

# Mark Mzyk

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## Summary

I need to work with people who share my passion for writing software and who will help me elevate my skills to the next level, all while producing great software that helps others.

My focus is on developing web applications, specifically back end code, although if the need arises I have no qualms venturing into front end code. I read voraciously to increase my knowledge and attend conferences and user groups so I can learn from those who know more than me. I have a strong desire to understand how code works and am not satisfied by believing in magic.

## Education

**North Carolina State University**, Raleigh NC  
B.S. in Computer Science, May 2007  
B.A in English with Honors, May 2007  
GPA: 3.833

## Experience

### Web Developer

More Better Labs (RTP, NC): October 2008 - Present

I developed the back end for <http://encourage.ruzuku.com>, a web application that integrates with Twitter to generate word of mouth for the coming launch of ruzuku.com. The application was written using Ruby and the Sinatra framework. I continue to add features as requested.

I also serve as a development advisor for the company, working with the founders and a front end developer.

### Software Engineer

Lulu.com (Raleigh, NC): May 2007 - Present

I work in a PHP legacy application, developing new features and fixing many bugs that are hidden by complex code.

I've worked on the integration of Apache Solr, a search engine written in Java, with Lulu's existing infrastructure. As a result of the project, the cost of full reindexes dropped by 100% and user engagement with search on Lulu increased 20%.

I've worked in Python to develop a payment service that integrates with Lulu's main commerce code using Thrift for cross language communication. I wrote XML to communicate with third party credit card services, while enabling a clean encapsulation of credit card handling code from the rest of the system.

A major challenge has been working to implement better testing practices across the company. To help this along, I prepared a presentation focusing on test driven development best practices and delivered it to the engineering team. My focus has been on creating more human readable tests to serve as better documentation for the legacy code, while moving the company towards true test driven development.

### **Software Engineer (Intern)**

Lulu.com (Raleigh, NC): May 2006 – August 2006

I took the existing PHP API and ported it over to Java using SOAP and Apache Axis. I completed the work early and went on to fix bugs in the main PHP application while working across the various engineering teams, depending on which bug needed attention.

### **Developer (Senior Design Project)**

North Carolina State University (Raleigh, NC): January 2006 – May 2006

Working on a team of three developers, we developed a C# application to create XML files that simulated the output from electrical meters. I did back end and GUI work on the application while also doing extensive documentation and coordination with Itron, the company which we were developing the tool for.

At the end of the project, I created and gave a two minute presentation designed to explain the entire project to parents, students, and businesses interested in what work had been completed over the semester.

### **Web Developer (Intern)**

Request Ltd. (Verona, WI): June 2004 – August 2004

I completed a self directed project where I programmed ASP pages to work with a simple Microsoft Index Server to serve up a large collection of proprietary documents.

## **Activities**

**Societies:** Phi Beta Kappa; Phi Kappa Phi; Upsilon Pi Epsilon

**Conferences:** BarCampRDU, Raleigh 2008; No Fluff Just Stuff, Raleigh 2008  
RubyRX, Raleigh 2009; Developer-Day, Durham 2009

**Book Reviewer:** *Career 2.0*