Midwest for several years, Mihir K. “Chat” Chatterji says he has “already grown roots” and looks forward to assuming his role as Eastern Illinois University’s assistant vice president for information technology services.

Currently, Chatterji serves as chief information officer stationed at IvyTech State College’s central office in Indianapolis, Ind. As such, he is responsible for the overall information technology infrastructure across 23 Indiana locations.

He also serves as an adjunct instructor at Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Ind., teaching three credit hours per semester at graduate and undergraduate levels in the areas of computer science and, less recently, in MIS and aerospace.

As Eastern’s assistant vice president for IT services, Chatterji will have the primary responsibility for the department’s 75 staff members, as well as coordination, supervision and administration of programs and activities related to the operation of the university’s computing, voice and data communications facilities.

The position reports directly to Jeff Cooley, vice president for business affairs.

“I’m very excited that “Chat” has joined our team, and look forward to his leadership in taking this university forward in the use of technology,” Cooley said.

Chatterji, who said he was not previously involved in an aggressive job search when the job at Eastern became available, became “enamored by (the institution’s) size and the opportunities it presents.

“The very nature of a geographically diverse college system at IvyTech had me wishing for a more compact, closer-knit, single campus, college community where my MBWA-style (Management By Walking Around) might be better suited,” he said.

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Eastern Illinois University emphasizes distinguished teaching in the liberal arts, sciences and selected professions. A traditional, residential state university of recognized quality, Eastern enrolls more than 10,000 students in undergraduate and graduate programs. The university, located in Charleston, also serves the region through a variety of non-credit and off-site degree programs, as well as cultural and recreational opportunities. Eastern’s pursuit of excellence attracts well-qualified students of an increasingly diverse population and a teaching faculty active in research and public service who utilize the latest technology.

Chatterji added that he looks forward to the challenges he sees facing him on Eastern's campus, and that, as both a teacher and as an administrator, he understands the technological needs of all facets of the university community.

"User services, administrative information systems, technical support, computer operations, network support, microcomputer repair, technology acquisition and telecommunications are all areas I have personally worked in, or with, over the years," he said.

And although he has overseen sweeping technological changes while at IvyTech, he says he is most proud of his achievement of having brought about a turnaround in the perception of the various IT Services departments as "caring, flexible, service-oriented, quality-driven entities.

"This, in contrast to the previous perception of IT being 'the faceless headquarters bureaucracy' centered in Indianapolis," Chatterji added.

Chatterji, who will begin his new duties Oct. 17, 2002, plans to commute to Charleston from his home in Terre Haute, where he lives with wife, Nadra, and their 16-year-old son, Miles. He looks forward to acquainting himself with the Charleston community, and intends on treating himself to strawberry bread, as discovered in a local restaurant, on a regular basis.