

# Noah Sandman

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The team I worked with inherited infrastructure that required significant manual interference for common tasks, taking a lot of manpower that could be better spent on more critical issues or system improvements.

To help solve this problem, I created an internal automation platform for them, powered by a tool called StackStorm.



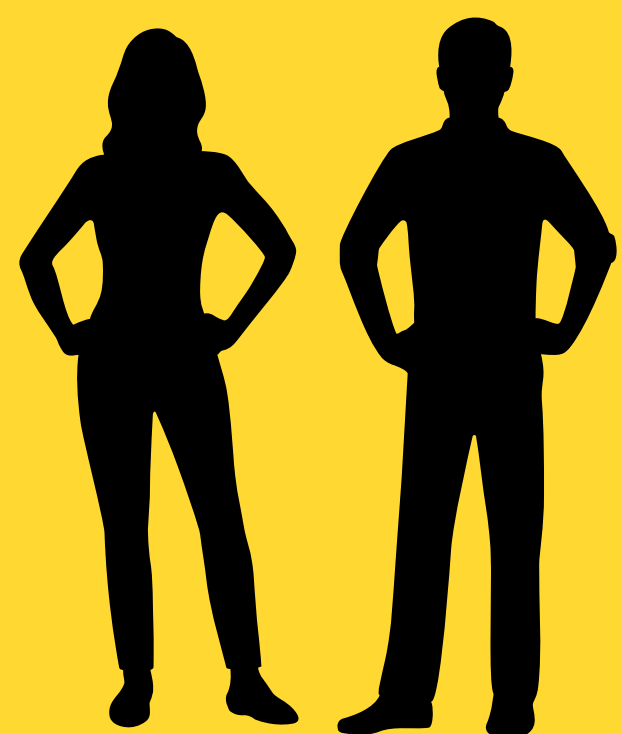
## Technical Skills

One task that ended up taking more technical skill than I anticipated was automating the process of fulfilling employee requests for new VMs. Even though I enjoyed using and learning the StackStorm platform for this purpose, I found that some parts the project relied on were not completely mature. To interface with those parts, I ended up having to reading through the platform's open-source code. Eventually, the understanding I gained there helped when I needed to write my own module. Solving this problem was very different from the “guided” structure of lessons at UCSD that I am more used to— but was also distinctly rewarding. I see the necessity of both types of experiences in learning effective problem-solving.

## Ethics & Society

I connected with my work for multiple reasons; not just because the subject interests me and relates to my coursework (though it does), but also because I felt that working at Intuitive positively impacts the world. Intuitive manufactures the da Vinci medical system, which allows surgeons to operate on patients precisely and with minimal fatigue, without having to be physically present. Needless to say, this technology is impressive, but it is so much more. Applied properly, one can see the clear potential to equalize access to lifesaving care – in a world with these machines standard at every hospital, any place with an Internet connection would have access to the same high standard of care. Risky procedures would also have better outcomes than they do today.

At Intuitive, I learned firsthand that the most productive teams are those that get along on a personal level. From my personal experience, I identified a cycle: the more engaged



I was at work (e.g. participating actively in meetings), the easier it was to create good personal relationships with coworkers; and the friendlier I was with the team, the easier I found it to productively engage with them at work. I learned that good relationships and an easy atmosphere are vital to group success, which is a lesson that I will apply to my relationships with my peers and professors at UCSD.

## Personal/Professional Growth

Some UCSD classes helped me a lot in my internship:

- CSE 123: Computer Networking. Since I was in a DevOps/infrastructure role, we dealt a lot with both virtual and physical networks. The terms and concepts I learned in this class were vital to keeping up with my coworkers and understanding the company's infrastructure enough to extend it.
- CSE 110: Software Engineering. Learning best software engineering practices helped me complete my work faster, better, and prevent avoidable mistakes.
- CSE 15L: Software Tools and Techniques Lab. A solid understanding of bash and git was necessary for completing my work on Linux, and for sharing my codebase.

## Connections to UCSD