Benjamin J. Balter

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education

The George Washington University Law School
Washington, D.C.

Juris doctorate candidate — May 2013
- Technology Editor, The Public Contract Law Journal, authored published note arguing that federal IT procurement practices should be made more amenable to agile software development methodologies.

The George Washington University School of Business
Washington, D.C.

Master of Business Administration – Strategic Management and Public Policy — May 2013

The George Washington University
Washington, D.C.

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science — May 2009

experience

Executive Office of the President
Washington, D.C.

Presidential Innovation Fellow — July 2012 – Present
- Described by the US Chief Technology Officer as "the baddest of the badass innovators," serve as entrepreneur in residence reimagining the role of technology in brokering the relationship between citizens and government.

Fellow, Office of the US Chief Information Officer — January 2012 – July 2012
- Assisted with drafting, stakeholder outreach, and coordination of the release of the President's Digital Government Strategy, a fundamental reimagination of the role of technology in the public sector
- In response to presidential mandate requiring the release of open source software, coordinated and led negotiation of contract for code-sharing services including creation of records management plans under both the Federal Records and Presidential Records Acts
- Briefed senior White House officials on legal implications and licensing consideration surrounding the creation of government-funded open-source software collaborations
- Prepared US Chief Information Officer for public appearances including speech writing, messaging, and creation of multiple HTML5-based presentations
- Developed technical roadmap, prototyped, and implemented first-of-its-kind mechanism for agencies to report progress on the Digital Government Strategy

Software Automation and Technology (SWAT) Team — September 2011 – January 2012
- Created enterprise business solutions to automate and streamline business processes in support of the President of the United States as part of the White House's first-ever agile software development team.
- In close coordination with the Office of Federal Financial Management, lead development of prototypical government-wide, open-source classifieds system for sharing of federal real and other properties among executive agencies.
- Regularly met with and presented to C-level executives and key stakeholders to develop and support mission-critical applications including public data collection, White House comment line, goods and services tracking, and employee on-boarding and off-boarding.
- Developed application to catalog blackberry SMS and PIN messages to aid E-Discovery team and assure compliance with Federal Records Act, Presidential Records Act, and Freedom of Information Act.

Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C.

New Media Fellow, Office of the Managing Director — May 2010 – January 2012
- Negotiated agency-wide, federal service agreements with the web's top service providers including FISMA-compliant cloud hosting, social media, data manipulation, source code collaboration, and geospacial firms.
- Drafted website privacy policy, comment moderation policy, third-party privacy notices, and API terms of service for agency's reimagined web presence.
- Created legal and technical roadmaps to ensure compliance of new media platforms with White House Office of Management and Budget memorandums M-10-22 and M-10-23 governing federal agencies' use of website tracking technologies and third-party services.
- Supported New Media Team's procurement efforts, including scope of work, impact statement, and limited source justification drafting.
- Led adoption, implementation, and analysis of Google Analytics website visitor tracking statistics.
- Developed more than 30 in-house software tools including open-source website auditing and site-mapping software instrumental to evaluation of online presence spanning more than 1.2 million pages.

Google Summer of Code

Developer, WordPress Document Revisions — April 2011 – Present
- With stipend from Google, developed government- and enterprise-friendly, open-source document and workflow management system for WordPress, the content management system that powers nearly a quarter of new websites today.

technical skills

Web Development and Management
Expertise in modern web development methods (HTML, CSS, Javascript, MySQL, PHP); enterprise system architecture; application programing interfaces (APIs); WordPress management, development, and integration; search engine optimization; Google Analytics; and Unix system administration.