

Vijay Menta

Vijay Menta is the Chief Information Officer at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, where he provides strategic and operational leadership for technology services that support teaching, research, and institutional operations. With more than 27 years of experience in higher education and enterprise technology, Vijay is known for principled, people-centered leadership grounded in integrity, consistency, and service.

Vijay leads with the belief that culture drives outcomes and that values must be lived consistently, especially during periods of complexity and change. He emphasizes clarity of purpose, transparency in decision making, and steady execution, while maintaining reliable service delivery and advancing cybersecurity, infrastructure resiliency, and modernization efforts. His leadership style is calm, intentional, and rooted in doing the right thing, particularly when decisions are difficult.

A simple framework that guides Vijay's leadership is **AEIOU**, fondly referred to as Vowels of Values. It reflects his commitment to **Accountability** through ownership and follow-through, **Excellence** through continuous improvement rather than perfection, **Inclusion** by ensuring all voices are heard and valued, **Openness** through transparent communication and receptiveness to feedback, and a strong focus on **User Experience** to ensure technology and services truly serve the people they are intended to support. Together, these principles act as a practical compass for teams navigating change while staying aligned to shared purpose.

Vijay brings a distinctive interdisciplinary perspective to higher education technology leadership. He is a licensed Professional Engineer with academic training in civil engineering, master's in business administration, and has also recently completed a Chief Operating Officer certificate from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. This background allows him to approach IT as an integrated component of institutional operations, closely aligned with facilities, finance, public safety, and academic missions. His work is informed by systems thinking, fiscal stewardship, and long-term sustainability.

A defining aspect of Vijay's leadership is his commitment to people and professional growth. Through consistent communication and daily engagement, he reinforces expectations around ownership, empathy, and continuous improvement. He believes leadership is demonstrated through behavior rather than title and that strong organizations are built when individuals feel trusted, respected, and empowered. Mentorship and career development, particularly for early-career professionals and student employees, remain central priorities.

Vijay is deeply committed to service within the higher education IT community and values the peer learning and collaboration fostered through organizations such as NERCOMP and EDUCAUSE. If elected to the NERCOMP Board, he would bring a thoughtful, collaborative, and values-driven perspective focused on strengthening member engagement, advancing leadership development, and supporting institutions as they navigate increasing complexity. Vijay respectfully asks for the support of NERCOMP members as he seeks the opportunity to serve and give back to this community.