



Brandon
Ellington

Networked+Social
Systems Engineer



June 25 1993



United States



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About me

Using systems thinking to link big picture insights with individual experiences, I make the necessary connections to help teams move forward faster.

Interests

- Building technical and social trust into systems.
- Measuring growth in creative and valuable ways.
- Using critical thinking to empower organizations to make change.

Skill

Systems Engineering



Critical Thinking



Python



Social Data Mining



Version Control



emacs*3.4 shell*3.4 database
querying*3 org-mode*3
object-oriented programming*2.9
image provisioning*2.5 clojure*2.1
php*2

(*)[The skill scale is from 0 (Fundamental Awareness) to 6 (Expert).]

education

2017-2020 Bachelor's of Science
Networked and Social Systems Engineering

The Evergreen State College

2017-2020 Bachelor's of Arts
Philosophy

The Evergreen State College

awards, activities, and achievements

June 2019 Innovation Across the Americas Award Recipient
2017-2019 Lynda.com CRM Advancement Fellow
October 2018 Equity Honors Nominee
2017-2018 Student Representative to the Evergreen Board of Trustees
February 2018 Featured Speaker: DRIVE Conference 2018
October 2017 Speaker: Return to Evergreen- Governor's Mansion Event
June 2017 Computer Engineering Scholarship
June 2017 Presidential Equity Advisor

projects

09/17-Pres. IPDE: Integrated "Personal Development" Environment GitHub
The Evergreen program "Student-Originated Software" demonstrated the value of computational kindness: the ethical principle of lowering the cognitive burden on ourselves and others, inspired by efficient algorithms. Within the program I created a reproducible virtual machine image of an extended cognitive system for development and personal information management, which leverages Org-mode within Emacs. I continue to use and improve the software on a daily basis. Link to my provisioning repo: <https://github.com/branjem4/branos-provisioning.git>

01/19-08/19 Campus Systems Engagement Project Evergreen
For my capstone, I applied systems theory and an interdisciplinary analysis of networks to augment participatory governance on campus. Through interviews and use of causal loop diagrams I identified key campus partnerships between faculty, staff, and students. My work culminated with presenting a workshop showcasing my discoveries to a group of faculty and staff in their summer institute series.

04/17-09/18 Governance Optimization Project Evergreen Student Government
Inspired by the Evergreen program "Language and Power," along with insights from ethics and technology seminars, I advocated for a governance optimization project involving representatives of the student body and Services and Activities Fee Allocation Board members, then led its execution. The purpose of the project was to responsibly use both bureaucratic and charismatic power to improve the student experience, through using better communication structures, technology upgrades, and a strong sense of vision.

06/17-09/17 Enterprise Web Application Refactor- Student Elections Evergreen
Engineering an enterprise web application refactor to improve student elections on campus taught me about building both technical and social trust into a system through requirements gathering, sprint planning, database design, unit testing, and version control. Systematized elements such as the Agile methodology and user-interface design increased my interest in quantifying the process of building trust itself, influencing future study. Project used PHP and Drupal.

04/17-06/17 Sentiment Analysis (ALICE awareness) United Way of Pierce County
I led a team collecting social data and using sentiment analysis within Python and R in collaboration with United Way of Pierce County to help them answer this question: "What actions can we take to reshape the system that created Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE) households?" I rose to the challenge of putting the "social" in "social data mining"- exercising initiative, soft skills, and servant leadership to ensure the project's success.