Serverless architecture questions
February 14, 2017 BILT meeting
Answered provided by BILT chair Matt Glover

* What skills will our students need to meet this trend?
Understanding Functions-as-a-Service and how they interrelate with each other as well as application containerization. This would be a great start to understanding Serverless Architecture.

* So what about hardware vendors? Are they going to disappear or only a few hardware purchasers?
No they will not disappear. They will become more consolidated as large providers start selling micro services capabilities at sub pennies on the transaction.

* Students should learn about AWS?
AWS and Azure are the key players in the services and cloud enabled market. In the near future 3-5 years I do not see that changing. They seem to buy up anyone with a new idea that could transform the industry and add it to their own feature sets.

* Is this literally serverless, or is it just sending the request to 3rd-party cloud servers? In other words, what is "physically" handling the service request?
Public hosted servers are handling the work load for IOPS, CPU, and Memory of the application. Please review the presentation...it should make this concept a lot clearer.

* Doesn't this play into DevOps? Students still need to understand network fundamentals.
DevOps is just a marketing word for what many IT teams have been doing for years. The reason DevOps is popular now...is that more automation is now in place to make this function much more meaningful. Network fundamentals are a great necessity and the physical connections (even if they are wireless) will live on for years to come.
Understanding Serverless Architecture is important as a simple port closure could wreck a application making the company millions of dollars an hour.