

Christopher Tastad | Resume

☎ (612) 817-7989 • ✉ ctastad@gmail.com • 🌐 ctastad • in ctastad

Education

Bioinformatics, MS

University of Minnesota, Bioinformatics and Computational Biology

Capstone: Copy number variation in ovarian cancer from single cell and whole exome sequencing data.

Minneapolis, MN

Dec 2019

Biochemistry, BS

University of Minnesota, College of Biological Sciences

Minneapolis, MN

May 2011

Skills

Languages: R, BASH, L^AT_EX, MARKDOWN, SQL, HTML, CSS, XML

Platforms: Linux, GIT, NGINX, APACHE, Relational Databases, Oracle, Vim, wordpress, virtualization, proxmox, docker, HPC, vector graphics, visualization

Packages: rmarkdown, shiny, ggplot2, dplyr, BioC, SummarizedExperiment, DNACopy, GRL PACKAGES

Genomics: samtools, bwa-mem, CNV (VarScan2, Excavator), single cell (Seurat)

Statistics: Hypothesis testing, Simple/Multiple/Poisson Regression, A/B Testing, Contingency Testing, ANOVA, Survival Analysis, K-means, PCA, K-nearest neighbor, SVM, Bayesian Networks, Functional Linkage Networks

Benchwork: DNA/RNA/protein isolation and analysis, western blotting, PCR, ELISA, luciferase, immunostaining, histology, epigenetic analysis, FACS, mammalian cell culture

Experience

Graduate Research Assistant

Department of OBGYN, Starr Lab

Minneapolis, MN

May 2019 — Present

- Executed full rewrite of cancer gene web app; deployed new framework, reduced codebase, removed need for SQL database.
- Conducted Bioinformatic research into copy number variation within the Ovarian Cancer Precision Medicine Initiative.
- Leveraged comprehensive statistical and computational approach to study whole exome and single cell sequencing cancer data.

Load Planning Engineer

United Parcel Service, Industrial Engineering

Minneapolis, MN

Oct 2018 — Present

- Primary authority in guiding all load functions for 112 outbound doors; mediating hub, feeder, and engineering priorities.
- Advance district level interests through industrial engineering technologies for operational, flow, and system analysis.
- Operate with a wide latitude in exploring opportunities for cost saving measures for management and stakeholders.
- Generate daily cost savings through identification and elimination of trailer runs which average to a value of \$500-1000.

Supervisor

United Parcel Service, Small Sort

Minneapolis, MN

Oct 2017 — Oct 2018

- Managed a team of 35 employees in largest operational unit in the Northern Plains District HQ sort hub.
- Delivered an immediate 15% production increase to area within first month (representing 40% of daily volume).
- Developed never-before-seen improvement projects leading to missort elimination and training with disability access.

Package Sorter

United Parcel Service

Minneapolis, MN

June 2017 — Oct 2017

Graduate Research Assistant

National Marrow Donor Program, Bioinformatics

Minneapolis, MN

Jan 2016 — July 2017

- Employed scientific method as an investigator in a corporate R&D department with a focus in hematological cancers.
- Took both basic and clinical approach to investigation in cell therapy, immunology, and organ transplant genetics.
- Aided development of initiative around IP generation using existing company technology and 13 million patient database.

Biorepository Technician

National Marrow Donor Program, Research Repository

New Brighton, MN

Sept 2014 — Jan 2016

- Conducted specimen processing in high-throughput clinical laboratory facility, processing 1000s of samples per day.
- Managed 300k patient database and long-term storage for FDA and Clinical Trials Network samples using GLP.
- Contributed to larger registry activities maintaining Be The Match patient-donor sample receiving, storage, and typing.

Banquet and Dining Server**Minneapolis, MN***Minneapolis Club**Oct 2013 — Sept 2014*

- Performed setup, service, and take down for dining room and banquets ranging from chef's table dinners to events of 500+.
- Trained in the manner of French service and hospitality to maintain an elite level of accommodation and experience.
- Participated in maintenance and building upkeep when called upon by external departments.

Co-founder**St. Anthony, MN***Face to Face Organics LLC.**July 2012 — Jan 2014*

- Co-founded a personal care products start up that connected social activism with our product and its use.
- Deployed company's operating software stack on limited budget with minimal upfront cost and sustained overhead.
- Established company systems around e-commerce, CRM, distribution, logistics, accounting, sales tracking, and inventory.

Research Associate**Minneapolis, MN***The Stem Cell Institute, Asakura Lab**Dec 2007 — Jan 2013*

- Performed basic science research with a focus in skeletal muscle development, receiving 4 co-authorships.
- Well versed in full spectrum of molecular biology, histology and cell biology wet lab techniques and diagnostics.
- Authored significant writing efforts for group manuscripts and major grant awards, including a successful R01 bid.

Teaching Assistant**St. Paul, MN***University of Minnesota, CBS Biol2004**Sept 2009 — May 2012*

- Led teaching lab that included an integrative, research-focused curriculum, highlighting significant independent discovery.
- Consistently called on by course instructor for consultation in the improvement of course materials and curriculum.
- Received highest rating among all course TAs as indicated by students in post-semester evaluations for 2012 year.

Founder, Lobbyist, and Chairman**Minneapolis, MN***Minnesota Student Legislative Coalition**Oct 2009 — July 2012*

- United leaders from all 5 U of M campuses to form the active student lobby, earning the University's endorsement.
- Directed wide range of issues: education funding, loan rates, textbook pricing, campus safety, and veteran accreditation.
- Trained and supervised a team that guided the authorship of 4 student-specific bills during 2012 state legislative session.