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# Soren Bjornstad

## Software Developer / DevOps Engineer

### Work Experience

#### *Systems Developer I-II, Tools & Languages, Federated Insurance* Jun 2017 – Jan 2021

I served as the primary in-house expert/support person, infrastructure administrator, and developer for a wide variety of DevOps tools and several technology stacks.

- Introduced and managed a highly successful StackOverflow for Teams instance, improving collaboration and saving thousands of hours of developer time per year.
- Maintained a 300-user Azure DevOps instance. Developed and maintained centrally managed build patterns, migrated to the cloud version almost single-handedly, and automated most complex administrative tasks with ServiceNow and ad-hoc PowerShell.
- Served as a platform subject matter expert for Python, PowerShell, .NET, OutSystems low-code, Azure DevOps, Git, Azure, and a handful of other tools.
- Led automation and process improvement efforts of all kinds.

#### *Systems Developer III, DevSecOps, Federated Insurance* Jan 2021 – Jul 2021

The Tools & Languages team was disbanded in favor of a more distributed support model. I was one of two people chosen to move up to a higher-level role, where we reduced our support of the department but continued to work on the most difficult problems and implement new initiatives.

#### *Support Specialist, Ankitects Pty Ltd* May 2012 – May 2017

The staff of Anki, a free flashcards program, found my volunteer contributions on the support forums so helpful that they offered me a part-time job. I handled daily support, maintained the documentation, and contributed code.

### Other Experience

#### *open-source software and writing* 2014 – present

I maintain a number of popular add-ons for the Anki and TiddlyWiki projects, along with a variety of other open-source tools, including an indexing application and a Reverse Polish Notation calculator. I also produce educational videos, blog posts, and other resources on tech, including the highly regarded online textbook *Grok TiddlyWiki*.

### Formal Education

#### *St. Olaf College* Sep 2013 – May 2017

- B. A. in Computer Science and Latin, summa cum laude
- National Merit Scholar; member of Eta Sigma Phi and Phi Beta Kappa honor societies

### Technologies

#### *Experienced/Expert (can be fully productive at a high level on my first day)*

- Python
- PowerShell
- Bash
- Azure DevOps (aka TFS)
- Git
- Linux

#### *Familiar (more than beginner, less than expert)*

- Java
- C and C++
- VB.NET
- HTML/CSS/JavaScript
- SQL (several flavors)
- Flask
- Lua
- Prolog
- Lisp/Racket
- SSIS/RS/AS
- Microsoft Power BI
- R
- LaTeX
- Sphinx (documentation)
- Azure and AWS
- OutSystems (low-code)
- Qt (UI framework)

### Interests

#### *Professional*

Agile/DevOps, documentation and team knowledge-sharing, human-computer interaction, programming languages, security, software design and patterns, statistics

#### *Personal*

Choral and orchestral music, literature and poetry, linguistics, memory, note-taking, psychology, typography