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# DARIUSZ GRABKA

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## MISSION STATEMENT

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To secure a junior product management role in which I can leverage my development background, user experience skills, and product planning experience. To embrace a fast-paced, innovative environment where I can make a positive, long-term difference.

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## SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

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| User-Experience      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Experienced in interface evaluation, design reviews, persona and user story development, and many other UCD tasks.</li><li>• Active on the cutting edge of accessibility and internationalization.</li><li>• Research in searching, tagging, accessibility, specifically with media such as images and video.</li><li>• Member of TorCHI, ACM, and UPA.</li></ul>                          |
| Projects and Product | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Love determining client, user, and functional requirements, having goals with tight deadlines, and managing mixed role teams.</li><li>• Believe in maintaining a good SDLC with the right supporting tools. Understand merits of Waterfall, prefer to work in Agile SCRUM.</li><li>• Write well, like to blog, and communicate in an open manner with my colleagues and clients.</li></ul> |
| Development          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Developed many web-based applications using PHP, Java, HTML, CSS, SQL, and JavaScript.</li><li>• Range of experience, from learning management systems, small web-based tools, to complete corporate intranets.</li><li>• Passionate about good technical design, standards, and use of the web as an effective communication tool.</li></ul>  |
| Programming          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Practiced in Object-Oriented and procedural programming methods, including the Model-View-Controller model.</li></ul>  |

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## EDUCATION

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| Sept. 06 – Jan 09   | University of Guelph, Guelph, ON<br>Masters of Science, Human Computer Interaction<br>Image Search, Tagging, Annotation. |
| Sept. 99 – April 03 | University of Guelph, Guelph, ON<br>Bachelor of Arts, Co-op, Honours.<br>Computing and Information Science               |

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

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April 09 – Current

Product Designer  
Desire2Learn Inc., Kitchener, Ontario

Currently senior product designer of the Learning Repository product for which I am responsible for the roadmap and release content. Designer on many products of the larger LMS suite: file manager, service manager, the HTML editor, and many smaller tools and features. Analyst and SCRUM master for larger internationalization effort.

Ran focus groups, worked alongside UX to create personas, went to many conferences including CHI 2010 in Atlanta, FUSION, organized a company-wide DemoCamp event.

January 01 – April 03,  
Sept. 06 – April 08

Teaching Assistant  
Department of Computing and Information Science  
University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario

Lead seminars and tutorials – fourth year final project, second year Data Structures, first year Introductory C programming course for Engineers, capstone second year Application Development course.

Love teaching and learning, have sharpened my presentation skills with many seminars.

May 03 – Sept. 06

Systems Developer / Integrator  
Grantek Control Systems Inc., Burlington, Ontario

Designed and implemented process control systems in high-pressure consulting environment. Developed user interfaces (SCADA/HMI), PLC programs, and data acquisition systems for a Rockwell and Microsoft platform.

In my spare time wrote the companies web-based time-tracking and expense management system. Was using IHttpRequest before AJAX was a buzzword. PHP + MySQL.

## CONTRACT HISTORY

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July 08 – Feb 09

Grantek System Integration, Burlington, Ontario

Developed high speed data collection tools and analysis tools for pilot project of large-scale product tracking product using C#, PHP and Symfony MVC framework.

May 07 – October 07

University of Guelph – Graduate Program Services

Managed a complete re-organisation of the content, interactivity, and design of clients website. Included in depth user-focused study of the existing website. Worked to implement greater University of Guelph rebranding initiatives.

February 07 – June 07

Research In Motion, Waterloo, Ontario

Performed in-depth usability “expert-review” of navigation and positioning devices in competition with RIM products. Delivered reports on usable navigation devices, as well as a matrix used to evaluate RIM navigation/GPS functionality.

## VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

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April 2007 – May 2007

Canada World Youth / Jan Vikas Sansthan  
Guelph, Ontario / Chiribatiya, Uttarakhand, India

Volunteered on development trip to Himalayan India. Focus of experience was rural development, cultural gender issues, and public health, specifically HIV/AIDS. Lead project that involved assessing and improving a UNESCO program that distributed low-cost greenhouses to impoverished farmers in the Himalayas.

February 2007,  
February 2008

Project Serve Canada  
Hattiesburg, Mississippi, USA

Twice travelled to the Gulf Coast of Mississippi to participate in week-long Hurricane Katrina relief efforts. Second visit was as Team Leader, assisting the University of Southern Mississippi in their Oral History project where I had the unique opportunity to interview several prominent community members, including the local Congressman.

## OTHER INTERESTS

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Motorcycle rider, and otherwise avid fan of two-wheeled sports, including road and BMX bikes. Love to get my hands dirty with DIY fabrication of parts, and experimenting with visual designs.

Regular traveler – Have visited much of the United States, Mexico, Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Western and Eastern Europe, and India.

Passionate about transportation, urban planning, and transit.

Embarrassingly active with social media, including Twitter and blogging. Started a small lunch blog: [loudlunch.com](http://loudlunch.com) with a friend.

Speak and read Polish, always attempting to learn Spanish.

## REFERENCES

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Industry-specific references are available upon request.