

JESSICA M. PAZ

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PROGRAM MANAGER | TECHNICAL LIAISON | DATA LINGUIST

- Engaging problem solver and leader of multi-functional teams, a background in Computer Science, Linguistics, and Military Leadership with over 3-years in improving Department of Defense (DoD) adoption of innovative technology
- Focused integrator with exceptional knowledge of Natural Language Processing (NLP), with a keen ability to use Machine Learning models for relevant applications and a continuous eagerness to learn
- Demonstrates analytical and leadership skills. Specifically interested in merging these areas of expertise to drive decision-making, field innovative technology, and help improve policies within organizations.

“Jessica is a stalwart officer with unbounded drive and energy, handpicked for the Defense Innovation Unit internship program.”

- Colonel Pyles

SKILLS

- Python • Git • TensorFlow • BERT • Word2Vec • Java • Program Management: Salesforce, JIRA, Confluence • Languages: English (fluent), Spanish (fluent)

EDUCATION

Boston University — *Master of Science in Computer Science*

JUNE 2017 - PRESENT

- Focused in NLP exploring multiple tools such as, Tensor Flow, BERT, Word2Vec

University of Texas (UT), Austin — *Bachelor of Science, Computer Science and Linguistics*

AUG 2012 - JUNE 2017

- Analyzed n-gram models for the Bilingual Annotation Task Research Group integrating NLP
- Led military computer science research and web development for the Center for Agile Technology
- Served in numerous leadership positions for the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC)

EXPERIENCE

Defense Innovation Unit, Cambridge — *Cyber Portfolio Program Manager & Defense Engagement Deputy*

JUNE 2020 - PRESENT

- Piloted efforts for multi-DoD and multi-vendor cybersecurity technology solicitations for \$10M in initial contract awards
- Coordinated forums to discuss innovative solutions with key stakeholders and time-sensitive problem lists
- Directed 5 member team of engineering & contracting specialist to help evaluate multiple solicitations

Aerospace Management Systems Division, Hanscom AFB — *Executive Officer*

APRIL 2019 - JUNE 2020

- Led operations for a 325 person program management organization, executing a \$5.2B Life Cycle Cost portfolio
- Executed real-world unit security and readiness contingencies/events & oversaw personnel strategy & system execution
- Integrated PEO's "Go Learn" vision, complementarily embraced Congress' mandate for "new abnormal" amidst pandemic

Weather Data Analysis, Hanscom AFB — *Project Manager*

JUNE 2018 - JUNE 2019

- Steered 90 military & civilian teams for a \$243M program; spanning 7 organizations
- Managed program cost, schedule, and performance
- Energized joint Oak Ridge National Lab high performance computing upgrade, shaping \$2M weather systems
- Led weather data market research preventing 3-month weather service interruptions for 20K global weather end-users

Deployable Instrument Landing Systems, Hanscom AFB — *Program Manager*

JUNE 2017 - JUNE 2018

- Identified Instrument Landing rail test opportunity during operational testing, avoided 12-month delay & \$100K in losses
- Managed Amazon Web Services cloud computing integration, led 3 vendors & 5 DoD organizations for \$500K migration

- Prepared Federal Aviation Administration safety documents, mitigated 2 major flight deficiencies for Air Force operations
Malauzai, Digital Banking, Austin — *Intern turned Hire*
JUNE 2017 - JUNE 2018

- Conducted market research in mobile banking ecosystem, allowed CEO to determine 5-year resource allocation strategy
Longhorn Leasing, Austin — *Texas Real Estate Agent*
JUNE 2016 - JUNE 2017

- Earned Texas Real Estate License, served as the expert in the student-housing marketplace for dozens of UT students

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

- **Defense Innovation Unit (DIU), Rapid Analysis of Threat Exposure** — *Volunteer Participant*
SEP 2020 - PRESENT

- Volunteered for RATE, a research study aiding in COVID-19 detection & prevention through biometrics and geolocation

- **Hanscom Air Force Base Honor Guard** — *Honor Guard Officer*
JUNE 2017 - JUNE 2019

- Served as an Air Force Honor Guard Member leading multiple funeral services for veterans and active duty personnel

- **Cambridge Running Club & Air Force Veterans' Day 5K Dash** — *Deputy Coordinator*
JUNE 2017 - JUNE 2018

- Led base-wide 5K and running events to stimulate fitness culture within both Cambridge and Hanscom Air Force Base

- **University of Texas Senate of College Councils, Faculty Affairs** — *Co-Chair*
JUNE 2013 - JUNE 2017

- Passed policy to allow female and male professors to receive paid paternity leave, fostering equality in the workplace
- Directed campus Faculty Appreciation Week, coordinated multiple speakers, prized student nominated faculty awards

AWARDS & CERTIFICATES

- **Coursera - Machine Learning Course**
PRESENT

- **Welcoming Address for Eric Schmidt & Dr. Amy Zegart, DIU**
MARCH 2021

- **Joint Service Medal, Air Force**
JUNE 2020 - JUNE 2021

- Received award for integral role as the Defense Engagement Deputy for the Cyber Portfolio in a tri-service DIU mission

- **Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force**
JUNE 2020

- Received award for three years of impact in multiple positions within the Aerospace Management Systems Division

- **Division Level Quarterly Team Award (Team) & Division Level Spirit Award (Individual)**
JUNE 2019

- **Program Management Professional Training**
JUNE 2018

- Received Program Manager training in Wright Patterson Air Force Base, FAM 103, receiving a certificate of honors.

- **Scholarships & Awards from the University of Texas**
JUNE 2016- JUNE 2017

- Received Cadet Arnies Award for \$3K dollars, won award as the fastest female at 9:20 minutes for 1.5 mile run.