

# Alex Clark



## About

Alex Clark is **President & Co-Founder of ACLARK.NET**. He is from Baltimore, Maryland, USA and is currently living in Bethesda, Maryland, USA. He has a **Bachelor of Science in Computer Science** from Loyola University in Maryland and has worked as a **DevOps Engineer, Network Engineer, Software Engineer, Systems Administrator, Technical Team Leader** and more since May, 1998. He is also the **President & Executive Director of DC Python**, a non-profit organization he co-founded to promote and support the use of Python software in DC.

## Profiles

**GitHub** (<https://github.com/aclark4life>) | **LinkedIn** (<https://linkedin.com/in/aclark4life>) | **Twitter** (<https://twitter.com/aclark4life>)

## Skills

Networking	Python	Systems	Web Development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• TCP/IP</li><li>• CIFS</li><li>• NFS</li><li>• DNS</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Django</li><li>• Pillow</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Apple macOS (Unix®)</li><li>• CentOS Linux</li><li>• Ubuntu Linux</li><li>• Microsoft Windows</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• HTML</li><li>• CSS</li><li>• JavaScript</li></ul>

## Education

### Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

**Loyola University Maryland**

January, 1999

<https://www.loyola.edu/academics/computer-science>

# Work Experience

## ACLARK.NET, LLC

### President & Co-Founder

2004 — Present

<https://aclark.net>

- Provide Python-based web development services to global community with strong local presence.
- Develop and deploy Python web applications with Django, Plone, Pyramid & Zope and related technologies e.g. HTML/CSS/JavaScript.
- Manage and maintain complex IT infrastructure with Amazon Web Services (AWS), CloudFlare, Rackspace Cloud, etc.
- Serve government, non-profit and private sector clients e.g. NASA, National Geographic Society and Socialcode (a Washington Post company.)
- Write articles on technical subjects, publish to professional blog: <https://blog.aclark.net>.
- Foster growth of small business from one part-time employee to two full-time employees with sub-contractors over ten years.
- Assist with creation of limited liability corporation (LLC) in 2005 to facilitate business partnership.
- Register trade name in 2004 with State of Maryland for sole proprietorship doing business as aclark.net.
- Provide mission-critical production operations support.

## Neurophysiology Imaging Facility (NIF) → Division of Intramural Research Programs (DIRP) → National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) → National Institutes of Health (NIH)

### Systems Administrator

March, 2013 — Present

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/labs-at-nimh/research-areas/research-support-services>

- Provide research services to NIH research community.
- Manage and maintain computers, software and related items for scientific core facility.
- Manage and maintain NetApp storage system featuring dual FAS-3240 and FAS-2240 controllers, SnapMirror and 200T data across 8 volumes, shared via NFS & CIFS, authenticated and authorized via NIH Windows domain controller.
- Manage and maintain Dell VMWare server with 11 virtual machines, each with 32G RAM & 8G disk, primarily used by researchers to perform data analyses with MATLAB software.
- Install and configure Ubuntu Linux, CentOS Linux, Apple macOS Unix and Microsoft Windows workstations and servers.
- Produce and maintain professional documentation with Sphinx software containing facility usage instructions and systems documentation.

- Research and purchase computers, software and related items through complex government purchasing system.
- Frequently surplus broken or unused computers and other items to effectively manage severe physical space limitations.
- Frequently update property manager with ownership and location status of accountable property for entry in NIMH property database.
- Provide desktop and mission-critical production operations support.

## **Scientific and Statistical Computing Core (SSCC) → Division of Intramural Research Programs (DIRP) → National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) → National Institutes of Health (NIH)**

May, 2002 — October, 2005

### **Systems Administrator**

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/labs-at-nimh/research-areas/research-support-services/sscc>

- Provided research services to NIH research community.
- Managed and maintained computers, software and related items for scientific core facility.
- Installed and configured Debian Linux, Fedora Core Linux, Redhat Linux, Apple OS X Unix and Microsoft Windows workstations and servers.
- Installed, configured and maintained Apache web server, Plone content management system, ProFTPD FTP server, OpenLDAP directory services, CIFS & NFS file sharing services, CVS version control system, and Arkeia tape backups.
- Researched and recommended computers, software and related items for purchase through complex government purchasing system.
- Analyzed network and computer security.
- Analyzed network performance with MRTG software.
- Provided Plone content management system instruction to content editors.
- Provided desktop and mission-critical production operations support.

## **Genuity**

### **Network Engineer**

October, 1998 — November, 2001

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BBN\\_Technologies](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BBN_Technologies)

- Developed Perl and Expect software to support remote configuration of over 2,000 Cisco 2511 Access Servers, Equinox Terminal Servers, and Cisco Catalyst 1900/2820 Ethernet Switches.
- Developed Perl CGI software to support remote configuration of access servers with over 4 ingress T1 data lines via SNMP e.g. Cisco 5400, Lucent APX 8000, Nortel CVX 1800.
- Configured over 2,000 Cisco Access Servers, Equinox Terminal Servers and Cisco Catalyst Ethernet Switches.
- Installed and configured Debian Linux, Redhat Linux, Sun Microsystems Solaris Unix and Microsoft Windows workstations and servers.
- Configured Linux kernel modules to support myriad network interface cards.
- Researched and resolved complex network connectivity issues.

- Verified successful negotiation of TCP, PPP and L2TP protocols through dial-up connections between client programs and remote access servers.
- Performed maintenance on AOLnet and BBN Dialinx dial-up networks.
- Provided mission-critical production operations support.

## Charm Net

### Systems Administrator

January, 1998 — August, 1998

<http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20070125005632/en/DataPoint-Acquires-Award-Winning-Charm-Net>

- Managed and maintained 4 BSDI Unix servers for over 2,000 internet service provider customers.
- Installed, configured and maintained DNS, NFS, Sendmail, Apache, INN and Dump/Restore software.
- Installed and configured computers and software for streaming FM radio to the internet.
- Installed and configured BSDI Unix servers and Microsoft Windows workstations and servers.
- Provided mission-critical production operations support.

## Loyola University Maryland

### Help Desk Technician

August, 1996 — November, 1997

<http://www.loyola.edu/departments/technology-services>

- Installed and configured Sun Microsystems Solaris Unix, Slackware Linux, Redhat Linux and Microsoft Windows workstations and servers.
- Performed installation and maintenance of computers and software in labs, offices, and dormitories.
- Provided technical support to students, faculty, and administrators via telephone and on site.

## Volunteer Work

### Pillow

#### Fork Author & Project Leader

July, 2010 — Present

<http://python-pillow.org>

- Forked popular Python Imaging Library (PIL) software to create frequently-updated and well-maintained version.
- Foster growth of core development team from single volunteer member to five volunteer members over five years.
- Write and submit grant proposal to fund Python 3 compatible version of Pillow; sent to Python Software Foundation February 28, 2013; passed unanimously on March 4, 2013.
- Implement and manage quarterly release schedule.
- Continuously oversee development to ensure best possible quality of releases.

## Parkwood Residents Association (PRA)

### Webmaster & Executive Committee Member

2014 — Present

<http://parkwoodresidents.org>

- Maintain website for PRA to serve residents of Parkwood community in Bethesda, MD.
- Attend committee and resident meetings to participate in discussions about community issues.
- Vote in quorum to affect PRA decisions and actions.

## DC Python

### Co-Founder & President

2008 — Present

<http://dcpython.org>

- Co-founded 501(c)(3) non-profit organization to promote & support Python software in DC.
- President of Board of Directors.
- Envisioned, co-organized and co-hosted Plone Conference 2008 in DC; largest yearly gathering of Plone developers and community; first US/Eastern location since inaugural event in 2003.
- Continuously oversee events to ensure best possible quality of service to community.
- Vote in quorum to affect DC Python decisions and actions.

## Awards

### Startup Row Winner PyCon 2012

#### PythonPackages

March, 2012

<http://pythonpackages.com>

*"PythonPackages began in October 2011 as a fun way to provide useful information to the Python community. Since then hundreds of folks have visited the site to feature their favorite Python packages, for a total of over 10K packages featured. New features have come regularly, and some new features are waiting in the wings, about to be launched."*

## Publications

### Plone 3.3 Site Administration

#### PACKT Publishing Limited

July, 2010

<https://www.packtpub.com/web-development/plone-33-site-administration>

*"Manage your site like a Plone professional."*

