

Craig Edwards

	(706) 247-0750
	CEdwardsPhD@gmail.com
	linkedin.com/craig-edwards
	github.com/CraigEdwards

I am currently a freelance software engineer and data analyst, who has recently created two full stack apps. My [Bird on the Brain](#) app for birders uses Python in a Flask framework and Jinja templating, HTML, CSS, and Bootstrap. This app also employs SQLAlchemy for RESTful API calls to a PostgreSQL database. Furthermore, it allows users to search Cornell's international, crowd-sourced, token-protected eBird database, using a Python api wrapper. My [Bird Brain Philanthropy](#) React app is a riff on an eCommerce site, has a Python backend, API calls to public endpoints, a Firebase authentication system (allowing Google account login), and a Realtime Database (providing user cart persistence across sessions). I also have some experience with Java, C#, LINQ, Git, Vue, Express, MongoDB, Heroku, Git Pages, Pandas, and Matplotlib.

Additionally, I possess a unique set of advanced analytical and “soft” skills that the typical software engineer might not possess. Through my 20+ years as a professor of English, Dean,

and VP in higher education, I have developed strengths in areas such as these: data analysis, creative problem solving, written documentation, public presentation, collaboration, multi-tasking, strategic planning, foreign languages, leadership, conflict resolution, adaptability, crisis management, and customer service.

Based on my own hiring experience, references provide critical hiring data. So, as a first step in your reference-checking process, I invite your review of my [LinkedIn recommendations](#) and the following evaluations by my [faculty](#) and students.

Students:

- Thank you for taking the extra time to assist me in my work and make me a better student. . . You helped me to realize a bad grade doesn't always mean I'm failing but that I have room to improve.
- I honestly do not know if I would have made it this far without your guidance and words of wisdom.
- This course affected me in ways I never expected. It has been a tough course, if not the toughest. It has helped me expand my fixed mindset and I'm developing a growth mindset.
- Thank you for getting more out of myself than I thought was possible. I will use this experience to challenge myself to continue to learn more about the writing techniques I learned from this course.
- Dr. Edwards is by far the best instructor I have had to date. He pushes his students with difficult course work and critiques, but is always available and easy to get a hold of. He is very quick with his responses and extremely helpful and knowledgeable.

Faculty / Direct Reports:

- You push me to think harder and dig deeper on issues that I would otherwise not think about mainly because they do not affect my day to day duties (such as figuring out a way to make my program more efficient for faculty AND students.)
- Craig has taken charge of the dean's position with great attention to detail, organization, and administration. He has observed the need to address shortcomings, addressing problems with tact while seeking to find effective solutions for the good of the cause without attracting personal attention to these achievements.
- Craig is doing a terrific job! He relentlessly pursues pathways for improved student learning, student retention, educational excellence, equitable policies, clear procedures, honest and open communication, staff development, personal growth, equitable compensation for all, and genuine concern for all employees.
- Craig's strengths are his work ethic, passion, and desire for excellence within academics, care for his faculty and valiant efforts to create a spirit of collaboration for the purpose of scholarship.
- Craig facilitates scholarship initiatives and 'out of the box' thinking toward higher levels of student engagement.
- Craig likes to rely on data-driven tools.
- Craig is definitely committed to change, when needed, and is flexible to changing situations.
- Definitely objective, always fair. Decisions are sound, for the good of the institution.
- Your genuine concern for the well-being of your faculty is palpable and so very much appreciated by me. Life at IWU would be lacking without your sensitive . . . eyes and ears. You need do nothing more; stay who you are.

These are some of the skills that I would love to use to contribute to the aspirations of your clients.

J. A. Craig Edwards