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Norm Wright
Consulting Architect for Higher Education
Greater Boston Area | Education Management

Current	Wright Communications, Inc., KPlus2, Boston College
Previous	St. Ann By the Sea, University of Southern California, CareGroup Healthcare System
Education	Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Background

Experience

President/CEO
Wright Communications, Inc
1984 – Present (31 years) Boston Area

I founded and grew the company to 5 employees in the late 1990's until I realized that I prefer the technology side to managing employees. It is through this consulting firm that I have done all the rest of the work outlined here.

Partner
KPlus2
November 2013 – Present (1 year 11 months) Emeryville, CA

KPlus2 is a creative, passionate, savvy development company offering add-on tools and hosting for Kuali Student. Our goal is to make an institution's adoption of Kuali Student effective and efficient.

Consulting Architect
Boston College
2011 – Present (4 years) Greater Boston Area

Initially brought in to help Boston College evaluate Kuali Student then helped install

Consultant/Programmer
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
1984 – Present (31 years) Cambridge

I've spent the last 30 years (off and on) consulting for various departments at MIT. Over the years I have developed systems in all major student areas: admissions, registration, student accounts, financial aid, work study, medical, student loans, degree audit, course catalog, commencement, scheduling, etc.

I also developed a registration support system for the Havard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology, HST.

At MIT's Medical Department I led the development of their first integrated medical system connected by a local area network.

While working for MIT I got involved with Kuali Student. Kuali is a consortium of schools that is developing the next generation student services system. It is an open community source project with a highly modular and configurable service oriented architecture.

I am now consulting for MIT's Office of Digital Learning developing MC3 -- the MIT Core Concepts Catalog.

Consultant
Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC)
April 2015 – Present (6 months)Barcelona Area, Spain

Helping to install and integrate MIT's Core Concepts Catalog at the UOC

Board of Trustees
Bay Farm Montessori Academy
July 2007 – Present (8 years 3 months)

My three youngest children attended Bay Farm between 1994 and 2010.

As a parent I volunteered in various capacities, leading the student newspaper, coaching and then coordinating Destination Imagination for the school, judging the science fair.

In 2006 I was asked to join the ad hoc communications committee and then be part of the search committee for the new Head of School.

After that I was asked to be on the board and served on the finance committee for two years. I served as Treasurer for two years FY 2009-2010 to 2010-11. I was the chair of the Audit Committee for three years and served on the Strategic Planning Committee. I am now back as Treasurer.

Youth Group Advisor

St. Ann By the Sea
September 1998 – May 2014 (15 years 9 months)

With my wife and a friend, we ran a successful youth group for grades 7-12 focusing on service and spirituality. My wife is the key driving person but I'm responsible for coming up with "fun" activities for the kids. The group does all kinds of things but I have been in charge of coordinating the annual Battle of the Bands that we have been doing to for the past 10 years and have raised over $12K for the homeless.

Consulting Service Architect working on the Kuali Student Project

University of Southern California
July 2010 – 2013 (3 years) Greater Boston Area

Service Architect developing the Kuali Student Enrollment Module.

(Open) 1 project

Data Warehouse Architect

CareGroup Healthcare System
1999 – 2000 (1 year)

Created a Warehouse loading system. Architected and designed Pharmacy interchange system.

Data Warehouse Reporting Consultant

Harvard Pilgrim Health Care
1985 – 1999 (14 years)
Before the merger:
At Pilgrim developed an analytic database
At HCHP helped QA data warehouse project
After merger
Developed integrated HEDIS Reports combining data from both companies

Treasurer of the Board of Directors

Father Bill's & MainSpring
1986 – 1990 (4 years) Brockton, MA

Served on the finance committee then became chair and treasurer.
Oversaw growth from under $100K manual cash based accounting to $300K automated full accrual based accounting.

Served on the funding committee, establishing the first annual appeal then bi-annual appeal. Designed a cute little Christmas card showing kids looking through a banister with the caption -- no longer on the outside looking in. This card was used for 10 years after I left.

Consultant
The Exeter Group
1983 – 1984 (1 year) Greater Boston Area

Programmed Accounts Payable and Designed Payroll System for MIT

Student Programmer in the Registrar's Office
MIT
1979 – 1983 (4 years)

I started working in the Registrar's Office for Ron Smith and over the years helped him create the first fully integrated student information system. Ron created the base system jointly with SCT (now Sungard/Banner/Ellucian) then with the help of other student programmers then extended it include financial aid. I helped him add Dormitory, Dining and Medical Insurance processing. Later he asked me to lead a team of other students to add the Student Accounting Functionality to the system.
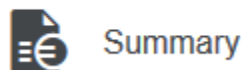
College Work Study Programmer
NOAA
1978 – 1978 (less than a year) Miami/Fort Lauderdale Area

To earn money to go to MIT I worked for the national hurricane center helping to develop computer models to predict hurricanes using Fortran. After going to MIT I was offered a summer internship but declined and stayed in Cambridge working for MIT's Registrar's Office.

Summary

As an undergraduate at MIT, Norm Wright led a small team of students in developing its Student Accounts Receivable module. That module was used by the Institute for 15 years to assess tuition, generate bills and collect payments. For the past 30 years, he has been consulting in the Higher Ed and Health Care industries where he has successfully designed and implemented dozens of administrative systems. Early in his career he focused on learning how to communicate deep technical concepts and translate them into terms understandable to nontechnical business users. He is comfortable in many roles, switching between that of business analyst, trainer and hard core java developer.

A strong proponent of Service Oriented Architecture he participated in the initial meetings to form the Kuali Student project. As a Service Architect for Kuali Student he is helping to design the infrastructure for the Enrollment Management Module. He is also consulting with MIT developing a federated structure for managing learning objectives pointing to on-line digital content as well as assisting Boston College install Kuali Student. At Kuali Days 2013 he launched the latest Kuali Commercial Affiliate, KPlus, www.kplus2.com, a development company providing tools and hosting to support the growing Kuali community especially focusing on Community Colleges.