NEW DIRECTOR JOINS WALTON COLLEGE IT RESEARCH CENTER

(PHOTO: A photograph of Brad Lawless is available for download at http://advancement.uark.edu/)

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. – The Information Technology Research Center (ITRC) in the Sam M. Walton College of Business, University of Arkansas, has announced the appointment of Brad Lawless as managing director.

Bill Hardgrave, ITRC executive director and Edwin and Karlee Bradberry Chair, said, “We are very pleased to have someone of Brad’s experience and education join the ITRC. He brings the right combination of technical and business skills we need to serve our members, faculty and students.”

Lawless will be responsible for overseeing the operations of the ITRC on a day-to-day basis. He previously worked at Tyson Foods Inc., where he was a technical writer and programmer in the information systems department.

He also has held technical and management positions at J.B.Hunt Transport Services Inc., Wal-Mart Stores Inc., and Cerner Corporation. Lawless holds a bachelor of arts in English and a master’s degree in information systems, both from the University of Arkansas.
Lawless replaces Reed Doke, clinical professor of information systems, and Pamela J. Schmidt, executive-in-residence in the information systems department, who were both associate directors of the ITRC. Doke and Schmidt will return to teaching full time.

The ITRC was established in the Walton College in 1999 with a portion of the endowment created by the Walton Family Charitable Support Foundation gift of $50 million in 1998. The ITRC’s goal is to actively engage the business community in such activities as research projects, roundtables, workshops, conferences, and a variety of student-oriented events.

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