

Joshua Brisson

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Education

University of Colorado Colorado Springs (UCCS)	2019-Present
- Bachelors of Innovation in Computer Security (Junior Year)	
- Recipient of the Colorado Cyber Security Scholarship	2021
- GPA: 4.0	
- Expected Graduation: May 2023	

Academic Experience:

- INOV 2010 INOV Team: Analyze & Report
 - Eugenia Mora-Flores Consulting
 - Eugenia Mora-Flores (moraflor@rossier.usc.edu)
 - Scope of work: The client, Ms. Mora-Flores, requested assistance from the BI program with marketing, creating a business strategy, and establishing her company as an LLC
 - Outcome: My team was able to guide Ms. Mora-Flores through the LLC process as well as design and implement a prototype website for our clients company alongside a logo. The team also created a business plan identifying key positions as well as recommended qualifications for those applying to the positions.
- CS 3300 Intro to Software Engineering
 - Designed, developed, and pushed a Ruby on Rails web application to a Heroku hosted site. The web application showcased the various projects outside of school that I had undertaken.
- INOV 3010 INOV Team: Research & Execute
 - Tribe + Purpose

- Otis McGregor (otis@tribe-purpose.com)
- Scope of Work: The client, Otis McGregor and Tribe + Purpose requested aid with the creation of a customer avatar, improving and redesigning their website, and the creation of a marketing campaign surrounding one of their services.
- Outcome: My team was able to create a customer avatar for the client as well as suggesting, designing, and prototyping a number of changes and improvements to the website. The team was also able to redirect the clients efforts into the creating and implementation of a new program rather than the expansion of their existing program.
- INOV 4010 INOV Team: Design & Lead
 - VAST LAB
 - Dr. Terry Boulton (tboulton@vast.uccs.edu)
 - Scope of Work: Our client Dr. Boulton requested a user experience and user interface upgrade for the existing website. In addition to updating the current website, Dr. Boulton also requested new additions to the website in the form of student and alumni stories.
 - Outcome: The team was able to conduct a website improvement survey as well as design, prototype, and upload a number of different changes and improvements to the University of Colorado Colorado Springs Bachelors of Innovation Website. Our team was also able to interview and record stories from 16 of the 23 unique majors to display on the website.
- CS 3910 System Admin & Security

- Designed, created, and managed a Virtual network using Active Directory and explored many different vulnerabilities to the security of a network using Virtual Machines and Microsoft Azure.

Personal Statement:

“Practice makes perfect”. It’s a common saying that most of us will have heard at some point or another. While it's an immensely common saying I believe it has a fatal flaw. That being the use of the word “perfect”. This thought of perfection limits imagination, and eliminates the opportunity for improvement. If people like entrepreneurs, athletes, or innovators believed that perfection could be achieved then the human race would be nowhere near as advanced as we are now.

If there weren't people who believed that nothing is perfect and improvements could always be made, many of the advances and innovations that we enjoy today may never have existed. This is a concept that I have taken to heart and done my best to try and apply to my life. I strive to erase the word perfect from my vocabulary and constantly be open to constructive criticism, and always look at my work with a skeptical eye.

Throughout my life there have been many times where I have dedicated dozens of hours every week or years of my life practicing a single sport or task. However despite these years of practice I refused to believe that anything I did or have done could be perfect. The most obvious example of this in my mind is hockey. I have played hockey almost my entire life. I started skating at three years old and have spent the last 18 years practicing and playing hockey. At one point during high school I was spending 20 hours a week on the ice with another 20–25 hours in

the gym training and practicing. But despite all of this practice I never allowed myself to become content with the level that I was currently at.

I started out just like anyone else learning the ropes and the basic skills necessary to be able to call myself a hockey player. Once I moved to Canada I decided to try my luck by trying out for a competitive hockey team. My first tryout I ended up in A level hockey. The second out of four levels. I was happy with this result but not content. I needed to improve, to find where I was lacking and practice and work towards not perfection, but improvement. The next year I was chosen for the AA team. The second highest of the four levels. Again I was happy but not content. I needed to be better, to improve and learn. After attending training camps and playing with players at the highest level of hockey I was able to play with, I again was chosen for the AA team but also was able to play with players at the AAA level, the highest possible level for a high schooler.

This progressive and steady improvement is something that has become a staple in my life. I was able to apply it to another part of my life when I joined a competitive gaming team. At first I was surrounded by people content with the bare minimum required to be a part of a “competitive” team. However this was not enough for me. I needed to challenge myself, to surround myself with people who thought the same way that I did. That saw bringing up people's mistakes and making us aware of them not as mean-spirited remarks meant to embarrass or shame us but to make everyone aware of potential improvement. I was able to find a group who were able to view criticism as what it was. A way to improve and bring the whole group up.

Through this rejection of perfection and environment of constructive criticism that team and I were able to reach a spot as the 26th ranked team in the U.S. We were able to maintain and

improve on this position over 2 years until the time where I was unable to maintain the weekly load due to my schooling.

However the lessons I learned from my time in both the sporting and competitive gaming world have stayed with me. I am taking advantage of these experiences and lessons to shape a future that I can be proud of. The same lessons I used to improve and learn from competitive gaming can be easily applied to school and employment. Seeing feedback and wrong answers while sometimes disappointing can always be used to improve. Viewing criticism and errors as lessons has been a huge driving force behind my success in my education. My mistakes always stick in my mind longer than my success. Not as embarrassment but as a reminder of how to improve on the next try, the next iteration.

Learning takes time, and most importantly failure. Fear of failure will almost always cause more regret than the failure itself. Failure is the best teacher and those who refuse to learn from the best are those who will fall behind in an innovative world. As an innovator I cannot refuse the immense amount of knowledge that comes from failure. All of the experiences in my life have worked to teach me how to be who I am now. All I can do now is to dive into my future with the experience I have and work to ensure that I never become content with perceived “perfection”. Everything can be improved, especially myself. As a future innovator once said, “Practice makes better”.

Skills and Competency:

Technical Skills:

- Computer Languages
 - C#
 - Java
 - Unix/Linux
 - Python
 - C++
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- Drupal
- Github Software Development Platform
- Heroku
- Docker
- Ruby on Rails
- Soldering
- Raspberry Pi

Intrapersonal Skills:

- Project Management
- Organized
- Goal Oriented
- Determined
- Adaptable
- Quick Learner

- Treasurer of the UCCS Indoor Climbing Team
- Vice President of the UCCS Art Club

Community Involvement:

- Volunteer Coach for Pee wee Hockey Team
- Member of the UCCS Indoor Climbing Team
- Annual Terry Fox Charity Run

Awards and Recognitions:

- Colorado Cybersecurity Scholarship (2021,2022,2023)
- Nominated to join the UCCS Honors Society