

Aalok Dhonju

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EDUCATION

Northern Kentucky University

Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Technology

CGPA: 3.938/4.00 | *Track:* Network and System Administration | *Minor:* Information Security

Honors: Eva G. Farris Informatics Scholarship (2025), US Bank Cyber Security Scholarship (2025, 2024), Fidelity NKU Hackathon Winner (2024), COI President's List (3x), Dean's List (COI & Haile COB), Haile Enrichment Fund (2022)

Activities: NKCYBER, Data Science Club (E-board Member), International Student Union, Campus Recreation, Student Government Association (Senator), PLUS Tutoring

Highland Heights, KY

Aug 2022 - Expected May 2026

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: Python, Bash, SQL, HTML/CSS, JavaScript, Visual Basic, R

Technologies: Cisco IOS, Microsoft Office, Adobe Suite, UNIX Systems, Splunk, Google Cloud Platform, Google Chronicle

Certifications: Certified in Cybersecurity, CompTIA Network+ CE, CATO SASE Expert Level 1, Cisco Network Technician Career Path, Google Cyber Security Certificate, McGraw Hill Level II Excel, Word & PowerPoint | credly.com/users/aalok-dhonju

WORK EXPERIENCE

Medpace Inc.

Network Engineering Intern

Cincinnati, OH

August 2025 - Present

- Resolved ServiceNow Zscaler ZIA, Zscaler client connector & Zscaler Private Access support tickets and monitored network alerts with SolarWinds to maintain secure, reliable connectivity.
- Assisted with deploying Cisco 9200CX switches using SecureCRT in conference rooms and IDFs.
- Installed Opendear appliances in the datacenter to provide resilient out-of-band management access.
- Conducted authenticated network scans across branch office IP ranges using the Tanium Comply module, improving visibility into potential vulnerabilities.
- Provisioned and validated servers in VMware vSphere by cloning and creating VMs.
- Used NetBox, Active Directory, Tanium Provisioning, and Lansweeper to ensure accurate documentation and asset tracking.
- Automated routine tasks with PowerShell, including extracting ACLs from directories and auditing group memberships in file storage servers.
- Developed Guardicore policies by reviewing access history to strengthen micro segmentation and reduce lateral movement risks.

Compass Group USA

Intern

2025

Highland Heights, KY

October 2023-August

- Administered and worked on migrating NKU Dine-On-Campus using proprietary GUI, regularly updating events and operational statuses.
- Analyzed marketing data from internal surveys, webpages, Oracle Hospitality, and Mashgin using Python, Excel, and Power BI to periodically provide the management team of 7 with insights into consumer behavior and expectations.
- Updated and improved 10 web pages on DineOnCampus.com/NKU using HTML and CSS.
- Managed over 20 digital displays using Wand Digital and optimized social media strategies for 4 platforms with Sprout Social.
- Automated marketing and newsletter emails using Python and VBA, serving over 200 subscribers, reducing manual effort by 30%.
- Assisted in planning dining events, creating marketing materials, and facilitating employee award programs for five cost centers.

Northern Kentucky University

Undergraduate Student Researcher

Highland Heights, KY

May 2024 – April 2024

- Conducted research on **SPHERE**: A Secure Provenance-Aware Hierarchical Ecosystem for Reliable Edge Computing Services, under Prof. Rasib Khan.
- Configured and managed six VMware vSphere instances for deploying and testing local database and edge computing servers.
- Deployed a MySQL Server with automated data handling via Python scripts and integrated secure data transfer using Java programs and the Spark API.
- Built a local Ethereum blockchain (Ganache) to process data blocks and implemented API-based load balancing.
- Secured IoT data streams from EdgeX Foundry through blockchain-based hash chains and cryptographic methods.
- Generated and analyzed research datasets using Seaborn, Matplotlib, and Pandas for visualization and reporting.

- Teaching Assistant for CIT 247 Networking Fundamentals under Professor Ken Roth in NKU's JRG Cyber Threat Intelligence Lab.
- Led 12 lab sessions, conducted 3 exam review sessions, and provided weekly office hours for 10 students.
- Support hands-on learning by assisting with setups for Cisco Nexus 7000 routers and Cisco 3750 switches in the class lab.
- Help configure GNS3 and Cisco AnyConnect to use and access the school UNIX VM instances for class coursework and labs.
- Assist students in mastering key networking concepts, including data link control, IP/TCP/UDP protocols, LAN/WAN deployment, wireless networking, switching, and security using Cisco IOS.

PUBLICATIONS

- S. Poudel, R. Khan, **A. Dhonju**, N. Miya, "SPHERE: A Secure Provenance-Aware Hierarchical Ecosystem for Reliable Edge Computing Services," *IEEE AlloT 2025, Seattle, WA, USA*. DOI: 10.1109/AlloT65859.2025.11105318

PROJECTS

CLI System Admin Application Using Python

December 2024

- A comprehensive system administration tool using Python to automate various tasks, including user management, system monitoring, file organization, and logging.
- Used Python Modules: OS, SUBPROCESS, ARGPARSE, CSV, LOGGING, SMTPLIB, TIME.

Home Lab – Local NAS (Samba) with Cross-Platform Access

April 2025

- Configured a Raspberry Pi as a network-attached storage (NAS) server using Samba, enabling access from macOS, Windows, and web browsers.
- Mounted shared directories on client systems and provided web access using Apache2 and Python HTTP server.

Home Lab – Local Webserver and VPN

March 2025

- Created a local Ubuntu server for client-server VPN and a Web server to host a personal portfolio website.
- Used technology: Raspberry Pi 4, NAT Forwarding, WireGuard, and Apache2

GNS3 Lab – Securing Layer 2

December 2024

- Protected a Cisco Network against a variety of threats like: CAM Overflow Attack, DHCP Snooping, and MAC Spoofing
- Used Port Fast, BPDU Guard, and Auto-recovery in Cisco 3850 alongside the creation of parking-lot VLANs for unused interfaces.