

James Sumners

Specialties: JavaScript, Linux

A software engineer with a background in Linux administration

<https://james.sumners.info/>

Experience

Knock

Senior Software Engineer, May 2020 – March 2022

Software Engineer, May 2018 – May 2020

I was a backend software engineer specializing in Node.js based development with JavaScript. In this position I:

- Built and maintained the frameworks the backend services were built upon
- Built and maintained internal tooling to make developers's day-to-day easier
- Built and maintained tooling to run audits against all Git repositories maintained by the organization
- Worked with project managers, designers, and frontend engineers to build RESTful services to solve business needs, including modeling data to be stored in MySQL databases
- Stayed abreast of changes in the technology stack to keep it updated with the latest security advisories
- Provided guidance to our devops for the requirements our backend systems needed for deployment
- Developed and maintained the Docker images used for deploying services
- Built RESTful services to integrate internal and third party data
- Built a resilient webhook ingestion system atop Fastify, AWS SQS, and AWS Lambda with Go
- Implemented eventing between services with AWS Lambda and AWS SQS
- Lead a weekly cross team open meeting that gave backend engineers space to discuss their work and discovered challenges
- Mentored junior engineers and peers
- Assisted with interviewing to hire new backend engineers that would be a culture and talent fit for the team
- Lead initiatives around open source, including informing the crafting of a company open source contribution policy

Clayton State University (Technology Infrastructure)

Linux System Administrator, November 2014 – April 2018

I was the lead system administrator for all Linux systems used by Clayton State University. In this position, some of my various duties included:

- Implementing SSL termination and load balancing for campus websites using HAProxy and UCarp
- Primary administrator for all Linux based servers (50+)

- Maintained and packaged Red Hat RPMs
- Setup and administered Red Hat Satellite
- Used Ansible to manage configuration
- Developed campus student web portal

Clayton State University (Enterprise Applications)

Database Developer/Linux Administrator, March 2009 - November 2014

In this position I was a web developer, database developer, and Linux system administrator. Some of my accomplishments in this position include:

- Developed a replacement SSO connector for Ellucian's Luminis 4 web portal
- Wrote and maintained Oracle PL/SQL packages to facilitate backend operations, e.g. scheduled emails with inline attachments and data integration between systems
- Maintained all Linux systems powering the campus Student Information System (Banner)
- Developed a two-factor authentication add-on for the campus's Luminis 4 implementation
- Developed REST based web APIs for data integration between systems like the Student Information System and the campus web portal

Platypus Web Productions

Lead Web Developer, April 2009 – December 2009

Platypus Web Productions was a short lived independent web design and development firm established by me and a partner. In my role as the web developer I:

- Developed a simple PHP templating engine for use in client projects
- Worked with the lead designer to devise workable web site designs
- Implemented web site designs from lead designer in PHP, HTML, and CSS
- Implemented dynamic functionality of designs using JavaScript and jQuery

Skill Set Summary

Node.js

JavaScript

Fastify

Docker

AWS Lambda

AWS SQS

MySQL

Git

Mentorship

Effective Communication

Open Source

Education

B.Sc., Mathematics; Clayton State University (Morrow, GA)

References

Available upon request