

Jim Harnden Chief Information Officer



About Thunderbird:

Thunderbird is the world's No. 1-ranked school of international business with more than 65 years of experience in developing leaders with the global mindset, business skills and social responsibility necessary to create real, sustainable value for their organizations, communities and the world. Dedicated to preparing students to be global leaders and committed global citizens, Thunderbird was the first graduate business school to adopt an official Professional Oath of Honor. Thunderbird's global network of alumni numbers 40,000 graduates in 147 nations worldwide. The school is sought out by graduate students, working professionals and companies seeking to gain the skills necessary for success in today's global economy.

As the Chief Information Officer at Thunderbird, Jim provides leadership and strategic visioning for the school's global information and instructional technologies. He is also responsible for project management, campus event support, and outsourced services for conferences, housing, facilities, campus security, dining and hotel lodging. Jim brings more than 25 years of business, operations, customer service and information technology experience to Thunderbird, including more than 20 years in management and 12 years focused on his passion for the education industry.

Prior to joining Thunderbird in 2011, Jim served as Vice President of Information Technology at an Arizona-based study abroad organization, where he was responsible for global information technology, lead generation, university relations, admissions, student services and facilities for the Arizona headquarters and the six campuses in Spain, Italy and France. Jim spent two years as an Executive IT Consultant for the Arizona State University Foundation and has held CEO and other senior leadership positions with various Internet and high-tech companies. Jim holds a Bachelors of Business Administration/Management from Colorado Technical University, where he graduated summa cum laude. He also attended GE's Leadership Academy and has received numerous awards and certifications, including Project Management Professional (PMP). He is a member of EduCause and the Society of College and University Planners. Jim and his wife, Connie, live in Phoenix, Arizona, and have one daughter and one granddaughter. In his free time, Jim enjoys playing baseball, golf and other sports, watching movies, hanging out in the pool, and spending time with his family and dogs. He was born in Japan as a U.S. citizen and enjoys working in international environments.

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