CLOUD COMPUTING

This Information Technology Information Literacy Assignment will accomplish three things: (a) have students use the Library WebPage on Blackboard, (b) have students use and evaluate Information Technology websites, and (c) have students research an emerging topic in Information Technology.

The Information Technology field is still in the early stages of cloud computing. Companies are experimenting with mainframe-based clouds as cloud computing matures and as new modes of mainframes begin to offer more computing power at lower costs.

The five characteristics of a private cloud are (1) Scalable: high levels of utilization with large, mature data centers; (2) Accessible: users can provision resources on their own; (3) Elastic: appearance of infinite capacity on demand; (4) Shared: workloads are multiplexed and capacity is pooled; (5) Metered Consumption: ability to pay for use with no commitment. (Source: Corporate Executive Board's Infrastructure Executive Council, Arlington, VA)

The assignment involves students going onto the Library Webpage, clicking on the "Information Technology Resources" page and using the websites listed to locate results on "cloud computing". There will be questions about the number of results, the

most relevant postings, the most recent postings, etc.   In addition, the students will be

asked to search ebrary which is an electronic resource on the Library WebPage with

over 80,000 full-text books in every discipline including Information Technology.