Marisa Akers

Statistician, Rails Programmer, Quality Assurance Analyst

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EDUCATION

North Carolina State University BS Statistics
2009 - 2013
Cum Laude, Spanish Minor, Student Researcher, Yearbook Editor

EXPERIENCE

Tech Talent South Big Data Analytics TA
November 2015 - December 2015

Assistant to the instructor and one-on-one tutor for students of the first-ever Big Data Analytics course

Skills: Python, SQL, D3.js, R

Tech Talent South Rails Code Immersion Student
October 2015 - December 2015

8-week intensive course covering front- and back-end web development using Ruby, Rails, SQL, JavaScript, HTML & CSS, Bootstrap, APIs

Skills: scaffolding and MVC design, git and github collaboration, implementing gems, adding 'like' and 'follow' features, writing tests, deploying to Heroku

Night Shift, Hosted by Skookum Organizer & Speaker
April 2015 - May 2015

14-week 'hack-ollaboration' program that gave curious individuals with little-to-no software experience the chance to conceptualize and create an MVP

Skill: anticipating needs, advocating for students, and overcoming stage fright

Skookum Digital Works Quality Assurance Analyst
July 2014 - June 2015

Functional, Exploratory, and Regression Testing in a mostly-Agile environment

Skills: analysis and deconstruction of complex software systems, clear and assertive communication across team divisions, mind-map and test-plan creation, responsiveness to client support requests

NC State University CUSP Scholar & Student Researcher
April 2012 - May 2013

As a member of the Computation for Undergraduates in Statistics Program, I spent a summer and the following year working on an algorithm to predict spatiotemporal rainfall patterns.

Skills: R, LaTeX, data cleaning and processing (70k+ observations), building predictive models, presenting at national and international conferences

Favorite Tools

Data: R, SAS, Python, SQL

Web: Rails, JavaScript, HTML/CSS

Team: JIRA, Pivotal Tracker, Basecamp

Creative: Photoshop, InDesign

Projects

City Buzz: A 'pinterest'-style rails app for local businesses to advertise upcoming specials and events. Gems: Devise and Paperclip. Two types of users, with distinct 'business' and 'customer' experiences.

My Personal Site:
http://risakers.github.io/

Adding Value With QA: A presentation to Night Shift students, illuminating the importance of and techniques used in software testing
https://youtu.be/VGrs3ocqh5Y

Evaluating radar reflectivity measurements as predictors of rainfall: NC State CUSP research project, collaborating with the National Climatic Data Center