Oscar Jasklowski

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Work Experience

- ### Analyst and Strategic Advisor
  Independent Consultant I 08/15 - Present

  Worked with a nonprofit that trains disconnected 18-25 year-olds for jobs in the “green economy.” My role was to use real-time labor market data to inform the organization’s job training strategy. The analysis, which supported a grant proposal, involved the following:

  - Business Development: understanding the ecosystem of nonprofits that focus on job-training (key organizations, proven approaches, and opportunities quantify the effectiveness of interventions). Developed proposals and pitched organizations.

  - Scoping: understanding the organization’s objectives, unknowns, and resources. Establish deliverables and timeline.

  - Delivery: carried out an analysis to support a grant, mainly using R for data management and visualization. Used Python for web scraping to augment the labor-market dataset. Mechanical turk for getting data from less structured sources.

  The result: co-authored a successful $50k grant application for the client to grow their job-training programs and corporate partnerships.

- ### Head of Growth
  Experiment.com I 06/13 - 05/15

  Experiment (YC ’13) is a crowdfunding marketplace where academic researchers can showcase research projects to attract funding. My objective was to increase the volume of research projects posted and funded on a monthly basis. My role evolved during my time at Experiment as follows:

  Initial focus:
  - Customer development - Worked with researchers to determine how our product was positioned relative to competitors (mainly traditional grants), and how we could uniquely satisfy researchers' needs.
  - User research - observed user interactions with new features and communicated learnings to our product team.

  Mid-stage focus:
  - Sales strategy - Segmented our market to focus on growing in individual segments.
  - Scaling sales - Worked with engineer to build an automated lead-generation product.

  Late stage focus:
  - Scaling other operations - Managed a team of three, developing a workflow for sales, user-research, and customer support.
  - Analytics - Segmented users based on product-interaction data, using Ruby ORM for querying our PostgreS database.
  - Result: Grew monthly projects posted on Experiment from 20 to 100 during this time (without hiring!).
  - Other - Took advantage of speaking opportunities. Here’s a sample on how quick turnaround on small grants de-risk and accelerate the pace of research (vimeo.com/152383421).

- ### Graduate Research Assistant
  University of Utah I 08/11 - 09/12

  Worked on mimicking a natural glue made by sandcastle-worms. The objective was to make a pliable, underwater adhesive for use in surgeries.

Worked in the design of the molecule, synthesis of the polymer, and testing of the adhesive. Used the following techniques:

- Polymer synthesis: used reversible addition fragmentation chain transfer (RAFT) techniques.
- Quality assurance and characterization: used fast protein liquid chromatography (FPLC) to determine molecular weight and nuclear magnetic resonance imaging (NMR) to determine molecular structure.
- Material properties testing: used rheology to measure viscosity and curing rate, used stress/strain testing to determine mechanical properties after curing.
- Other: Used Matlab for data processing, performed biocompatibility tests *in vivo* and *in vitro*

Education

- ### Graduate Student
  University of Utah | 08/11 - 09/12

  Worked toward a PhD in Bioengineering in the Biomolecular Adhesives Lab under Dr. Russell Stewart.

- ### B.S. Bioengineering
  UCLA | Class of 2011

  Specialized in polymer and materials science, which led to my graduate work. To a lesser degree, specialized in varsity sailing.

Undergraduate Research

- ### Research Assistant
  UCLA, Deming Lab | 01/10 - 04/11

  The objective: develop a water droplet, no larger than 500-nanometers in diameter, that contained a smaller oil droplet inside. Such a material, in theory, could be used to deliver two anti-cancer drugs simultaneously. Worked under the guidance of a postdoctoral researcher.

  Helped develop an assay to measure the rate of drug release from the particles (their pharmacokinetic properties)

Volunteer Work

- ### Math Tutor, Arduino Workshops Lead
  Civicorps School | 09/14 - 05/15

  Tutored young adults in math for two hours per week as they worked towards their high school degrees.
  Co-taught a three-week Arduino workshop - a popular elective among students.

  Civicorps piqued my interest in matching job-seekers with jobs across the skill spectrum and spawned my work as a non-profit consultant.

- ### Site Coordinator
  Code Day | Spring 2015

  Hosted and co-organized “Code Day,” a 24-hour hackathon for middle- and high-schoolers. Mentored students with interest in hardware and Arduino projects.