DEVON H. O'DELL

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https://9vx.org/

SUMMARY

Driven and accomplished software engineering leader with over two decades of hands-on technical expertise and leadership experience across diverse domains, ranging from kernel to browser. Recognized for a track record of driving and delivering innovative solutions, optimizing technical and social processes, coaching engineers in career growth, building and nurturing top-tier talent.

KEY QUALIFICATIONS

- **Leadership:** Demonstrated leadership capability as both an individual contributor and people manager. Successfully cultivated high-performing, diverse teams through creating an environment of collaboration and continuous growth.

- **Mentorship and Advocacy:** Passionate about guiding and advancing the careers of colleagues and peers. Proven dedication to knowledge-sharing, evident through publications, mentorship initiatives, conference presentations, and public blog posts.

- **Communication and Collaboration:** Effective communicator and influencer, interfacing seamlessly with cross-functional teams, stakeholders, and executives. Skilled in candid and caring conflict resolution and community engagement.

- **Strategic Vision:** Deftly aligns technical initiatives with overarching business objectives. Skilled at identifying opportunities for procedural enhancements, performance optimization, and technological advancements.

- **Technical Excellence:** Possesses a robust and extensive background in debugging, concurrency, networking, and operating systems, acquired through 23 years of hands-on experience. Adept at translating complex technical concepts into actionable strategies.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Google   **Chapel Hill, NC, USA**
August 2017 - Present   **Staff Software Engineer**

- Chartered, built, and led the Fuchsia Network Policy team, enhancing network reliability, usability, and observability, and improving API composability.

- Worked across orgs to identify and debug production issues.

- Defined Community Management processes, fostered open-source collaboration and engaged with community across multiple communication media.

- Drove improvements in network reliability for software delivery, facilitating Nest Home Hub migration from Linux to Fuchsia.

- Extended and maintained the Go toolchain and standard library for Fuchsia. Mentored numerous engineers in effective Go programming.

Fastly   **Remote, Baltimore, MD; San Francisco, CA, USA**
March 2013 - August 2017   **Technical Lead**

- Identified areas of improvement in scalability, performance, observability, and reliability of Fastly's massively multithreaded caching server.

- Implemented diagnostic tools and processes allowing for rapid diagnosis in crucial outage scenarios.

- Led numerous projects improving performance of the caching service between 5% and 30%, each reducing yearly spend on the order of $X-XX million.

- Educator on technical details of caching stack, driving technical progress for strategic development initiatives (e.g. web application firewall, image optimization).

- Mentored technical support staff with engineering acumen into the engineering organization.

Message Systems, Inc.   **Columbia, MD, USA**
November 2008 - March 2013   **Lead Architect**

- Drove architecture of next-generation cloud messaging products.

- Concurrently led three systems software teams and two front-end teams with a total of 20 engineers.

- Led new software products from prototype to GA.

- Implemented features, debugged customer issues according to SLA, and improved test cases and test infrastructure across all products.

- Twice awarded for outstanding innovation and leadership.

Coyote Point Systems, Inc.   **Millerton, NY, USA**
July 2006 - December 2007   **Software Engineer**

Offmyserver, Inc. DBA iXsystems   **Remote, Zutphen, Holland; San Jose, CA, USA**
2003 - June 2006   **Software Developer**

Bug Logic   **Asheville, NC, USA**
May - December 2001   **Web Application Developer**

Retirement.net   **Asheville, NC, USA**
February - May 2001   **Web Application Developer**

PRESENTATIONS / LECTURES

A Model for Learning Novel Systems, guest lecture at GWU, 2020. https://9vx.org/mlns

Building a Debugging Mindset, QConSF 2016. https://9vx.org/post/building-a-debugging-mindset/

Debugging (Varnish), VarnishCon 2016.

Using Race Conditions in Correct Concurrent Software, Strangeloop 2015; OSCon EU 2015.

Nonblocking Algorithms and Scalable Multicore Programming, Papers We Love SF 2015.

Spinlocks, guest lecture at Johns Hopkins University, 2011. https://9vx.org/presentations/Spinlocks.pdf

PUBLICATIONS

Devon H. O'Dell. 2017. The Debugging Mindset. ACM Queue 15, 1, pages 50 (February 2017), 20 pages. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1145/3055301.3068754

Devon H. O'Dell et al. 2002. Professional PHP4. Apress, Wrox Press.

Devon H. O'Dell et al. 2002. Professional PHP4 Multimedia Programming. Wrox Press.