

# Sam Wilks

I am a developer, aspiring entrepreneur, writer and adventurer. My wide range of experience includes work at large Silicon Valley corporations, tiny seed-stage start-ups, and mid-sized series funded companies. I have technical expertise, experience in business, management and leadership, and have developed skills in journalism and media. I thrive in team environments, have the proven ability to learn new skills quickly and am committed to always go above and beyond to achieve the best possible results.

## WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR

My short term goal is to experiment. I want to try out new things and see what fits. I enjoy programming but at this point in my career I am more interested in taking different or hybrid roles. I want to contribute in as many ways as I can and develop a more diverse skillset. Given the range of experience I have now I could fit in and learn quickly in a wide variety of positions.

## EXPERIENCE

September – December 2014

### **SCRIBD – Product Intern and Android Developer** | Evaluation : Excellent (6/6)

- + Project lead for usability studies aimed at improving the Scribd website and apps' UI and UX. Suggestions from this project were used in improving the app and website
- + Contributed to major releases including the rollout of audiobooks
- + Developed a full feature for downloading and saving content offline

January – April 2014

### **BRIDGIT – Android Developer** | Evaluation : Excellent (6/6)

- + Took Bridgit's Android app from non-functional to release ready on my own
- + Built a well-written, architecturally sound and efficient code base that could be effectively scaled
- + Acted as a project manager by contributing to design and implementation decisions across platforms

September – December 2013

### **YELP – Android Developer Intern** | Evaluation : Excellent (6/6)

- + Completed the development of a feature that is currently in use
- + Learned how a mature and well developed app is built, improved and maintained

January – April 2013

### **PIVOTAL LABS – Mobile Development Intern** | Evaluation : Excellent (6/6)

- + Developed an iOS library that facilitated syncing between core (local) data and server

2014 – 2015

### **IMPRINT PUBLICATIONS – Science Editor, Reporter, Columnist**

- + Launched a number of initiatives including developing stronger ties with the science and technology community and produced a series on startups in Waterloo

January – April 2013

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**GROUPTHINQ – Marketing and Development Intern** | Evaluation : Very good (5/6)

- + Developed GroupThinQ's marketing campaign and developed numerous features for the platform including real-time email notifications

## EDUCATION

2010 – 2015

**BACHELOR OF COMPUTER SCIENCE WITH BUSINESS OPTION**

– **University of Waterloo, Minor in English Literature**

## EVALUATIONS

"Sam got up to speed on Android super-quick and made some killer contributions in the first few months. I was even more impressed with how he took on the product manager role and jumped into some difficult tasks despite not having much structure or guidance from the rest of the team, figuring things out for himself as he went" – Jared Friedman, **Scribd Co-Founder and Former CTO**

"Sam performed exceptionally well throughout his internship. He worked hard to build out our product and to ensure we are only shipping robust features. He integrated well with the team. He was also very receptive to feedback, and worked to develop and improve his performance throughout the term." – Donald Lau, **Mentor, Manager, Android Engineer, Yelp**

"Sam was a great pair to work with at Xtreme Labs. He is enthusiastic about his work and is always striving to improve his own development skills. This translates into constantly improving code and deeper levels of understanding about core computer science concepts" – Elliott Garcea, **Lead Engineer at Xtreme Labs**

## INTERESTS

**TRAVEL** – Exploring the world has been a priority for me. Some of the greatest learning experiences I've ever had have come abroad. I am currently in the first few months of a year abroad in Asia and (later) Africa

**WRITING AND JOURNALISM** – Writing for Imprint, the University of Waterloo's student Newspaper allowed me to critically engage with the world, and gain a better understanding . I additionally write creatively in my free time

**PHOTOGRAPHY** – Photography is the visually creative hobby that keeps me sane when work builds up and life gets stressful. It also ties in pretty well with travel

**COOKING** – Love to eat, love to cook

## AWARDS

2013

**INTEGRATED CASE COMPETITION 2013 semi-finalist**

2011

**LAURIER MARKETING CASE COMPETITION first place**