Former Information Systems / MIS Students from Canisius College

Mark Draksic

Mark was just promoted to Manager, ERP Systems and Applications Support at Rich Products. Mark will have a staff of 12 and be in charge of SAP systems. Mark started this position in January 2009 after he finished responsibilities in the UK in his role as an International IS staff member.

Vladimir Lukic

After working as a project manager for GIS Data in Croatia and managing International operations, Vlad completed his MBA at MIT in Cambridge, MA. He started working as a project manager with the Boston Consulting Group. Vlad is now a principle with the Boston Consulting Group (see Profile here).

Michael Burns

Michael is a systems administrator at 3DI Technologies, LLC in Baltimore, MD.

Erin Cody

Erin is currently working on her Ph.D. in MIS (and her Law degree) at the State University of New York at Buffalo. She is doing work on Intellectual Property and Legal Issues of the Internet. erincody@gmail.com

Ryan Pieszak
Ryan obtained a position at Ziphany in N Tonawanda, working as a technical specialist utilizing Cold Fusion. Ryan worked his way up to Director of IT at Ziphany, completed his MBA at the State University of New York at Buffalo, and has now moved into a high level management position at PointAndPay, Inc. in Winter Haven, Florida. (See ryanpieszak@yahoo.com and, http://www.pointandpay.com)

Shawn Goss

Shawn also obtained a position at Ziphany and is performing technical specialist duties, including work with Cold Fusion. He is working where Ryan left off. See http://www.ziphany.com/

Jamel Perkins

Jamel is the Director of Information Technology at Delaware North Companies in Buffalo, New York. This international, multi-million dollar firm depends on information technology for mission critical applications. Jamel is responsible for all of the IT planning and operations. His work has taken him to many foreign countries as he oversees operations. Prior to joining Delaware North Jamel was Director of IT for Buffalo Savings Bank.

Aaron Reuther

Aaron works at Premcom as a systems engineer. He installs VOIP phone systems and does a number of technical troubleshooting tasks. areuther@premcom.com
Robert Shanahan

Robert is a Network Analyst for Erie County Medical Center (ECMC), in Buffalo, NY. rshanaha@ecmc.com

Mike Shroeder

Mike is a web and SAP developer for MVP Network Consulting in Buffalo, New York. Previously Mike has worked in technical support and application (web) development at CNHI and Rosa’s Home Stores.

Steve Florko

Steve is Vice President and Chief Technology Officer for AdorableCharms.com. Steve is also Manager of European Navision Development at GameStop in Grapevine, Texas. Among his assorted duties for Gamestop, Steve oversees and acts as liaison to European software development teams. Steve recently emailed the IS department – “It’s great to see Canisius promoting the department as they developed my leadership skills and in a way, put me where I am today.” (see Profile here)

Chris Grimaldi

Chris is Manager of the Information Technology department at Mueller Services. Visit www.mueller-inc.com
Michael Pawelek

Mike works as a Software Architect for the AIX Group in Buffalo, New York. Some of Mike’s accomplishments include the design, development and implementation of an Enterprise ETL tool which provided cost savings of over $500,000. Mike designed, developed and implemented an N-Tier Application framework using .NET (VB.Net/C#) technologies. Mike previously worked for VertaSource as Director of Development/Lead Software Developer. Mike’s long list of accomplishments and consulting activities would easily take up many pages, but I would like to add that Mike is one of the finest technical specialists the Information Systems department has graduated. Mike also runs the local chapter of the VB.Net User Group. You can reach him at pawelekm@yahoo.com

Laurie J. Eikemeyer

Through her studies at Canisius, Laurie discovered she liked working with databases. In 2001, Laurie left her employment at Canisius College (also a 1999 IS graduate) for an opportunity to work for M/E Engineering, P.C. as Database Systems Manager. In this role, she developed database solutions for project management, marketing and accounting. In 2007, Laurie was promoted to Business Applications Development Manager and is currently working on a major software migration and implementation of a new accounting and marketing system.

Darren Foote

Darren Foote is an Analyst with M&T Bank in Buffalo, New York. Darren does a lot of technical work with XML code, data
packets for updates of mainframes, including work with COBOL and IBM JCL.

Richard A. Shick, Jr.

Richard A. Shick, Jr. is Chief Information Officer at Lutheran Social Services. He was formerly a Sr. Systems Consultant for Synergy Global Solutions. His primary directive is to provide guidance on technology based solutions for businesses. Richard currently specializes in network infrastructure, messaging, operating system integration, and security. He graduated from Canisius College in 1995.

Tricia Marcolini

Tricia is VP of Marketing and Webmaster at Pigeon Toed Productions.

Kyle Schneider

Kyle is Infrastructure Support Analyst at Curbell in the Buffalo, NY area.

Recent Grads:

John Brucato

John is a global service desk technician with Yahoo! John will enter grad school at Canisius this fall, 2011, to pursue his MBA with a concentration in Information Technology.
**Paul Collins**

For the last year since graduation I have been working as a freelance web designer and also doing freelance computer repair. I earned my A+ and Network+ certification. I recently accepted a job offer at Algonquin Studios as a Network Support Technician. Paul was an account executive with Sparkable Web Marketing in Buffalo, New York. (Paul was doing web development and design work and is looking to move into project management and systems analysis). He is a 2009 graduate of IS and was the Information Systems student of the year at Canisius.

**Mark Franusiak**

I would like to thank you again for the letter of recommendations that you wrote me towards my graduate admissions. In the summer of 2011, I received my MBA degree from Canisius College with a concentration in marketing. I decided to complete the MBA in one year which proved to be the most difficult and most rewarding aspect of my time at Canisius. During the spring of 2011, I accepted a position from a small company headquartered in Amherst NY called GAR Associates, which is a real estate appraisal company for NYS. One of the main reasons I accepted this job were the database courses Canisus offered and the Database Management Systems course you taught, Although I was not able to work full time (due to school) until the end of summer, I learned a great deal of real world experience. In October of last year (2011), I accepted a full-time position as an Applications Analyst at ING
Investment Management in Windsor, Connecticut and have been there since. Currently my main job aspect is working with SQL and applications specific to investment management reporting. I am also working on other tasks such as building web applications in asp.net.

Anyways, I would like to thank you and Dr. Szewczak for an enlightening experience during my studies.

**Mark Rivard**

Mark is December 2009 graduate of Canisius. He will be attending George Washington University this fall for a Masters in Information Systems Technology. Also, he expects to start with a DC based IT consulting company (more info to come).

The above list of graduates provides a sample of the types of jobs and careers that an Information Systems major at Canisius College might pursue.