Introducing Partners to Students

The goal of the MSAI program is to produce students who are not simply developers but architects and designers who understand both the solutions provided by the technologies of intelligence and the nature of the business problems that they solve. Classes, speakers, homework and projects all help to develop their skills with regard to technologies. In order to give them a sense of the problems that they will be encountering in the real world, they need to be exposed to a variety of companies and their problems so as to develop an understanding of the issues that they will be confronting over time. The Partner Program is designed to do this.

Partner Introductions

Our first step in this process is to host a set of dinners in the Fall during which companies introduce themselves and present the problems they want to solve and the opportunities they want to exploit. The goal is to use these dinners as the starting point for conversations that include discussions of platforms, data and regulatory issues. These dinners will be the starting point for the ongoing relationship that will include Practicum projects, Internships and Capstone projects.
Partnership Objectives

- The nature of the different businesses and their goals
- The types of problems that they are trying to solve
- The opportunities that they want to exploit using AI technologies
- The nature of the data they have and how it is managed
- Regulatory issues with regard to data access and accountability
- Platforms that organizations are using and skills that they have in-house
- Strategic plans they have for the future

The goal of the Partner Program is to provide our students with a view into the goals, needs, and requirements of the companies that they will ultimately work for. We want them to understand:

Partnership Responsibilities

In preparation for the introductions, we ask that Partners develop a presentation plan that includes an outline of the company and a description of the industry or industries that they serve. On the technical side, the kinds of problems that they encounter, platforms they use, and the data that they have that they can bring to bear. Tied to this, non-functional requirements that they face such as regulatory and/or auditing issues. To help with this process, we suggest a conversation during the Summer quarter to discuss how to best manage the evening event hosted at Northwestern University’s Evanston campus.

For further information, contact us:

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