Tod Bruning grew up in San Antonio, the son of a career Army Signal Corps officer. As an undergraduate at Texas A&M University, Tod was a member of the Texas Aggie Corps of Cadets, and spent his senior year in Australia where he received an appointment by the Lord Mayor of Brisbane Australia to intern at the Brisbane Office of Economic Development.

From 1995-1999 Tod served as a United States Peace Corps Volunteer stationed in northwestern Ghana, where he worked for a regional chamber of commerce group and opened one of the first public access points for internet and computer services in West Africa, developing a model that eventually became known as a community telecenter. His work was subsequently recognized by USAID and the World Bank, and in 1999 the project was a finalist in the Stockholm Challenge, a global competition on innovative approaches to using information technology for community development.

In 2001, Tod entered the graduate studies program at Tulane University, and studied the role of information technology in economic, social, and political development. In 2004, he received a United States Fulbright Fellowship to Sri Lanka, where he worked on the e-Sri Lanka Initiative, a World Bank-funded project that placed over 2000 telecenters in rural Sri Lanka. In the aftermath of the devasting2004 tsunami, Tod worked in Sri Lanka’s national response center where helped coordinate the use of the newly installed telecenters as data collection points for disaster relief operations.

In 2006 Tod returned home to San Antonio, where he took a position with the Alamo Colleges as the project liaison for a Texas Workforce Commission sponsored Skills Development Fund grant partnership with Rackspace Hosting. The grant, worth over $7 million, funded the training of over 5000 Rackspace employees, and over half a million contact hours of training by the Alamo Colleges. In 2013 Tod joined Rackspace as a Manager of Learning and Development for Rackspace University.