

EDUCATION

M.Sc. Computer Science

August, 2020 *University of Guelph*
Human Computer Interaction Stream
92% graduating average

Bachelor of Computing

June, 2016 *University of Guelph*
Economics Minor
Business Administration Certification
84% graduating average

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming: Python3 · JS(ES6) · C · R · Java · PHP · Shell · YAML

Web Development: CSS3 · SASS · HTML5 · Apache · Nginx · Jekyll · Wordpress · REST · JSON · SEO

Databases: MySQL · PostgreSQL

Methodologies: Agile · Scrum · ITIL · WCAG · AODA · Dev-Ops

Tools: AWS · Firebase · Ansible · Docker · Office 365

CERTIFICATIONS

ITIL: IT Service Management

Drivers License (Class C)

CPR (Class C)

Ski Instructor & Coach (Level 1)

ORCKA Moving-water (Level 1)

ORCKA Flat-water (Level 2)

Please visit <https://nicdurish.ca> or email mail@nicdurish.ca for more information or to book a consultation.

PROFILE

An accomplished Web Developer and Analyst with 8+ years of professional and academic experience in planning, building, testing, deploying, auditing, and maintaining user-centric websites and web-based applications. Equipped with a record of success in identifying and supporting technological needs of companies through innovative solutions. Commended for proficiency in diagnostics, project management, systems architecture, database development, user interface design, and accessibility.

EXPERIENCE

Junior Webmaster

Jan 2020 – Jan 2021

City of Guelph

Guelph, ON

- Responsible for building, securing, testing, analyzing, and maintaining City of Guelph websites.
- Hired specifically to lead the revisions of over 15 City websites to be AODA compliance prior to 2021. This deadline was met by; working with authors to revise content, developing a customized Plugin to fix backend errors, and building processes for ongoing maintenance.
- Personally, redeveloped the City of Guelph WordPress Theme which involved translating all design patterns and components, building new page templates, converting to SCSS, and splitting scripts. This resulted in a 40% reduction in the codebase and a 35% increase in performance.

Technical Research Intern · RightMesh

Jan 2019 – Jan 2020

Mitacs Accelerate

Ottawa, ON

- Assisted in the successful application and selected as the first intern for the \$2.13M Mitacs Accelerate Grant funding collaborative research between UoG and Left.io on the RightMesh project
- Designed and led the Rigolet Internet Assessment Initiative which used distributed microcomputers to regularly measure and analyze broadband speeds from households in Rigolet, Nunatsiavut.
- Aided in development of a Android App for wireless content sharing in a Mobile Ad Hoc Network.

Android & iOS Developer · The eNuk Application

Sept 2017 - Dec 2018

University of Guelph

Guelph, ON

- Led and helped train the development team of eNuk, an Inuit-led health and environmental monitoring application for the community of Rigolet, Nunatsiavut.
- Gathered specifications, developed prototypes, built an API, liaised with an external development team, and ultimately developed a beta version of the eNuk application for iOS, Android, and browsers.

Web Developer · The eNuk Website

Jan 2018 - April 2018

Memorial University

St. Johns, NF

- Contracted to design and develop a user-friendly, and responsive website for the eNuk project. Built with the WordPress CMS, a tailor-made theme, and documentation to support web authors.

Teaching Assistant · CIS*3750

Sept 2017 - Dec 2018

University of Guelph

Guelph, ON

- Held 3 GTA positions teaching "CIS*3750 - Systems Analysis and Design in Application", a third and fourth-year computing course involving students in community-engaged scholarships; learning to use previous knowledge to solve real-world problems within small teams.
- Performed duties that delivered direct services to students and helped accelerate their education. Coordinate instructional efforts, aided Dr. Dan Gillis and Dana Rea in marking student assignments or tests and enforced administration policies governing students, both on campus and online.

Foreman

May - July, 2015 - 2017

Treeline Reforestation

Englehart, ON

- Held 3 summer positions as Foreman, with my last year acting as Head Foreman.
- Managed over 10.5 million tree planting contracts and over 60 employees under the MNR. Personally responsible for the training, production, tree quality, and wellbeing of 16 planters.

Lift Operator

Jan 2017 - May 2017

Mount Washington Alpine Resort

Comox Valley, BC

- Operated and maintained the lifts, welcomed and helped patrons to safely mount the lifts, operated lift controls, validated tickets, and assisted ski-patrol.

Teaching & Research Assistant · ICON

Jan 2016 - May 2016

University of Guelph

Guelph, ON

- A multidisciplinary course, that challenges students to address social issues by connecting them with community partners. Responsibilities included assisting teaching in the classroom and performing research on multidisciplinary pedagogy.

Teaching Assistant · CIS*2050

Jan - May, 2015 & 2016

- Aided Dr. Chiu in; holding office hours, creating curriculums, and materials, managing emails, marking assignments, and invigilating examinations.

University of Guelph

Guelph, ON

Silviculturist

May - July, 2013 & 2014

- Planted over 300,000 trees over 2 seasons in the Timiskaming and Abitibi Forests. Member of a planting team that worked long hours in arduous conditions and utilized strong work ethics and good time management.

Treeline Reforestation

Englehart, ON

Landscape Labourer

Oct, 2011 - July, 2012

- Designed, executed, and ultimately transformed private yards with a small team. Coordinated the arrangement of existing and proposed land features and structures. Used heavy machinery and technical skills to design features such as driveways, fences, decks, and walkways.

Yard Creations Inc.

Calgary, AB

Bar & Hostel Manager

Oct, 2011 - July, 2012

- Responsible for checking-in guests, managing staff members as well as managing legal and financial matters. Worked as Bartender and Barista preparing drinks for patrons and managing bar operations.

The Magic Sponge

Kampot, Cambodia

Camp Counsellor, Swim Instructor & Lifeguard

Oct, 2011 - July, 2012

- Responsible for the wellbeing, happiness, and learning of the kids in my class or cabin. Courses taught: canoeing, windsurfing, rock climbing

YMCA Sudbury & YMCA Belleville

Sudbury, ON & Belleville, ON

★ HONOURS & AWARDS

School of Computer Science Teaching Assistant Award of Excellence

2019

The University of Guelph's School of Computer Science recognizes one student's "outstanding contributions in improving the undergraduate learning environment" annually.

Guelph Chamber of Commerce Awards of Excellence: Young Innovator Award

2018

The Awards of Excellence is Guelph's annual appreciation event for innovative community members as recognized by the Guelph Chamber of Commerce. I was selected as Guelph's Young Innovator of 2018 for my research in rural internet access and involvement in University and Community events.

CPHAZ Symposium Student Presentation Competition · 3rd Place

2018

Won 3rd place in the Student Presentation Competition at the Centre for Public Health and Zoonoses Symposium.

Computer Science Games · Social Computing Competition · 12th Place

2015

Represented the University of Guelph in the Web and Database Design Competition, placing 19th and 4th out of 28 universities.

Scotiabank EcoLiving Award · Top 3

2015

The ElecTrickle Team won 3rd nationally, receiving funding and a meeting with Arlene Dickinson for mobile application.

Net Zero Hackathon · 1st Place & Human Factor Award

2015

Won 1st and the Human Factor Award for our Android app named ElecTrickle, which helps communication between users and energy companies.

Annual Summit of Universities Fighting World Hunger's Pitch for Progress · 1st Place

2015

Won 1st and \$2000 at the CBASE for a project that best focused on social and environmental change, hosted at the University of Guelph.

Planter's Choice Award · Treeline Reforestation

2015

Voted Management Member of the Year after working as a foreman for Treeline Reforestation.

Feeding 9 Billion Challenge · 1st Place

2014

Won 1st and \$1000 for Sustain-a-Bin, the autonomous compost bin which displays the cost of food waste to consumers.

Top Ski Racer & Jonathon Swallow Awards - Batawa Ski Team

2007 & 2009

Voted into Secretary of SOCIS; an organization focused on running and managing student outreach events.

★ SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS

Guelph Graduate Tuition Scholarship · \$18,000.00

2017 - 2019

The GTS is awarded to a single student per year, nominated by their college to recruit top students within their field.

Northern Scientific Training Program Grant · \$3,604.45

2018 & 2019

Sponsored by Polar Knowledge Canada (POLAR) to foster science and technology in Canada's North.

Physical Science & Engineering Education Research Centre Travel Grant · \$1000.00

2018

Awarded to fund my attendance and presentation at the People, Places and Public Engagement Conference.

School of Computer Science Travel Grant · \$500.00

2018

The SoCS Travel grant is awarded to student for conferences relating to the field of computer science.

Elevator Project: Guelph's Community Launchpad · \$1,500.00

2015

Sustain-a-Bin was within the top 15 most interesting projects, voted by the community of Guelph.

♥ VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Food Vending Support

2014 - 2019

Helped organize and restock food vendors with ice, propane, refrigerated food, plates and cutlery at Hillside Festival.

Hillside Festival

Guelph, ON

Public Relations and Outreach

2014 - 2019

Met with potential students and parents to talk about the School of Computer Science program at UoG.

Ontario Universities Fair

Toronto, ON

Computer Science Educator

2018 - 2019

Provided lessons to Inuit children on Scratch, Raspberry Pis, RightMesh wireless mobile mesh networking, and more.

Northern Lights Academy

Rigolet, NF

Event Volunteer

2019

Aided in hosting 12 different scientist to speak whilst enjoying a pint. The event stretched across 6 venues over three days.

Pint of Science

Guelph, ON

Master of Ceremonies

2018

Helped facilitate and MC some of the School of Computer Science Orientation Week events.

School of Computer Science Orientation Week Outreach Event

Guelph, ON

Mentor

2016 - 2017

Helped students with ideation, problem solving, communication, team work, and product development.

Improve Life Hack-a-thon & Feeding 9 Billion Challenge

Guelph, ON

Co-coordinator

2016

Co-coordinated Roboticon in 2016, where 11 local Secondary Schools had their robots compete on a custom made obstacle course.

College Royal: Roboticon

Guelph, ON

Lead Coordinator

2015 - 2016

A student run biweekly tech talk where students meet to share CompSci stories, projects, problems and presentations.

Guelph Coding Community

Guelph, ON

Secretary

2015 - 2016

Voted into Secretary of SOCIS; an organization focussed on running and managing student outreach events.

Society of Computer and Information Science

Guelph, ON

📄 PUBLICATIONS

A Case Study in the Design and Development of a Community-Based Internet Assessment Initiative in Rigolet, Nunatsiavut, Canada

The University of Guelph Atrium · Thesis

Durish, N

2020

The CIS*3750 Systems Analysis & Design in Applications Student Manual

Gillis, D., & Durish, N.

2019

The eNuk Environmental and Health Monitoring Program *Refereed*

Polar Knowledge: Inaugural Edition · Article

Kipp, A., Cunsolo, A., Gillis, D., Sawatzky, A., Cook, O., Durish N., Shiwak I., Flowers C., Rigolet Inuit Community Government & Wood M.

2018

🗨️ PRESENTATIONS

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Building Foundational Skills & Community Engaged Software Design

Spring IT Conference · Invited Keynote

Durish, N. & Gillis, D.

Guelph, ON

2019

Supporting Community-Based Monitoring With Technology In The Circumpolar North.

Labrador Research Forum

Durish, N. & Gillis, D.

Happy Valley-Goose Bay, NF

2019

Bridging the Digital Divide with Mobile Ad Hoc Networks in the Circumpolar North.

Western Student Research Conference

Asch, M., Rourke, K., Seymour, F., Durish, N., Flowers, C., Wood, M., Gillis, D. & Ernst, J.

London, ON

2018

Using Mesh Technology to Support Climate Change Monitoring.

Indigenous Mapping Conference

Rourke, K., Durish, N., & Gillis, D.

Montreal, QB

2018

Supporting Community-Based Monitoring in the Circumpolar North.

ArcticNet

Durish, N. & Gillis, D.

Ottawa, ON

2018

Bridging the Digital Divide and Improving Community-Based Monitoring Programs in the Circumpolar North. <i>People, Places and Public Engagement</i> Durish, N., Seymour, F., Rourke, K., Raturi, S., Hughes, B., Harper S., Cunsolo A., Flowers F., Shiwak I., Wood M., Gillis D. & Ernst, J.	St, Johns, NL 2018
Community Engaged Computer Science: Lessons Learned in the Pursuit of Social Justice. <i>g0v-zero Summit · Invited Presentation</i> Durish, N. & Gillis, D.	Taipei, Taiwan 2018
Potential Health Impacts of the Digital Divide. <i>Centre for Public Health and Zoonoses Symposium</i> Durish, N., Seymour, P., Cook, O., Sawatzky, A., Shiwak, I., Flowers C., The Rigolet Inuit Community Government., Cunsolo, A. & Gillis, D.	Guelph, ON 2018
Bridging the Digital Divide in the Circumpolar North <i>Spring IT Conference · Invited Keynote</i> Durish, N. & Gillis, D.	Guelph, ON 2018
Design: The Good, The Bad and The Ugly <i>Spring Academic Open House</i> Durish, N. & Gillis, D.	Guelph, ON 2018
A Strategic Analysis of Iterative Pareto-Nash Misaligned Games: How Computer Scientists Navigate Trust. <i>Guelph Coding Community</i> Durish, N.	Guelph, ON 2016
Student Innovations: Sustain-a-Bin and BioCharzard <i>Compost Council of Canada; Compost Congress</i> Durish, N. & Smith, C.	Guelph, ON 2016
WORKSHOPS	
Ideation Process: Identifying Problems RightMesh Can Solve I & II. <i>Indigenous Mapping Conference</i> Rourke, K., Durish, N., & Gillis, D.	Montreal, QB 2018
Developing an Inuit-led Community Health and Environment Monitoring System using MANETS. <i>Community-Based Environmental Monitoring Workshop</i> Durish, N. & Gillis, D.	Iqaluit, NU 2018
POSTER PRESENTATIONS	
Bridging the Digital Divide to Support Community-based Monitoring in the Circumpolar North. <i>ArcticNet</i> Durish, N., Gillis, D., Seymour, F., Rourke, K., Asch, M., Raturi, S., Hughes, B., Flowers, C., Shiwak, I., Wood, M. & Ernst, J.	Ottawa, ON 2018
Evaluating the Digital Divide in Canada. <i>CEPS Undergraduate Poster Session</i> Houlding, P., Durish, N., & Gillis, D.	Guelph, ON 2018
Developing an Instant Messaging Platform Beyond the Digital Divide. <i>CEPS Undergraduate Poster Session</i> Seymour, F., Raturi, S., Durish, N., Shiwak, I., Flowers, C., Ernst J., Gillis D.	Guelph, ON 2018
A Community-led Approach to Contextualize Gamification. <i>Centre for Public Health and Zoonoses Symposium</i> Durish, N., Seymour, P., Cook, O., *Sawatzky, A., Shiwak, I., Flowers C., The Rigolet Inuit Community Government, Ernst J., Cunsolo A., Harper S. & Gillis D.	Guelph, ON 2017
Connecting Remote Northern Communities with Offline Mobile Applications. <i>Centre for Public Health and Zoonoses Symposium</i> Seymour, F., Raturi, S., Durish, N., Cook, O., Sawatzky, A., Shiwak I., Flowers C., Rigolet Inuit Government, Harper S., Cunsolo A., Gillis D. & Ernst J.	Guelph, ON 2017
Comparing broadband speeds between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous communities. <i>SOCs Graduate Poster Session</i> Durish, N.	Guelph, ON 2017
The eNuk Health and Environmental Monitoring System. <i>ArcticNet</i> Durish, N., Gillis, D., Cook, O., Cunsolo, A., Sawatzky, A., Shiwak, I., Flowers, C., the Rigolet Inuit Community Government, and Harper, SL.	Quebec-City, QB 2017
Leveraging Mesh Networks to Design Systems that Connect Remote Northern Communities. <i>ArcticNet</i> Seymour, PF., Durish, N., Cook, O., Cunsolo, A., Harper, SL., Sawatzky, A., Shiwak, I., Flowers, C., Rigolet Inuit Government, and Ernst, J. & Gillis, D.	Quebec-City, QB 2017
Improving the Connectivity of Rigolet Using the Inuit-led eNuk App and Wireless Mesh Technologies. <i>ArcticNet</i> Ernst, J., Seymour, PF., Durish, N., Cook, O., Cunsolo, A., Sawatzky, A., Flowers, C., Shiwak, I., Rigolet Inuit Community Government, Harper, SL. & Gillis, D.	Quebec-City, QB 2017

MEDIA LINKS

2018	Maple Ridge tech company announces brain gain	Maple Ridge News
2018	U of G Computer Scientists Part of \$2.13 Million Project to Improve Data Sharing	UOG News
2018	The School of Computer Science and Left to Collaborate on \$2.13 Million Project to Improve...	First Mile
2018	Look who won a business award!	Guelph Today
2018	SoCS Grad Student Receives Young Innovator Award	SoCS News
2018	Young Innovator Finalists - Video	Guelph Chamber of Commerce
2018	Chamber Celebrates 2018 Business Award Recipients	Guelph Chamber of Commerce
2018	RightMesh - #TeamThursday; Interview with Dan Gillis & Nic Durish	Rightmesh
2018	Computer Science Students Receive PSEER Travel & Workshop Award	SOCS News
2018	Computing Students Receive NSTP Award	SoCS News
2018	Interview: eNuk and MeshNets in Nunatsiavut	CBC North
2018	SoCS Grad Student A Finalist For The Guelph Chamber Of Commerce Award for Excellence	SoCS News
2018	Computer Science Meets Public Health: 2018 CPHAZ Symposium	Climate Change & Global Health
2018	CPHAZ Symposium focuses on One Health	OVC News
2018	Meet Our Students	University of Guelph
2018	CS Professor Working to Improve Life in the Circumpolar North	SoCS News
2018	A Meshnet Will Help This Inuit Town Monitor the Effects of Climate Change	Motherboard · Vice
2017	School of Computer Science Graduate Awards Announced	SoCS News
2017	Success at Pitch for Progress	SoCS News
2015	Smart Compost Bin Puts a Dollar Value on Food Waste	UoG News
2015	Winning projects in Guelph's Elevator Project span art, culture, music and food	Guelph Mercury
2015	Scotiabank Celebrates Earth Day by Announcing the Finalists for the 2015 Scotiabank Ecoliving...	TMX Money
2015	Corunna resident part of team tackling composting	Sarnia Observer
2015	Smart compost bin translates food waste into dollars	AgInnovations Ontario
2015	Students challenged to cut food waste	Guelph Mercury
2014	Food Hack 14	SoCS News
2009	Leader in Training: More Than Just Leadership	YMCA Alumni Newsletter