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Ellen Yu Borkowski is the Director of Academic Support in the University of Maryland's Office of Information Technology. In this position, Ellen is responsible for leading the unit's efforts in the integration of technology with pedagogy and research to meet the academic mission of the university. This is done by creating and supporting physical and virtual teaching, learning and research environments; by assisting those who use these environments to not only meet their teaching, learning or research goals, but be innovative in the process; and by fostering relationships with key partners, in formal and informal settings.

Ellen started her IT career as a programmer in an industry position prior to moving into the academic arena. She has spent the last 16 years focusing in the area of applying technology in support of teaching and learning. Ellen was involved in the building of the first Teaching Theater at Maryland back in the early 1990's when the university received a grant from the AT&T Foundation. She was instrumental in setting up the support structure for this type of facility so that faculty could still concentrate on their teaching and not worry about the technology while in this technology-rich environment. She has also served as the Instructional Multimedia Coordinator at North Dakota State University where she set up their first University Multimedia Center to help faculty integrate multimedia into their teaching. Her career at Maryland has grown from being the Coordinator of Instructional Technology Support to Director of Academic Support. She has also served as Interim User Support Director. Her current focus is on how to best provide technology support at the institutional level to help meet the university's academic mission.

Ellen has published and presented numerous articles all pertaining to instructional technology with a particular focus on supporting faculty in their use of technology. She currently serves as an Associate Editor for the International Journal of Distance Education Technologies and is actively engaged with professional organizations at the state level with the University System of Maryland and national level with EDUCAUSE and the EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative. In addition to her IT experience, Ellen is a member of the Peer Consulting Network at Maryland which is part of the Center for Leadership and Organizational Change where she volunteers as a consultant in their process consulting assignments. Ellen has earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer & Systems Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and a Master of Education in Education Policy, Planning, and Administration with a specialization in Curriculum Theory and Development from the University of Maryland.