

INSIDE THE ISSUE

- 2 [PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE](#)
- 3 [CHAPTER BOARD](#)
- 4 [SIM NEWS](#)
- 5 [PHISIM](#)
- 6 [PHISIM CASINO NIGHT](#)
- 7 [RECAP OF EVENTS](#)
- 8 [UPCOMING EVENTS](#)
- 9 [SIM COMMITTEES](#)
- 10 [SPONSORS](#)



SIM Philadelphia & PHISIM Foundation are deeply saddened to announce the passing of our good friend and long-time board member Bob Ehlinger.

Bob served for years as the Chair of the PHISIM board after Ken Canham our founder retired in 2022. Bob also headed SIM ELIT and had over a decade of service on the SIM Philadelphia board including serving as President. Bob served as the CIO at global pharma Lannett Company Inc. from 2006 to 2021.

His wife Sherry and their family shared details on the [arrangements](#). They indicated that in lieu of flowers, donations to [Liv Like A Unicorn - Unicorn Club Wishlist](#), would be greatly appreciated

We will all miss Bob's smile.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Welcome

Dear Philadelphia SIM Members,

It's a privilege to serve as the 2026 Board Chair of the Philadelphia SIM Chapter, and I'm grateful for the energy, insight, and generosity this community continues to bring to our chapter.

I personally want to thank Rebecca Gasser for her time and service as the Board Chair for 2025 and I'm grateful to have her serving as Past President this year.

SIM Philadelphia thrives because of you and your willingness to Learn, Connect, and Give. Whether through participation in chapter dinners, contributing to discussions, benchmarking with peers, raising a glass at happy hours, or staying connected through our virtual programs, your engagement is what makes this chapter strong.

I want to thank our Board and volunteers, who generously give their time and expertise to ensure our chapter delivers high-quality programming and experiences for you. Their commitment behind the scenes is what allows SIM Philadelphia to continue to grow and deliver value to our members.

As we look ahead, I encourage you to get — and stay — involved, attend SIM & PHISIM events, and engage with fellow members. Your voice, perspective, and participation matter, and together we can continue to strengthen this chapter and the leadership community it supports.

Thank you for being part of SIM Philadelphia. I look forward to connecting with you throughout the year.

Warm regards,
Jean Buskirk
Board Chair, Philadelphia SIM Chapter

[Join our SIM Philadelphia LinkedIn Group!](#)

SIM PHILLY BOARD

These are local Technology Leaders focused on sharing their time and talents in growing the association and value of your membership. We are always looking for interested members to consider a role on the Board or a Committee, reach out to admin@simpla.org if you are interested!

Chapter President	Jean Buskirk
President Elect	Ricki Lang
Secretary	Sanjay Khatnani
President Emeritus	Rebecca Gasser
Treasurer	Bill Peterson
Co-Chair Programs and Events	George Rears
Co-Chair Programs and Events	Matthew Campana
Members in Transition Chair	Kristen Lamoreaux
Partnerships Chair	Larry Bilker
SLI Ambassador	Lauren Miller
Sponsorship Chair	Mike Stanziola
DEI Chair	Franklin Green
ELIT/ Enclaves Chair	Rick Lindberg
Membership Chair	Mike McCain
Communications Chair	Patrick O'Halloran
Marketing Chair	Thea Dendler

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SIM NEWS

NEW SIM PHILLY MEMBERS



Shanil S Seelan



David Ritts



Farbod Mirzaei

Be a Part of Something Meaningful: Become a New Member Ally!

We're always looking for more members to join us as Allies. If you've thought about getting involved, now is the perfect time! As an Ally, you'll play a key role in welcoming new members, helping them navigate their first few months, & ensuring they feel at home in SIM Philadelphia.

At events, look for the ribbon on an Ally's nametag - it's your signal that they're here to help! If you don't recognize a familiar face, the ribbon means you've got at least one person to connect with and help you feel more at home. Thinking about joining our program but want to learn more? Look for the ribbon and ask an Ally what it means to be part of something really meaningful!

We have seen firsthand how these connections are helping new members feel welcomed right away. We've made some wonderful new friends and had the opportunity to show them just how special and inclusive the SIM Philadelphia community really is. A huge thank you to those who have stepped up as Allies - your commitment is what makes this program thrive!

Reach out to Sanjay Khatnani (sanjay@j2-solutions.com) to learn more and sign up today!

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PHISIM

PHISIM is a bridge to the community for Philadelphia area Information Technology leaders. We are a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization that funds scholarships and STEM efforts and activities. Please use the QR Code to donate!



WHY PHISIM?

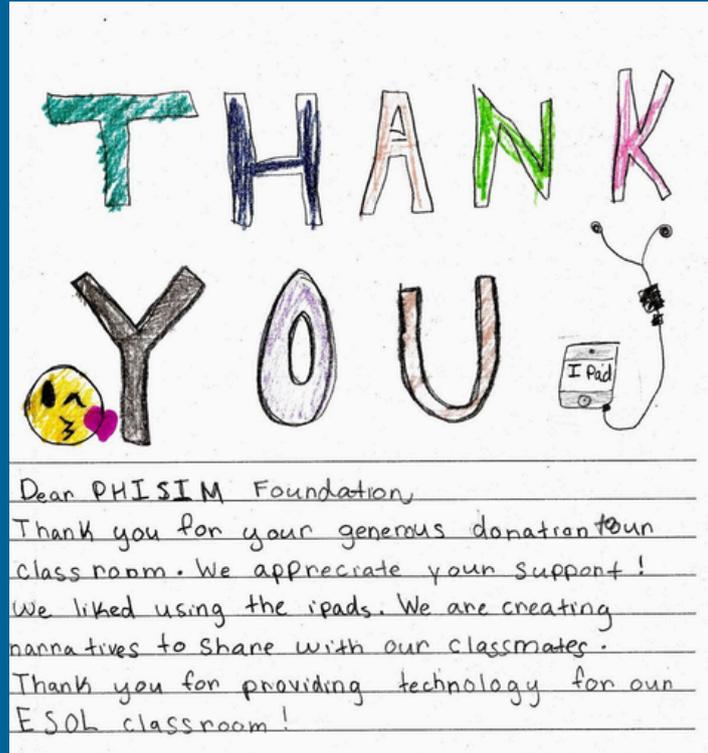
As stated above, PHISIM is a bridge to the community for Philadelphia area Information Technology leaders. We are a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization that focuses on charitable activities that involve Information Technology. We hold fundraisers, but are primarily funded by the SIM Philadelphia and its members.

PHISIM, as the sister organization of SIM Philadelphia, represents the desire on the part of the leaders of Information Technology in the Delaware Valley region to give back to the community and to participate in the betterment of students and technology education. Just as the Ben Franklin Bridge connects Pennsylvania and New Jersey, PHISIM strives to connect the members of the IT community to the community in need.

The PHISIM Foundation annually provides tens of thousands of dollars in college scholarships to Philadelphia technology students, thousands of dollars in technology equipment to Philadelphia elementary schools, funds internships for workforce development students, and provides \$5,000 in funding a Teen Tech Camp each summer. PHISIM Foundation members also provide mentoring to IT students at all levels throughout the year.

PHISIM and our sister organization, SIM Philadelphia, run events such as the "PHISIM Phanatics" at the Phillies or "Top Golf" fun to raise funds. This March they will run a "Casino Night!" PHISIM welcomes contributions from individuals and companies as well and are grateful for your support!

OVER \$184,000 TO PHILADELPHIA STUDENTS



WAYS PHISIM MAKES AN IMPACT

- College Scholarships
- Funding a Teen Tech Camp
- Purchasing Software & Hardware for Philadelphia Schools
- Funding Internships for Tech Impact
- Mentoring Students



IT LEADERS
BRIDGING TO THE
COMMUNITY





PHISIM 2nd Annual Casino Night

Tuesday **24** March

RiverCrest Golf Club ~ Phoenixville, PA ~ 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

The PHISIM Foundation invites you to an evening of gaming, networking, and philanthropy at our second annual Casino Night.

Whether you're a high roller or a first-time player, every bet you place supports Philadelphia IT students by funding college scholarships, our teen tech camp, and essential hardware and software for elementary schools and middle schools.

What's included

The Gaming Floor: Unlimited bankroll for Roulette, Craps, Blackjack, Let It Ride, and Poker.

The Feast: Incredible food stations and our signature "overloaded" dessert & coffee bar.

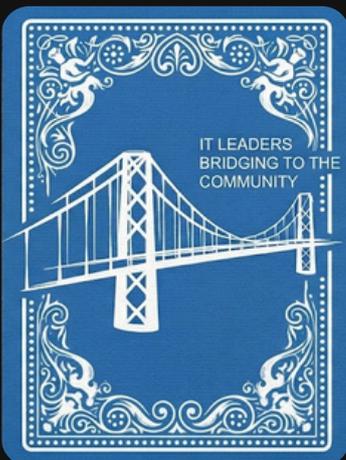
The Perks: Drink tickets included, plus an insta-print photobooth to capture the night.

The Prizes: Use your "winnings" to enter for fantastic raffle baskets and door prizes.



Or upgrade to a VIP ticket to transform your night into the ultimate experience!

Grow the Impact



Bring Guests! This event is open to everyone — Share this with your personal and professional network. There are group ticket options with great raffle benefits!

Bring your CREW and help us make this our biggest year yet!

Every ticket sold directly supports another student's future.

◆ [Click here to purchase tickets](#) ◆

Dress code: Smart Casual (Sharp enough for the photobooth!)

RECAP OF EVENTS

DECEMBER ENCLAVE

On Tuesday, December 9th we held our quarterly SIM Enclave dinner. SIM Enclave® is a small (10-15), select community of Executive Technology Leaders (CIO/CTO/CISO) who support one another's leadership and professional growth by meeting in person on a consistent basis. These social networks are hyper-local and limited in size to foster a genuine, connected community based on high-level trust and a deep sense of belonging. The experience offers an opportunity to discuss business strategy, career moves, and other confidential matters with your peers at a restaurant that provides a refined dining experience.



Anything “newsworthy” you want to share with your fellow SIM Philadelphia members?

 **SHARE**

Please contact any member of the Communications Committee. We would love to share any accomplishments, published articles, or simply good news with our members!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

[Click Here to REGISTER for SIM Philadelphia Events!](#)

<u>Description of Upcoming Events</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Rising Leader Forum Happy Hour - City Works	2/18/26	5:30pm
Happy Hour - La Cabre Brewery	2/20/26	11:30am
SIM Women Webinar - Dr. Lisa Palmer, "Show Don't Tell AI"	2/25/26	3:00pm
Networking Lunch - King of Prussia - True Food	3/5/26	5:30pm
SIM Philadelphia Dinner Meeting - Bala Golf Club	4/7/26	5:00pm
Princeton Happy Hour - Joint networking with SIM New Jersey - Brickhouse	4/22/26	6:00pm

** Our Members In Transition hold meetings every Monday from 10:00 - 11:00 am.

National Special Interest Groups have regularly scheduled webinars and events. Head to the [SIM National Programs Page](#) and sign in to your profile, you will see all the National SIGs under the Programs tab!

There are a ton of Special Interest Groups that you can participate in - from Enterprise Architecture, DigiRisk, ReThink Everything!, Work 4.0, SIM Women, IT Procurement, and Members in Transition. You'll also see the programs offered by the SIM Leadership Institute.

Many of these programs are included with your SIM Philadelphia membership, so check them out and get the most value from your SIM membership!



SIM PHILLY 2026 DINNER MEETINGS:

- Tuesday April 7, 2026
- Tuesday June 12, 2026
- Tuesday October 6, 2026
- Tuesday December 1, 2026

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SIM PHILLY COMMITTEES

get involved.
join a committee.

**Want to be more engaged in the activities and running of SIM Philadelphia?
Come join a committee.**

We are looking for additional committee members for:

- Ally Program
- Communications
- DEI Council
- Marketing
- Membership
- Partnership
- PHISIM Foundation
- Programs
- SIM Leadership Institute
- Sponsorship

We welcome you to get more engaged in SIM Philadelphia! Joining a committee will enhance your SIM experience, broaden your network and provide ways to give back. Please contact admin@simphila.org or the Committee Chair for more info!



[Join our SIM Philadelphia LinkedIn Group!](#)

SPONSORS

SIM Philadelphia is grateful to our sponsors!



WHERE
IT
LEADERS
CONNECT

LEARN. CONNECT. GIVE.

Each of these trusted partners have generously given of their time, talents, and treasure to support our chapter!

If you are aware of organizations that would benefit from visibility across SIM Philadelphia, please encourage them to contact:

Mike Stanziola, Sponsorship Chair at
m.stanziola@firstproinc.com.

Thank you to our annual sponsors!

