CLIENT: BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY

BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY'S JOURNEY TO THE CLOUD

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INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE

Established in 1846, Bucknell University is a highly selective, private, nonsectarian residential university. The University enrolls 3,600 undergraduates in 60 majors, and a small number of graduate students. The 400-acre campus in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania is ranked among the most beautiful campuses by Princeton Review.

The University leadership team is dedicated to ensuring future generations have access to the same outstanding Bucknell experiences enjoyed by more than 50,000 alumni around the world. Innovative technology will support those endeavors.

"SIG staff are competent, flexible, and willing to learn and adjust as needed to ensure client success. They are a true partner with Bucknell University in every sense of the word. I wish every vendor and vendor relationship were as productive and easy as our relationship with SIG."
Kevin Willey, Executive Director, Enterprise Technologies

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Bucknell was an early adopter of the "cloud first" strategy, recognizing the promise of innovation, scalability, and economies of scale. This strategy was applied when seeking a solution for "private" cloud services to support their ERP. With much of Bucknell's critical infrastructure running in Amazon Web Services (AWS), adding their ERP to the platform was an easy decision. The next step was to find an implementation partner who had in-depth experience with both Ellucian Banner and AWS. After careful consideration, Bucknell selected SIG's Cloud Migration Services to lead the implementation and provide on-going managed services of the cloud hosted environment.

Photos courtesy of Bucknell University

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Moving an ERP to the cloud is much more than what is commonly referred to as a "lift and shift". Careful considerations to business requirements, scalability, cost, and most importantly leveraging new cloud-native capabilities are key aspects to a successful cloud migration project. Leveraging SIG's deep industry knowledge, technology insights, and their proprietary Cloud Migration Framework, the combined SIG/Bucknell Cloud Migration Team worked closely to:

Assess

- Identify (current & future) business and technical requirements by using SIG's environmental scan tool

Strategize

- Determine the right cloud migration strategy by leveraging data acquired during the assessment

Plan

- Using information gathered from the assessment, and SIG's cloud migration project plan template, a customized plan was crafted which incorporated Bucknell's dependencies, risks, resource needs, time requirements, and cost

Implement

- Worked to "lift and shift" the existing architecture into the AWS cloud by using SIG's proprietary automated workflows and tools, ensuring a smooth transition

Support (Managed Services)

- Providing scalable, secure, and flexible remote DBA and application support for their ERP platform

AWS Services Used

- Amazon Elastic Compute Cloud (Amazon EC2)
- Amazon Elastic Block Store
- Elastic Load Balancing
- Amazon CloudFormation
- Amazon CloudWatch
- AWS Lambda
- AWS CodeCommit
- AWS CodeBuild
- AWS Identity and Access Management
- Amazon Virtual Private Cloud
- Amazon Simple Storage Service
- AWS Web Application Firewall
- Amazon Elastic File System
- AWS Simple Systems Management

BENEFIT / VALUE

With the ERP Cloud Migration Project successfully completed, the day-to-day operational support is now provided by the SIG's managed services team. Providing Bucknell's IT organization the capacity to focus on digital transformation strategic initiatives for the entire institution and realize the following benefits:

- Increased operational efficiency
- Flexibility and Cost effectiveness
- Increased security, redundancy, performance, and scalability
- Innovation
- Improved user experience
- Agility

HOW SIG CAN HELP

From strategy, to implementation, and managed services, SIG's cloud capabilities can help you transform your institution and realize the many benefits of moving to the cloud.