CHRISTOPHER GREGORY BROWN, MS

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INFORMATION ARCHITECTURE | SENIOR LEADERSHIP | SYSTEMS CONSOLIDATIONS

Programming Languages | Cloud Computing | Web Hosting Platforms

Savvy, accomplished Principal Information Architect highly regarded for 25+ years of progressive experience in guiding enterprise information programs and providing key information architecture solutions. Respected as a motivational, influential leader and collaborator who guides team members to execute strategic plans effectively. Builds and maintains lasting relationships, driving organizational coordination through a people-focused approach. Exemplary educational qualifications include a Master of Science in Database Performance Analysis from St. Cloud State University. Out-of-the-box, analytic thinker committed to making continuous improvements in processes, governance guidelines, and overall strategy to deliver on lofty goals.

SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS

- Promoted up to Enterprise BI Data Architect with St. Cloud State University, aided EAB implementation leadership team to ensure the flawless delivery of a $1M student success data platform.
- Aligned collaborative multi-campus BI initiatives across 32 Minnesota State Colleges and Universities campuses, acting as the primary contact in managing logistical concerns and promoting the value added through BI efforts.
- Facilitated process automation and practical enterprise design deployments whenever possible to elevate performance and reduce costs across all BI functions, offering exceptional solutions throughout error reduction, ETL processes, data tracking & integration, and more; supporting organizational drive toward efficiency.
- Guided major process improvement changes that enabled visibility into planning and performance metrics previously unreported.
- Architected a meta drive ETL design to dynamically adapt to schema and business logic changes and produced actionable reporting on relevant performance gains; Received praise for contributions to the feild after global publication of this design.
- Brought in enrollment analytics projection model as well as a major financial database with budget and expense reporting, showcasing excellent problem-solving capacity and understanding of university requirements.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- Information/Data Architecture
- Cloud Computing
- Program Development
- Roadmap & Vision Development
- Team Building/Leadership
- Web Hosting Platforms
- Coaching & Mentoring
- Governance Guidelines
- Systems Consolidation
- Enterprise Systems
- Strategic Planning
- Project Management

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY | SAINT CLOUD, MN | 1994 – PRESENT

Enterprise Business Intelligence Data Architect/Information Technology Specialist 5: 2014 – Present

Orchestrate the comprehensive analysis, design, architecture, and support of the enterprise data warehouse and enterprise reporting system, using industry best practices to achieve superior results in a high-stress workplace. Develop and maintain data and information systems which have led to major improvements in decision making and resource utilization, including strategic planning/assessment. Leverage appropriate technologies as a resident subject matter expert.

- Develop a data asset pipeline providing relevant, actionable isnights to key business stakeholders to align and measure outcomes addressing key organizational goals.
- Encourage enterprise analytic maturity through stages of the DELTA framework and leveraging a DataOps pipeline.
- Develop a SSIS based meta-driven dynamic BIML (Business Intelligence Markup Language) proof of concept to automate refresh of a NRT (Near Real Time) database. The design offered a nearly code-free table driven operating environment.
- Incorporate unique approaches to build out a best-in-class enterprise business intelligence data architecture. Formulate enterprise data modeling/schema designs which has developed interest from several campuses in our architecture and approach following a presentation at Educause in 2017.
- Lead enterprise data project planning and coordination, offering well-received insights in recommending key resources and maintaining constant strategic alignment of all BI related projects; authored a related handbook to convey best practices, common issues, and lessons learned during efforts. Designed supporting Azure data architecture for integrated Power BI reporting. Created dynamic agile data pathways for normalized and denormalized data sources.

- Investigate and act as an evangelist for useful cutting-edge technologies as well as industry-standard concepts.
- Enhance scalability, data integration, and interoperability via cloud service, and more; supported up to 270+ Administrators, Deans, Department Chairs, Academic Directors, and Office Administrators using the system for data informed decision-making though Power BI reporting.
- Encourage process automation and practical enterprise design deployments whenever possible to elevate performance and reduce costs across all BI functions, offering exceptional solutions throughout error reduction, ETL processes, data tracking & integration, and more.

ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY ACHIEVEMENTS, CONTINUED

- Turn around slow data warehousing caused by an out-of-box automated solution, designing and implementing a custom solution to cloud-based Azure database that exponentially reduced time to completion of work.
- Perform root cause analysis and build various alliances to handle strategic corrective action.
- Coordinate with a wide array of stakeholders to effectively distill data collection and reporting needs.
- Led design and implementation of daily data export to $1M Education Advisory Board (EAB) Student Success Collaborative Student Information System, using project management methodologies DevOpps and Agile to deliver on all milestones and quality goals with no significant budget variance.
- Ensure database applications architecture/maintenance always meets the rigorous standards of the university.
- Coordinate collaborative multi-campus BI initiatives across 32 Minnesota State Colleges and Universities campuses, acting as the primary contact in managing logistical concerns and promoting the value added through BI efforts.
- Cited for vital support to graduate students in preparing Master's thesis topics and designing hypothesis test scenarios, earning a reputation amongst students as a dedicated student advocate and supportive leader.

Lead Business Intelligence Data Architect/Information Technology Specialist 4: 2008 – 2014

Oversaw a wide array of database and business intelligence technologies among the SCSU Administrative community, working to make process improvement changes to increase efficiency. Developed and improved the process for the training and oversight of the database engineer, leading to greater performance and retention rates. Provided full lifecycle project management as well as arranging time-sensitive hardware and software upgrades. Constructed clustered BI data warehouse hardware framework which was quickly used as a gold standard. Integrated JMP and SAS technologies as part of a larger continuous improvement effort.

- Implimented an Inmon based enterprise data warehouse schema consisting of multiple integrated data models such as star, snowflake, and star cluster schemas.
- Leveraged SSIS (SQL Server Integration Services) and SQL Agent to schedule an manage ETL processes.
- Managed performance metrics and KPI's which allowed for easier navigation of performance issues.
- Architected a meta drive ETL design to dynamically adapt to schema and business logic changes, and produced actionable reporting on relevant performance gains; Received praise for contributions to the feild after global publication of this design.
- Operationalize enrollment analytics projection model as well as a major financial database with budget and expense reporting, showcasing excellent problem-solving capacity and understanding of university requirements.
- Championed one-of-a-kind ITS services discovery analytics cube to navigate distinct BI points where the cube contained 2 fact tables joined by 25+ different metrics and dimensions; Additionally assisted Microsoft Technicians in a similar approach for an Education Retention Cube.
- Collaborated on proposal to align business processes with Operational data source architecture, leading a pace-setting team of 3 people (BI director, Analyst, and myself) in providing data governance, exception reporting, and master data management.
- Facilitated phased transition of institutional research staff to SQL Server and data warehouse, acting as a trusted resource with pertinent technologies, methods, and practices.

Application Data Architect/Information Technology Specialist 3: 2004 – 2008

Supported and delivered dynamic application data architecture skills, translating technical information for audiences at all skills levels. Oversaw 2-3 database application design staff, diligently managing schedules.

- Conducted extensive database- and programming-related problem solving, resulting in regular praise from leadership and both nomination and attainment of the coveted ITS Service Award over multiple years.

Additional Positions: Database Application Developer & Information Technology Specialist 2 / Coordinator & Database Manager / Application Development Student Paraprofessional

PUBLICATIONS & PROCEEDINGS

- Brown, C.G., Stanley, C.J.: "Data Warehousing and Analytics in the Cloud", Poster Presentation, EDUCAUSE 2017
- Guster, D.C., Brown, C.G., Rice, E.P.: "Scalable Data Warehouse Architecture: A Higher Education Case Study", Big Data Storage and Visualization Techniques, Book Chapter, IGI Global, 2017.
- Guster, D.C., Robinson, D.H., Brown, C.G., Rice, E.P.: "Advanced Application of Business Intelligence in Higher Education: Predictive Modeling", Journal of Information Technology Management (JITM). Volume XXV, Number 1, 2014.

- Brown, C.G., Guster, D.C.: "The Application of Business Intelligence to Higher Education: Technical and Managerial Perspectives", Journal of Information Technology Management (JITM). Volume XXIII, Number 2, 2012.
- Brown, C.G., Guster, D.C., Jansen, B.: "An Algorithm to Restore Data Base Content to Past Dates in Real Time", Midwest Instruction and Computing Symposium, April, 2008.
- Safonov, P. I., Brown, C., & Guster, D. C.: "Developing a Software Simulator to Predict the Effectiveness of Using Thermal Sensors to Perform CPU Scheduling in a WWW Based Distributed Data Base Application", International Conference on Data Engineering and Internet Technology, 2011.
- Guster, D. C., Schmidt, M., Hall, C., & Brown, C.: "Evaluating performance data and scalability issues in distributed data mining: A first level analysis", International Journal of Business, Marketing, and Decision Sciences, 2(1), 2009.
- Guster, D.C., Schmidt, M.B., Hall, C., and Brown, C.G.: "A Preliminary Analysis of Web Accessible Distributed Data Mining: Performance and Scalability", International Academy of Business and Public Administration Disciplines (IABPAD) Conference. January, 2008.
- Guster, D. C., Safonov, P. I., Brown, C., & Jansen, B.: "An Analysis of Distributed Database Indexing Method in Regard to Performance of Extract/Transform/Load (ETL) Processes", Issues in Information Systems, IX(2), 544-550, 2008.
- Brown, C.G., Guster, D.C., Krzenski, S.: "Can Distributed Databases Provide An Effective Means Of Speeding Up Web Access Times?", Journal of Information Technology Management (JITM). Volume XVIII, Number 1, 2007.
- Guster, D.C., Brown, C.G., Hall, C., and Jansen, B.: "Using Thermal Sensors to Perform CPU Scheduling in a WWW Based Distributed Data Base Application", Midwest Instruction and Computing Symposium 2007. April, 2007.
- Brown, C.G.: "Performance Analysis of three Database Server Distribution Algorithms", M.S. Thesis, St. Cloud State University, May, 2005.
- Brown, C.G.: "HTML Software Scaling System", 30th Annual Midwest Instruction and Computing Symposium. April, 1997.

EDUCATION

St. Cloud State University: *Master of Science, Database Performance Analysis (GPA: 3.32)*

St. Cloud State University: *Bachelor of Science, Engineering Technology / Minor, Microcomputer Studies*

ADDITIONAL CREDENTIALS

TECHNICAL SKILLS	MS Access, MS Azure DB, MS Azure DW, Azure Automation, PowerShell, Web Service calls, Azure external connectors and blob storage, MS Performance Point Administration, MS Office Business Scorecard Manager, MS Office, MS Power View, MS Power BI, MS SSIS, MS SQL Analysis Services cube and tabular models, MS SQL Server 2000 – 2016, TOGAF 9.1, ASP (2.0 – 3.0), ASP.NET, Assembly, CSS, FORTRAN, HTML, JavaScript, LDAP/AD, MDX, DAX, MySQL, ODBC/ADO, Oracle RDB, Oracle 10g, PHP, TSQL (through SQL 2016), Visual Basic 6.0, Visual Studio.NET, Windows Server 2000 – 2016, XML
HONORS & AWARDS	▪ MinnState ITS Certificate of Nomination (2018) ▪ MnSCU ITS Certificate of Appreciation (2010) in recognition for valuable contributions to Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Information Technology ▪ MnSCU ITS Service Award (2008) for providing exemplary service in the field of information technology SCSU ITS Service Award (2005) ▪ MnSCU ITS Service Award Nomination (2007) ▪ SCSU ITS Service Award (2007) ▪ Student Research Colloquium Service Award (2004, 2005, 2006)
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	TOGAF 9.1 Certified (2016) / SQL Skills Immersion Event IEBI – Business Intelligence (2013) / TDWI Data Governance, Data Quality and Master Data Management (2009) / Introduction to Business Intelligence with MicroStrategy (2008) / Preventing Discrimination in the Workplace (2007) / TDWI Beyond the Data Warehouse: Architectural Options for Data Integration (2007) / TDWI Data Modeling: Data Analysis and Design for BI and Data Warehousing Systems (2007) / TDWI Dimensional Modeling: Advanced Topics (2007) / TDWI Dimensional Modeling beyond the Basics: Intermediate and Advanced Techniques (2007) / TDWI Dimensional Data Modeling Primer: From Requirements to Business Analytics (2007) / TDWI Enterprise Metrics: Designing Integrated Business Metrics (2007) / TDWI Introduction to Business Analytics (2007) / 2779B Implementing a Microsoft SQL Server 2005 Database (2007) / VB.NET (2005) / ASP.NET (2005) / Strengthening Your People Skills in the Workplace (2005) / Project XP Level 1 (2003) / SQL 2000 Levels 1-3 (2002) / Applying XML and Advanced XSLT (2001) / XML and Related Technologies (2001) / Fundamentals of Successful Project Management (2001) / 1140 Microsoft SQL 7.0 (1998)

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VOLUNTEERISM

Church – pioneered Dave Ramsey Financial Peace program, co-led YA ministries

INTERESTS

I enjoy hiking, fishing, water parks, fireworks, and family time in the park. I like creating new recipes, grilling, making liquid nitrogen ice cream, and homemade yogurt. I will often try to come up with new concepts or inventions and currently working on applying for a patent. I am actively involved with the men's Bible study group at my local church. I also enjoy meeting with mentors and participating in personal growth and development book talks. Some recommended books are: Five levels of leadership by John Maxwell, The Mentor Leader by Tony Dungy, The Speed of Trust by Stephen M.R. Covey, and Good to Great by Jim Collins.

DETAILED REFERENCES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST