Leo Jweda

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WORK EXPERIENCE

ApplyBoard

ApplyBoard connects international students and recruitment partners to educational opportunities at institutions around the world.

Senior Software Developer   May 2022 – Oct 2023

Technologies: AWS, CSS, HTML, JavaScript, MySQL, Nest, Node.js, Ruby, Ruby on Rails, TypeScript.
Accomplishments:
- Served as the senior developer on ApplyBoard's upcoming major project, demonstrating exceptional technical acumen and guiding the team towards successful implementation.
- Spearheaded the development of a dynamic feature flagging and A/B testing library, optimizing software functionality, and enabling agile experimentation, showcasing autonomy.
- Undertook regular and co-op interview roles, contributing significantly to the assessment and selection of potential candidates.
- Engineered a reusable NestJS logging module, enhancing system monitoring practices and addressing complexity.

Senior Software Developer   Nov 2020 – May 2021

Technologies: AWS, CSS, Express, HTML, JavaScript, MySQL, Node.js, Okta, Ruby, Ruby on Rails, TypeScript.
Accomplishments:
- Displayed adept leadership skills by facilitating open discussions, deftly managing challenging team dynamics, and cultivating a collaborative and productive work environment.
- Achieved an impressive 80% enhancement in test speed, translating to more than 1 hour saved per build and a substantial reduction in cycle time and cost.
- Developed an in-house logging library, amplifying internal operational efficiency and facilitating standardized and consistent message logging.
- Engineered a versatile proxy solution, enabling internal API consumers that lacked cookie authentication to seamlessly utilize JWT, thus enhancing accessibility and security.
- Collaborated effectively with internal stakeholders, ensuring alignment between technical implementations and business objectives.
- Played a key role in managing organizational change, guiding the successful adoption of new libraries developed in-house, resulting in enhanced efficiency and innovation.

Shopify

Shopify helps people achieve independence by making it easier to start, run, and grow a business.

Developer   Jun 2021 – Apr 2022

Technologies: CSS, GraphQL, HTML, JavaScript, MySQL, React, Ruby, Ruby on Rails.
Accomplishments:
- Actively engaged in Shopify's B2B mission, demonstrating exceptional autonomy and ownership from requirements gathering through design and development stages.
- Made substantial contributions to enhance Shopify's internal knowledge management tool, fostering a culture of collaboration and information sharing across the organization.
- Orchestrated the development of a dynamic replacement tool for Shopify's internal engineering job postings system, revolutionizing the hiring process and optimizing resource allocation.
- Took complete ownership of a feature, orchestrating its development end-to-end, ensuring a cohesive and seamless integration within the existing systems.
- Proactively identified gaps in project requirements, providing invaluable insights to refine and enhance the project scope and deliverables.

Drop

Drop is a rewards app that allows users to shop at the brands they love, and automatically get rewarded.

Software Developer   Nov 2019 – Apr 2020

Technologies: PostgreSQL, React, React Native, Ruby, Ruby on Rails, and TypeScript.
Accomplishments:

- Spearheaded a profound transformation of the app, orchestrating a seamless and strategic redesign to align with Drop's shift from a shopping-focused platform to a dynamic lifestyle-oriented hub.
- Played a pivotal role in a customer-centric initiative, contributing to the development of a feature enabling users to redeem points for gift cards. This initiative significantly enhanced user engagement and satisfaction.
- Orchestrated a substantial refactoring initiative, enhancing data gathering capabilities, fortifying traceability, and expediting issue resolution for the operations team during redemption processes.
- Elevated test coverage for a feature-flagged modification, orchestrating an exhaustive and meticulous validation of pivotal functionality, thereby fortifying product reliability and user experience.

Financeit

Financeit helps businesses boost their sales by allowing them to offer point-of-sale loans for their products and services.

Software Developer   Jan 2018 – Nov 2019

Technologies: AWS, Bootstrap, CSS, HTML, JavaScript, Elasticsearch, Looker, MySQL, Ruby, and Ruby on Rails.
Accomplishments:

- Led the successful execution of the loan renewals project, facilitating monthly loan sales exceeding $3 million.
- Advocated for experimentation within the development lifecycle by seamlessly integrating an A/B testing framework, mentoring developers, and incorporating insights into analytical processes with the Business Intelligence team.
- Orchestrated the upgrade of Ruby on Rails to a new major version, bolstering test coverage by more than 5%.
- Shared knowledge and experience to foster learning and growth while providing advice on standards, methods, tools, and processes relevant to the group's specialization.
- Collaborated with internal stakeholders using a data-driven approach to enhance Operations team efficiency, resulting in a substantial monthly time saving of over 100 hours.
- Ensured exceptional website availability, maintaining an uptime through proactive and reactive strategies.
- Enhanced website security by eliminating known vulnerabilities, including addressing threats like cross-site scripting, SQL injection, and other Ruby-on-Rails-specific issues, resulting in zero known vulnerabilities.
- Demonstrated operational management leadership by analyzing requirements, advising on continual operational improvement, and assessing and evaluating risk.

Green Brick Labs

Green Brick Labs develops various cryptocurrency applications including a Bitcoin-powered internet gambling platform.

Junior Developer   Aug 2016 – Dec 2017

Technologies: Actionhero, Bitcoin, Cryptocurrency, JavaScript, MariaDB, and Node.
Accomplishments:

- Assumed a temporary team lead role, efficiently coordinating tasks and ensuring project milestones were met during the designated tenure.
- Mentored new team members, providing comprehensive guidance on the codebase, organizational culture, and performance expectations.
- Conducted engaging and informative software demos, showcasing product features and technical capabilities to stakeholders and clients.
- Played an instrumental role in the Hiring Committee, leading technical job interviews and proposing enhancements to the interview process.
- Engaged in architecture discussions, translating UI mock-ups into robust API and database designs, and breaking down complex features into manageable development tasks.
- Managed a challenging client relationship, effectively addressing concerns and ensuring successful collaboration throughout the project lifecycle.

eCenter Research

eCenter Research specializes in affordable web-based data solutions to fulfill healthcare organizations' research management, client management, and online assessment hosting needs.

Developer   May 2011 – Aug 2014

Technologies: Adobe Flex, CSS, HTML, JavaScript, jQuery, jQuery UI, MySQL, PHP, and Yii.
Accomplishments:
- Demonstrated a high degree of autonomy by effectively working independently on tasks, ensuring timely and efficient project delivery.
- Successfully executed the website development for administering psychological assessments to healthcare providers, including Health Canada.
- Effectively communicated complex technical details to the CEO, facilitating a comprehensive understanding of project progress and technical aspects.
- Pioneered the creation of a user-friendly tool for generating customized patient reports, enhancing patient care and reporting capabilities.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Society for Science
Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) Judge   May 2023 – Present
Regeneron ISEF 2023, the world's largest pre-college STEM competition. More than 1,800 high school students from around the world who compete for nearly $6 million in awards during Regeneron ISEF.

University Health Network (UHN)
Patient Partner   Mar 2023 – Present
The Patient Partner Program is a community of patients and family caregivers who are interested in contributing their experiences and expertise to improving and transforming healthcare.

Youth Science Canada (YSC)
Canada-Wide Science Fair (CWSF) Judge   May 2022 – Present
The week-long CWSF brings together the country's top young scientists in grades 7-12/Cégep. In addition to scientific, social, and cultural activities, the 500 finalists compete for medals, cash prizes, scholarships, and exclusive opportunities.

Toronto Science Fair (TSF) Judge   Apr 2022 – Present
TSF is the organization responsible for the Regional Science Fair for Toronto. TSF seeks to offer a top-quality science fair experience for all students in Toronto. Winners can compete in the Canada-Wide Science Fair.

Kingston Frontenac Public Library
Coder Dojo   2015
Coder Dojo provides a fun and welcoming environment for children and youth to develop computer coding skills for web, app, and game design.

Queen's University Society for Graduate and Professional Students (SGPS)
SGPS Judicial Committee   2015 – 2016
The Judicial Committee resolves complaints about the non-academic behaviour of SGPS members. The Committee's jurisdiction includes violations of the SGPS bylaws and university code of conduct; public disturbances at SGPS-sponsored events; and cases of harassment, intimidation, assault, vandalism, theft, willful or damage to property against members of the Queen's community.

SGPS Council MSc Liaison   2014 – 2016
The SGPS Council is the legislative body of the SGPS and is responsible for directing and overseeing the activities of the executives, for formulating and authorizing policies, and acting as a liaison between the executives and the ordinary members of the SGPS.

Queen's University Graduate Computing Society (GCS)
GCS Graduate Committee MSc Officer   2014 – 2016
Collaborated on curriculum and exam development, met with students upon request, and graded all written work, including final exam papers.

Trent University Department of Computing and Information Systems (COIS)
COIS Program Committee Student Representative   2013 – 2014
The Program Committee is concerned with matters related to the operation of the department including accreditation, course selection and design, and gathering feedback.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Trent University

Workshop Leader – to Andy Reid in "Computer Crime and Forensics"	Jan 2023 – Present
Workshop Leader – to Brian Hircock in "Artificial Intelligence"	Jan 2023 – Present
Workshop Leader – to Brian Hircock in "History and Impact of Computing"	Sep 2023 – Present
Teaching Assistant – to Professor Sabine McConnell in "Digital Logic"	2013

Assisted with labs and marked exams.

Queen's University

Teaching Assistant – to Professor Farhana Zulkernine in "Introduction to Cognitive Science"	2014 – 2016

Coordinated the teaching assistants' efforts to answer questions, organize study sessions, and mark exams.

EDUCATION

Queen's University

Master of Science (MSc)	2016

Thesis: "Adding Run-Time Monitoring to UML-RT by Modifying the Papyrus-RT Code Generator"
Advisor: Juergen Dingel

Trent University

Bachelor of Science with Honours (BSc Hons)	2014

Major: Computing Systems
Specializations: Computer Science and Software Engineering

College of Banking and Financial Studies

Higher National Diploma (HND)	2009

Subject: Computing
Grade: Distinction

AWARDS

Trent University

President's Honour Roll	2014

The President's Honour Roll was established in 2000 to recognize students who have achieved a minimum cumulative average of 80% or better overall.

Dean's Honour Roll	2010 – 2012, 2013 – 2014

The Dean's Honour Roll was established in 1986 to recognize students who have achieved 80% or better in their most recent session and have maintained a minimum cumulative average of 75% overall.

PUBLICATIONS

Papers

"Run-time Monitoring of a Rover: MDE Research with Open Source Software and Low-cost Hardware"	2016

EduSymp/OSS4MDE@MoDELS 2016
http://ceur-ws.org/Vol-1835/paper06.pdf

"Adding Run-Time Monitoring to UML-RT by Modifying the Papyrus-RT Code Generator"	2016

Queen's University
https://qspace.library.queensu.ca/bitstream/handle/1974/14733/Juwaidah_Laith_201608_MSc.pdf

"Supporting the model-driven development of real-time embedded systems with run-time monitoring and animation via highly customizable code generation"	2016

ACM/IEEE 19th International Conference on Model Driven Engineering Languages and Systems
https://qspace.library.queensu.ca/bitstream/handle/1974/15094/supporting-model-driven.pdf

Posters

"Model Refinement Using Runtime Information"	2015

Queen's Graduate Computing Society Conference (QGCSC) 2015

ORGANIZATIONS

Canadian Information Processing Society (CIPS)   Mar 2023 – Present

CIPS is a national federation of CIPS Provincial Societies who certify IT professionals in Canada and abroad. Since 1958 CIPS has helped advance Canada's IT profession by fostering standards, best practices, and integrity for the benefit of IT professionals and the public interest.

Unicode Consortium   Dec 2022 – Present

The Unicode Consortium is a non-profit corporation devoted to developing, maintaining, and promoting software internationalization standards and data, particularly the Unicode Standard, which specifies the representation of text in all modern software products and standards.

Royal Heraldry Society of Canada   Aug 2022 – Present

The Unicode Consortium is a non-profit corporation devoted to developing, maintaining, and promoting software internationalization standards and data, particularly the Unicode Standard, which specifies the representation of text in all modern software products and standards.

Consumers Council of Canada   May 2022 – Present

The Consumers Council of Canada is committed to good governance, excellence in research and listening to consumers. Its consultative, fact-based approach provides the foundation for its engagement of consumer issues through consumer representation.

IEEE Computer Society   Jan 2021 – Present

The IEEE Computer Society is the premier source for information, inspiration, and collaboration in computer science and engineering. Connecting members worldwide, the Computer Society empowers the people who advance technology by delivering tools for individuals at all stages of their professional careers.

Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)   Jan 2021 – Present

IEEE is the world's largest technical professional organization dedicated to advancing technology for the benefit of humanity. IEEE and its members inspire a global community to innovate for a better tomorrow through its more than 400,000 members in more than 160 countries, and its highly cited publications, conferences, technology standards, and professional and educational activities. IEEE is the trusted "voice" for engineering, computing, and technology information around the globe.

Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)   Jan 2021 – Present

ACM brings together computing educators, researchers, and professionals to inspire dialogue, share resources, and address the field's challenges.