AUSTIN J HUNT

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RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Digital Communications Developer / Webmaster - Dec 2019 to Present - *College of Charleston, Now Remote*

- **Cost reductions**: Reduce COTS costs by **$60K+** with automation scripting and full stack application development; reduce server costs with Docker containers; advocate lower-cost hosting strategies without risking service delivery
- **Defining and meeting needs**: Save **hundreds of hours across 50+ business units** by building **30+** REST APIs (Flask, Node/Express, PHP), full stack apps (Java Spring Boot, Django, React, PHP), scripts (Python, Bash, PowerShell, JS), and no-code solutions (Power Platform) for automation and system integrations
- **Public-facing development: Quickly** learn WP development to build & document new easy-to-use WP theme for public-facing high-traffic organization sites (e.g., 25K+ visits / month); develop, deploy, & maintain customer-facing features for high-traffic (50k+ visits per month) charleston.edu sites (e.g., admissions, continuing education programs, library, etc.)
- **Tech advocacy:** Lead **CI/CD adoption** with GitHub Actions, **reducing deployment times by 90%**; train IT teams upon request on Git workflows and PR reviews to improve code version control and quality; provide demo use cases of Docker, Ansible, & GitHub Copilot within IT; push broader use of O365 Power Platform, SharePoint, and Teams across campus where feasible; encourage use of digital solutions to replace thousands of inaccessible PDFs; push internal **Postman** usage to boost collaboration and centralize documentation around APIs
- **Network architecture**: Work closely and frequently with network security team to troubleshoot and deploy within zero-trust network architecture; script new VM templates with focus on integration with network monitoring and alerting system Icinga 2 for better scalability; leverage container networking and reverse proxies for containerized apps with databases and caches; learn to troubleshoot networking between containers, hosts, internal and external networks, and the role played by NAT gateways, virtual servers, and host/network firewalls (handy even for front end development)
- **Security focus:** Improve and maintain security posture on **30+** Ubuntu & RHEL servers; integrate servers with Splunk SIEM for better event visibility; slash service outage frequency with stricter content security policies, path blocking for common attack targets, rate limiting, forced HTTPS, strict firewall rules and limited SSH access; use **threat modeling** to identify and patch weak points; configure RBAC & SSO with Azure AD for custom and COTS apps to adhere to the least privilege access model; prioritize secure storage of credentials during development and secure authentication methods for deployed apps
- **External integrations:** Correspond with **10+ external software vendors**; leverage SDKs/APIs for smooth enterprise system integrations; research external solutions & help organize bids when in-house is not an option
- **Leadership & communication:** Lead **weekly** IT meetings for **3+** years; onboard & train employees; create, edit, share training videos & KB resources; prioritize harmonious relationships, clear communication, & quick turnarounds across campus with frequent customer-facing calls; lead the adoption of open source network monitoring system across IT teams
- **Rapid learning:** Quickly learn and adapt to **dozens** of SaaS & PaaS solutions, in-house legacy systems, and open source software projects to aid in trainings, documentation, implementations, integrations, migrations, and web support/ITSM; learn OBS video editing for creating high-quality training videos

Freelancer on Upwork (with great reviews) - June 2023 - Present - *Upwork.com, Greenville, SC*

- Consulting on developing, troubleshooting, & deploying a web app with Laravel, Vue, Docker
- Planning, architecting, designing, documenting, and building an automation framework around the internet's largest business for sale exchange with Selenium, Docker, AWS ECR (Elastic Container Registry), AWS S3, AWS Lambda, AWS CLI, AWS IAM; project on GitHub: bizbuysell-automation; involved many iterations with an agile approach as new needs and issues appeared, and many meetings with the client
- Python programming with the Python Aries Cloud Agent (ACA-Py), a library for building decentralized identity apps and services in non-mobile environments; met with client often for iterative feedback
- Using Python, REST APIs, and BeautifulSoup to automate merged data collection, processing, and cleaning from IBEW.org (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers) and unionfacts.com; project on GitHub: ibew-data-scraper

Temp (full time, hourly) - May 2019 to Dec 2019 –*College of Charleston, Charleston, SC*

- Implement network monitoring and alerting for 1000+ hosts with open source software Icinga 2 (had to learn the architecture quickly and closely collaborate with networking team due to zero trust network architecture)
- Configure distributed infrastructure (7 server cluster) with Ansible and script custom service checks with NCPA, Python, Bash, ICMP, SNMP, and SSH; script custom alerting via Teams, email, SMS for each IT team
- Eliminate bottlenecks by building Django SSO-enabled app with RBAC for each team to manage their own server monitoring

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Student Network Engineer – Oct 2017 to May 2019 – *College of Charleston, Charleston, SC*

● Automate network device firmware upgrades with Python; handle zero-downtime installs and configs with CLI; train new employees

EDUCATION: M.S. Computer Science, Vanderbilt University. B.S. Computer Science, College of Charleston.

CERTIFICATIONS: AWS Certified Solutions Architect (in progress, expected Q2 2025); CKA (Certified Kubernetes Administrator); DCA (Docker Certified Associate); PCAP (Certified Associate Python Programmer)

FAVORITE PROJECTS

An Automated Testing Framework for Evaluating Couchbase as a Distributed Datastore - automating the testing & analysis of Couchbase as a distributed datastore along a variety of standard metrics in a virtualized network environment created with AWS EC2 virtual servers, and generating graphical results
Stack: Couchbase, Python SDK for Couchbase, AWS EC2, Ansible, and Python to drive basically everything
Roles: Developer, tester, experimenter, architect

A Python Framework for Load-Balanced, Fault-Tolerant Publish/Subscribe Distributed Systems Built With ZeroMQ, an asynchronous messaging library and Apache Zookeeper, a distributed coordination service - 3rd iteration of a Python framework for automatically provisioning and deprovisioning publish/subscribe systems on virtual networks with Mininet, but can be extended to cloud virtual networks
Stack: VirtualBox, Mininet, Apache Zookeeper with Python kazoo, ZeroMQ, unittest, Python 3
Roles: Developer, tester, experimenter, architect, devops engineer

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Data Pipelining with Kafka, Zookeeper, and CouchDB – Implementing and testing a distributed data pipeline with automated provisioning and deprovisioning of clustered cloud architecture
Stack: Ansible, Vagrant, Docker, Kubernetes, Apache Zookeeper, AWS, Chameleon, Apache Kafka with the kafka-python SDK, Apache Spark for data processing, and CouchDB as a NoSQL data sink
Roles: developer, tester, experimenter, architect, devops engineer

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Cyberbull – Java Spring Boot full stack application built to explore and implement Gang of Four design patterns in the context of stocks and personal finance by simulating a full brokerage account management platform
Stack: Java Spring Boot, Yahoo Finance, the Open Source YFinance Java SDK, Docker, Docker Compose, & NewsAPI
Roles: full stack developer, architect, troubleshooter, deployer, demonstrator

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Go-Gemini – Exploring Golang against the Gemini Exchange API, with functions for public and private API endpoints. **Language**: Go / **Roles**: Solo developer

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NovaBrains.ai – LLM-assisted, LMS-integrated digital textbook platform for educators and learners alike for building and using engaging, interactive courses. In collaboration with Ayman Hajja, PhD.
Stack: AWS (CLI, SAM, R53, EBS, S3, Lambda, Cloudwatch, IAM), Python, JS, GitHub Actions, React JS, Material UI, Django REST Framework, OpenAI ChatGPT API (completions, embeddings), Swagger, Slack, Jira, GCP, reCAPTCHA, Postman, OAuth2, ToTP MFA, Sentry for app monitoring and alerting
Roles: Collaborator, cloud architect, devops engineer, full-stack co-developer

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StudyRocket.ai – AI-powered, on-the-fly interactive quiz generation about anything you want to study. In collaboration with Ayman Hajja, PhD.
Stack: AWS (CLI, SAM, R53, EBS, S3, Lambda, Cloudwatch, IAM), Python, JS, GitHub Actions, React, Material UI, Django REST Framework, OpenAI ChatGPT API (completions, embeddings), Swagger, Slack, Jira, GCP, reCAPTCHA, ToTP MFA, Postman, Sentry for app monitoring and alerting
Roles: Collaborator, cloud architect, devops engineer, full-stack co-developer