Bill Thirsk

Vice President of Information Technology and CIO, Marist College

Bill Thirsk joined Marist College in June 2007. As vice president and CIO, he oversees all areas of information technology and other enterprise support units. His experience in higher education technology management is broad-based covering such areas as technology planning, network management, telecommunications, web services, instructional technology, and managed services. With over 30 years of experience in higher education technology management, Thirsk is a nationally recognized expert in enterprise resource planning (ERP) and major technology implementations. Over the span of his career, he has accomplished nine successful ERP implementations and consulted for numerous others. Each implementation included major replacements or rebuilds of campus systems, networks, and infrastructures.

With an advanced IT platform of a complexity typically found only at large research institutions, Marist College provides Thirsk with ample opportunity to put this experience to use. Thirsk has provided leadership for the Marist College Joint Studies projects – including a long-standing one with IBM – which are multidisciplinary, applied research projects in advanced high-performance computing, open source software development and support, and converged networking.

Thirsk was named an IDG Computerworld Premier 100 IT Leader for 2013 and currently serves as Board Chair of NYSERNet.Org, a not-for-profit New York State Internet, education, research, and technology service organization. Thirsk also serves on the NEREN Board of Directors, the North East Research and Education Network that connects MIT, Harvard, Yale, and most of the R1 and state universities in New England. He was also founding Chair of the Board of Directors of the Ellucian Community Source Initiative (CSI).

Thirsk received a BBA in Business Administration from George Washington University and an MBA from the New York Institute of Technology. He is also a Veteran of the United States Marine Corps.

Bill can be found on Twitter, @WThirsk, and LinkedIn at https://www.linkedin.com/in/wthirsk